



# Messenger



Oct. 2011  
Issue 2

McKinley  
Elementary  
3045 Felton St.  
San Diego, CA  
92104

619-282-7694



Be Caring  
Be Balanced  
Be Reflective



Terra Cycle  
www.terracecycle.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.

## Jog-A-Thon, October 20th

This annual event is an excellent way for students to help raise money for their favorite programs...music, art and Spanish. Kids will get one raffle ticket for every sponsor they sign up. Raffle prizes include bikes, roller skate parties, rock climbing tickets, movie tickets, museum passes, multi-media camps, water sports, and more. Everyone who raises at least \$35 will get a jog-a-thon t-shirt and those who raise \$50 or more will get a pizza party with the principal in December. Top money earners get a Limo ride with the principal to In & Out Burger in January. Parents who are interested in setting up their child's very own personalized jog-a-thon website as a way for friends and family to submit their pledges online can do so on [www.weebly.com](http://www.weebly.com). See ([www.sceshepherdun.weebly.com](http://www.sceshepherdun.weebly.com)) for a great sample. Parent volunteers are needed for the event day—sign-up forms coming soon. For more info, contact [sandywmattson@cox.net](mailto:sandywmattson@cox.net).

## Halloween Costumes

Do you have a few Halloween Costumes that your children have outgrown? Drop them off at the office between now and Oct. 14. We will sell them after school on Oct. 14 in front of the main school entrance starting at 3:45 p.m. What a great way to reduce, re-use and recycle!

## Kids News Day

Tuesday, Oct. 25 is Kids News Day, when students, fire fighters and other volunteers sell San Diego Union Tribune papers for \$1 to raise money for Rady Children's Hospital. McKinley students will sell the papers in front of the school starting at 8am. If your child would like to participate, sign them up no later than Oct. 21.

## Thanksgiving Canned Food Drive Starts November 1<sup>st</sup>

On Nov. 1, we will start a canned food drive for McKinley families in need. Last year we were able to give full Thanksgiving dinners to 20+ families at McKinley who otherwise would not have it. We worked in partnership with United Methodist Church, and plan to again this year.

## 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 eldest 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. To sign-up, email [barbara@bovee.net](mailto:barbara@bovee.net).

## October Dates

- 5th – Start collecting Halloween Costume Donations
- 7th – [Suzie's Farm Deadline](#)
- 11th – Picture Day
- 14th – Halloween Costume Sales
- 20th – [Jog-A-Thon](#)
- 20th – [Pizza Night](#)
- 21st – [Suzie's Farm Deadline](#)
- 25th – Kids News Day

## November Dates

- 1st – SSC/SGT Meeting, 4pm
- 1st – Thanksgiving Canned Food Drive

## Fundraiser Tip of the Month!

Remember to keep saving all your **Fresh & Easy** receipts until Dec. 31, and in addition, sign-up to donate to McKinley through Ralphs grocery store's Community Contributions Program. Register your **Ralphs Card** (along with those of your friends and family members) online and earn money automatically for the school every time you shop. To sign up go to: [www.ralphs.com](http://www.ralphs.com) – click on Community Contributions, and click on Participants. McKinley's NPO# 90905  
Or scan the bar code on the Ralphs flyer available online at [www.mckinleypc.com](http://www.mckinleypc.com).



## 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 need to sign up and submit payment by the Friday before the 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 boxes will be delivered on Thursday, Oct. 13 (deadline for sign-up is Oct. 7) and Oct. 27 (deadline for sign-up is Oct. 21). Sign-up forms are available in the office or on the [McKinley website](#). Return the form with payment to the office.

# A Few Words from Principal Julie Ashton-Gray

Email: [jashton-gray@sandi.net](mailto:jashton-gray@sandi.net)

Dear McKinley Families,

We had a great turnout for Back to School Night held on Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. I hope you received information from your child's teacher that helps you support your child at home. Mark your calendar now for Parent Conferences scheduled for November 29, 30, December 1, and 2. These four days are minimum days and students are dismissed at 12:55 p.m. Every parent is expected to attend the conference where you will receive your child's report card and have the opportunity to review your child's progress toward meeting grade level standards in all areas. Teachers will send home a conference sign-up schedule in the near future. Our goal is to meet with 100% of our parents!

During the past two weeks, students have started the "Wheel" where they receive instruction in Spanish, music, and visit the library with Mrs. Cervantes. During this instructional period, teachers meet in Professional Learning Committees at each grade level to plan instruction, review student achievement, and strengthen their implementation of the IB program. This year, the district has supported our Spanish program by providing a teacher for 1.5 days per week. Please welcome Mr. Tirado to our campus. His days at McKinley are Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon. He is working with students in grades K and 1, and will oversee the computer lab for students to use Rosetta Stone on Tuesday afternoons. Students in grades 2-5 are receiving Spanish instruction from IES Language Foundation. Please visit their organization online at [www.ieslanguages.org](http://www.ieslanguages.org). The PTC/Foundation is currently funding the Spanish instruction with IES and music for grades K-3. We are thankful to all of you who support the

PTC/Foundation with your generous donations and participation in our fundraising events so we can continue to offer our students a rich educational program!

## Attendance Counts!

As of September 30, we have been in school for 18 days. After 18 days, McKinley's portion of lost ADA (Average Daily Attendance) to our district totals \$5,588.50. Please make sure your child attends on time every day! With cold and flu season approaching, I know you will take every measure to keep your child healthy for school! Each month, I will recognize classes and students who have perfect attendance and no tardies. Attendance data will be posted in our newsletter each month.

## Student Safety

At the beginning of school and end of school, student drop off and pick up can pose safety hazards for our students and families. Both parking lots on Redwood are closed to traffic during these times. Cars are not allowed to double-park and children should not be let out of the car in the middle of the street! I know everyone is in a hurry to get to and from work, school, and home, but safety for our students and families is most important. Thanks for your assistance!

## Health Office

Please stop by our health office and meet our new health technician, Luz Chairez. Her hours are M, T, W, and F from 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. and Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

## Family Friday

Family Friday has been changed to Friday, October 14 at 2:40 p.m. Please join me in the Media Center at 2:40 until 3:10 and spend the end of the day with your child in their classroom!

## Be Caring. Be Balanced. Be Reflective.

### Pinwheels for Peace!

Peace was in the air when McKinley School had its annual Pinwheels for Peace walk. The children design a pinwheel. They are not supposed to use weapons because they are supposed to draw peaceful things! We are hoping it will inspire people to have peace throughout the world. We put the pinwheels on the grass spelling the word Peace. We hope you felt peaceful that day.

Grace Nunamaker, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

### McKinley Student Council

The student selections have been made from all of the 2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes and the new student council, which will serve as representatives for each classroom, had their initial 2011 meeting last week. Congratulations to all the students and a special thank you for serving your school and representing your classmates at McKinley. The student council meets every Tuesday morning before school. Their responsibilities include communicating back to their classes about important dates and events at McKinley. They also run the student store.

Teachers Brian Pike & Danielle Zdunich

### Fourth Grade Update

The 4<sup>th</sup> graders in Mr. Pike's room are up and running with their i21 class netbooks and are on various websites and doing word processing. The kids are also in the McKinley Math Lab using the new district "Learning Upgrade" program, which provides math/language/reading enrichment and leveled reading. These are programs that will increase student achievement and can also be used at home! Good stuff!!

Teacher Brian Pike, Room 15



Join other parents to discuss school issues at [www.McKinleyPTC.com](http://www.McKinleyPTC.com).

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