



# KSS News

...remember to ROAR today

## A note to families...

Hello KSS Families. As we approach the new year, here are some important updates.

We are happy to announce that we have reinstated the early arrival period. Students can now arrive as early as 7:45am each day. Curbside staff will be available to open car doors at 8:00am. Walking your child to the front door is always welcome as long as you are parked in the front parking lot. Drivers should not exit their cars in the drop-off lane.

In January, we will begin another round of Star Assessments. Students take the Star Assessments in literacy and math. It is an adaptive test, meaning that the test adjusts to each answer the student provides. Teachers use the data from these assessments to monitor student growth and plan for small group instruction. We give the Star Assessment in September, January, and June.

COVID-19 testing is ongoing at KSS. Our program is for surveillance testing only. We do not test students who present with COVID-19 symptoms. We are happy to report all tests administered for surveillance have thus far been negative.

As a reminder, if your child is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, nasal congestion or runny nose, loss of smell or taste, sore throat, shortness of breath, diarrhea, nausea or vomiting, fatigue, headache, muscle pain, poor appetite) please alert the school nurse and keep them home until they are symptom free, and have tested negative by means of a PCR test.

With the rise in COVID-19 cases, our teachers have taken steps to ensure students have materials needed for a switch to remote learning in the event we need to do so. To be clear, there is no indication we will switch to remote learning at this time. We are doing this only to be prepared.

Lastly, on behalf of the entire KSS faculty and staff, we wish you a safe and happy holiday!

## Calendar

Date	Time	Event
Dec 23-Dec 31	All Day	Holiday Recess
Jan 11	7pm	PTA Meeting
Jan 13	7pm	Board of Education Meeting
Jan 17	All Day	School Closed – MLK Jr. Day
Jan 28	3pm	Report Cards Issued

*Dates and times are subject to change. See online calendar at <http://ks.portchesterschools.org> for details and the most up to date information.*

## More about Art... by Ms. Mathisen

The arts are flourishing at King Street!

Our students have been learning art concepts and skills, about famous artists, and applying that knowledge to their own original illustrations. Students have been introduced to a wide range of materials including paint, chalk and oil pastel, watercolors, colored pencils, and crayons.

Most recently our Kindergarten students have been learning about winter and have made mosaic's to build their own snowman. In first grade, we focused on winter cardinals, learning how to draw this beautiful bird and use the whole page to add details to our illustrations. Our second and third graders have been creating the most colorful, candy filled hot chocolate creations and experimenting with new ways to color with crayon. While learning about the Native American culture, fourth graders created their own totem poles after looking at examples from past tribes. In fifth grade, students have been studying the work of Paul Klee using lines, shapes and bold color to create their own futuristic city.

It is so exciting to see how proud our students are of their amazing creations. We can't wait to continue using our imagination in the New Year to create more masterpieces.

<http://ks.portchesterschools.org>