JB Kelly Library Volunteers

Library Update - November, 2020



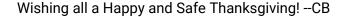
Message from Corinne: This year's Fall foliage display and summer-like temperatures were the backdrop for John B. Kelly's inaugural **Trunk or Treat** event. The JB Kelly School Community Committee's inspired idea safely brought Kelly students, their families, teachers, staff and volunteers together to celebrate Halloween and connect with each other. It was a joyous reunion! Over two hundred students, many in costumes, attended along with their families. A great deal of forethought of Covid guidelines



went into the planning, so it was a relaxed atmosphere for all to safely come together. A heart-felt **Thank You** to everyone involved in this uplifting event: those there, all those who contributed to it, and all those who supported Kelly and wished us well.

As you will see below, our uniquely designed "Stay Safe" programs are successfully launched and ongoing. We are initiating the library computerization, adapting our plans and hope to enlist volunteers to help when the building is safely open to us. Our current programs and activities are in full swing and welcome your participation. Please consider which may work for you. I'm happy to discuss your ideas and help you find your best and safest way to be involved.

We also have a new email address! You can reach us at <u>kellyschoollibrary@gmail.com</u> or continue to contact individual volunteers at the addresses listed on the Contact List.





Views of Halloween Trunk or Treat:































Ehook Update: We are working with Mr. Koniecki and teachers to get our E-library up and running. In just the first two weeks of November, students have checked out 70 ebooks! We hope that number will grow exponentially as all teachers are onboard and encourage their students to "**Check Out the Kelly E-Library**"! To view our E-library and the wonderful ebooks purchased through a generous grant from The Abington Friends Meeting, click here: John B. Kelly School E-Library. Click "See All" in the upper right to view all the books by scrolling down.

<u>Video Storytime Collection:</u> Our Video Storytime Collection is a success thanks to many talented people. Each video includes greetings and good wishes for our Kelly students. So far, we have produced a Halloween Shelf, a general shelf and are working on our Thanksgiving Shelf. If you can make an mp4 video of your favorite story (using your phone), we will add it to our bookshelf! Screencastify, a google extension, can also be used with an ebook. Contact Corinne for details!



In the Spotlight: Ms. Scartelli: Meet Kara Scartelli, the fabulous Teacher Advisor to the Library Program. Ms. Scartelli tells us: "I am originally from Scranton, PA and attended West Chester University. I have been teaching at John B. Kelly for 12 years. I started out teaching 5th grade Reading and Writing and moved to 4th grade 7 years ago. I absolutely love teaching 4th graders and I feel very fortunate to have stayed in this position for so many years. Fourth grade is very special and I love seeing my students grow and mature over the year as people and as readers! I love teaching literacy to this age group. It's so much fun! There are so many adventures you can take your students on through books. My main goal every year is to help children develop a love and appreciation for all types of literature. If you get excited about it, they will, too! I am so lucky to have the support of the library volunteer staff. They share my vision and excitement for helping children find books they love and using those books to help them become lifelong readers." Thank you, Ms. Scartelli, for all you do for your students and the Library! We appreciate you! Ms.Scartelli also reports that her students are "loving the ebooks!"



Members Happenings: Volunteer Phyllis Stickney, member of Abington Friends Meeting, and their Peace and Social Justice Committee along with Florence Degler, co-clerk of the committee, former Kelly volunteer now our ardent supporter, and Corinne since June 7th attend a socially distant, masked, outdoor weekly Peace Vigil in support of Black Lives Matter on Sunday afternoons at 3pm at the Meeting's Triangle In Jenkintown. In Florence's words, "we are bearing witness to our truths as we see them." The vigil will continue as long as the weather stays warm enough. All are welcome to join. Please contact Corinne for more information.

Looking Ahead to the Holidays -- Our Wish List of Books: Looking for a novel way to give a gift to honor a dear one or to hint what you might like in your stocking? Here's a way to do that and also enrich the lives of our Kelly students. Research has shown us that to motivate and create readers, our library needs to feature current books in which students can find joy, humor, information, social connection, and, most importantly, see themselves and their world. Please consider supporting our students, teachers and library by purchasing a book from our wish list or making a donation for ebooks for this year of remote learning. To view our wish list, click here: John B. Kelly School Library Wish List. Contact Doris or Corinne at our new email address: kellyschoollibrary@gmail.com with any questions.

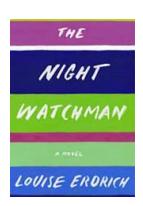
News from JB KELLY SCHOOL: Click on the links:

- ➤ <u>District schools will remain fully virtual at this time</u>
- ➤ Reopening Readiness and Ventilation Reports
- ➤ Food Distrbution Sites: grab-go-meals
- ➤ Family & Community Engagement

In Case You Missed It:

- ➤ The Inquirer: Philadelphia schools will stay virtual as virus cases spike
- ➤ NBC News (prepare to smile!) 6-year-old & dad create inspiring A-B-C song

What We're Reading: The Night Watchman by Louise Erdrich is an engrossing tale recommended by Doris. She states: Reading about another group that has been alienated in America is important in our cultural awareness. Louise Erdich's latest book, the Night Watchman, is fiction but based on her grandfather's incredible journey for his Native American community of the Chippewa reservation in North Dakota. They have been slated for 'emancipation' which means the eventual termination of his tribe. Working as a night watchman at a jewel bearing plant in 1953, Thomas is driven to fight for his people's rights all the way to the halls of Congress in Washington DC. Characters are well-drawn – quirky, serious and determined. Each one makes this book unforgettable. The reader becomes immersed in the struggle for survival on this reservation and what it takes to preserve what little they have.



Wishing you and yours a wonderful, happy, safe Thanksgiving. We are thankful for you!

We think beloved children's author, Dav Pilkey, says it best:

So each one gave thanks
For love and for living,
And they all had a
Wonderful, happy Thanksgiving!



Stay Safe and Well! Please reply directly to Corinne or Janet with any items to share. We'd love to have your recommendations for "What We're Reading" and/or have you volunteer to be "In the Spotlight" or share your activities or events with "Members' Happenings."