



Once Upon a Time at KHS

KHS Spirit Week, an annual tradition, took place early this year to coordinate with the Homecoming Game. The theme was *Once Upon A Time*, a throwback to the stories of childhood. Activities started with float building on September 15 in the student parking lot. This led into picture day, where the idea was for students to look their best: “Mirror Mirror on the Wall.”

Rolling onto the next day, students were sleeping beauties for “Pajama Day.” Everyone wore their favorite pajamas (a very popular day, as you might imagine).

On Wednesday, students wore the colors

of the winds. Each class rocked their own color: freshmen wore pink, sophomores wore purple, juniors wore red, and seniors wore blue. That afternoon we rolled into Class Wars, where the competition was fierce. Students wore their colors and participated in fun activities from 7 to 8 p.m. on the football field.

The next day was “Ohana (Hawaiian) Day.” People were spotted wearing Hawaiian shirts and leis. Some were even in head-to-toe hibiscus prints, bringing a taste of the tropics to northern Michigan!

To wrap up the school week, we had a

tale as old as time — “Blazer Blue Day,” — where everyone wore blue attire to support the school. Throughout the day, we had an array of activities such as a pep assembly with special guests, our middle school students, who raised a ruckus in the high school gym. Then we were treated to a community parade, featuring a classic car convoy chauffeuring the Homecoming Court, escorted by our middle school football players and band.

The homecoming football game on Friday night was a big hit. A large crowd turned out for the contest against the Cheboygan Chiefs.

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BULLETIN

Kalkaska Public Schools
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RCE shines a student spotlight

Field Trip to Au Sable Institute a Hit

Fourth and fifth graders visited the Au Sable Institute where they learned about ecosystems. With nature guides leading the way, they uncovered the hidden connections between plants and animals, and discovered the importance of biodiversity. Students participated in hands-on activities that brought the ecosystem to life. While examining local plant species and observing native insects our Rockstars became true scientists, experiencing firsthand the delicate balance that sustains our environment.

Spirit Week brought excitement and

unity through fun themes, showcasing creativity and school spirit. Wednesday brought cozy vibes as students embraced the fun of "Pajama Day." Thursday brought a wave of excitement with "Twin Day," where students paired up and came to school in matching outfits. Friday, Rockstars sported their best Blazer Blue attire.

We are Rockstar proud to shine a spotlight on our amazing fourth and fifth grade Cross Country team! With hearts full of determination, our young athletes have truly exemplified the spirit

of teamwork and dedication. For the past few weeks these dedicated runners have shown what it means to support one another and push their limits. A BIG shout out to Mrs. Zamaites, who has inspired our team to embrace challenges and cultivate camaraderie on the trails and in the classroom. Ella Deater, Emma Ager, Makenna Scarborough, Saige Martini, Phenyx DeLoatch, Dyson Dyell, Trinity Chambers, Rissa Robinson, Soren Eddy, Scarlet Babbit, Freya Vandergriff, Emmett Redman, Lilah Miles, and Ivaine Amidon make up the RCE team.



READY TO LEARN

RCE has had a lot going on since returning to school in late August!

BSE preparing for Oct.

A month filled with fun and learning

Happy Fall!

As the leaves change color and the days get shorter, we're excited to share what's happening at Birch Street Elementary. October is a month filled with excitement and festivities, from Halloween celebrations to pumpkin patches.

Halloween Fun

Costume Parade: Students will be participating in our Halloween costume parade on October 31! All students are encouraged to dress up in their favorite costumes.

Fall Field Trips

October 2-3 kindergarteners had a great time at Rennie Orchards!

Important Reminders

Parent-Teacher Conferences: Please mark your calendars for our parent-teacher conferences on October 17.

School Picture Retake Day October 24.

Don't forget about retakes if your child was absent or you are wanting new ones taken.

Please remember to return signed permission slips for all field trips and school events.

We hope you enjoy this beautiful fall season!

Events

- ★ October 17 — 1/2 day students - Parent Teacher Conferences (afternoon & evening)
- ★ October 18 — No School
- ★ November 1 — No School
- ★ November 5 — No School - Teacher Work Day/RSDD
- ★ November 27 — No School - Thanksgiving Break Begins



KUE students welcome new “K”

The Upper Elementary welcomes the addition of our Blazer K. Work on this began last school year, and it was finalized over the summer. Our amazing maintenance crew installed it shortly after the beginning of school.

The PTO Bubble Walk was a source of fun and excitement for KUE students. A plethora of bubble machines, black lights,

music, and a ton of bubbles created a very fun environment for our students to enjoy.

On September 27, the students had the day off. The staff, however, had professional development that helped them become better at their craft. Math Fluency was a big topic with the math teachers. They worked in hands-on activities to help prepare them to better develop math

fluency within our students.

With the fall comes cross country. Upper elementary students who are in our run club have participated in a few different meets. Recently, we had a home meet, where students ran on a course at the Twin Birch Golf Course. It was a beautiful day for a run, and we ran well!



KUE ON THE RUN!

In addition to the new “K” being installed in September, the teachers learned new fluency skills and several students enjoyed running on the cross country team!



THE INLAND SEAS ASSOCIATION ADVENTURE

Science Teacher Mr. Andy Henderson has led an amazing field trip for more than a quarter of a century with our seventh grade students and the Inland Seas Education Association (ISEA). Students are provided with hands-on experiences aboard a traditionally-rigged tall ship schooner, along the shores of the Great Lakes. A non-profit organization located in Suttons Bay, its mission is to inspire a lifetime of Great Lakes curiosity, stewardship, and passion on their ship. The goal is to provide people with the information they need to become stewards of the Great Lakes.

Mrs. Clark, a 6th grade math and STEM teacher, is a CAP Aerospace Education Member. She praises the value of the resources she has received from CAP.

“Over the years I’ve invested in robotics kits, 3D printers and other STEM activities to build relationships with students who don’t really enjoy math class,” she says. “Having STEM Kits from Civil Air Patrol has saved so much money.” She has introduced Spheros Drones as well as several other STEM Kits, that has sparked an interest in many of her students. These programs fit well with her philosophy of providing an engaging learning environment for her students.

KMS is happy to welcome the SEEDS After-School Program made possible through 21CCLC grant funding. SEEDS has been in Northern Michigan for more than 15 years and KMS is excited to have them join our team. A typical day for our students participating in this amazing program includes meals, recess, homework/work turn-in, activity choice and free choice. SEEDS runs Monday–Thursday after school until 5:45 p.m. It’s an innovative program in that students are educated in the areas of interest that they choose.

KMS Staff are excited to welcome students back for another amazing school year. (Not pictured: Mr. Brown, Mrs. Mitchell and Ms. Allen)



Athletically Speaking

What's Happening in Blazer Nation

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Are you looking to gain more exposure for your business or civic group? Are you interested in promoting your company or business in a way that is tax deductible? Advertise with us! Whether it is with gym or fence banners, panels on our scoreboards, or featured logo placement on our Athletics website or NFHS Network broadcasts, we have promotional opportunities available! Please email Athletic Director Bryan Hawkins for more details — athletics@kpschools.com

EVENT SAFETY

We care about the safety of our events, and want our community to have confidence that the game day experience is safe, secure, and family friendly. With that in mind, we ask for your cooperation with the following at our home athletic events:

- ★ If you see suspicious or unusual activity, report it to event staff immediately.
- ★ Parents/guardians are responsible for their child's behavior, and children younger than 9th grade must be accompanied by an adult.
- ★ Outside objects that can be thrown will not be allowed inside the venue.
- ★ Stay off the playing surface, and stay outside of fenced or roped off areas.
- ★ Mentally note the location of exits and places to shelter in the event of an emergency.
- ★ Vehicles must be parked in designated spaces in our paved parking lots.
- ★ Obey all traffic signs and pavement markings and PLEASE do not drive the wrong way on our one way access drive.
- ★ Cheer on our teams and players. Avoid disparaging the opponents and referees. No profanity please!
- ★ If you choose to stand during the event, be respectful of the people behind you. Relocate to a place that does not obstruct the view of others.
- ★ Do not litter. Dispose any cups, containers, napkins, or wrappers in a trash bin/bag.
- ★ Do not bring outside food or beverages into the venue.

- ★ Do not bring pets into the venue. (Certified, documented service dogs are exempted.)

KHS ATHLETES OF THE WEEK IN SEPTEMBER

- ★ Courtney Borden, 10th grade — Varsity Girls Cross Country
- ★ Hunter Wilkinson, 11th grade — Varsity Football
- ★ Emily Cannon, 12th grade — Varsity Girls Golf
- ★ Coltrane Paryani, 11th grade — Varsity Boys Cross Country
- ★ Alyssa Steiner, 12th grade — Varsity Girls Volleyball
- ★ Jett Bittenbender, 9th grade — JV Football
- ★ Carly Griffith, 11th grade — Varsity Girls Volleyball



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TEEN HEALTH CORNER

Helping kids find the help they need

Fighting the Flu, Starts with you!



Children who are sick should **NOT** attend school. Sick children should remain home until they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medicines and overall feeling better. Keeping your child home allows them to rest and recover. If your child's symptoms become severe, you should contact your child's health care provider. A yearly flu vaccine is the first and most important step in protecting yourself and your family against flu viruses.

We have flu shots/nasal mist. Call today for an appointment!



Teen Health Corner
K 231-258-7791 or
FA 231-369-2000

All services are billable to all insurances or we offer a sliding scale fee for those with no insurance. We also offer assistance with applying for Medicaid.

CONTACT US:

- (231) 258-7791 Kalkaska
419 South Coral St, Kalkaska
- (231) 258-7922 KMS-E3
Behavior Health services ONLY
Kalkaska Middle School
1700 West Kalkaska St, Kalkaska
- (231) 369-2000 Forest Area
7741 Shippy Rd, Fife Lake

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BLAZERS

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Birch Street Elementary — 258-8629

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Rapid City Elementary — 331-6121

Laura Gehman, Principal	6103
Robyn Czuk, Secretary	6101

Athletics — 258-9167

Bryan Hawkins, Athletic Director	2236
Linda Colvin, Secretary	2185



It was a hard-fought battle, and though the Blazers came up short, the crowd appreciated their grit and determination.

An additional highlight of the evening was the traditional passing of the crown from last year's Homecoming Queen and King, Lucy Hall and Chase Banko, to new royals, Kara Olds and Logan Leadmon. The ceremony also presented the court members: freshmen James Bittenbender and Sydnee Haver, sophomores Nolan Seidelman and Nivaya Ochampaugh, juniors Myah Little and Tre Bromley, and seniors Landon Trojanek, Alyssa Steiner, Brodi Alderson, London Birgy, Emily Cannon, Trevor Denike, Sara Bissonette, and Ricky Hillier.

To wrap the week up we had our Homecoming Dance in the cafeteria on Saturday night. The decorations and music



were on point, and there were a couple of new things this year. For instance, there was an outdoor area, where students were able to relax and cool off. Also, refreshments were provided at no additional cost, covered by the price of admission.

According to advisor Melanie Dean Dellatte, the Student Council started planning Spirit Week early,

"There was a little rush, but it all came together in about two weeks," Dellatte said.

Even though Spirit Week started a

couple of weeks earlier than usual, she believes that everything went well. The underclassmen took the lead this year, and with a little guidance, did an awesome job at picking a theme and getting all of the activities together.

Senior Alyssa Steiner said her favorite part about being on the Homecoming Court was riding in the convertible throughout the parade, though she was not very excited about the new route. She said she was not expecting to be on the court, but she was super excited about it and had a great time. Alyssa said one thing she hopes will be different next year is the voting, so that instead of voting a few days before, students can vote at the game, so the audience can see who is who and what they look like.

In the minds of students and staff alike, KHS Spirit Week 2024 was a hit.



SCENES FROM HOMECOMING '24

From Left — Coach Wilkinson talks strategy with a couple of Blazers. The crowd was into the game! Last year's royalty, Lucy Hall and Chase Banko. The newly crowned King Logan Leadmon and Queen Kara Olds.