

Library Update - September, 2021



Message from Corinne: Dear Volunteers, Supporters and Friends,

I hope you've all had an enjoyable summer and are refreshed and ready for Fall.

We at Kelly are! As we start the '21-'22 school year, we return to a new, improved Kelly and not just because of the renovations. There are happy faces on all: students, staff, teachers, administrators and especially our volunteers.

"Out of lemons, we make lemonade." My wonderment at the novel ways we adapted last year continues on into this year. Due to Covid, we spent last year reimagining and reinventing ways (as Doris and Janet are fond of saying) "to get books into kids' hands." And we did so both physically and virtually. We will continue to do so even more this year.

We offer a number of ways you can participate with us. This year's Storytime and Reading Buddies programs are both virtual and in person. For those who are unable to participate in these activities, we have other opportunities to be involved with Kelly Library such as helping with planning and/or executing special events and projects; collecting new and very gently used current books; helping with volunteer recruitment and community involvement at Kelly; decorating our library's space; organizing our online documents and records, and seeking grant funding. We are always open to new ideas! Please contact me if you are interested.

We have some exciting news to share, so keep reading! I'll close with much gratitude to all who continue to support our JBK School Library Volunteer Program and Kelly students, and with much gratitude to all who have newly joined us in this rewarding and fun-filled endeavor.

Stay Safe,
Corinne

A Wonderful Donation from an Amazing High School Student: We are so honored and humbled to announce the generous donation of \$1,500 from Grace Padula, a Masterman High School student, library volunteer, and Storytime reader. Grace and her sisters raised this money through their used book store project. Grace explains her marvelous endeavor this way: "Over the past two summers, my sisters, Alice and Clare and I have run a small used bookstore in Rock Hall on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, where we spend our summers. We initially opened the store in June of 2020, after having the idea for it at the beginning of the pandemic. We started by renting a little shop in Rock Hall, MD, and put up flyers around the neighborhood asking people to donate used books. We had lots of people who were very willing to donate, and drop off books or have us pick them up and pretty quickly we had a fairly large selection. So much of our success was from how generous people were with giving us donations, and coming to support the store. We organized them, by genre and age group, then found and painted bookshelves. After hanging lights, and putting up signs we were ready for business. We logged our cash sales in a little book, and set up a Square reader for credit cards. As the summer progressed we were able to add more little things, like postcards, necklaces and bags made of sails. My younger sister, Clare (14) then cataloged all of our books into a database so we could keep track of what we sold. The prices range between \$3 to \$6, with the exception of a few of our bigger books, and throughout the course of the summer, more people would stop by to buy books, as well as drop off some of their own. We were almost never short on supply as people were constantly arriving with or offering up more donations.

The summer of 2020, we donated our proceeds to the local public library in Maryland, and this summer, we decided to split the proceeds between the Kelly School and Kent County Public Library. We are hoping to continue running the store next summer!" *Here are pictures of Grace, Alice and Clare's bookshop:*



Thank you Grace, and your sisters, for supporting literacy and libraries, in Maryland and here at JB Kelly. We are so inspired by your ingenuity, hard-work, and generosity!

Back to School Night: So many families came out to visit with teachers and staff in our newly renovated and decorated school. Kelly Library volunteers, Lynn and Corinne, were joined by Alyson Bauer, supervisor of the children's department at the Coleman Branch of the Philadelphia Free Library. Lynn gave away about 100 books to excited children and families. Corinne signed up potential volunteers and distributed program flyers. Alyson signed up 25 families with library cards and gave away Free Library bags. It was wonderful to see the school filled with happy students and their families!



Update on Summer Book Distribution: This summer, **Books on the Go** had another opportunity to provide books to children in Northwest Philadelphia. Thanks to Lynn's hard work, we donated roughly 1,000 books. Below are a list of places we partnered with:

1. Face-to-Face Germantown: donated roughly 100 books
2. Senator Art Haywood's office: donated roughly 200 books
3. Kelly Summer School: distributed roughly 400 books
4. Juneteenth at Germantown Cricket Club: distributed roughly 50 books
5. Germantown Plays Pericles in Vernon Park: distributed roughly 100 books
6. Back-to-School night at Kelly: distributed roughly 100 books



Computerization Update: To date, almost 4,200 books have been cataloged! As Doris, Janet and Mary Alice (our librarians), catalog books, volunteers, Craig, Joanna, Linda, Lee, Margie, Mary Jane, Mumina and Pat apply call numbers and genre labels. Please contact Doris at kellyschoollibrary@gmail.com if you would like to help.

E-Library Update: The e-library is up and rolling for third, fourth and fifth graders.

Germantown Plays Pericles: The celebration of Germantown's community was held in Vernon Park on 8/29/21. Library Volunteers and Kelly Green participated with Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry on the Island of Mutual Aid. Library Volunteers Corinne, Craig, Lynn, Mary Jane, & Phyllis, gave away over 100 books. Mumina created the lovely signage.



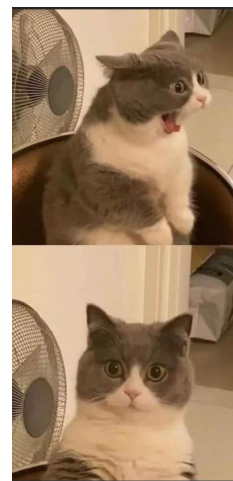
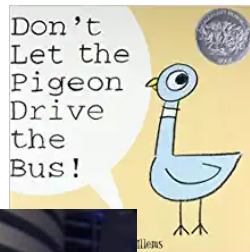
Story Time Shelves Update: Our story videos can be accessed in this google slide presentation by clicking here: [Kelly Library Storytime Videos 2020/21](#). If you'd like to join our virtual efforts, please contact Janet for instructions at kellyschoollibrary@gmail.com.

A Peek Behind the Shelves of Our Wishlist of Books: Our curated wish list of books is updated regularly as our librarians assess the Kelly collection and review library journals and book reviews. We base our selections for books on those that are appropriate for subject area, age, and reading level; have accurate and authentic factual content from authoritative sources; earn favorable reviews in standard reviewing sources; and exhibit a high degree of user appeal and interest to our students. To view the list, click here: [John B. Kelly School Library Wish List](#). Contact Doris or Corinne at our email address: kellyschoollibrary@gmail.com with any questions.

News from Philadelphia School District: Click on the links:

- [District Website Back to School Hub](#)
- [Family & Community Engagement](#)
- [Volunteer Paperwork Checklist](#)

Some Library Humor to bring you a smile:



Favorite author's new book costs \$34.95 plus tax and a trip to the bookstore

Library has it

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