



# Messenger

November 17, 2010  
Issue 6

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

619-282-7694



Be a Communicator  
Be a Risk-Taker  
Be Open-Minded

**First in Math  
Winners!**

**11/12 Zdunich  
Cheesman**

**11/16 Zdunich  
Pike**



**Terra Cycle**  
[www.terracycle.net](http://www.terracycle.net)  
Our school recycles!  
Bring in drink pouches,  
glue sticks, corks, chip  
bags, ink cartridges, old  
pens and crayons!



¿Necesita las noticias en español? Llame 282-7694.



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

## Thanksgiving

Please continue to help out our most needy families by dropping off dry goods in one of the tubs near the office or Prime Time and/or \$ for turkeys directly to the office. Here is wishing all of you a happy and wonderful Thanksgiving!



## Pizza Night at Paesano's

Don't bother cooking tomorrow! Come eat with us, take out and enjoy at home an Italian dinner, at the same time helping McKinley.

## Nurse's Office

The office needs another round of clothes, so continue to bring in old clothes that you would donate anyway to the office. They need all sizes, I even include my old clothes in case some 5<sup>th</sup> graders need something. Accidents happen.

## Jacket Drive

Continue to bring in old jackets to the tub near the office. The cold season has not yet really hit us, but our families that come to school with no jackets during that time would benefit from the ones we would be donating anyway because they do not fit any longer.

## SAVE THE DATE! SoNo Park Holiday Fest

Sunday, Dec. 5th from 10am – 5pm

Thorn Street (between 32nd and Bancroft)

Chili Cook-Off - Arts & Crafts Vendors - Beer Garden - Kids Art Projects - Music - More

[www.sonoparkholidayfest.com](http://www.sonoparkholidayfest.com).

If you'd like to **help volunteer the day of the event**, please email us at: [sonoparkholidayfest.com](http://sonoparkholidayfest.com),

## Recycling

Roots and Shoots Club is organizing the recycling at McKinley. Please bring in all your used glue sticks, glue containers, wine cork, used pens, chip bags, drink pouches, old crayons, and ink cartridges.

## Attention All McKinley Students

You are ALL encouraged to write articles that you think are important and submit them to the newsletter. If you are writing it down on paper, please make all your necessary edits, work with your teacher and parents, then submit it to me via the office. Your teacher can also put it in my box, or email it to me at:

[Amy.miller1@cox.net](mailto:Amy.miller1@cox.net) or [mckinleyptc@yahoo.com](mailto:mckinleyptc@yahoo.com)

## Run For Your Life

Prime Time has been facilitating a before school activity called Run For Your Life and would like to now involve all McKinley students. Being a runner myself, I love this idea! Students will be invited to jog laps around the field, keeping track with popsicle sticks. After 12 miles (over the course of many days), the students will receive a charm. This is becoming quite popular, and will be a wonderful activity for all. Prime Time would like some parents to help keep track with them from 8:45 - 9:00AM. Please come talk with Alex Espiritu during Prime Time hours and let him know if you can help!

## November Dates:

**16-19 Parent Conferences- minimum days**

**18- Jog-A-Thon Awards Assembly**

**18- Pizza Night at Paesano's lunch-dinner**

**22-26 NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break**

## December Dates:

**1- PTC Meeting 6PM in Media Center**

**2- Award Assembly**

**4- Toyland Parade, McKinley Adventure Camp**

**5- SONO Park Holiday Fest**

**15- Winter Concert**

**16- Pizza Night**

**20th- Jan 1st NO SCHOOL, WINTER BREAK**



## Educational Support Committee

We will be meeting at 5:00pm on Wednesday, December 8th in the community room to plan for the spring after school programs, work on plans to expand the school's mentorship/tutoring program, and to brainstorm about other ideas such as a book exchange, "No TV days/week", science fair, preschool reading hours, etc. Do you have other ideas? Let's talk. For more info, contact Sandy Mattson at [rhusmom@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rhusmom@sbcglobal.net)

## PTC Meeting

Although Prop J didn't pass, parents at McKinley really turned out and were key in helping to get a majority vote. Now the work will turn to trying to minimize the impact of the cuts that will now have to be made. Richard Barrera, School Board President, will be at the next PTC meeting on Dec. 1st to share the choices the School Board is considering. Also, you can stay tuned by watching the Board agenda and reports on the board's website at [www.sandi.net](http://www.sandi.net)



**Principal: Julie Ashton-Gray**

**Email: jashton-gray@sandi.net**

Parents,

Time is certainly flying by and it is hard to believe the first grading period closed on November 5, 2010. On November 16, 17, 18, and 19, we will have minimum days so parents can attend parent conferences and receive your child's report card. We want 100% of our parents attending. This year, we would like students to attend their conferences as appropriate. One of our goals through the IB programme is for students to take an active part in their learning and establishing goals for their learning and development of attributes on the Learner Profile. Students in grades 1-5 took "Benchmark Exams" in Literacy and Mathematics during the first week of November. These assessments are one of the many tools teachers use to determine students' progress to date on grade level standards in literacy and mathematics and plan for instruction. Ask your child's teacher to share the results during your conference.

**Bill Kowba, our Superintendent**, has a weekly newsletter posted on the school district's website. For up-to-date district news, subscribe to the Superintendent's Friday Notes at [www.sandi.net](http://www.sandi.net). To increase our attendance this year, we have revised our Attendance Incentive Program. Each month, all students with perfect attendance will receive a popsicle and recognition at school. At the end of each month, the names of the students with Perfect Attendance will be posted on the bulletin board outside the office. The names will be listed by grade level.

The classroom with the highest percentage each week will receive a certificate. Monthly, I will be monitoring our cumulative attendance percentages, comparing our percentage to the same month last year and recording where McKinley ranks among the 118 elementary schools in regards to attendance. For September, our percentage was 97.56, up .65 from last year, and ranked 31st. For October, our percentage was 96.99, up 1.36 from last year, and our rank was 41st in the district.

Help our school raise our attendance every month and our district ranking to #1! Students who miss school miss opportunities to learn and connect with other children. Students need to be in school and on time every day! Thanksgiving is a time when I take pause in my busy schedule to stop, reflect, and count the many blessings in my personal and professional life. I have so much for which to be thankful. I feel so fortunate to have a wonderful family and friends who bring so much happiness to me. I feel so extremely fortunate to have chosen a career where I am surrounded by such caring, wonderful children, their families, and staff who are dedicated to working as partners to make a positive difference for our children and their future. I appreciate you and your participation in the McKinley Learning Community.

I wish you and your family a wonderful Thanksgiving and enjoy our vacation. School is closed from November 22-26 and resumes, Monday, November 29th.

-Julie Ashton-Gray



## We are now an official IB World School!

### **Drama Club by Grace Nunamaker**

Drama club is an after school club. It's all about DRAMA! We play games and do lots of fun stuff. Most of the people who go there, also want to be in the Variety Show. It's... A W E S O M E!

### **Giants Sweep the Rangers to Win World Series by Angelo R. Guitierrez**

The San Francisco Giants won the World Series against the Texas Rangers on Monday, November 1, 2010. It has been more than fifty years since Giants won a World Series and at that time they played for New York. The Giants won a 3-1 game in a game of 5 World Series.

A fantastic start by Tim Lincecum he threw eight scoreless innings. In the seventh inning, with two men on base, Edger Renteria hit a home run that gave the Giants the lead over the Rangers. Brian Wilson, the Giants, closing pitcher, threw a scoreless ninth inning to win the game.

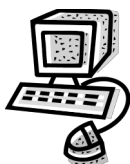
On Wednesday, November 3, 2010 San Francisco had

a parade to celebrate the win and show support for their team. There were thousands of fans there to greet the Giants. Many fans said this was the best thing ever to happen to them.

I hope as a San Diego Padre fan this is something we Padre Fans will experience next year. We were so close this year, but next year we will go all the way...GO PADRES!

### **Cesar Chavez Club By Mazzy**

Cesar Chavez club is doing great, they are teaching kids to be responsible and to take charge. Last week we had to make pages and on the pages we wrote what we like the most, and what our hobbies are. We went over the rules of the club and got to color his sign and Cesar. Cesar Chavez club rocks! You should sign up for it, it is the best after school club I have ever been in! We meet every Thursday.



Join other parents to discuss school issues at <http://mckinleyptc.com/>

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

December 1<sup>st</sup> at 6PM is the next PTC meeting

Join other parents to discuss school issues or just keep up to date at:  
<http://mckinleyptc.com/>