



Messenger



Sept. 2011
Issue 1

McKinley
Elementary
3045 Felton St.
San Diego, CA
92104

619-282-7694



Be Caring
Be Balanced
Be Reflective



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.

Parent Teacher Club (PTC) Meeting – Wed., Sept. 28, 6:00-7:30pm IB Lesson and Volunteer Night

Don't miss the first PTC meeting of the year. It will start with a lesson on what it means to be an IB school, followed by a volunteer information session where you can learn about the various committees and events that make up the PTC, and then sign-up for the ones that interest you. There are volunteer opportunities to fit every type of schedule, so please join in to make a difference in your child's school.

Committees & Events to be Featured:

- Bilingual Club
- Casino Royale
- Community Outreach (Toyland Parade, Art Festival)
- Fundraising Committee
- Grandparent's Day
- Grant Writing
- Halloween Costume Drive
- Jog-A-Thon
- Room Parents Committee
- Rummage Sale/BBQ/Fun Day
- SoNo Park Holiday Fest
- Variety Show

NATIONAL NO TV WEEK: It's Time to Turn Those TV's Off – Can We Do It?

Sunday, 9/18 through Saturday, 9/24 is National No TV Week. This year we'd love to get McKinley families to participate and we're scheduling a week of fun activities for you to join or do at home.

Monday, 9/19 – Bring a picnic, some balls, frisbees, etc. and join other McKinley families at Bird Park (corner of 28th and Upas Streets) - 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, 9/20 – Family cook out/read-in. Make a meal together and then sit down with some good books.

Wednesday, 9/21 – Kids Karaoke Night at Rebecca's Coffee House (Juniper and 30th St) 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, 9/22 – Attend McKinley's Back to School Night, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Friday, 9/23 – Family Game Night – Get together with family, friends and neighbors and schedule a family game night.

Saturday, 9/24 – McKinley Adventure Camp – Join McKinley's Coach Lunsford and hike at Mission Trails Park. Meet at 9:30 a.m. in front of the Visitor's Center.

Become a Room Parent

Sign up to become a Room Parent in your child's classroom. You'll be helping your teacher by communicating information with the other parents in your class, helping organize class activities at the teacher's request and helping coordinate parent involvement at PTC fundraising events.

To find out more or to sign up to become a room parent, contact Staci Keller (msakeller@gmail.com) or Elizabeth Newlin (elillja@att.net).

September Dates

- 15th – [Pizza Night](#)
- 21st – English Learners Advisory Committee Mtg 9:15am
- 22nd – Back to School Night 5:30pm-7:30pm
- 23rd – [Suzie's Farm Deadline](#)
- 28th – PTC Meeting, 6:00-7:30pm

Fundraiser Tip of the Month!

Fresh & Easy Neighborhood Market
Turn in receipts from ANY Fresh and Easy Store that are dated from 9/15 - 12/31/11 and the store will donate \$1 for every \$20 spent at the store! For example, if you spend \$100 at the store they will donate \$5 for the school - how awesome (and EASY) is that?

Last year we earned \$2,000 by turning these receipts - but some schools were able to earn \$10,000! Let's see how much we can earn this year - ask your friends and family to save their receipts too. Drop your receipts into the green Fresh & Easy box located inside the school's main door or take them to the office.



Farm Raiser

McKinley is excited to offer a special produce box for sale in conjunction with Suzie's Farm, a local organic farm. The boxes cost \$20 and include 6-10 freshly harvested, in-season, organic produce items. This is a great value! Plus, McKinley will receive \$5 for each box sold! In order to receive a box, you will need to sign up and submit payment by the Friday before delivery. Pick up will be available on Thursdays from dismissal at 12:55pm up until 6:00pm. Pick up will be in the Community Room. If your child is in Prime Time, pick up will be available in the foyer where you pick up your child. The next Farm Raiser box of the year will be delivered on Thursday, Sept. 29. Sign-up forms are available in the office or on the [McKinley website](#). Return the form with payment to the office no later than Friday, Sept. 23.

A Few Words from Principal Julie Ashton-Gray

Email: jashton-gray@sandi.net

Dear McKinley Families,

What a unique start to the 2011-12 school year! We opened the week with a rainy day and ended with an unexpected day off due to the power outage. Despite the many inconveniences with the recent power outage, there have been many stories of families and neighbors getting together to pass the time playing games, sharing stories, walking, and stargazing. My husband and I had a nice evening outside watching the stars in Jamul. It was nice to be "unplugged" from television, computers, video games, and all the distractions that pull us away from interacting with the most important people in our lives. Let the positive experiences from Thursday night stay with us as we resume our busy lifestyles. We have listed many fun events for McKinley families to participate in "No TV Week" coming up on September 19th!

September 2011 marks many events, particularly, the tenth anniversary of 9/11. Most of your children were not even born during that time that changed our history and impact our daily lives. September 2011 is also the ten-year anniversary that I became principal of McKinley Elementary. McKinley has

certainly undergone many changes in the last ten years; however, the spirit and enthusiasm of our students remains constant. The importance of keeping their love of learning alive and thriving remains constant and our role as partners in this process is now ever more important. As we embark on this school year, our staff is committed to you and your children and wants this year to be their very best. To prepare our students for the demands of the 21st century, and strengthen our work as an IB World school, we will focus on developing students' Thinking and Writing skills across all subject areas. In addition, we will have a laser like focus on our math instruction and support for students to ensure all students are meeting and exceeding grade level standards.

Please mark your calendars for Back to School Night on Thursday, September 22, from 6-7:30pm (with the 5th Graders offering Root Beer Floats starting at 5:30pm). We will have a quick meeting in the auditorium at 6:00 and classroom visits will start at 6:15. I am looking forward to a memorable and fantastic school year! We already started off the year making great memories!

Be Caring. Be Balanced. Be Reflective.

Help the School Go Green By Using Less Paper -- Sign up to Receive Your Wednesday Flyers by Computer Only

In an effort to save money on paper and copying, the PTC is posting on its website the informational flyers the school and PTC send home on Wednesdays in your child's backpack. If you choose to stop receiving the paper packets from the school, instead, each Wednesday you will receive an email with a link to the McKinleyPTC.com webpage where the notices are posted. You can print them from the website as needed. We will begin sending the Wed. papers home electronically in two weeks. Any parents who were receiving papers electronically last year will automatically be on the list to receive them that way again this year; there is no need to sign up again. For new sign-ups, please email barbara@bovee.net.

Box Tops Fundraiser

Box Tops are an easy way to raise money for McKinley all year long. Visit www.boxtops4education.com to learn how easy it is.

Here is how you can help:

1. Clip – Clip the Box Tops from hundreds of participating products and send them to school. Each one is worth 10 cents.
2. Shop Online – Shop at your favorite online stores through the Box Tops Marketplace (boxtops4education.com/marketplace).
3. Read – Buy books online through the Reading Room, a partnership between Box Tops and Barnes and Noble. Sign up to support our school at www.boxtops4education.com.



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

Or visit us on the School District website at <http://new.sandi.net/schools/mckinley>

Class Supply Wish Lists

As state and local budgets are slashed, schools are being cut to the quick. When parents and community members can donate school supplies, this frees up budget dollars for the core purpose of our neighborhood schools — Educating our children. In short, any supplies you can donate to the following grade classes are greatly appreciated.

Second Grade Supply List

Each student should start the year off with the following **suggested** items.

- Pencil box (no bigger than 8x5 please)
- 3 packs of thick, beginner size, pencils
- 3 Pink Pearl erasers (large) and 1 package of pencil top erasers
- 1 plastic 2 pocket folder (please only send 1 to class)
- 1 box of 10 Crayola type markers
- 1 box of crayons
- Colored pencils
- 1 highlighter
- Scissors
- 6 glue sticks

We would also appreciate any donations of Kleenex, paper towels, Ziplock Bags (sandwich or gallon size), disinfectant wipes, Bic Flair black felt tip pens and packs of scrapbooking paper. **Please remember that these are all suggestions.** If you cannot provide any of these items, they will be supplied for your child.

Fourth Grade Supply List

Pencils (not Office Depot brand), pencil sharpeners, dictionaries, thesaurus, and additional white copy paper.

Fifth Grade Supply Wish List

- 1-Inch Binder
- Mechanical Pencils
- Crayons
- Colored Pencils
- Hand wipes
- White Board Markers
- Pencil pocket holder
- Erasers
- Markers
- White Glue & Glue sticks
- Kleenex