



Messenger



May
Issue 15

**McKinley
Elementary**
3045 Felton St.
San Diego, CA
92104

619-282-7694



Be Caring
Be Balanced
Be Reflective

**First in Math
Winners!**

2/12- Rittko



**Terra Cycle
www.terracycle.
net**

Our school recycles!
Bring in drink
pouches, glue sticks,
corks, chip bags, ink
cartridges, old pens
and crayons!



Please sign up with
the office to get
flyers and
notifications
through email.

Cinco De Mayo Celebration – May 6, 5:30pm
Special guests this year are Superintendent Mr. Montenegro and Roosevelt Principal Dr. Cabello.

Carnival / Rummage Sale – May 21
The Carnival is an annual fundraising event that draws in families from throughout the community. Please help make it a great success by volunteering! Sign-up to help with the planning or to work a few hours at the Carnival; please email Wendy Kinsinger at wskinsinger@gmail.com. The Rummage Sale will take place on the same day. Please start saving the gently used items you'd like to donate! Collection dates will be announced as the date nears. If you are interested in assisting in the planning and/or helping the day of, please contact: Jennifer Sabo Spencer, 619-733-9024, jensabo@yahoo.com.

McKinley Adventure Camp – May 14
Join Coach Charles Lunsford for the last Adventure Camp of the year – a bike ride at Mission Bay/ Crown Point, Saturday, May 14th from 9:00-10:30am. Meet at the Bahia Hotel, 998 W Mission Bay Dr. (turn right into the parking lot and take an immediate right to find the group). Everyone welcome!

May 24 Rally to Stop Education Budget Cuts
Make your voices heard...WAKE UP CALIFORNIA ...NO MORE CUTS TO EDUCATION...Parents throughout California are holding rallies on May 24th to send a message to Sacramento that we can't afford any more cuts to education. Mark your calendars now for activities both before and after school on May 24th. We need to have a strong showing to let Sacramento know that we're serious. Details will follow shortly. If you would like to help out, please contact Sandy Mattson at sandywmattson@cox.net.

Grandparents Day – June 3
Grandparents are invited to come spend the morning at school with their grandchildren. Volunteers are needed for this event; please contact Wendy Kinsinger at wskinsinger@gmail.com.

Casino Royale a Hugh Success!
The Casino Royale raised more than \$7,500, as well as garnering rave reviews by the 170 parents, staff and friends who attended. A very special thanks to Shari Schlossberg for producing this event. She was greatly assisted by Jon Rogers, Arlene Ibarra and Jen Sabo Spencer, and many others. The delicious food was produced by the Bilingual Club, under the leadership of Marisela Velazquez. Scot Phillips, husband of 5th grade teacher Mrs. Phillips, and his band Jupiter III generously provided music. See event photos at www.gallery.me.com/arlene_ibarra.



May Dates
3rd – National Teacher's Day
6th – [Suzie's Farm Deadline](#)
6th – [Cinco De Mayo Celebration](#)
11th – Area 3 Cluster Meeting
15th – North Park Fest. of Arts Booth
16-20 – Staff Appreciation Week
18th – ELAC Meeting
19th – [Pizza Night](#)
20th – [Suzie's Farm Deadline](#)
21st – [Spring Carnival/Rummage Sale](#)
24th – Rally to Stop Education Cuts
26th – Open House
30th – Memorial Day NO SCHOOL

Did You Know?
That per ounce, chocolate milk contains more sugar than soda? High sugar drinks promote tooth decay and weight gain. McKinley is considering eliminating chocolate milk as a lunchtime choice. The change would take effect as of the first day of school this fall. **What do you think?** Contact Nurse Candace at candisco@gmail.com to express your thoughts.



Farm Raiser
Still interested in Farm Raiser but haven't signed up? Grab a form from the office! The boxes of produce from Suzie's Farm are still being delivered 3 more times during the school year (May 12, May 26 and June 9) and you have until the Friday prior to sign up.

Two Local Businesses Support McKinley Student's STAR Testing Efforts
Many thanks to Thrifty Gas Station and Tucker's Corner/Fresh Stop Produce for their donation of nutritional snacks for 2nd-5th graders during the STAR testing days. Support these local businesses that support our kids!

New Garden Tables and Benches
Through the generosity of San Diego Rotary Club 33, our garden has a set of new tables and benches so teachers can hold classes in the garden. Visit the garden to see them for yourself or at www.mckinleyptc.com.

Family Science Night
Thanks to all the students and families who came to our first Family Science Night! It was a full house, with 300 folks enjoying hands-on physics. The staff from The Reuben H. Fleet Science Center did a great job training teachers and providing all the materials. And of course the fun would not have been possible without the wonderful teachers (and even one fiancé) who manned the tables and directed the activities. A big thanks to fifth grade mom Mary O'Brien (Rachel's mom) who works at the RHF and made the whole night possible!

Principal: Julie Ashton-Gray
Email: jashton-gray@sandi.net

May 1-7 is National Teacher Appreciation Week and May 3 was National Day of the Teacher! Carol Stephenson, second grade teacher, was selected by her peers as **McKinley's Teacher of the Year**. Mrs. Stephenson has spent the past thirty-five of her forty-year career educating generations of children at McKinley Elementary. Please join me in recognizing Mrs. Stephenson and all the dedicated teachers at McKinley for the important role they play daily with your child and their special contributions that make McKinley a great place for students to learn and succeed in life. This year, consider thanking a teacher by contacting your state legislators to express your concerns about further cuts to public education. Visit www.castateofemergency.com for more information.

STAR Testing

April was a very busy month with our Spring break and getting right back and preparing for our CST in grades 2-5. Students have been preparing all year so now it is time to show what they know! Test results are released during August. Parents receive results through the U.S. mail prior to the beginning of the 2011-12 school year. Special thanks to Thrifty Gas Station and the PTC for providing snacks to our students during testing.

IB Programme

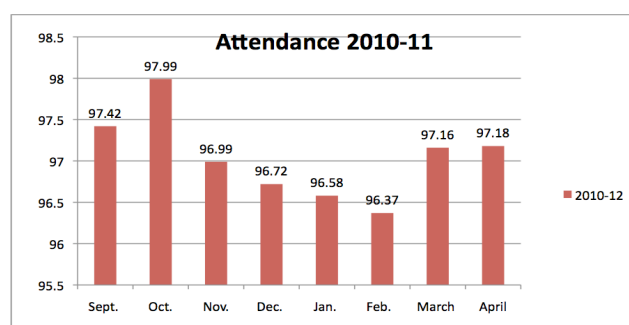
McKinley's 5th grade students are working hard on their 5th Grade Exhibition, the culminating project for students in a Primary Years International Baccalaureate Program. Students are working in small groups on the theme, How We Organize Ourselves. The Primary Years Programme defines this theme as follows: Students are conducting an inquiry into the interconnectedness of human-made systems and communities; the structure and function of organizations; societal decision-making; the economic activities and their impact on humankind and the environment.

McKinley's 5th graders are using the Central Idea "Working together we can make a difference within our communities." Their inquiry includes: What organizations are in our community? What actions can we take to make the community better? How can our actions benefit organizations in the community? How can we follow through with our actions?

Spring Open House is scheduled for Thursday, May 26th from 6-7:30pm. Fifth graders will present their projects and have them on display. So be sure to visit the 5th grade classrooms after visiting your own child's classroom.

Attendance Counts!

Monthly I receive a report of the calculated percentage of students that are present on a daily basis. This percentage is the cumulative attendance through the month shown. These figures are compared to attendance last year. Our attendance is up .41 percent from last year. As of April, McKinley ranked 28th out of 118 elementary schools. McKinley can do better!!! Thanks for your teamwork to increase student attendance and achievement!



Be Caring. Be Balanced. Be Reflective.

I wanted to tell you about the "Smart" Boards that are being put in our classrooms at McKinley. So far 3rd and 4th grades have these boards. They are really fun! The teacher makes "flip charts" for the students. We can look at and even better, move things around on the screen. We can do match ups and watch videos and "google" anything to show pictures of what we are learning about.

We also have netbooks for all the students in our class. These are really fun because they are like "mini" computers that let us go on the Inter-Net. We can do Raz Kids for reading or First in Math to get smarter. We use them to research things when we do projects for our I.B. Units. We also use them to type up our writing projects in Writer's Workshop. We will be doing Power Point reports later in the year. I think "Smart" Boards really do make us smarter!

Enoch Boudreaux / Room 19, 3rd Grade

First Grade News:

After presenting our family culture projects, we completed a whirlwind (virtual) tour of the world and its continents. We have decided to do extended (virtual) tours in three countries - the big three - China (room 6), India (room 7) & Russia (room 5).

Our IB unit titled, "Many Faces, Different Places," exposes our little ones to the big wide wonderful world. We hope to open their eyes to the cultural richness of far off lands. We are learning a little bit of history, tradition, culture, and life today in those countries. We are learning how we are different and how we are the same in our daily lives. We are learning about other languages both spoken and written. After spending the last two years learning the letters & sounds of reading, it is amazing to them that other languages use other symbols and sounds. Very exciting stuff!



Join other parents to discuss school issues at www.McKinleyPTC.com

Visit us at <http://new.sandi.net/schools/mckinley>

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