

KDS Celebrates 95th Dedication Day

Beautiful fall weather welcomed visitors from across the country to the KDS DAR School's 95th Dedication Day celebration on Thursday, October 17th and Friday, October 18th. This year's festivities were even more special as the NSDAR Sunshine School Tour was present on campus. President General Denise VanBuren, National School Chair Morgan Lake, members of the



National School Chair Morgan Lake is welcomed by a group of "sunny" kindergarteners.

NSDAR Executive Board, groups from California and Texas, and numerous others travelling by car were on-hand to share in this special occasion. All total, more than 350 DAR guests were present at KDS on Thursday and Friday.

Awaiting the DAR ladies as they arrived on Thursday morning was a warm "welcome to campus" where students lined the sidewalks, waved signs, and presented them with flowers and artwork while the KDS Marching Band and cheerleaders provided lively tunes and cheers.



President General Denise VanBuren answers questions from curious students about her "shiny" sun pin.

Entertainment during lunch was provided by the 6th Grade J.A.C. Club, performing a program in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, guaranteeing and protecting women's constitutional right to vote.

The traditional Dedication Program on Friday is always the highlight of the festivities, and this year was no exception with 22 state societies, groups, and organizations qualifying to dedicate. President General Denise VanBuren presented the Dedication Day message, which featured her challenge to current KDS students to come back in 10 years and pay it forward.



Students in the 6th grade Junior American Citizens Club presented t-shirts to KDS Board Chair Cheryl Harrison, President General Denise VanBuren, Alabama State Regent Tammy Clemons, and National School Chair Morgan Lake.



There was even a surprise visit by the adorable KDS first graders who sang "Firefly" to the delight of the audience. The program was followed by the famous Basket Luncheon, a perennial favorite of the DAR members and guests.

The program also featured musical performances by the Fourth Grade Choir and the High School Choir and all KDS students singing "DAR, Oh How We Love You" to a rousing response.

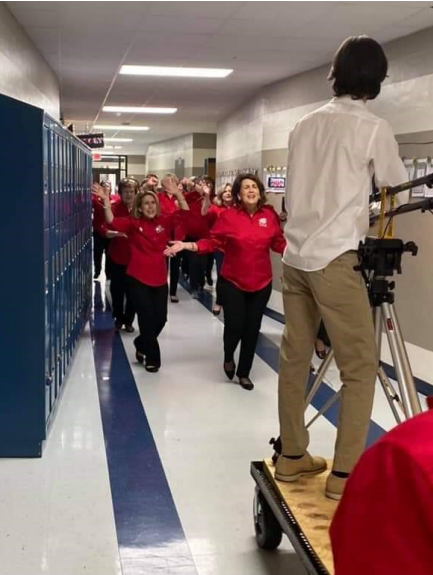


The fourth grade program, "Rise and Shine, America!", featuring entertaining songs and charming choreography.

Friday evening ended with the “Big Blue Tailgate” and a Patriots football game, with Mrs. VanBuren doing the coin toss before the game. The “sunny” cheering section of more than 150 ladies brought good luck to the Patriots as they defeated sectional opponent Priceville 38-13.



Mrs. VanBuren models her KDS letterman’s jacket during the tailgate.



During an action-packed two days, the energetic members of the Sunshine School Tour even found time to shoot a flash mob -style music video on the KDS campus. “Walking on Sunshine” will premiere at Continental Congress 2020.

The 95th KDS DAR School Dedication Day was a truly special time for our “Gem of Gunter Mountain” and its students.



Thursday afternoon consisted of a variety of “at your own pace” activities including campus tours, classroom visits, and meetings.



On Thursday evening the group traveled to Lake Guntersville State Park for a casual Lakeside Reception. Following the reception, Daughters faced off in a rousing game of “Family Feud” complete with real game graphics and buzzers.

Among the other highlights of this year’s KDS Dedication Day was the annual Craft Show which was held in the Doris Pike White Gymnasium, with more than 35 crafters offering their handmade goods. The proceeds from the Craft Show provide funds for supplies and materials for the KDS High School Art Department.

