



Messenger



Nov. 2011
Issue 3

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.

Special Meeting with School Board President Richard Barrera – Nov. 9

On Nov. 9th at 6pm, Richard Barrera will be in our media center to discuss the latest information about the district. Childcare will be provided in the auditorium.

2nd PTC Meeting – Nov. 16

November 16th is our second PTC meeting from 6:15-7:30pm in the media center. Childcare will be provided in the auditorium. The focus of this meeting will be on Jog-a-thon results, upcoming events such as SoNo Park Holiday Fest and the Variety Show, an update on our fundraising efforts, grants, Thanksgiving food drive update, and a BOOK EXCHANGE! Bring 2+ books that you would like to exchange with someone else. Place them on one of the tables and around 7:15 we can roam and seek something new to read.

Volunteers Needed for SoNo Park Holiday Fest—Please Sign-up Now for a Shift!

Anyone who attended the SoNo Park Holiday Fest last year will agree that it was a great community event. This year's event will be even larger, with a greatly expanded kids section that includes carnival games, crafts, cookie decorating and a stage for kid-friendly entertainment. Obviously more activities mean we need more parent volunteers to help out and make this event a success. Different shifts are available and compatible with your busy schedule. Come on out and show your support for our school and the community. Please contact Andrea Woods at andreawoodsb@hotmail.com to sign up.

Thanksgiving Canned Food Drive

We are collecting canned food items and \$ for 20 McKinley families in need for Thanksgiving. A flyer will be coming home showing specific items that we are looking to collect. If you can join us to put these boxes together on Nov. 18 around 11am, please contact Amy Miller at McKinleyPTC@yahoo.com.

McKinley Logo Items

Check out the new McKinley shirts, hats and bags on display in the glass cabinet just outside the office door. Items can be purchased at any time through the office staff.

Box Tops Record

Congratulations to all students, especially the student council members who helped spread the word, for a record collection of Box Tops this fall. We collected 5,600 box tops and will receive a check for \$574! Keep bringing them in and let's see if we can collect even more this next quarter!

Refrigerator Needed for Teacher's Lounge

Does anyone have a refrigerator with a freezer (14 cubit foot or smaller, used okay) that they would like to donate to the Teacher's Lounge at McKinley? If so, please contact the school office.

Special Donation for Third Graders

Thank you to Pat and Flo Gandolfi from the San Diego Elks Lodge for donating dictionaries to all of the 3rd graders at McKinley!

November Dates

- 1st – Thanksgiving Canned Food Drive
- 4th – Family Friday, Topic: Thinking Maps I, 2:40pm
- 4th – [Suzie's Farm Deadline](#)
- 8th – Picture Make-Up
- 9th – Richard Barrera Meeting, 6pm
- 10th – Cookie Dough, Gift Wrap & Magazine orders due
- 11th – Veteran's Day NO SCHOOL
- 14th – Fresh & Easy Shopping Night 4-8pm
- 16th – PTC Meeting, 6pm
- 17th – [Pizza Night](#)
- 18th – [Suzie's Farm Deadline](#)
- 21-25 – Thanksgiving Break
- 29th - Dec. 2 – Parent Conferences Minimum Days

December Dates

- 1-2 – Parent Conferences Min. Days
- 2nd – Family Friday, Topic: Thinking Maps II, 2:30pm
- 3rd – Toyland Parade
- 4th – [SoNo Park Holiday Fest](#)
- 6th – SSC/SGT Meeting, 4pm



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, Nov. 10 (deadline for sign-up is Nov. 4) and Dec. 1 (deadline for sign-up is Nov. 18). 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

Dear McKinley Families,

It is hard to believe it is November and the holiday season is fast approaching! These busy days are filled with lots of learning and fun for our students and community. The first grading period ends on Friday, November 4, 2011. Students in grades 1-5 take Benchmark Exams in Literacy and Mathematics to help determine their progress toward meeting grade level standards. Mark your calendar now for Parent Conferences scheduled for Nov. 29, 30, Dec. 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! Translation will be provided for families. Please contact your child's teacher at 619-282-7694.

Attendance Counts!

Thank you for all the students who are attending school on time every day. As of Oct. 28, McKinley's portion of lost ADA (Average Daily Attendance) to our district totals \$10,310.33, almost doubled from last month. 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! At the end of September, McKinley's attendance was 97.61% – 42nd in the district. Classes with the best attendance for the month of September were DeVoss and Rose-Weber and October were DeVoss and Whitehead.

McKinley's Safety Patrol Program

McKinley Elementary is very proud to continue the tradition of having a school Safety Patrol. The organization was started in 1935 by the San Diego Police Department. The purpose is to help elementary school children cross streets safely on their way to and from school and to reduce the number of

pedestrian and bicycle collisions involving elementary-age students. They are selected, trained and supervised on an ongoing basis by the Juvenile Services Team Officers from eight stations of the San Diego Police Department. Their jobs include:

- Controlling pedestrian traffic
- Controlling vehicle traffic
- Watching and reporting traffic violations

At the end of the fourth grade, students apply, are selected and trained to serve during their fifth grade year. There are five squads, one for each day of the week, each with a squad leader. Students meet with Officer John on Thursdays after lunch to review the program, earn merits, get demerits, and practice drills. Staff contacts are Kathleen Phillips, Gina Honma, and Susan Padillo and they can be reached at 619-282-7694. Safety Patrol has been a strong tradition at McKinley Elementary since its inception in 1935. Please make sure you follow the directions of the safety patrol on duty. There are 3 different whistle commands that they use. The student holding the staff (red stick) is in charge. Whistle 1: the stop signs go down to stop the traffic. Whistle 2: the staff is down for people to cross the street. It is very important that no right-hand turns are made from Felton St. to Redwood St. The staff is still down, which means people can still cross the street. Whistle 3: the staff is put up to prevent anyone from crossing in the crosswalk and signs are put up for traffic to go. Students must report to school early on their patrol day, stand on duty rain or shine, raise the flags and stay after school until all students and families cross safely. Students are rewarded for their work through the Police Department with promotions or weekend activities including a free holiday carnival, outings to sporting events, movies, and a 4-day camp at Palomar Mountain during the summer. McKinley is proud to announce that our Safety Patrol earned the first place trophy last year for service for the Western Division of San Diego. This year's squad is working hard to keep the trophy for McKinley Elementary IB World School for the 2011-12 school year.

Student News Section

California Maps

Over the past 2 weeks we have been working on our California maps. Our California maps are a blank outline of California that we have to fill in some how. There are a ton of different ways to fill a blank outline of California in transforming it into a masterpiece. Different kids did different things, like a lot of kids did county maps, resource maps, temperature maps and elevation maps. I did an endangered animal map, and one kid even did a 3-d relief map!

Julia Nunamaker, 4th Grade

States and Capitals

In our class we are learning about the states and capitals. We have to study for our states test every Friday. You have to commit to studying. If you don't study you won't pass the final test and you will have to keep studying until you do. You have to memorize all 50 states and all 50 capitals by heart.

Mazzy, 5th Grade

Governments

In Room 19 we are working on governments and how they work and we are doing a project on it. I am doing it on Australia. Its flag is not like ours but it's like New Zealand's flag. I am working with a friend and her name is Maizy. We will be working on our netbooks and doing lots of research.

Kali, 3rd Grade

IB Attitudes

Branden Hernandez: I think you should be a **Risk-Taker** so you can succeed on whatever you do, so be a Risk-Taker.

Kaylee: **Cooperation** is what I am because cooperation means that you help others in a **group** and work with each other.

Angelo: **Respect** is extra special to me because if no one respected anybody then there wouldn't be peace, and if there's no peace than there's going to be a whole bunch of wars.

Grace Nunamaker: **Independence** is a very good IB attitude. It is good because when you are being it you are doing things on your own and not letting other people do your work for you.

Anjeli Fitzgerald: To be **Caring** is to be nice. Like when someone gets hurt you can help them get up, and take them to the nurse or to an adult. Another way to be Caring is to help people. Like help someone pick up something that they dropped. Everyday you should do something Caring. Maybe you could even help a kindergartner or a first grader read a book.

Jose R: I like **Well-Balanced** people because they know what to do at the right time. They know when to have fun and be good at the right time.



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>