

Kelleys Island School Newsletter

March Edition

2023



Above: Students enjoy the snow, fun school projects, and participating in the Christmas Pageant!

Left: A beautiful photo taken from the air during a plane ride to the mainland by Nikolay Skeans (4)!

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by Aryanna Ahner
(7)

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"March"ing Toward Success!

A message from KI Staff

As we leave behind snowy footprints and lots of holiday laughter, we approach one of our favorite times of the year: Spring! KI students have been continuing to expand their horizons, both in the classroom and in after-school programs. Teachers and students alike are looking forward to utilizing the beautiful island around us for educational enrichment and exploration. Don't be surprised to see us hiking around Horseshoe Lake or marveling at the Glacial Grooves in the upcoming weeks!

This newsletter marks the second of three issues we will release this year in a continuing effort to involve the KI community in our successes and celebrations. As always, thank you for your support, your interest, and your continued recognition of our students.



Greetings KI!

Over the past several months I've had the pleasure of meeting many new faces, most importantly the students of KI School. I'd like to thank everyone for such a warm welcome and share how thankful I am to be part of a school with such a proud legacy of success. I'm proud to be a part of such a special place.

I've spent many days at Kelleys, but I've never had the opportunity to explore the island during the Winter months. While I'm learning to love the quiet of winter on the island, I'm looking forward to Spring. As Spring draws near, I look forward to meeting many more people who call Kelleys Island home.

Until we meet in person please know how honored and privileged I feel to be part of such a tremendous school and community.

All the best,
Ben Ohlemacher

Kelleys Island School Welcomes New Staff

Story written and photos taken by: Tim Ahner

Kelleys Island School is happy to welcome two new members to Kelleys Island Staff.

Ben Ohlemacher has accepted the position of principal, while Taylor Hanes has accepted the position of art teacher.

Taylor Hanes (no affiliation to current Superintendent, Todd Hanes) started in late January of 2023. The students have enjoyed creating art with a new teacher.

As of February 20th, Ben Ohlemacher has accepted the role of Principal of Kelleys Island School. The students always have fun when he enters the lunch room, gym, and anywhere else.

Taylor Hanes flies over to Kelleys Island from Put-In-Bay every Tuesday to teach the students at Kelleys Island School. Hanes chose to share her vast knowledge of art history and techniques with the students. Hanes loves art and she enjoys teaching art to students: "Art was always my favorite subject in school," Hanes said.

With a small population of only 5 children, "Kelleys Island is very interesting to teach at! It is amazing that the teachers and students get to build such close relationships," Hanes said.

As Ben Ohlemacher is a Sandusky resident, he commutes to the island every day to fulfill his duties as a principal. Despite it being complicated, he enjoys the travel, "My flights have been amazing so far!" Ohlemacher said.

Ohlemacher highlights that the small population of Kelleys Island School, around 5 students, is amazing for the school, as it lets students interact more with teachers and peers. As Ohlemacher has been to the island many times before, he has always found the school to be interesting.

All around, the students and staff are happy to welcome new friends into the school.



Ben Ohlemacher sits in his office at Kelleys Island School.



Ben Ohlemacher playing ping-pong with the students.

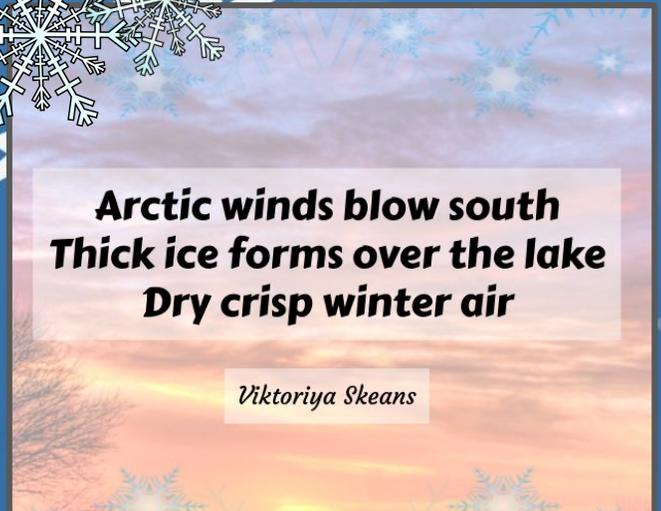
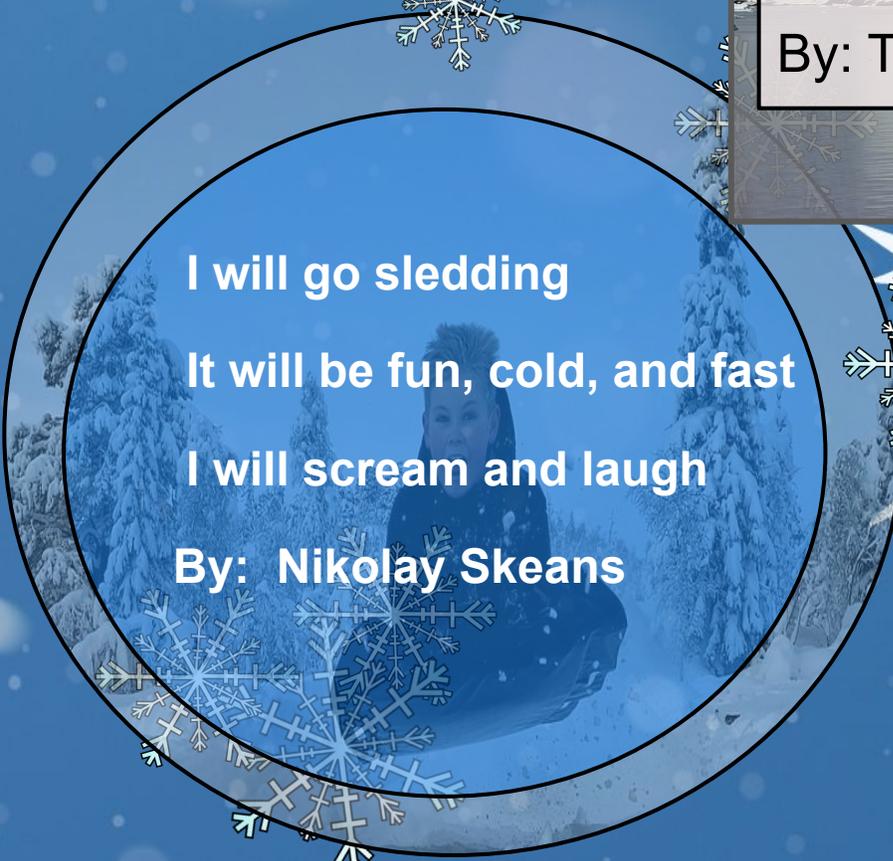
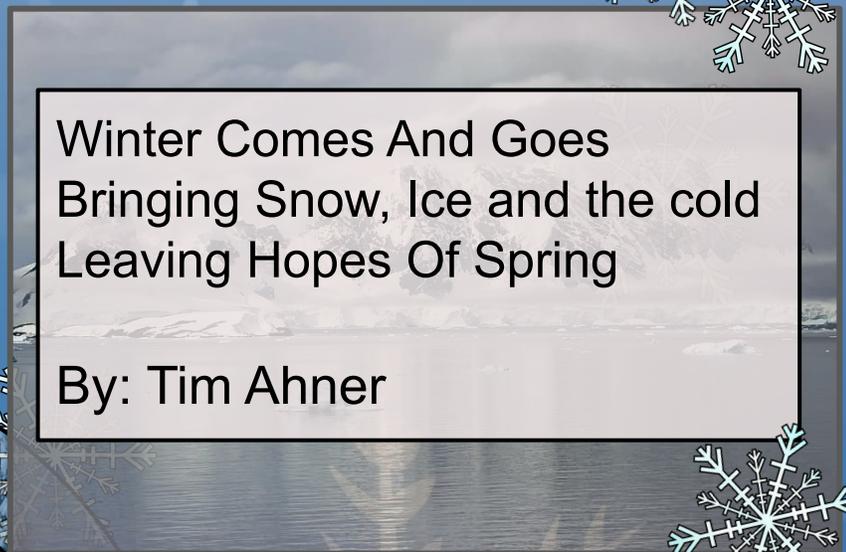


Taylor Hanes sitting down in the art room.



Students enjoy working in art class.

Wonderful Winter Writings: Haikus



Wonderful Winter Writings: Odes



An Ode to Pepper By Aryanna Ahner

Oh Pepper, Oh Pepper,
You have soft, thick fur
A tiny little button nose,
With golden, hazel eyes

Oh Pepper, Oh Pepper
I love how you purr,
When I hold and pet you
I love how you sleep,
And curl into a little ball of fur

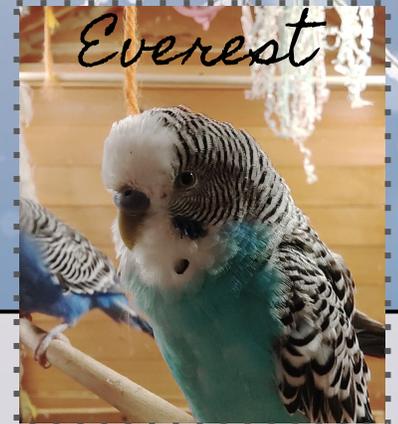
Oh Pepper, Oh Pepper,
I love how your head perks up,
When your food is poured into your bowl

Oh Pepper, Oh Pepper,
I love how you go,
“Meow, Meow, Meow”

Oh Pepper, Oh Pepper,
I love how you play,
With random string and straw,
Around the house

Oh Pepper, Oh Pepper,
I love you.

*An ode is a
poem that pays
tribute to an
ordinary
object.*



An Ode to Everest Viktoriya Skeans

Everest, Everest,
Your loyal eyes,
Beautiful Cyan tail,
You're always so wise.

Everest, Everest,
Always chirping
Your beautiful song.
With you around,
I could do no wrong.

Everest, Everest,
When I'm with you,
I feel delighted.
You truly are an
Amazing friend.

Everest, Everest,
I remember the day
you suddenly came into my life.
We talked to a friend
that said you needed a home.

Everest, Everest,
You're always on cloud nine.
Without you, my life would be
Too serene and dull.

Everest, Everest,
I love you so much,
Even when you're
biting my finger,
You're the best!

An Ode to a Keyboard

By: Tim Ahner

Oh, Keyboard, Keyboard
radiant and rectangular
clacky, loud, and deafening.
You help me,
while nothing goes to you in return.
Black and white, many colours to see.

Oh, Keyboard, Keyboard
Mechanical and membrane
Amazing in all right
Switches so loud,
My ears just might break.
Switches, blue, green, red, and many other shades
to see.

Oh, Keyboard, Keyboard
Switches easy to pull,
Keycaps easy to switch
Thank you keyboard, as you have helped me so
dearly,
Loud at night, quiet all day.
Your bright colours flash loud and bright.
Thank you keyboard for always being on my desk.

Oh, Keyboard, Keyboard
Thank you for helping me out in typing my Odes
Foam easy to put in and out
Oh, Keyboard, Keyboard
You are just irreplaceable.
An ode to a keyboard.

Wonderful Winter Writings: Diamante Poems

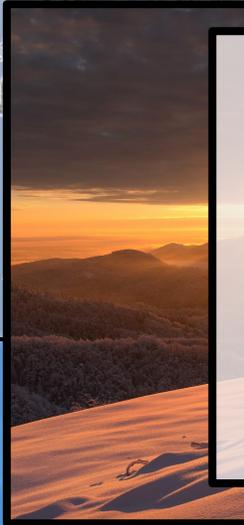


Raindrop

Chilly, Crisp

Plummeting, Freshening, Freezing
Water, Puddles, Crystal, Snow
Flurrying, Drifting, Collecting
Unique, Icy
Snowflake

By: Viktoriya Skeans



Winter morning
Light, snowy
Waking, feeding, cleansing
Pancakes, dayrise, moon, cold
Watching, sighing, resting
Dark, cold
Winter Night
By: Tim Ahner



Snow



Cold, wet

Falling, twirling, dancing

Ice, sled, hat, scarf

Rolling, adding, building

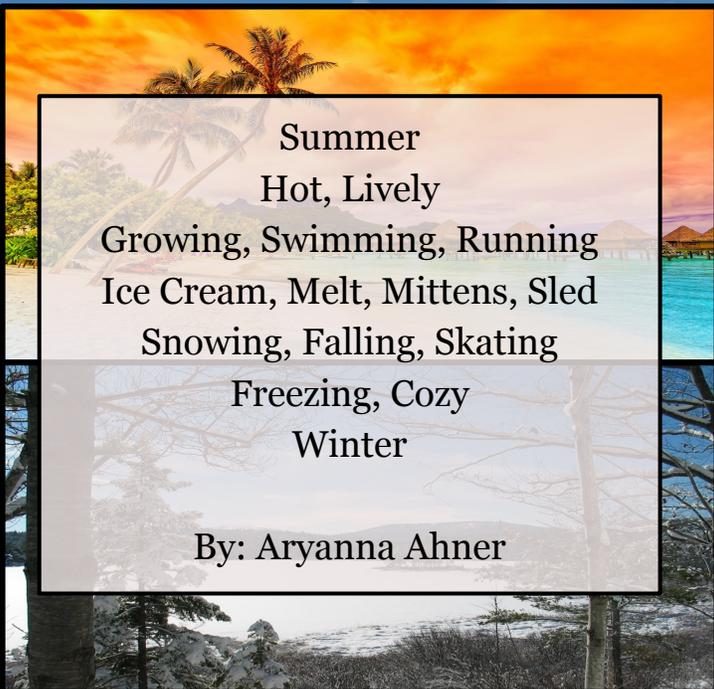
Lively, friendly



Snowman



By: Josie Gaither



Summer

Hot, Lively

Growing, Swimming, Running

Ice Cream, Melt, Mittens, Sled

Snowing, Falling, Skating

Freezing, Cozy

Winter

By: Aryanna Ahner

Snowball

Cold, round

Throwing, rolling, packing

Snowman crunch, form, small

Building, crawling, stacking

Hide, sculpture

Snowfort

By: Nikolay Skeans

Specials Classes at Ki School

Story written and photos taken by: Aryanna Ahner

Technology

At our KI school, the students have many specials during the week, sometimes the students even have two specials in a single day.

On Mondays, students have a technology special where they can learn all about the internet, including what to do and what not to do. Students learn about their digital footprint and other things as well. Here are some questions that I have asked our technology teacher, Janice Kraus, and her responses:

“Do you think it is important to teach technology?”

“I think it is very important to teach technology so that students learn correct skills that will help them in the future and introduce them to possible careers in technology. Learning to be good digital citizens is very important also.”

“What are your plans for quarter 3 this year?”

“During the third quarter we will be working on Google Earth, digital citizenship and then start into digital and video media.”

“What is your favorite thing we have done so far in technology?”

“I think I have enjoyed many things this year, but I particularly enjoy when I introduce a new skill and I see the students use it in their lessons. I like when a project is completed and I see all the different ways the students have incorporated technology.”

On Tuesday the KI students have art and music. Both of these subjects feature fun and creative projects for the kids to do.

Here are some questions I asked the art teacher, Taylor Hanes, and her responses:

“Do you think it is important to teach art?”

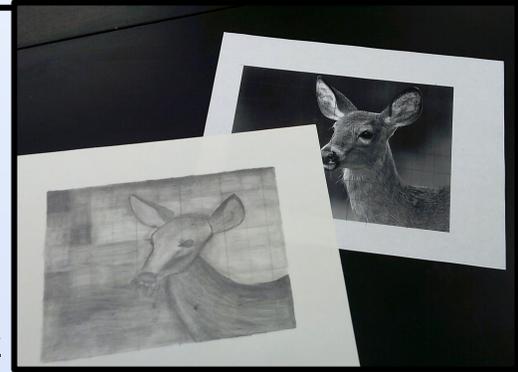
“It is important to teach art because art is everywhere! Art can be a hobby or a career. Art helps people learn how to think creatively, which is a skill that we need in every subject.”

“What are your plans for quarter 3 this year?”

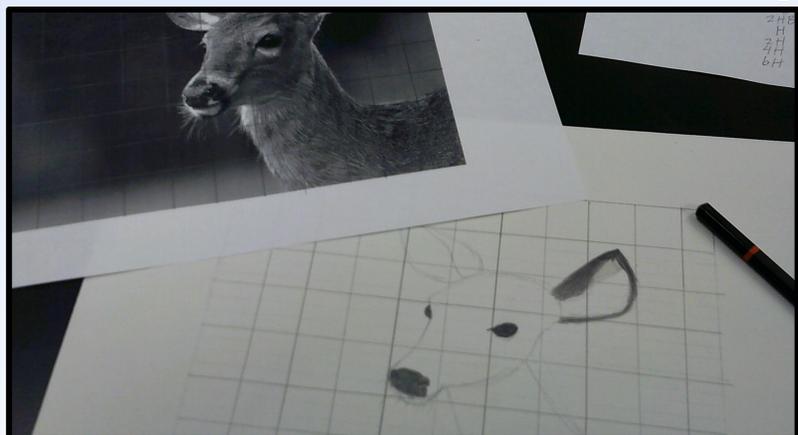
“Third quarter we will continue to learn about the 7 elements of art (Line, Shape, Form, Space, Texture, Value, and Color), art history, and we will strive to get out of our creative comfort zones!”

“Do you enjoy being here teaching art?”

“I am thankful to be a part of Kelleys Island School. Everyone is nice and helpful. We have some cool stuff going on here.”



A
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Here are some questions I asked music teacher, CC Wisniewski, and her responses:

“Do you think it is important to teach music?”

“I think everyone has a love for music and teaching music can help open new ideas or ways to appreciate it.”

“What are your plans for quarter 3 this year?”

“The 4th graders will work on learning ukulele and the 6th and 7th graders will study some new musical genres.”

“What is your favorite thing we have done so far in music?”

“I loved seeing everyone’s interest in Simon and Garfunkel, and I enjoyed preparing everyone for the presentation for the Great Lakes Island Alliance”



Music

Guidance

Here are some questions I have asked Tricia Rosekelly, KI counselor, and her responses:

“Do you enjoy guidance?”

“I do! I was a teacher first, but being a counselor allows me to do all the things I love without having to do the things I didn't do so well with (or enjoy) teaching. I was not a very good disciplinarian in the classroom, and with 3 kids of my own at home, taking home all the grading and planning work every night was really hard. I never felt caught up. Counseling allows me to get to know the students better - who they are, what they like and don't like, and it allows me to help those that want help in school.”

“Do you think it is important to teach guidance?”

“Yes, because there are so many life skills that are so important that we used to think couldn't be learned, like resilience and grit, but we CAN learn those, so it's important we teach them to students as early as possible. It also gives students an opportunity to get to know each other in a very different setting than the academic classroom.”

“What are your plans for quarter 3 this year?”

“We will continue working on the Social Skills unit that we started a few weeks ago. We will also continue to play some games and learn how to work as a group.”

Physical Education

On Wednesdays, students have 2 different specials, both taught by Mary Grace Muster.

Here are some questions I have asked the gym and health teacher, Mary Grace Muster, and her responses:

“Do you think it is important to teach P.E.?”

“It is important for students to exercise their muscles for strength and flexibility and cardiovascular endurance. It is also important for students to learn the skills necessary for lifetime sports too. There are so many fun ways to do this.”

“What are your plans for quarter 3 this year?”

“We have had Halloween and Thanksgiving activities that were exciting and I have some special plans for the 3rd quarter.”

“What is your favorite thing we have done so far in P.E.?”

“We will learn some racket sports, host the KI Olympics, and start lacrosse.”



Students learn the fundamentals of lacrosse in gym class on a sunny morning.

Health

Here are some questions I have asked Mary Grace Muster about health class:

“Do you enjoy health?”

“I believe there is nothing more important than taking care of yourself both physically and emotionally.”

“Do you think it is important to teach health?”

“I am excited to work with our students to encourage them in learning to achieve a healthy and happy lifestyle.”

“What are your plans for quarter 3 this year?”

“This 3rd quarter in health class we will learn about our personal hygiene, the importance of sleep, [the dangers of] addiction, and refusal skills.”