

KP PTA Eaglenews



Volume 1, Issue 3

November 2008

President's Message

By Susan Anderson

Hopefully, you will be reading this newsletter after having been or heard from your KP student about being on our FIELD! Weather Permitting, we will have our annual KP Halloween Parade finish up on the field as usual. I am so excited and would like to really thank Dave Flumbaum for his personal expertise and the follow up involved in moving this project along. Also, Barbara Liess, for all her help keeping us in touch with county facilities to permit the project, close and fence the field. Thank you so much! We will be working with Mr. Komlos and the recess aides to manage use of the field. You may hear reference to side A and side B in the future. We want to make sure to properly maintain what we have restored.

I am looking forward after a busy October to having a four-day weekend Nov 1-4. I encourage everyone to cast their vote on Tuesday, November 4th. It may be the most strenuous event I plan all weekend. After this, we will have our November Meeting **WEDNESDAY**, November 5th. Our guest speaker will be Bruce Crispell, demographer for MCPS. He will make a presentation and answer questions submitted in advance and some from the floor. This will be

continued on page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1-2** President's Message
- 1** Calendar, Books 4 Kids
- 2** International Night
- 2** Third Grade Opera Volunteers Needed
- 3** Arts integration
- 3** Yearbook, Holiday Bazaar
- 3** Block Parents, Grocery Cards
- 4** Safety Committee, Community Service, Book Fair

NOVEMBER

3, Monday	No School
4, Tuesday	No School, Election Day PLEASE VOTE!
5, Wednesday	PTA Meeting
7, Friday	Picture Retakes
10-14, Mon-Fri	Book Fair, Media Center
11-12, Tu-Wed	Early Release, 12:55PM, Parent-Teacher Conferences
26, Wednesday	Early Release, 12:55PM
27-28, Th-Fri	No School, Thanksgiving

Books 4 Kids

By Amiee House

I collect new and gently used children's books for the Books 4 Kids program at the NNMC (Naval hospital in Bethesda, Md.). We stock and maintain an organized literacy center in the pediatric clinic with the goal of promoting early literacy. We also provide books for children of the wounded soldiers and children being served in the hospital. If you want to donate any books, they would be most welcomed! There is a drop-off tote outside the lower exit and a tote outside my home by the front door. I am also willing to pick up or meet somewhere!

Amiee House
Books 4 Kids program chair
10305 Parkwood Drive
301-564-4299

ELECTIONS 2008: VOTE EARLY, AND OFTEN (JUST KIDDING)

School will be closed TUESDAY, Nov. 4 for voting. KPES is a polling place. Please be sure to bring money to buy bake sale goodies to benefit the Fifth Grade Class Activities!

followed by our PTA business. At this meeting, there will be handouts on Parent Teacher Conferences (the handouts will also be available in the lobby under the PTA Bulletin Board). I am sure my children's past teachers would be too kind to say that I am over-emotional at these events, but it is true. I really do need to prepare any questions I have in advance, write them down, and then write down any particular observations the teacher makes regarding my child. If your child sees more than one teacher during the day, you may want to contact this teacher and find out if a conference would be beneficial. One thing all PTAs across the country agree on is that students with parents active in their academic life do better.

I would like to thank all who contributed to our knowledge for the treatment and prevention of lice. Vigilance and good combing sound key. Please also remember to report any cases to the school office. If cases go unmentioned, they will not know to step up alerts. This is also vital.

Now, while you are preparing for these conferences, don't forget to treat yourself to a bit of shopping at our Book Fair! It will run Nov. 10-14 in our Media Center. Students are brought in early to browse and make a wish list. They will bring this wish list home, and parents can decide if they want to send in payment with their student or bring the wish list themselves. I have volunteered for this before and it is so charming to watch the children count out the exact change to pay for a book they have picked out. They are so proud of themselves. It doesn't hurt that I am addicted to books and end up counting out a lot of change myself, but I swear some are presents for other people. Please contact Louise Abarca lea14888@yahoo.com with any questions.

Susannah Vesey Rauscher, what can I say? Donuts for Dads went so smoothly. The event was extremely well attended, with plenty of food and camaraderie. I felt a bit odd as a mother who was not actually serving, but I ate my donut with pleasure. Thanks again.

The Sally Foster delivery went very well. Ranelle Bruch had all the boxes spaciouly organized in the lower hallway and my children happily argued over the prizes. We will have the final dollar figures by the November meeting. Ranelle, you make it look so easy.....how about again next year?

I would also like to thank some parents whose efforts are a bit more behind the scenes. Jen Cope, who is organizing assemblies for our children and the Block

Parents; Leora Greene, who maintains our website at www.kppta.org; Lisa Spain, Rima Assaker and Kathy Zwack, who produce this lovely newsletter; and Marilyn Hoon and Vicki Leonardo for the soon-to-be delivered and invaluable PTA School Directory.

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.

International Night / Noche Internacional, January 29th

By Dani Fofanah

Get your passports ready!! We will be taking off from the KP cafeteria on Thursday evening, January 29, 2009, for another cruise around the world! Last year, we had a successful cruise to several ports of call:
AFRICA: Sierra Leone
ASIA: India, Iran, Israel, Japan, Korea, and Turkey
EUROPE: Great Britain, Northern Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Scotland
NORTH AMERICA: Canada, Mexico, Nicaragua
SOUTH AMERICA: Argentina, Paraguay

Everyone enjoyed learning about the different countries, watching the international entertainment, seeing the native dress, and tasting all the wonderful dishes from around the world! More information will be coming home in "backpack mail", so check your child's backpack. We will need volunteers to organize information and food tasting tables for their country, as well as help finding entertainment from various countries!

Third Grade Opera: Calling On Volunteers

By Vicki Leonardo

Our 3rd grade classes and teachers are hard at work, developing an original production opera. But they need your help to make it happen. Volunteers are needed for all areas: costumes (design and sewing), set design (painting, help with carpentry work), music, public relations, stage managers and production managers. If you are willing to help, we will find a great job for you. Meetings are held Wednesdays from 9:30-11AM in the all purpose room. If interested, email vickielle3@verizon.net.

KENSINGTON PARKWOOD YEARBOOKS!

By Heather Tinsley

New! A Kensington Parkwood Elementary School yearbook will be available for purchase to ALL grades. It will capture school photos and events from throughout the school year. We will pre-sell the books January- March with a delivery date in May. More information and order forms to follow. If you are interested in working on this project, contact Heather Tinsley (301) 942-0778

ARTS INTEGRATION: PUPPETS IN THE FOURTH GRADE

By Mary Whalen

All fourth grade students will be participating in a puppet-making residency during October and November. The residency began on October 15 with a puppet show for the entire student body by Black Cherry Puppet Theater. The students and teachers enjoyed seeing the marionettes perform "The Three Billy Goats Gruff-kin" and learning more about puppetry.

As part of their Language Arts unit on Fables, fourth grade students wrote their own fables, worked in groups to choose a fable to perform, wrote a script, and developed character descriptions and sketches. Working with artists from the Black Cherry Puppet Theater in Baltimore, every child will create a puppet for his/her character using paper, wooden dowels, clay, paint, fabric, and other accessories. After making the puppets, students will make the stage and scenery and learn how to manipulate their puppets and stage their fables. Each group will perform their fable with their puppets on November 20. More information about those performances will follow.

This residency is made possible through a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council and the KP PTA.

Green Idea: Turn off your engine while waiting for your child at KP and save 440 pounds of CO2 annually!

THANKS, BLOCK PARENTS

By Jennifer Erin-Nye Cope

Thanks to all who improve safety in our neighborhood for our kids by volunteering to serve as a "Block Parent"! New block parents follow:

Krishan - St. Paul Street
Roman – Ambler Drive
Canha – Brookfield Road
Silva – Franklin Street
Kushner – Oldfield Street
Holland - Dupont Avenue
Olesons - Baltimore Street

HOLIDAY BAZAAR COMING DECEMBER 6TH!

Start gathering gently used items for the Holiday Bazaar White Elephant. Some suggestions for items are toys, games, books, picture frame and household items. Please, no clothing or stuffed animals.

We will start collecting things around November 17th. This is a great time for the whole family, so mark your calendars. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please contact either Karen Puente at punte108@verizon.net or Jen Park at jenpark25@yahoo.com.

Buy Grocery and Store Certificates from the KP PTA!

How to buy grocery/store cards:

- By visiting us online at kppta.org, or
- By contacting Michelle Tamaro at 301-571-8148 or at mntamaro@msn.com.

NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION

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with Eaglenews in the subject line.

Issue Date	Deadline
Wed Nov 25 (Holiday week)	Nov 18
Wed Dec 23 (holiday week)	Dec 16
Jan 30	Jan 23
Feb 27	Feb 20
Mar 27	Mar 20
May 1	Apr 24

MCPS SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

By Jennifer Erin-Nye Cope

In the spirit of thanksgiving, we at KP do have a lot for which to be thankful! After attending the MCCPTA Safety Committee meeting Monday, October 20 at the Carver Education Building on Rockville Pike, I learned much from other school reps about their schools and what they are going through....some 'issues' being air quality, portables, safe access to and from school, improved maintenance standards, support of 'green technologies', promotion of safety on playgrounds, building security and emergency preparedness.

The Safety Committee's mission statement is "every student and teacher have an inherent right to be in a safe and secure environment while they are under the care of the public school system. MCCPTA will support the safety and well-being of children and will collaborate as partners with the communities involved to ensure this right". The goals of the committee are to "evaluate MCPS policies and practices to determine areas of concern for the safety and well being of students/teachers and work as a partner with MCPS and other community leaders to advocate for improvement" in above-mentioned areas.

Pam Montgomery is the Director of System-Wide Safety Programs - her number is: (240) 314-1070. Another helpful phone number belongs to Christopher Fain, who oversees Safe Access to Schools, (301) 840-8148. Bullying would fall under the auspices of Cluster/Field Security Coordinator and that number is (301)279-3066.

The next meeting will be held Monday, November 17th at 7pm in Room 223 of the Carver Education Building. Any and all interested persons in the community are WELCOME to attend! Please let me know IF you have any further questions regarding SAFETY at KP, and I will be glad to talk with you. Feel free to call me at (301) 530-0884.

News from the Community Service Committee

Coming in November... Manna Food Drive sponsored by the newly elected Student Council. More information to be sent home and posted on Eaglenet. Thanks for your support.

COME JOIN THE BOOK FAIR SAFARI!

Monday, November 10 – Friday, November 14

Times: 8:50 am to 4:30 pm daily (extended hours to 6 pm on Parent/Teacher Conference Day, Tuesday and 5:30 pm on Wednesday)

Soma! Ota! Kua! (Read! Dream! Grow!) In case you haven't "herd", the KP Book Fair Safari is heading our way on Monday, Nov. 10 – Friday, November 14 in the KP Media Center! You are invited to come explore our large selection of books and find great reads for every person in your family. All of the books have been carefully reviewed and approved for young readers. These books represent the best authors in children's publishing. **Your child's class will be visiting the Book Fair with their teacher on 11/10 or 11/11.**

Book Fair Safari flyers will be coming home in your child's backpack on Wednesday, November 5. Please take time to look over the book possibilities with your child. You can make your selections in person or you may complete the order form on the back of your booklist and send it to school with your child. **DON'T FORGET YOUR CHILD'S FAVORITE TEACHER!** As in previous years, you can also select books as a gift for your child's teacher to help build their classroom library, as well. Look for the *Teacher Wish Bags in Zebra Stripe and Tiger Print* as you come into the Media Center to see what they might like. Don't miss this opportunity to light up your child's face with the excitement of reading a good book! Now, students and families can view all the books and our book fair hours and details ahead of time. The new website is: <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/kensingtonparkwood>.

For more information or to volunteer at the Safari, contact Louise Abarca – LEA14888@yahoo.com or 301-897-0755; or Susan Priester – sspp98@aol.com or 301-530-3342, Co-chairpersons, KP Book Fair Safari. **We look forward to seeing you at the Book Fair Safari, where everyone is just wild about books!**



