



FALCON 4-1-1

MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENT-TO-PARENT INFORMATION GUIDE FOR NEW FAMILIES

2022-2023

Dear New Middle School Parents and Students:

Welcome to the Kinkaid family! Our goal is to make your transition to Kinkaid an enjoyable one as you prepare to become a Kinkaid Falcon! We know that starting a new school can be overwhelming, and we are here to help you every step of the way as you learn about Kinkaid and the opportunities you will enjoy in academics, arts, athletics, and extracurricular activities!

The primary goal of the New Family Support Program is to encourage and enable you to take advantage of all that Kinkaid has to offer. We want to help you find your place, explore the ways you can get involved, and enjoy the sense of friendship and community that comes along with being an active member of the Kinkaid community.

The New Family Support Program is supported by “Falcon Friends,” a group of current parents who volunteer to help new families make the transition to Kinkaid. These parents are committed to providing their assigned new families with the tools they need for success at Kinkaid, including being available to answer questions (however many there may be and however big or small!); organizing new family events such as summer socials; and assisting with the various deadlines that exist for getting everything in order to start the new school year. Your Falcon Friends are dedicated to making sure that your family’s initial experience at Kinkaid is a special and exciting one, and we hope that you will find the program a tremendous resource.

We have prepared the **Falcon 4-1-1** new family guide to assist both new parents and new students. We hope you will take time to review it as a family. The guide answers many common questions and includes valuable *Talon Tips* that provide practical advice based on other families’ experiences at Kinkaid.

Again, we welcome you to Kinkaid. Your family made a great decision to become a part of the Kinkaid community and we invite you to reach out to us at any time with questions, concerns, or just to say hello!

Warmest regards,

Parents’ Association Middle School New Family Support Chairs

Ashley Hanna
ashleymhanna@gmail.com

Jessica Meyer
jessicajmeyer@gmail.com

Nikki Pielop
Nikki.pielop@gmail.com

Nevine Webster
nevinewebster@gmail.com

Rita Morico
Parent Liaison & Volunteer Coordinator
The Kinkaid School
rita.morico@kinkaid.org
713-243-505

TABLE OF CONTENTS

General Information

- ❑ Important Dates & Deadlines - page 4
- ❑ Preparing for Back-to-School - page 5
- ❑ Staying Informed - page 11
- ❑ Middle School Details - page 13
- ❑ Uniforms - page 17
- ❑ Maps - page 19

Three A's

- ❑ Academic Information - page 22
- ❑ Athletic Information - page 23
- ❑ Arts Information - page 24

Getting Involved

- ❑ Middle School Events & Trips - page 25
- ❑ All School Events - page 26
- ❑ Parent Organizations - page 27
- ❑ Fundraisers & Giving Opportunities - page 29

The Kinkaid School
2022-2023 Important Dates & Deadlines for the Start of School
5th – 8th Grade (Middle School)
(as of April 2022)

May 7	Welcome Event for New Middle School Students and Parents, 9 - 10:30 a.m. in the Ogilvie Lobby of the Katz Performing Arts Center
May 22	"Sno-Cone Social" for New Middle School Families, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. on the Falcon Green
June 1	Health Forms Deadline for All New Families – Online via Magnus Health
June 8	New Student Bowling Party, 12 noon, Bowlero – 925 Bunker Hill Road
end of June through July	Birthday Celebrations Poster & T-Shirt Order Form Available Online (email will be sent)
July 1	Tuition Due (email will be sent in June from the Business Office to set up your Smart Tuition account)
begins July 18	Textbook Order Form Available Online through BNC Services; required texts will not be available at School Store - check Kinkaid website for details
August	Back-to-School One-Stop Shopping (BTS OSS) Order Form Available Online (email will be sent)
August 15	New Student Orientation, 9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
August 17	SCHOOL STARTS for All Three Divisions
August 30 or September 13	New Parent Social at Head of School's Home (parents only)
August 31	Middle School Back-to-School Parents' Night
September	Parent Grade Level Coffees on campus

Preparing for Back-to-School

Health Forms – Due June 1

The Kinkaid School uses an online electronic record keeping program called Magnus Health to maintain students' health and medical information. Magnus allows parents to have continuous access to your child's health record and make updates throughout the year. These records are used to provide vital health information in the event of an emergency. This information may be essential to the health and well-being of your child during their time at Kinkaid, and is shared on a need to know basis with faculty, learning specialists, and coaches.

Please complete the "To Do" requirements in Magnus. All requirements must be completed by **June 1, 2022**. Instructions on how to log into Magnus Health via the Kinkaid Parent website can be found at the end of the document.

Requirements for All New Students must be completed by June 1, 2022.

- **The Kinkaid School Annual Physical Exam Form (including vision and hearing):**
 - Kinkaid requires an annual physical exam, **performed and signed by a licensed medical professional**, within 12 months of the first day of school. If your child has had a physical in the past year, your physician can complete our Annual Physical Exam Form without the need for a new physical. **New students must have a valid physical on file in Magnus in order to attend classes and participate in extracurricular activities.**
- **Immunization Record:**
 - Must be compliant with the requirements of the Texas Department of Health for School Age Children 4 years old to 18 years old and signed by a medical provider.
 - Students who are starting the immunization schedule must have begun the process by July 1, 2022 and be on schedule according to the catch-up immunization schedule of the state of Texas for ages 4 months to 18 years.
 - The Kinkaid School does not accept waivers for Reasons of Conscience.
- **The following items must be completed by June 1 within Magnus Health and do not require a doctor's signature or visit:**
 - Consent for Medical Treatment: parent/guardian electronic signature required.
 - Vital Health Record: parent/guardian completes electronically.
 - Permission for Over the Counter Medication Form: parent/guardian electronic signature required.
 - 2022-2023 COVID Parent Assumption of Risk and Waiver: parent/guardian electronic signature required.
- **Additional Forms to be completed by the medical provider if applicable for your child. You do not need to complete these forms if your child does not take medication at school or have any of the conditions noted below. These forms are valid for one year from the date of the medical provider's signature and must be updated annually:**
 - Prescription Medication (for medications administered at school) such as ADD/ADHD prescriptions
 - Life Threatening Allergy Action Plan
 - Asthma Action Plan
 - Diabetes Action Plan
 - Seizure Action Plan

You will have access to Magnus starting on May 1, 2022.

To access health related forms and the Magnus Health portal please complete the following steps:

- Go to The Kinkaid School website at www.kinkaid.org.
- Click on the Parents tab found at the top of the page.
- Click on the Parent Portal Login box.
- Log into the website using the same username and password that you used when accessing your child's application. If you do not remember your username and/or password you may use this link to reset that information: https://accounts.veracross.com/kinkaid/accounts/forgot_password.
- On the left side of the page, you will see Magnus Health Portal in teal. Under that header you will see information on How to Upload Your Health Forms to Magnus; Health Forms to Download, Fill Out, and Upload to Magnus; and Information About Magnus Health and Contact Information.
- Download and print any forms you may need.
- To upload all signed forms and complete your child's health information, click on the teal colored header Magnus Health Portal.
- Log into the Magnus Health Portal using the same username and password you used to log into The Kinkaid School portal. You must log into The Kinkaid School parent portal in order to log into the Magnus Health Portal.

If you experience difficulty navigating the Magnus system, please refer to the Magnus tip sheet on The Kinkaid School portal or contact customer support at Magnus Health by phone at (877) 461-6831 or by email at service@magnushealthportal.com.

Please do NOT email, fax, or mail any forms to The Kinkaid School.

We appreciate your cooperation and look forward to a happy and healthy school year!

Melisa Landry APRN, CPNP-PC
 Director of Health Services
 The Kinkaid School
 201 Kinkaid School Drive
 Houston, Texas 77024
melisa.landry@kinkaid.org
 713-243-5075

Summer Reading

Kayem Middle School Library is an active and vibrant place with two librarians ready to help you find the perfect book and support your research needs. We offer a variety of programming throughout the year, including author visits, book clubs, and special events. Kayem Library also facilitates the Summer Reading Program that all Middle School students are required to complete.

What Do I Need to Do to Complete Summer Reading?

1. Navigate to kinkaid.org/summerreading in early May when the 2022 program and lists are posted. Once there, carefully read the information related to the grade level you are entering and print out a blank reading log or save it to fill out electronically for printing later once complete.
2. Buy a physical copy of the core novel for the grade level you are entering, as it will be used for a summer assignment and for class in August. You may either buy or borrow the other 4 books you select. It is acceptable to use audiobooks to fulfill summer reading requirements, but you must have a hard copy of the core novel.
3. Do the reading, fill in your log, complete any specified activities, and be ready to turn these items in when school starts.

Accessing Kinkaid Middle School's eBooks and Audiobooks Over the Summer:

The Kinkaid Technology Department will be providing new students with access to their Kinkaid Google accounts in May. Once you receive account credentials, you will be able to log on and access Kinkaid's ebooks and audiobooks via Sora, the library's electronic book platform. Links to and information about Sora are provided on the summer reading pages for each grade level. Until you receive account credentials, digital copies of books/audiobooks may be accessible through your public library or your favorite bookseller. Please note that you do not need credentials to access the summer reading pages, only Sora.

We can't wait to see you in Kayem Library in August!

Ms. Christina Bell & Mrs. Ruth Stubbs

Middle School Librarians

christina.bell@kinkaid.org

713-243-6456

ruth.stubbs@kinkaid.org

713-243-6443

Book & Supply Orders - Online Ordering Begins July 18

The Kinkaid School Store's goal is to provide you with the most convenient and cost-effective solutions for your student's textbook needs. To help reach that goal, we have partnered with BNC K-12 as our official Virtual Bookstore. Not only is BNC K-12 on the cutting edge of content delivery to enhance your student's learning, but they are a convenient solution for your family's busy schedule. They also specialize in keeping costs down, while leading the industry with simple and accurate ordering and fulfillment processes.

We work closely with BNC Services so they have the correct textbooks and materials for your student's courses. Each textbook you order, whether print or eBook, will be the exact version required by the teacher. And it will be delivered on-time.

Tour our Virtual Bookstore at <https://bncvirtual.com/kinkaid> to learn more about BNC services

- Convenience -- all your books in one place.
- Payment options -- including credit cards and PayPal
- Guaranteed buyback -- with upfront buyback \$\$ quotes, you know how much purchased books will be worth at the end of the term
- Used books -- up to 25% off list price
- Textbook formats -- print and digital, to purchase new or used or to rent
- Customer loyalty program -- for more money at buyback

All required books will be coordinated with your schedule via the secure online portal. It's easy one-stop shopping offering new, used, and rentals; if available, shipping directly to your home. Notification when the online portal is open will be sent via Falcon Flyer and also by email.

We hope you choose the satisfaction of the BNC K-12 experience for your textbook needs this school year. BNC K-12 is a great partner to The Kinkaid School and we hope you take advantage of this trustworthy service.

- For the 2022-2023 school year, required Middle School supplies are included in your tuition.
- Preorders for books and supplies will not be offered through the School Store.
- Please see the list of required supplies that will be provided by your grade level, on the School Store page of the Kinkaid website (www.kinkaid.org/SchoolStore).

- There may be other supplies that you might need or want based on your personal learning style that you may purchase in the School Store or from other retailers. Additional items might be suggested by your teacher that you already own, i.e. adaptors, earbuds, etc.
- Supplies will be available for pickup from your assigned advisory by a date to be determined later this summer. More info will follow in the Falcon Flyer, on the website and in emails regarding Back-to-School events and dates.

Talon Tips:

- ❑ The School Store will reopen for regular business for Back-to-School shopping on Monday, August 15th. Hours are 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (closed for lunch from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.) Additional supplies and spirit wear will be available to purchase. Required books will not be stocked in the store.
- ❑ For questions regarding Books & Supplies, contact 713-243-5070 or school.store@kinkaid.org.

One to One Laptop Computer Program

Kinkaid provides each student in the Middle School with a school-issued laptop for academic use. These laptops are given to students in the first week of school and are returned before departing for summer break. Some textbooks will have an online alternative that may be posted on the Kinkaid School Store website. Students will need access to a printer for homework assignments. Although the laptops are used exclusively for schoolwork during the school day, students will be allowed to use them for personal use at home as long as it does not contradict the Acceptable Use Policy. See the Middle School Handbook for more information on technology policies.

Uniform Shopping

Dennis Uniform is the official uniform vendor for Kinkaid. They have a physical store at 7613 Katy Freeway, Suite A, Houston, TX 77024, as well as convenient online ordering at www.dennisuniform.com. The Kinkaid school code on Dennis' school search page is VKS. The national customer service number is 800-854-6951.

Dennis has the uniform requirements on file (online and at the store) for each school and grade, so, when you arrive, just inform them of your school and your class. Typically, you can get all of your needs filled at the store. If they are out of a specific item, they will ship it to you. For additional tips/information regarding Kinkaid's uniform policy, see the "General Information" section of this document and/or reference Kinkaid's Middle School Handbook online.

Talon Tips:

- ❑ You can also order your items online for delivery if you want to avoid the store.
- ❑ Middle School boys do not have to wear Dennis Uniform ties or belts and can wear an appropriate tie or belt of their choosing.
- ❑ Only Dennis Uniform's plain black fleece (no monogram) or outerwear purchased from the Kinkaid School Store may be worn indoors at Kinkaid during the school day.
- ❑ Kinkaid's Clothing Nook (located on the 2nd floor of Harrison House) offers gently used uniform pieces in an array of sizes.

Birthday Celebrations Posters & T-Shirts - Online at the end of June through July only

Birthday posters are a very cool Kinkaid tradition that benefit the Kinkaid 7th Grade class each year. 7th Graders design birthday posters to hang at the entrance to campus. Posters are hung for a full birthday or a half birthday (for those kids with summer birthdays). This is a very popular tradition with most families opting to purchase a sign for their child/children. Parents also have the option of purchasing a

birthday t-shirt for their child, but that is more popular with Lower School students. **LATE SALES ARE NOT AVAILABLE**, so be on the lookout for emails about purchasing these birthday items this summer.

Talon Tips:

- ☐ Remember to save a copy of your receipt!
- ☐ Signs will not be hung on weekends, holidays or summer break. Your child's poster will be hung on the preceding school day.
- ☐ Parents don't choose a hang date as it's automatically chosen on the full or half birthday.

Back-to-School One-Stop Shopping (BTS OSS) - Online in August

BTS OSS, only offered at the very beginning of the school year, is an opportunity to purchase many items online that you and/or your child will want this year. It is incredibly convenient if a little overwhelming at first. However, once the year is underway, you'll be so glad you did it!

Talon Tips:

- ☐ Remember to save a copy of your receipt so you can refer to it throughout the year. You will be surprised how easy it is to forget exactly what you purchased!
- ☐ It is definitely worth your while to take the time to complete BTS OSS when it's available online. While it's not impossible to get some of the items later, it can be more complicated, more expensive, and less convenient to order items one-at-a-time throughout the year.
- ☐ You may also want to put a note on your calendar about what items you purchased so you're not tempted to repurchase later as refunds are not given.

Items Offered on BTS OSS:

- Student Council Socials - These events include dancing, food, and other fun activities on a Friday night. The Fall Social is for 7th & 8th grade only. The Spring Social is for 6th, 7th, & 8th grade. By purchasing the Social tickets up front, the organizers can begin to plan and you won't need to worry about having your child make the purchase later. With your purchase, your child's name will simply be added to the guest list – no need for tickets!
- Falcon Family Feast and the Kinkaid vs. St. John's Football Game – Traditionally held at Rice Stadium, this is one of Kinkaid's big annual all-school events. Put it on your calendar -- it is a fun night for the entire family. Tickets can be ordered for the feast and/or the football game and will be given to you (for more information, see the All School Events section).
- Book Fair Family Night Dinner - The Book Fair is an unbelievable event where the School Gym is transformed into a huge bookstore. The family dinner occurs on the opening night and it is a great opportunity to shop with your kids, invite the grandparents and other relatives, and meet up with friends. With your purchase, your name will be placed on the guest list. Proceeds from the Book Fair support all three divisional libraries (for more information, see the Fundraisers & Giving Opportunities section).
- Cookie Mix Jars - A great 9th Grade fundraiser. These delicious cookie mixes are a big hit for the holidays and can be sent to teachers and staff or ordered for home, family and/or friends. Pick up days are typically during the first week of December. Proceeds from cookie mix sales go to the 9th Grade Class Fund (for more information on class fundraisers, see the Fundraisers & Giving Opportunities section).

- T-shirts - It's a good idea to purchase as many of the very popular T-shirts up front as you can. There are plenty of opportunities to wear them during the year on spirit days and special occasions – and your child is going to want them! T-shirts will be sent home with the youngest child in the family. Proceeds from Homecoming t-shirts support the Kinkaid Booster Club. Proceeds from St. John's Game t-shirts go to the 10th Grade Class Fund. Proceeds from Field Day t-shirts go to the 11th Grade Class Fund (for more information on class fundraisers, see the Fundraisers & Giving Opportunities section).

Locker Set-up - Monday, August 15

Your student will have the opportunity to set up an academic locker for the school year. Locker setup will occur the two days before school starts. Many students decorate their locker and organize their supplies. Please note that any decorations put up in August will have to be taken down by the student in May.

New Student Orientation (for 6th Grade students who are new to Kinkaid) – Monday, August 15

Your child will be offered the opportunity to participate in the New Student Orientation program. This is strongly encouraged and incredibly helpful for new students. During this day your child will have a fun, activity-filled orientation to Kinkaid. The only thing your child needs to bring is a pencil and a great attitude.

School Starts (for All Divisions) - Wednesday, August 17

The first day of school is a regular day, and students go to all their classes. The student needs to have all his/her books labeled with their name.

On the first day of school, regular school dress is worn. Don't forget to bring an extra pair of tennis shoes (which can be left in his/her P.E. locker throughout the year) for P.E. On dress uniform days (which will begin several weeks into school), students **MUST** wear his/her dress shoes at all times except during P.E.

Middle School Back-to-School Parents' Night – Wednesday, August 31

Every fall, parents have the opportunity to visit their child's classrooms and meet their teachers during Back-to-School Parents' Night.

Staying Informed

There are many ways to stay informed about opportunities and activities at The Kinkaid School.

The Kinkaid Website – www.kinkaid.org

The Kinkaid website address is www.kinkaid.org. The website is the “go to” place to find out what’s happening at The Kinkaid School. Be sure to check out the New Family Information pages located on the Parents home page. The username and password you created during the admissions process will give you access to the “Parent Portal” portion of the website.

Talon Tip:

- ☐ Over the summer, you will receive information on accessing online shopping modules in the “Parent Portal” portion of the website.

Falcon Flyer

Every Friday, the School sends out an e-newsletter called “The Falcon Flyer.” The Flyer is the main source of important information regarding upcoming events and volunteer activities, so be sure to read it thoroughly and update your calendar accordingly.

School Calendar

The Kinkaid School offers several calendars. The most current copy will be available on the website. From the home page, click on the menu item titled “ABOUT,” then click on “Calendars for the School.” The calendars range from full calendars to quick views to multi-school combo calendars. You can subscribe to a specific school calendar (Lower, Middle, or Upper) or multiple calendars if you have more than one child. There is even a calendar available for parents who have children in all three divisions. You have so many options!

Talon Tips:

- ☐ If you view the calendars over the summer, please be aware that they are updated in August (before school starts) with additional information. So always check the calendar again at the beginning of the school year for any adjustments you may have to make.
- ☐ For athletics calendars, there’s a separate calendar for each sport. Be sure to click on the ALERT button and click on the RSS BUTTON to subscribe to the schedules for those teams you’re interested in following.
- ☐ For arts calendars, be sure to subscribe for those calendar events you are interested in following. There are also rehearsal calendars in the password-protected Parent Portal for your reference.

Weekly Communication from the Division Head/Assistant Division Head

In Friday’s Falcon Flyer, the Division Head or Assistant Division Head highlights events for the upcoming week.

Talon Tip:

- ☐ This weekly communication is great for parents to see “at a glance” what’s coming up for the week especially for dress days, guest speakers, Advisory days, along with various events.

Emails from New Family Support Team & Grade Level Chairs

Expect correspondence from your NFS Falcon Friends and your Grade Level Chairs (GLC's). These parent volunteers will send information about upcoming events in your grade, actions needed by parents, and may include attachments, such as social invitations. Make it a habit to read these informative emails! All emails sent to you can be found in the parent portal under 'My Messages.'

Special E-Bulletins

Occasionally, the headmaster, athletic director or other school administrator will send out an email to all parents with timely information or updates.

Text Messages

Kinkaid uses a notification service called SchoolMessenger to send important information via phone calls and text (SMS) messaging, regarding time-sensitive school happenings, e.g. a school closure, a power outage or an unusual weather situation affecting campus operations.

Parent-Student Handbook (Lower, Middle, Upper)

There's an All-School Handbook at Kinkaid as well as divisional (Lower, Middle and Upper) handbooks. The handbook is in a printable format for your child's reference and can also be found on the website in the fall. For your reference now, you can find a copy of the current school year handbook on the New Family Information web pages. You will want to familiarize yourself with the handbook for your child's division and refer back to it throughout the year.

KINKAID - The School Magazine

The KINKAID magazine is published twice per year for the alumni, parents, grandparents, and friends of The Kinkaid School and includes news of current activities and events, as well as alumni news. To view the magazine online, go to the Kinkaid website.

Student Newspapers

The Falcon, the Upper School newspaper is a great way to see what the students are thinking. The Upper School Journalism students produce six issues a year. *The Talon Times*, the Middle School newsletter, is produced by Middle School students multiple times a year.

Kinkaidian (Yearbook)

The Middle School and Upper School students publish yearbooks each spring. Every student receives a copy of the yearbook -- there is no need to place an order.

Social Media

Follow Kinkaid on all social media platforms to stay up-to-date with the latest news on what's happening at the School!

Twitter: @KinkaidSchool
Facebook: @KinkaidSchool
Instagram: @TheKinkaidSchool
YouTube: The Kinkaid School



Middle School General Information

Falcon Card

Kinkaid is (with a few exceptions) a “cash free” campus and the Falcon Card is the school “credit card” that can be used in the Dining Center, including the Coffee/Snack Bar and the School Store. Each student receives his/her Falcon Card on the first day of school and is responsible for its safekeeping. The student’s picture was taken during the new student visit days and will be used for the Falcon Card. If a Falcon Card is lost, it will be disabled and a new card will be issued. It can be replaced at NetOps, Kinkaid’s in-house tech center, for a fee that will be charged to your child’s Smart Tuition account. New cards can be ordered at kinkaid.org/falconcard.

Talon Tips:

- ☐ If necessary, parents should have a conversation with their child about spending limits since the School does not have the ability to set a limit.

- ☐ Parents may use their child’s card or cash to make purchases at the School Store and can check all charges on the Parent Portal.

Advisory

Advisory is similar to homeroom. Students meet with their advisor almost every day for some amount of time. The role of the Advisor is to be a “point person” for parents and students regarding progress and communication. The groups of 10-12 students meet to discuss current issues, work on goal setting and organization, or engage in wellness activities. This is also a time for work with Peer Mentors and service learning opportunities.

After-School Study Hall

A great offering to the Middle School students and their parents is the after-school study hall program each day from 3:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Look for more specific information in the fall. There is no additional fee for this service.

Assembly/Class Meeting

On Wednesday mornings, the Middle School comes together as an entire division or by grade levels for an assembly or class meeting. Assembly meetings allow an opportunity for both student-centered presentations and outside guest speakers and celebrations of special events. Class meetings are important vehicles for group communication and Student Council leadership. Wednesdays are typically dress uniform days.

Attendance

The Middle School office is a great source of information, as well as the single most important place to communicate attendance issues. You will contact them directly regarding absences for illnesses, doctor appointments, etc. If your child will be absent, try to let the office know by 9:00 a.m.

Please put ms-office@kinkaid.org in your address book now for an easy way to inform the office of absences and dismissals. You may also use 713-243-6402 to talk to the MS office directly.

Bell Schedule

Middle School start time is at 8:10 a.m. for all four grades. Dismissal is at 3:15 p.m. (for 5th and 6th Graders) and 3:40 p.m. (for 7th and 8th Graders). In the morning, students need to be in the MS building by 7:40 a.m. in order to attend tutorials. Students not in the building can go to the Quad or the Dining and Learning Center until 8:05 a.m.

Dining Center

Breakfast may be purchased in the Dining Center daily using the student's Falcon Card. Lunch can also be purchased with a student's Falcon Card, or he/she may bring lunch from home.

Talon Tips:

- ☐ You can check your child's Dining Center purchases via your Smart Tuition account by simply clicking on the Smart Tuition button on your Parent Portal page.
- ☐ Middle School students cannot go to the Dining Center or Falcon Fuel during recess or after classes during carpool (without an adult).

Computer Acceptable Use Policy

The Kinkaid School has an Acceptable Use Policy that all parents and students must agree to in order to use the computers and Internet on campus. Please see the Middle School Handbook for more specific information.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up

5th and 6th Grade students are dropped off in front of the School, along the center island. Drive past the kiosk, turn left onto the outer driveway (north of the median) and drop your student along the island in front of the Student Life Building. Your student should then cross the inner driveway at the crosswalk. If you are also dropping off a Lower School student, your Middle School student can be dropped off in front of the Student Life Building, then you can continue to Lower School.

7th and 8th Grade students can be dropped off in the West Parking Lot along the Upper School curb. This is especially helpful for dropping off athletic gear in the locker room before school.

In the afternoon, 5th and 6th Grade students should be picked up in front of the Student Life Building between 3:15 p.m. and 3:45 p.m. 7th and 8th Grade students should be picked up between 3:45 p.m. and 4:10 p.m. in the West Parking Lot alongside the Upper School. Please see Kinkaid Carpool Routes map. These routes are updated based on year-to-year changes in scheduling and traffic patterns.

Talon Tips:

- ☐ Please remember the use of cell phones is not permitted while dropping off and picking up your student.
- ☐ Please remember to display your name placard during afternoon carpool to help carpool be as efficient as possible.
- ☐ Stay in your vehicle at all times – do NOT get out of your car while in the line to go get your student or visit with a teacher or friend.
- ☐ Encourage your child to be ready to disembark. Remember the carpool drill - Stop, Drop & Depart!
- ☐ You can use Veracross in the Parent Portal to help source potential carpool partners. Simply click on the Directory icon, then click on the Nearby Families tab.

Electronic Devices

Students are permitted to carry their cell phones into the Middle School, but are required to leave them silent and in their lockers until the end of the day. Please see the Middle School Handbook for more

specific information on the consequences if a student is found using their cell phone during the school day. If you need to reach your student during the school day, please call the Middle School Office at 713-243-6402.

Talon Tips:

- ❑ 5th & 6th Grade students in particular will not need a phone at school.
- ❑ **Please do not call or text your child during the school day.** Students using their phones to text (even their parents) will face disciplinary consequences.

Independent Work Time (IWT)

Each Wednesday, all Middle School students have a 45-minute period to independently work in Advisory groups. This provides an opportunity for students to complete schoolwork, prepare for assessments, collaborate for group assignments or meet with teachers for extra help. Students who complete their work should read independently.

Library

The Middle School Library (Kayem Library) is open daily from 7:30 a.m. until 3:45 p.m. These extended hours allow students extra time for quiet study and research before and after school, as well as during quad time. Please see the Middle School Handbook for more specific information.

Lockers

Each student is assigned a hall locker at the beginning of the year. All student belongings must fit in the locker and permit the locker door to shut. As part of the culture of honesty and respect at Kinkaid, there are no locks on the lockers. Core Values are taken very seriously at Kinkaid, and it is strictly against the rules for a student to enter another student's locker without specific permission from a teacher or administrator.

Lost and Found

It is very helpful if all shoes and clothing are labeled with the student's name. Unlabeled items found will be taken to the Lost and Found cabinets in the Middle School. Jewelry and other valuables found will be kept in the Middle School Office.

Morning Tutorials

The morning tutorials provide students time to seek help with homework, ask questions or to have quiet study time on their own. Morning tutorials are very popular and strongly encouraged among the Middle School students. They take place from 7:40 a.m. - 8:05 a.m.. Afternoon and Monday tutorials are available by appointments made in advance between the teacher and student.

Online Directory Access

To access the online directory **on an iPhone**, please follow these directions:

1. Open Safari.
2. Type in portals.veracross.com/kinkaid
3. Log in with your parent username and password and navigate to the Directories page.
4. Tap the Share button at the bottom of the screen.
5. Scroll over and choose Add to Home Screen.
6. Voila! There is now an icon on your home screen for your online directory.

For an Android phone, follow the instructions on this link:

<https://support.mozilla.org/en-US/kb/how-add-shortcut-website-android>

Recess

Middle School students are able to enjoy a recess period every day either in the morning or around lunchtime. Students go outside to the athletic fields for approximately 25 minutes to socialize and play games. Equipment (balls, frisbees, etc.) is provided for games, though some students choose to bring their own. Students are actively supervised by faculty members.

Talon Tip:

- ❑ Students can bring a snack from home to have during morning recess. There is not an opportunity to buy anything in the Dining Center or Falcon Fuel during recess.

Quad Time

After Monday & Friday lunches, there is also a short 10-15 minutes social time called “Quad.” This is a unique time when students again are encouraged to socialize with their friends.

School Store

The School operates a full school store where students may purchase their school-related materials throughout the year by using their Falcon Card. Students may go to the School Store before school, during Quad Time (with permission) or after school.

Talon Tip:

- ❑ The School Store not only sells school supplies and books but also an array of snacks and Kinkaid spirit items so parents may want to visit the Store with their child and then have a conversation about what he/she is allowed to purchase and how often. NOTE: By Middle School rules, snacks are only available to purchase after school with an adult.

Student Clubs & Organizations

Clubs are a great opportunity for students to explore an interest outside of their academic classes. Every student is expected to join a club. The clubs are presented to them early in the year at Assembly, and they can choose what to join. Most clubs meet on Friday afternoon during a designated club period. A few clubs that require extra time for leadership (i.e. Student Council) or competition (i.e. Robotics) will meet during lunch time or after school. Parents are generally not involved in this process, but here is a list of some clubs offered in the past:

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| • Robotics | • Crochet Club |
| • Student Council | • Peer Mentors (7 th and 8 th Grade only) |
| • Chess Club | • Quiz Bowl |
| • Math Club | • Girls Who Code |
| • Dungeons & Dragons | • Personal Finance |
| • Minecraft Club | • Jewish Heritage Club |

Visiting Campus/Kinkaid Car Sticker

During the summer, you will receive a parking sticker to put on the front lower driver-side windshield of your car. This will allow you to go past the security kiosk without stopping. The campus map at the back of this notebook shows the designated visitor parking spaces throughout the campus. When you enter the buildings, you will need to sign in with the receptionist in the Student Life Building or the office of the Lower, Middle or Upper Schools. They will provide you with a nametag to wear while you are on campus. You will also be asked to fill out your license plate information for an app called School Pass.

Uniform/Dress Code

Dennis Uniform is Kinkaid's official uniform vendor. In addition to the core uniform purchase information included, here are a few additional tips about uniforms and dress code:

Dress Uniform: Navy blazers, ties and belts may be purchased elsewhere. Dress uniforms are typically worn on Wednesdays for MS Assembly.

Shoes: Students tend to wear Sperrys, loafers, or flats for dress day and athletic shoes for regular uniform days.

Socks: For all students, dress socks should be black, navy, or white. The other days, they can be any color, as long as they match. Girls may also wear tights on cold days.

Sweatshirts & Outerwear: When inside school buildings, students are only allowed to wear Kinkaid-specific outerwear from the Athletics department, Dennis Uniform or the School Store. Students may wear any school-appropriate outerwear when outside for recess, Quad, or carpool.

Name Labels: All attire should be labeled with the student's name on the inside of the clothing. .

Skirt and Short Length: Skirts or shorts should fall no higher than 2-3 inches above the knee. Skirts should not be shortened after purchase. Parents will be contacted if a student does not have clothing of the proper length.

Talon Tips:

- ☐ Girls can also wear khaki shorts or pants instead of skirts.
- ☐ Girls tend to wear light-colored sports clothes under uniforms to facilitate changing for PE. For example, girls will wear volleyball shorts and white or grey sports tops that they can wear under the PE uniform too.
- ☐ All students will need a pair of appropriate length khaki shorts for Field Day in April.
- ☐ Short-sleeve dress shirts are very popular.

Clothing Nook

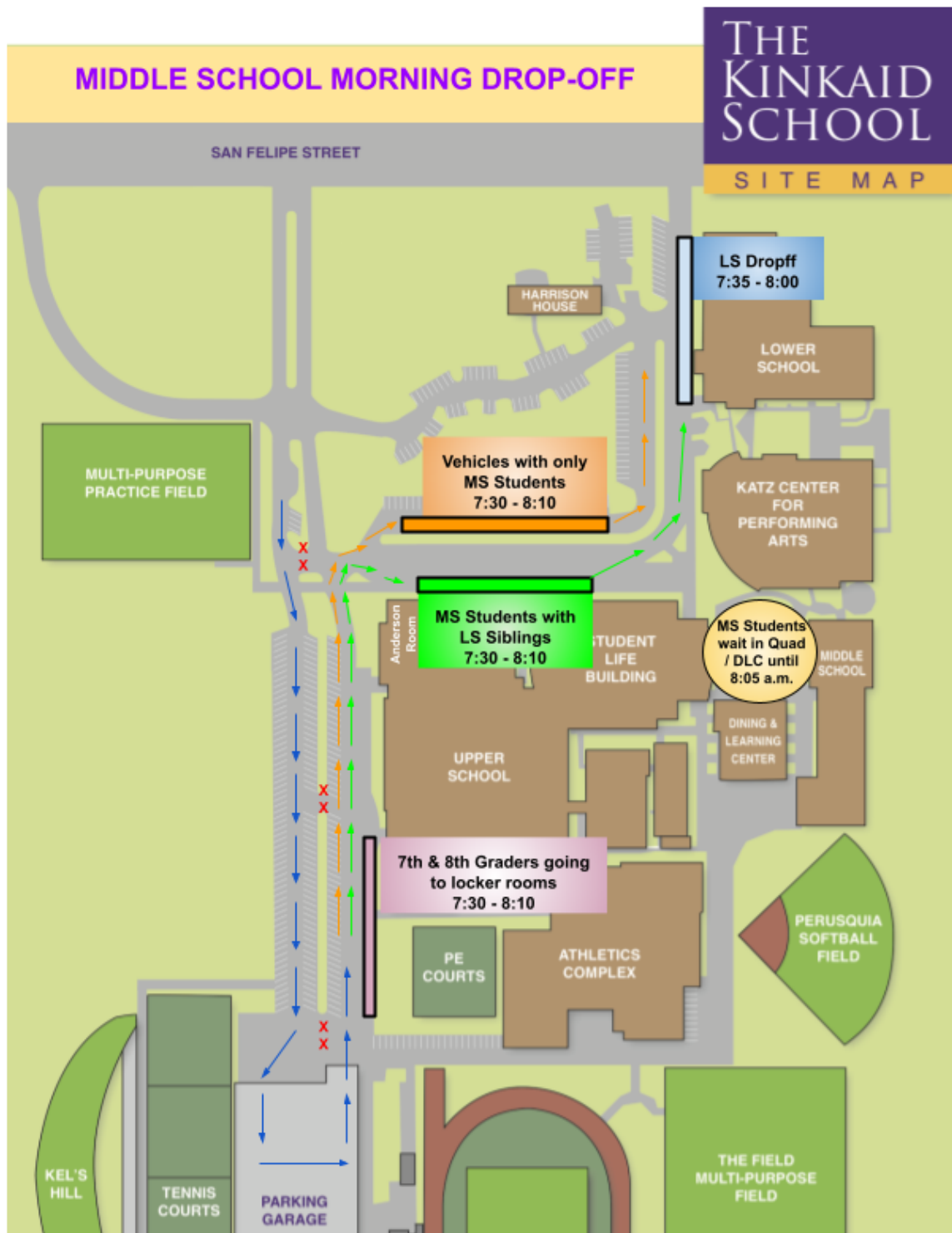
As mentioned earlier, the Parents' Association sponsors the Clothing Nook (open during school hours on the 2nd floor of Harrison House), which is a great source for gently used uniform items. And once your child has outgrown their uniforms, please consider donating those to the Clothing Nook!

Community Dress Days

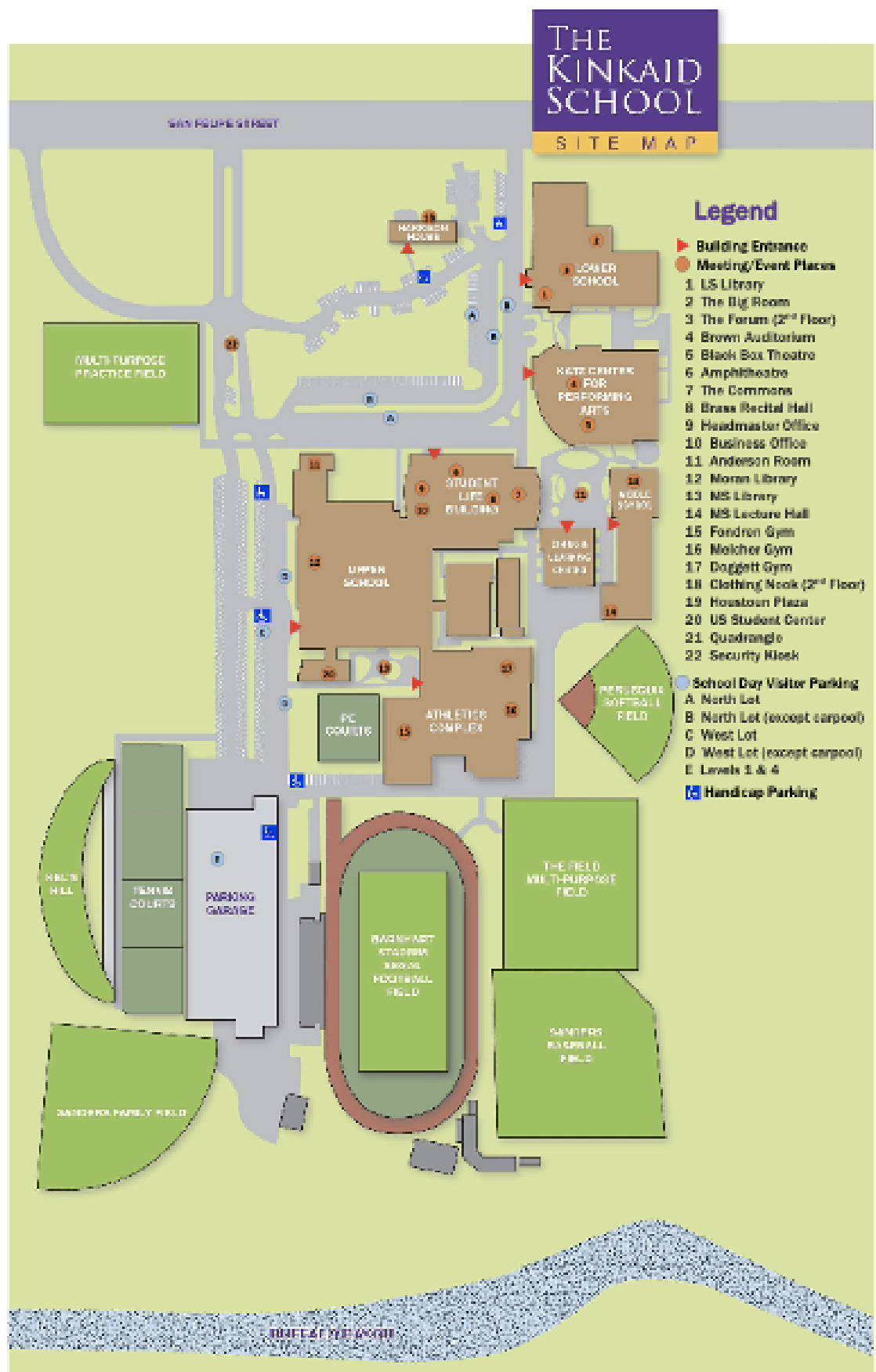
In Middle School, there are regularly Community Dress Days. Some of these days are theme-specific. In the past, these days have included Breast Cancer Awareness Day, Go Texan Day and celebrating Houston sports teams' victories. Students will be notified in advance of any special dress days.

2022-2023 KINKAID MIDDLE SCHOOL UNIFORM

	Dress Uniform <i>(Wednesdays)</i>	Daily Uniform	Community Dress
Blazer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Navy blazer 	None required	None required
Tops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White Kinkaid dress shirt from Dennis Uniforms • Shirts must be tucked in during the school day. • Boys should wear a school appropriate necktie or bowtie. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White Kinkaid polo shirt from Dennis Uniforms • Shirts must be tucked in during the school day. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T-shirt, collared shirt, or blouse with sleeves. • No sheer tops or ones that expose the midriff. • Any logos or slogans should be school appropriate.
Bottoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kinkaid skirts or slacks from Dennis Uniforms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kinkaid skirts, khaki shorts or khaki slacks from Dennis Uniforms. • Skirts should have shorts underneath. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pants, jeans, leggings, khaki shorts, or Kinkaid skirts. • Skirts should have shorts underneath. • Athletic shorts or athletic pants (running, sweatpants) are not allowed (except for athletic spirit days).
Shoes & Socks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brown, black, or navy dress shoes. • Brown, black, white or navy dress socks, or black opaque leggings/tights. • High heels (2+ inches), boots, or platform shoes or slippers are not permitted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed-toe shoes with a hard sole, including sneakers. • Socks or solid color leggings/tights • High heels (2+ inches), boots, platform shoes, and slippers are not permitted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed-toe shoes with a hard sole, including sneakers or boots • Socks or solid color leggings / tights • High heels (2+ inches), platform shoes, and slippers are not permitted.







Academic Information

Academic Courses

Sixth graders will take five “core” classes, including English, History, Mathematics, Science, and a World Language rotation of French, Spanish, and Latin. Some students with document reading issues will take Reading instead of the World Language rotation. Sixth graders also take two half-time courses in Computers and Writing Conventions, as well as an Arts rotation that includes Orchestra, Band, Choir, and Visual Art. They also take Physical Education class every day.

Grades and Teacher Conferences

Report cards are posted three times per year. In addition, a live online grade book can be found through the Veracross Parent Portal. This online grade book allows students and parents to view grades for assignments and assessments. There are two Student Conference days where parents and students come to school to meet with the student’s advisor. The fall conference is led by the advisor and is designed to check in on the opening quarter’s performance and establish goals for the remainder of the year. The Spring conference is led by the student and is a presentation highlighting achievements, struggles, and examples of quality work from throughout the year. In addition, teachers and advisors may be contacted for specific issues on an as-needed basis. Email is usually the most effective way to reach a teacher to schedule a meeting.

Cumulative Exams

5th, 6th, and 7th Grade students do not have cumulative exams but have multiple unit tests throughout the year. Some 7th grade classes will begin cumulative assessments during the year that will occur during a regular class schedule.

8th Grade students have an exam period during the final week of the school year for both formal cumulative exams and culminating project presentations. Students will take one or two exams per day. Please note: The school day is shorter for 8th graders during this week. Once the required exams are completed for the day, students leave campus for the day.

Tests

Teachers inform students a week in advance (or more) about upcoming tests. They also post tests, quizzes and assignments online at least one week ahead of time. Students will also be given a planner at the beginning of the year, and they will get into the habit of updating it daily for homework, projects, quizzes and tests. The number of tests and quizzes students have in a week varies. Teachers work together to coordinate test dates to minimize the number of tests on a given day, but there will be weeks when the assessment load is heavier.

Homework

Students can expect up to 20-30 minutes of homework per class each day (including some on the weekends), although this varies depending on the grade level and teacher. 5th and 6th graders typically have less homework than 7th and 8th graders. Not every class meets each day, so students should plan for 1-2 hours of homework per night, depending on upcoming tests or projects. Long weekends are usually designated as ‘no homework’ weekends.

Middle School Handbook

The information listed in this section serves as only a brief overview of the academic aspects of Kinkaid. The Middle School Handbook covers very specific details on topics such as grading, conduct, absences, and uniforms. The handbook also provides information on Awards, Policies, Arts, Athletics and Faculty. The handbook is available online in the Student and Parent Portal.

Athletic Information

P.E. and P.E. Uniforms

The entire 6th Grade goes to P.E. every day. The P.E. coaches will provide each student a P.E. uniform (two t-shirts and one pair of shorts) on the first day of school. Uniforms will be kept in a locker provided to each student in the gym locker room. The gym locker DOES have a combination lock on it, and each student is responsible to remember the combination.

Talon Tips:

- ❑ Students change in front of their peers for P.E. Therefore, they may feel more comfortable wearing undergarments (boxer shorts for boys/sports bras for girls) for which they are comfortable appearing in a group setting. Most students do bring deodorant and other toiletries to use after P.E. before their next class.
- ❑ The P.E. uniform usually stays in the student's P.E. locker during the week, and the students are encouraged to take home the dirty uniforms at the end of the week to be cleaned.
- ❑ It is a good idea to purchase an extra pair of shorts and t-shirt to have so that there is always a clean uniform in the student's locker. Stay tuned for purchase information.
- ❑ The majority of students leave an extra pair of tennis shoes in their locker. This is especially useful for dress uniform days.
- ❑ The Kinkaid Clothing Nook often has Kinkaid gym shorts available and sometimes t-shirts as well.

Sports Programs

In 6th Grade, P.E. is a full-year program in which students participate every day. The P.E. program is separated between boys and girls. Students learn athletic skills, cooperation, sportsmanship, rules and strategies in each sport unit. The program includes: flag football, field hockey, cross-country, volleyball, basketball, soccer, tennis, baseball, softball, lacrosse, cooperative games, frisbee, golf and racquet sports.

In the spring, 6th Grade students have their first opportunity to compete for a Kinkaid team. Both boys and girls (separately) may choose to train and compete with the track and field team. Practice is during P.E. class, and meets will be held after school. If a student chooses not to join the track and field team, they will automatically start conditioning class during their P.E. class.

In 7th and 8th Grade, P.E. is replaced with team sports and practices are held at the end of the day and are finished by 3:40 p.m. For more information please refer to the Athletics section of the Kinkaid website: www.kinkaid.org/athletics.

Talon Tip:

We are always looking for volunteers to help out at sporting events. Whether it's working the concession stand or offering to be a Team Parent, there are many opportunities to help our athletes and to meet other parents.

Arts Information

As one of the three big “A’s” at Kinkaid, the Arts opportunities at both the Middle and Upper School levels are extensive. The most updated Arts calendars can be found on the Kinkaid website. Performances for both Middle and Upper school events are typically ticketed, though only some are at a cost. Performance information will be shared in the fall.

Arts Classes

In 5th and 6th grade, Middle School students participate in a rotation of visual and performing arts classes. 5th Graders take a rotation of Visual Art, Creative Movement, General Music, and Creative Drama. 6th graders take a rotation of Orchestra, Band, Choir and Visual Art.

In 7th Grade, students will be able to choose one music class (Orchestra, Band, Choir) and one other elective (Dance, Technical Theatre, Creative Writing, Technology, Visual Art).

By 8th Grade, students will have the chance to take two of their preferred electives. The offerings continue those available in 7th grade, and expand to include Debate, Drama, Yearbook, and Video Production. 8th Graders in music electives may have the opportunity to also perform with the Upper School Band, Orchestra, or Choir.

Performance Opportunities

5th & 6th Grade Play

There is a Middle School Play that involves 5th and 6th graders who audition for roles. The 5th & 6th Grade Play rehearses after school and performs in the winter.

7th Grade Play

There is also a play that is exclusively for 7th graders who audition for roles. The 7th Grade Play rehearses after school and performs in the winter.

Broadway Bound

Broadway Bound is musical theatre revue open to all Middle School students that rehearse after school and perform in the spring.

8th Grade Musical

Finally, all 8th graders are involved in the winter 8th Grade Musical in some way, either as a performer or crew member. Students are able to choose their level of involvement in the show. Rehearsals occur both after school and during the school day.

Middle School Events & Trips

Student Council Socials

There are traditionally two Middle School socials, one in the fall and one in the spring. The 7th and 8th grade students will attend the social in the fall, and 6th grade students can join 7th and 8th in the spring. Each social has a theme. Students are encouraged to dress in attire appropriate for the theme. However, this is not required. If a student chooses not to dress within the guidelines of the theme, proper attire is expected. The event is chaperoned by Middle School faculty and staff, and parents are encouraged to remain outside of the building. Students must attend school the day of the social in order to participate, and only Kinkaid students are allowed to attend the Middle School socials.

Talon Tips:

- ☐ Even if you hear from your student that “no one is going,” this is not true. The socials are really fun!
- ☐ Many Middle School kids like to arrive at the event together (it can be less intimidating) so encourage your child to invite a few friends to ride together. Some students even like to meet to get dressed together before the social so ask your child if they’d like to invite a friend or two over to have a snack and get geared up together for their big night out!
- ☐ Once a student arrives at the social, they can only leave before the end with their own parent, so plan to pick up carpool groups when the dance officially ends, and not before.

Community Service

Service to others is an integral part of the Kinkaid experience. In the Middle School, students will be provided in grade-level community service projects that often span the entire year. Our service program incorporates service/learning components to educate students about global issues as well as provide opportunities to give back to both the internal and external community. Each student will help improve the world through their actions by performing community service at a number of organizations throughout the Houston community. Service opportunities include assisting the homeless and hungry, providing companionship to the elderly and tutoring elementary school students.

Middle School Student Trips

6th Grade - The 6th Grade will spend time at Camp Olympia in September focusing on class unity activities and specific environmental concerns. This trip is a very special part of the 6th Grade learning and “getting to know your classmates” experience. Information will be sent to you in August, and there will be an informative question and answer parent meeting before they leave for their trip.

7th Grade - The 7th Grade will spend a few days touring important historic sites. More details will follow.

8th Grade - The 8th Grade will spend four days in late April touring the Washington, DC area, focusing on United States history and government. The cultural and educational parts of this trip will be enhanced by preparation of the students before departure. Please note: There is an additional cost for these trips. Payments will be requested from the Business Office.

All School Events

Football Games

Friday Night Lights shine bright at Kinkaid! Remember to keep your Friday nights open for these exciting football games; your Falcons won't disappoint! There are theme nights announced to the students weekly, so they can be sure to show their spirit. Parents and students of all ages always enjoy these gorgeous fall nights so please plan to come, grab a bite at the Concessions Stand and support the Falcons!

Falcon Family Feast/Kinkaid vs. St. John's Game

The football event of the year is the Kinkaid vs. St. John's Game, aka simply, "The St. John's Game" and EVERYONE goes – Alumni, Faculty, Staff, and Families of ALL ages and stages! This legendary game of rivals between our Falcons and the Mavericks began in 1951 and since 1979 has been held at Rice University Stadium. The event kicks off with a huge "Falcon Family Feast" tailgate dinner in the Rice Stadium parking lot (see BTS One-Stop Shopping for tickets to the Feast and game), and then everyone moves into the stadium to cheer the Falcons as they defend their winning streak!

Talon Tip:

- ❑ Visit the School Store for your purple and gold gear! And don't miss the Falcon Family Feast where your family is sure to get more Falcon Frenzy giveaways!!

Fine Arts Performances

Every year, the Katz Performing Arts Center is home to various musical and dramatic performances. Some performances are ticketed; however, many performances are free.

Talon Tip:

- ❑ Complete information regarding all box office procedures will be sent to the entire community at a later date and posted on our website at tickets.kinkaid.org.

Margaret Kinkaid Holiday Concert and Reception

Make this lovely early December event a family tradition! Since it began in 1924 as a "Birthday" Party/Open House for the "Birth" of Kinkaid at its then-new campus on Richmond Ave., the entire Kinkaid community has been invited to come to hear the Kinkaid Band, Chorus and Orchestra perform at the Margaret Hunter Kinkaid Holiday Concert. Now held at the current campus in the Brown Auditorium, it is an inspirational performance that will get you in the spirit of the season! Following the performance, gather for fellowship with family and friends at a Reception in the decorated Ogilvie Lobby to enjoy Kinkaid's traditional hot chocolate (the recipe's a long-held secret!) and sweet holiday treats.

Talon Tip:

- ❑ This is a popular event for Middle School families. Feel free to invite grandparents to enjoy the concert, view the art, and have cookies and cocoa too!

African American Heritage & Culture AND Culture Fest

African American Heritage and Culture is an annual event in February. This is a #OneKINKAID Event featuring performances and art by Lower, Middle and Upper School students. Culture Fest is an annual spring event in which the three divisions gather to celebrate the rich culture and ethnic heritage of Kinkaid, Houston and the world. Student groups, families and individuals host booths representing various cultures and participate in performances, including singing and dancing.

Parent Organizations

There are lots of ways that parents can get involved at Kinkaid. We all benefit from active parent volunteers and there are many options to choose from -- whether you are looking to volunteer once a week or once a year (or anything in between) -- there will be options for you!!

Online Parent Volunteer Website

Kinkaid uses Sign Up Genius to recruit volunteers. Once you have received your community log in to the Kinkaid website, you will have access to the online volunteer sign-ups. Most of the volunteer opportunities are listed (in various categories, i.e. Lower, Middle, Upper, Book Fair, Field Day, etc.). You can view the opportunities (including a description, chairs of the activity, and date/time of shifts available) and can sign yourself up for as many as you like!

Talon Tips:

- ☐ If you are having a difficult time deciding where to get involved, your Falcon Friend Team Leaders should be able to help. You can also contact your GLC and/or Kinkaid's Parent Liaison & Volunteer Coordinator.
- ☐ Instructions on how to use the Sign-Up Genius site can be found on the "Web Support FAQ's" page and on the "Parent Website Workshop Videos" page.

Parents' Association

The Kinkaid Parents' Association coordinates volunteers and fundraising activities, represents the interests of all Kinkaid parents, supports and promotes the goals and policies of The Kinkaid School and acts as a liaison between the parents and the faculty and administration of the School. Funding for the Parents' Association comes from families via the Student Activities Fee. There are over 100 volunteer chairs coordinating a variety of activities at the School, and they all need help! Some of the many opportunities available are:

- School-Wide Events: Auction, Book Fair, Faculty Appreciation, Falcon Family Feast, Field Day, Holiday Decorating, Holiday Reception
- School-Wide On-going Volunteer Opportunities: Concessions, Fine Arts, Library
- Middle School Volunteer Opportunities: Birthday Celebrations (7th Grade), Concessions, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Night, Vision & Hearing,
- Upper School Volunteer Opportunities: Cookie Mix Sales (9th Grade), Baccalaureate, Concessions, 9th/10th Grade Event, Graduation, Homecoming Dance, Junior/Senior Prom

Talon Tips:

- ☐ Please refer to the description of each volunteer opportunity on the Volunteer Opportunities page of the website for more information on individual opportunities.
- ☐ It generally takes a couple of years of volunteering to be considered for a committee "chair" or leadership position. The larger the event or committee, the more years of experience on the committee you would need to be considered.

Booster Club

The Booster Club supports the School's extracurricular activities in both Fine Arts and Athletics. It helps fund an end-of-season get together for every Middle and Upper school team; a celebration during or after an arts production; and organizes and/or supports other "school spirit" events throughout the year,

including a Middle School School Spirit Night, Falcon Fanatic Nights, Falcon Fan Fest and the Margaret Kinkaid Holiday Concert. Some of the many volunteer opportunities for Booster Club are:

- Team Parents: If your child plays sports, you may be asked to act as team parent (usually with at least one other parent, sometimes several). You will work with the coach to coordinate snack schedules, concession stand volunteers and provide communication to the other parents.
- Visual and Performing Arts Parent Volunteers: Each Arts discipline has a designated Parent Volunteer. These parent volunteers help coordinate the volunteer efforts specific to that discipline. Additionally, there is always a need for general parent helpers for various backstage projects and duties. The musicals are enormous undertakings. Parent volunteers are always needed for specific tasks during rehearsals, tech week and the actual production dates.

Fundraisers & Giving Opportunities

Auction

Held once every three years at the School, the Auction raises funds that contribute to student trips, technology upgrades and equipment for athletics and arts programs. Planning begins 18 months prior to the auction date and there are many ways for parents to be involved. The next Auction is scheduled for 2025.

Talon Tip:

- ❑ During an Auction year, parents begin getting groups/tables together in the fall or you may sign up to sit according to grade level.

Book Fair

Every November the Melcher Gym is transformed into a bookstore unlike any other. For two days, students and families are given the opportunity to shop for books and gifts (right before the holidays!), mingle with fellow Kinkaid community members, meet authors and enjoy coffee at the Kinkaid Perk cafe. You will feel as if you have been transported off-campus while in the comfort of your own school. Students visit the Book Fair by class (find the schedule on the website), and parents are encouraged to meet them there. On Family Night, the entire community is encouraged to get together for dinner prepared by a local restaurant and, of course, do some shopping. In addition to purchasing books, you can also donate and become a "Friend of the Library." Proceeds from Book Fair benefit all three school libraries.

Talon Tips:

- ❑ This is a wonderful volunteer opportunity -- you will get the chance to mingle with your kids, their friends, and their friends' families.
- ❑ Free gift wrap is available and is thoughtfully and beautifully done.

Field Day

Started in 1925 by Margaret Kinkaid, Field Day is a fun-filled, all-school family tradition at Kinkaid. The Upper School students kick off the festivities by enjoying lunch and the carnival at 12:30 p.m. At 2:00 p.m., all the students, from Pre-K to Seniors, gather on the football field for grade-level competitions between the "Purple" and "Gold" teams. At 3:15 p.m., after the field events, there is a huge carnival with rides, games, and food. There are many opportunities to volunteer; but, even if you are just a spectator, you will want to enjoy this event with your family. Field Day raises significant funds for educational equipment and programs for the entire School.

Talon Tips:

- ❑ Students are required to wear khaki shorts and a Field Day t-shirt (from any year). Students will want to play-up their team color for the field games. Purple or gold socks, ribbons, and bows are all encouraged. This is a great opportunity to show your Kinkaid spirit!
- ❑ Your child will find out what "team" they are on in the weeks before your first Field Day. Generally, current family members are on the same color team. But, be prepared, if you are an alumnus, your child may not be on your team.
- ❑ There will be limited parking on campus in the garage and west lot. Overflow parking will be available with shuttle bus service to campus.

Class Fundraisers

Starting in 7th Grade, students have fundraisers to help raise money for events during the school year, but also to pay for many special events and activities during their senior year. You can support all of these fundraisers through the Back-to-School (BTS OSS) and Birthday Celebrations online shopping opportunities.

- 7th Grade - Birthday Celebrations Posters and T-Shirts
- 9th Grade – Cookie Mix Jars
- 10th Grade - Kinkaid vs. SJS T-Shirts
- 11th Grade - Field Day T-Shirts

Concessions Stands

Kinkaid operates an indoor and an outdoor concession stand during most athletic events. Proceeds go to the Athletics department and benefit all student athletes and physical education programs.

Talon Tip:

- ❑ Middle School students start participating in competitive athletics at the end of 6th grade. Volunteering in concessions stands is an opportunity open to all parents and a great way to meet parents in your child's grade and in other divisions.

The Kinkaid Open (Golf Tournament)

Kinkaid's annual golf tournament was created in remembrance of Zack Semander, a beloved math teacher and coach at Kinkaid for more than thirty years. Held in the fall, the tournament is open to alumni, parents, former parents, grandparents and friends of the Kinkaid community. The tournament is held at a Houston-area golf course where players enjoy lunch, a full round of golf and an awards reception following the tournament. Proceeds from the golf tournament support the John Germann Endowed Scholarship.

Sporting Clays Benefit

The Sporting Clays Benefit is held every spring and alumni, parents, grandparents and friends are welcome to register and shoot in the tournament. The shoot takes place at a local shooting range and typically begins with lunch and games to be followed by the tournament and awards ceremony. Proceeds from the benefit support the Barbara Cooney Teacher Fellowship Endowment.

Kinkaid Annual Fund

Our students are the heart of The Kinkaid School. Gifts to the Kinkaid Fund allows the School to provide extraordinary opportunities for our students with support for technology, athletics, the arts, financial aid, and character education. Additionally, support of the Kinkaid Fund helps attract and retain outstanding faculty and staff as well as support enhancements and maintenance for our beautiful campus.

A solicitation packet will be mailed to every family in September. Most families make a gift or pledge in the fall with full payment due by June. Follow up phone calls from parent volunteers will be made in the fall to encourage participation. Additionally, many families use their corporate matching gift programs to increase their gift, making a greater impact. Please confirm with your employer if this is an option. The Kinkaid Fund is our top priority for fundraising each year. This Fund ensures that our tradition of excellence will continue each year. For more information, please visit Kinkaid.org/giving or contact Carly Lukefahr, Kinkaid Fund Manager at 713-243-5013 or carly.lukefahr@kinkaid.org.

Gifts of all sizes are welcomed and appreciated. Please consider making a gift that is meaningful to you and your family. Kinkaid has Leadership Giving Societies you may consider.

Talon Tip:

- ❑ Giving society members are invited to a social event hosted by the Head of School each spring. These adult-only parties are a great way to meet other parents.

Endowment

A significant endowment is increasingly indispensable to the School's pursuit of excellence, innovation and impact. A gift made to The Kinkaid School endowment is invested in perpetuity, providing an annual distribution in support of the School activities of the donor's choosing. Gifts can be made for specific purposes or to the general endowment, which supports all areas of the School. Endowments can be designated for departments, financial aid, faculty continuing education, technology, operation and maintenance of facilities and specific academic programs. To name an endowment, a gift of \$25,000 or more, payable over 5 years, must be committed and the donor may designate the gift to a particular area of interest. Annual reports are provided to the donor highlighting the performance activity of the investment.

Endowment funds are one of Kinkaid's most powerful financial tools, offering perpetual stability and flexibility. In fact, the endowment distribution typically represented 9% of the Schools' annual operating budget, an amount that makes a major impact on students and faculty throughout the School. A gift to the endowment is an investment that propels our efforts in learning, discovery, and engagement that are essential for the best educational experience for our students today and into the future.

For more information, please contact Lisa Wood, Assistant Director of Advancement at 713-243-5023 or lisa.wood@kinkaid.org.

Legacy Giving

In the heart of many Kinkaid families is a commitment to protect and promote the School's tradition of excellence. Many have chosen to leave an everlasting expression of gratitude to Kinkaid through their estate plans. A gift through a bequest in your will or designating Kinkaid as a beneficiary of your retirement plan or life insurance are just a few methods to accomplish your philanthropic goals.

The **Kinkaid Legacy Society** is a recognition program which honors those who have created an enduring legacy to Kinkaid through thoughtful planning of their estate. To be a member, you simply have to notify the School of your intentions.

For more information, please visit kinkaid.planmylegacy.org or contact Lisa Wood, Assistant Director of Advancement at 713-243-5023 or lisa.wood@kinkaid.org.