



# Kipps Konnection



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Kipps Elementary School  
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## WELCOME BACK!

We hope everyone had a safe and happy Winter Break. With winter upon us please remember that we ask that you do not call the school to check on early releases or delayed openings due to weather. This ties up the lines for children trying to call home. Montgomery County has set up a hotline you can call 24 hours a day at 382-5102. You can also check your local TV and Radio stations. If there is a chance of snow showers in the forecast we recommend checking these sources regularly!



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## PTA Membership 2003-2004



**Kipps Elementary PTA is currently 242 members strong representing a full 48% of the student body.**

**Thanks for your support!!**

### **Questions about PTA membership?**

**Please contact Cheryl Rogers, Kipps PTA Membership Chair, either by phone (961-0234) or e-mail**

**[membership@kippspta.org](mailto:membership@kippspta.org)**

# TEACHER'S NOTES



## Kindergarten -

Once again our Pennies from Heaven was a huge success! The children had a blast walking to the National Bank of Blacksburg and watching all the change they had collected be counted. The field trip to the mall to purchase the gift was exciting for all the children. We would like to thank everyone who brought in change.

## First Grade -

The First Graders all went ice-skating at The Ice Station on December 11. We had lots of spills and falls, but they all persevered and never gave up. We believe there may be a future Olympian in the class. Many thanks to the moms and dads that helped out. We couldn't have done it without you. Our little First Graders were complimented by the staff at The Ice Station for being so polite. We are so proud of them!!!

## Second Grade -

Second Grade has just finished our rain forest unit. We learned about how plants and animals are interdependent on each other. All of us made our own rain forest games, which we played with each other. We also had a "Merry Mocha" or a rain forest celebration. We invited our parents, grandparents, and friends in to enjoy some rain forest treats and play our games! What a fun way to learn about plants and animals! Thanks to all the parents that helped with our celebration and making the games with their children!

## THIRD GRADE

Mrs. Shull and Mrs. Lester's 3rd Grade would like to welcome Mrs. Ytje Haim who is the long-term substitute while Mrs. Shull is on maternity leave. She will do a great job!

We will be starting off the New Year learning about Ancient Mali, a very prosperous empire in West Africa, and discussing several European people who explored land in North America.

It's time to start cursive handwriting! You can help your child learn to read cursive by writing short notes to him/her. Please encourage your child to practice correct letter formation at home. Watch out! They may be analyzing your handwriting for correct formation too!

We will be working on decimals and geometry in math. Help your child look for polygons, and parallel and intersecting lines in your home or when you are driving. We'll also be talking about symmetry and congruence. Please keep practicing those multiplication facts!

He's Here!!!

Benson "Ben" Scott Shull was born on Dec 29<sup>th</sup>, 2003. He weighed 7 lbs 6 oz and was 20 inches long.

## Fourth Grade -

Our fourth grade students have been working hard learning about Virginia's natural regions and Native Americans. They are just finishing reading different novels. Our next novels will be about the real Pocahontas. It will be interesting to compare the historic figure with the Disney version. In January, we start studying about the weather. What a great time of year to learn about forecasts and how the weather affects us everyday.

## Fifth grade rocks!

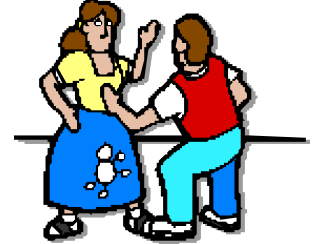
The fifth graders have been studying about matter and Reconstruction after the Civil War. They are planning a trip in February to Lexington to visit some historical sites. They have also been learning and writing various forms of poetry. Students will also begin D.A.R.E (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) this month. The program will last about twelve weeks.

# JANUARY EVENTS

## SOCK HOP

**The Family Sock Hop will be Friday, January 23 from 6:30-8:00 in the Kipps Gym.** Disc Jockey, Earl Brown, of Dynamic Sound will provide all types of dance music for the evening. **Parents must attend with their children.** There will be dancing, contests, refreshments, and possibly some other surprises!

If you can provide refreshments or adult assistance that evening, please contact Dede Stone or Stacey LoPinto.



PTA Planning Session January 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 – The meeting will be held in the cafeteria. Every parent is encouraged to attend!

## FEBRUARY PREVIEWS

- PTA Planning Session February 5<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 – All PTA members are encouraged to attend.
- Second Grade Music Program – February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 7:00 – Kipps Cafeteria

## MISCELLANEOUS

**PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN ANY HANDICAP SPOTS IN FRONT OF KIPPS.** Even if you are just dropping off or picking up, these spots are reserved for handicapped parking only. The Blacksburg Police department has gotten several complaints about excessive breaking of this law at Kipps and therefore will soon begin patrolling and handing out tickets to anyone parked in a handicapped spot without proper tags. The fine is over \$100. So please be considerate and pull into a proper spot when picking up or dropping off your children!

With flu season upon us it is important to remind your children of a few facts;

1. NEVER eat or drink after another child.
2. Wash hands frequently
3. Never share any form of chapstick, make-up etc.

The CDC has recommended that if your child has a temperature of 100 or more that you wait 24 hours from the time it breaks before bringing your child back to school.

# FUNDRAISER

The winner of the Nov. Boxtops drawing was Mrs. King's Kindergarten class. They will receive a popcorn party. Keep those tops coming so we can meet our goal! Thanks to The Dobson Family :) for volunteering to cut Boxtops for November. We could use volunteer families once a month. You can take them home and cut them on your own time...no baking...no phone calls...great way to contribute to Kipps! Contact Hope Ingram 961-4362.



## \$ YOUR PTA DOLLARS! \$

### SCIENCE NIGHT

Science Night was held Thursday October 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Kipps cafeteria. The children and adults had lots of fun going from station to station and learning some exciting science facts. The station included: Chemistry, Microbiology, Physics, and Nutrition. Kipps PTA would like to thank all of the people who volunteered their time and expertise including:

Karen, Kaitlyn, and Nicole Brewer, Martin Rogers, David Erdehi, Mary Conyers, Nancy Miller, Dinah Reindorf, Tamara Davis, Allison Pecha, Beth Nichols, Stephanie Buchanon, James Harris, Leslie Hagy, Craig DeBusk, Susan Wilson, Pam Granger. Thanks to Cheryl Boley and staff, all the teachers who attended and helped out and parents for their assistance in this successful PTA event. Approximately 100 students and 100 parents attended.



We would also like to thank the individuals who helped with Parent-Teacher night. Tom Angleberger, "The Chicken Guy," and Johnny Self, D.A.R.E. officer for the Blacksburg Police Department for making presentations for the children who attended Parent Night and to all the Kipps Staff who gave of their time!