

KP PTA Eaglenews



Volume 1, Issue 4

December 2008

DECEMBER

2, Tuesday	PTA Meeting CANCELLED
6, Saturday	Holiday Bazaar and Art Show
24, Wednesday	Winter break begins, NO School

Future PTA Meetings

PTA meetings take place in either the KP All-Purpose Room or the Media Center at 7:15pm. Childcare for children 3 and older is provided.

Tuesday, January 6
Tuesday, February 3
Tuesday, March 3
Wednesday, April 1
Tuesday, May 5

Thanks for Your Hospitality!

By Penny Rigler

The PTA Hospitality Committee would like to thank Mrs. Castillo's 3rd grade class for serving a wonderful breakfast to our Teachers and Staff on November 5th. The food was delicious and a wonderful way to show our staff how much we appreciate them!! A special thanks goes to Louise Abarca for organizing the donations. THANK YOU! Mrs Castillo's class ROCKS!

President's Message

By Susan Anderson

As a little holiday present to the community, we will not be having a PTA Meeting in December. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday January 6, 2009. Therefore, I ask that you do read this month's newsletter carefully to make sure you have all the dates and times for our activities this month. This year the Holiday Sing will be held in January (date TBA). The reason for the January date is that the concert will be held in the newly renovated Walter Johnson High School Auditorium. I recommend that everyone go to our website, www.kppta.org, and read the minutes from the November meeting. Bruce Crispell gave some potential numbers for the next few years. KP certainly has turned out to be the place to be! He did let us know that the data is reviewed again in March to ensure they well prepared for Fall 2009. Ms. Liess will be holding our Kindergarten Orientation as early as possible, but the County has not yet given individual schools the scheduling window for this. The School and I encourage everyone in the community to have the families of next year's Kindergarteners call the school office (301-571-6949) and have their name put on the mailing list for orientation.

During November we have had many curious incidents in the Lower Parking Lot both in the morning and in the afternoon. I would like to really stress that if people need to park that they used marked parking spaces or street parking. Do not leave your car unattended at the curb side pickup loop and do not halt or park your car in any portion of the driving lane. For a more thorough explanation of the procedures for this lot, again, please go to the PTA's website document archives. KP has over 400 families and approximately half of them, 200+

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HOLIDAY BAZAAR

DECEMBER 6 11:00 AM- 1:00PM

You gave us your white elephants, now come and buy them back, and re-gift them to your relatives! Or make a crafty gift! Buy a brownie and a raffle ticket. Get a slice of pizza, too. It's a fun event and a green way to gift.

KP FOOD DRIVE A RESOUNDING SUCCESS

By Susan Vinal, KPPTA Community Service Chair

Our school's newly elected student council sponsored the recent Manna Food Drive, and because of their efforts, it was a huge success! The student council representatives crafted their own announcements that they read on KP TV; they made posters; they wrote a "rap" that they sang during lunch; and they created their very own Power Point presentation that they gave during each of the lunches. The fourth grade student council even toured Manna's headquarters in Rockville, and the visit really hit home with each of the children and made them more committed to the food drive's success. It was great to see how excited the children were to work on this project and how they took ownership of the idea and made it their own.

Thanks go to Susannah Vesey, who arranged and chaperoned (along with Sandra Falzone) the fourth graders to Manna's Rockville offices and who worked with the children on the presentation; to Bonnie Lutz for her work with the students on announcements; to Faith Bulger and Heather Tinsley for their creative hand with posters and help with the flyers; to Sandra Falzone, who coordinated with Manna; to the teachers and Ms. Liess for supporting the food drive; and to our fabulous school counselor, Lo Dagerman, who took time out of her very busy schedule to guide the entire process.

The biggest thank you, though, is to YOU and to everyone here in the KP community who donated. This year, we collected hundreds of pounds of food, and in a year when hunger is on the rise right here in Montgomery County, that is an awesome accomplishment.

What a terrific effort by all, and it just goes to demonstrate what a caring spirit we have here at KP!

KP BOOK FAIR EARNS OVER \$4,700 FOR THE SCHOOL!

The KP Book Fair Safari totals are in and our total sales after taxes were taken out were \$18,827. Our school gets to keep 25 percent of the profits so we were able to earn \$4,700 cash profit for our KP PTA school fund.

The success of this event would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of our many KP Book Fair Safari volunteers. You are the reason it ran so smoothly and might we add, was fun as well!

So here is a BIG THANK YOU to all who participated, including: Susan Anderson, Debbie Attar, Gretchen Bartram, Christina Bedard, Melissa Best, Lori Birk, Angela

Brown, Mary Brown, Ranelle Bruch, Jen & Hannah Cope, Jennifer Daymude, Debra Egan, Margaret Fitzpatrick, Dani Fofanah, Aimee Frank, Atsuko Fujinami, Ellie Griffin, Julie Haberman, Melissa Harter-Gerstenfield, Jill Hicks, Rebecca Horan, Marcie Jacobs, Rebecca Johnston, Mary Beth Kennedy, Garet Knapp, Maria Chiara Kushner, Lisa LaCourse, Maureen Lafferty, Bonnie Lutz, Martha McGarry, Denise & Sol Mendelson, Johanna Mills, Lizzie Manogue, Sally Newman, Jen Park, Alicia Petit, Carolyn Rees, Penny Rigler, Cathy Ryan, Seemeen Saadat, Kim & Mia Sapphire, Lori Schantz, Lisa Schell, Leslie Schwager, Lisa Spain, Michelle Tamaro, Charlotte Taylor, Abigail True, Tanya Tyler, Rebecca Valenti, Patty Vichi, Traci Whittier and numerous others who came to help set up and take down the fair but did not leave their names.

Special thanks also go to Alicia Petit who dedicated herself to being our Book Fair cashier all day for all five days, Leslie Schwager who saved us by being our "early" cashier and training us in the use of the "famous" Book Fair scanner and Jen Cope & Gretchen Bartram for volunteering every day in so many key areas as well.

We are so grateful also to the KP community, school staff and students as well for supporting the fair even in these tough economic times and for getting so excited over books every day. Your enthusiasm was contagious and you made our event the best it could be.

Your Book Fair Co-Chairpersons
Louise Abarca & Susan Priester

THE HOLIDAY BAZAAR IS COMING

We need your gently used items for the Holiday Bazaar White Elephant. Some suggestions for items are toys, games, books, pictures frame and household items. Please no clothing or stuffed animals. Bins for items are located at both the upper and lower level of KP. This is a great time for the whole family so mark your calendars. There is the White Elephant, crafts, Armand's Pizza, 50/50 raffle and the 5th grade bake sale. If you have questions or would like to volunteer please contact either Karen Puente at puente108@verizon.net or Jen Park at jenpark25@yahoo.com

GREEN FACTS OF THE MONTH:

- 1. Each year, Americans spend more money to power home audio and video products when turned off than when actually in use. Buy a powerstrip and turn it off!**
- 2. Turn down your thermostat by 2 degrees and save 318 lbs of carbon emission this winter!**

THE SALLY FOSTER FUNDRAISER WAS A HUGE SUCCESS, TOO

Thanks to all the families, teachers, staff, neighbors and friends who helped make our Sally Foster fundraiser a success. After expenses, our net profit was \$11,600! We had just a few order errors, and those have been processed. Hopefully we will receive the replacement items any day now. Thanks also to all the parents who helped unload the truck on delivery day, sort the orders and take care of our customers.

Sign-Up for the Eaglenet Listserv!

You can get daily digests, or individual emails through Yahoo groups. Questions? contact Darin Bertram at bartram3515@verizon.net

Tree Top Kids Gives Back to KP

FROM NOVEMBER 28TH THROUGH DECEMBER 7TH, TREE TOP WILL DONATE 10% OF YOUR PURCHASE TO YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL AND YOU GET 10% OFF YOUR PURCHASE AS WELL! MAKE SURE YOU MENTION KP TO THE TREE TOP STAFF AT CHECK-OUT OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD, WILDWOOD PLAZA

Decorations for the Holiday Bazaar

Calling all *SNOWFLAKE DESIGNERS* to help transform the walls of the gym entrance into a WINTER WONDERLAND!. . .That's you KP kids!. . . Please spend a couple of minutes at home making beautiful blue and white paper snowflakes, bring them to the front office, and place them in the bag marked "SNOWFLAKES." Your magical creations will be hung from the ceiling and on the walls for decoration. Feel free to add glitter to make your snowflakes sparkle, and if you need additional ideas or instructions, visit the website www.papersnowflakes.com. Thank you . . . It is thrilling to know the season's first snowfall will be in the halls of KP!

YOUR MAILMAN NEEDS A STARBUCKS

- Buy Starbucks, Staples, and Grocery giftcards for everyone on your list and benefit KP.
- Visit kppta.org to order
- Or contact Michelle Tamaro at 301-571-8148 or at mmtamaro@msn.com.

(President's Message, continued from page 1)

families, are walkers/car riders. Please share our community spaces respectfully.

On to some very cheerful news, the Scholastic Book Fair was a great success. The Fair raised \$4,676. Thank you so much to **Louise Abarca, Susan Priester** and the many people who staffed the fair. Oh yes, let me remember to thank the shoppers also! Speaking of shopping, December brings the annual KPPTA Holiday Bazaar on Saturday the 6th. This White Elephant Sale can have items as small as a matchbox and as big as an air hockey table. Please come prepared (with your small bills)! This year the school will be adding a Student Art Show. The Art Show will be held during the Bazaar and be located in the upstairs hallway. All students will have a piece of framed art on display. A parent can choose to buy the art in the frame or not. Any art pieces that are not purchased will be returned to the students. The profit from this Art Show will benefit the school directly.

I hope that all families have a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday and Break and I look forward to seeing you all in December.

PLEASE KEEP SKATEBOARDERS PARK AND SURROUNDING AREAS SAFE

Parents of KP students who use the skateboarders park adjacent to the Housing and Opportunities Commission parking lot on Detrick Avenue are asked to remind their children to be safe when playing in and around the park. Recent incidents have led to online discussions about the park and its users. Not only are some kids riding skateboards in the streets, at times among traffic, they are also often leaving broken beverage bottles and other trash on the playground.

Parents should also remind their children not to skateboard in the Safeway parking garage. Some kids like to use the delivery ramp and ride down and across the garage entrance. Shoppers driving into the lot are already struggling to see clearly because of the sudden garage darkness, so it is very dangerous for these kids to be riding in and around the garage.

PLEASE talk to your kids about skateboard, scooter and bike safety. Many of the individuals who visit the HOC are not from the Kensington neighborhood, and know nothing of the skateboard park or children's park. They are not always on the look-out for kids on skateboards or other wheels. Thanks for reminding your children to be careful!

PARENTING CORNER

By Laura Stohlman and Chiara Kushner

Educating has never been an easy task and today it seems to be becoming ever more difficult. Parents, teachers and everyone who has direct educational responsibilities are well aware of this. Hence, there is talk of a great "educational emergency". It becomes difficult to pass on from one generation to the next something that is valid and certain, rules of conduct, credible objectives around which to build life itself. What may be the deepest difficulty for a true educational endeavor consists precisely in this: the fact that at the root of the crisis of education lies a crisis of trust in life.

Do not be afraid!

When the foundations are shaken, however, and essential certainties are lacking, the impelling need for those values once again makes itself felt: thus today, the request for an education which is truly such is in fact increasing. Parents and teachers are asking for it; society overall, seeing doubts cast on the very foundations of coexistence, is asking for it; children and young people themselves who do not want to be left to face life's challenges on their own are also asking for it in their inmost being.

To make our considerations more meaningful, it might be useful to identify several common requirements of an authentic education. It needs first of all that closeness and trust which are born from love: we are thinking of the first and fundamental experience of love which children have, from their parents. Yet every true teacher knows that if she is to educate she must give a part of herself, and that it is only in this way that she can help her pupils overcome selfishness and become in their turn capable of authentic love. (We see this at KP!)

What is perhaps the most delicate point in the task of education: finding the right balance between freedom and discipline. If no standard of behavior

and rule of life is applied even in small daily matters, the character is not formed and the person will not be ready to face the trials that will come in the future. The educational relationship, however, is first of all the encounter of two kinds of freedom, and successful education means teaching the correct use of freedom. As the child gradually grows up, he becomes an adolescent and then a young person; we must therefore accept the risk of freedom and be constantly attentive in order to help him to correct wrong ideas and choices. However, what we must never do is to support him when he errors, to pretend we do not see the errors or worse, that we share them as if they were the new boundaries of human progress. Education cannot, therefore, dispense with that authoritativeness which makes the exercise of authority possible. It is the fruit of experience and competence, but is acquired above all with the coherence of one's own life and personal involvement, an expression of true love. The educator is thus a witness of truth and goodness.

To be continued.

You Lost Your Directory Already? Don't Cry, Buy!

EXTRA! EXTRA!

KP Student Directories
\$3.00 each.

Contact: Marilyn Hoon
301-564-1316

mlmhoon@verizon.net

B-4, I-20, C-1, D-3, A-3, D-5BINGO!!!!

Mark Your Calendars! Bingo night has moved seasons. It will be held Friday, February 20th!

NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION

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May 1	Apr 24

