



# Kipps Konnection



Ray E. VanDyke, Principal  
Kipps Elementary School  
April 2004



Michele Wolfert, PTA President  
J Dobson, Editor  
Volume 9, Issue 8

**Don't forget to check out our website – <http://www.kippspta.org> Go there now to sign up for our E-News letter or check out the latest calendar events. You can also get emails for board members.**

Make a \$1.00 donation to get a Kipps Kanga Roos pin. All donations go to the American Cancer Society. See Miss Wade for a pin.

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## What Is Relay For Life?

It all began in 1985 when Dr. Gordy Klatt decided to walk/jog/run around a track 24 hours to raise money for the American Cancer Society. He raised \$27,000 that year, and the following year 220 supporters on 19 teams joined Dr. Klatt in this overnight event. The American Cancer Society Relay For Life event was born and has been growing ever since. Now across the United States and seven other foreign countries, teams of people camp out at a local high school track, park, or fairground and take turns going around the track or path.

Cancer touches everyone in some way. We have an opportunity to get our Kipps community involved in the fight against cancer! This will be the fifth year Kipps Elementary School has formed a team to participate in the relay event. Our team name is the "Kipps Relay Roos." So far our team members are Kim Wade, Roselynn Hopkins, Brian Kitts, Guylene Wood-Setzer, Gail King, BJ Mullins, Kathy Kokalis, Bev Strager, Ann Ferrell, Connie Austin, Sylvia Wright, David Wright, Melanie Bachorik, and many others plan to join us. Mark your calendars now and plan to join us at the Christiansburg High School track on Friday, May 14 and Saturday, May 15.

Please help our local Kipps Relay Roos team raise money for the American Cancer Society Relay For Life event. Last year we raised just over \$2,500. This year we would like to set a goal of \$3,500. American Cancer Society Relay For Life donation cans are placed in each classroom and the office. Several donation cans have also been placed in the community with various local businesses. All donations go directly to support the American Cancer Society.

We would also like to get as many children as possible to participate in the special Children's Lap on Friday, May 14th. We hope to have children's registration forms by March 25th. Each child registered will receive a packet in the mail from the American Cancer Society to start collecting donations. Children who register will also receive a Relay t-shirt and goody bag. Last year three of our very own Kipps students, Taylor Dobson, Adrienne Rogers and Caytlin Litton raised over \$1,500. They were honored with a limousine ride to a very special dinner at Kabuki Japanese Steak House. Thank You - Kipps Relay Roos

# TEACHER'S NOTES



## Kindergarten -

March brings magnets and manners! We will be having our annual Manners Celebration – look for the children to be dressed in their fanciest outfits and using their finest manners. Thanks to all who came out to support us for our patriotic parade. It was a very special event!



## First Grade -

First grade has been busy learning all about the wonderful country they live in. They have been studying about the Statue of Liberty, the Pledge of Allegiance, bald eagle, American flag and Washington Monument. They have also learned how to be a good citizens!!! Our next unit of study will be traditions. We have been able to get many families that will be coming in to share the traditions of their native countries.



## Second Grade -

Our Second Graders have learned so much about Ancient and Modern China! We have learned about language, written and spoken, numbers, structures, food, culture, landforms and more! We would like to thank all of the parents that helped make our Chinese Feast an amazing one! Everyone was stuffed! We are also so proud of how well our 2nd graders did in their music play! Ms. Katz taught us some wonderful songs to help us remember all of the places we have traveled this year. The children have played games to review all of this material and have even taken a test on our Ancient China unit. We are ready to move onto our next Ancient culture- EGYPT! Get ready for Night on the Nile!

## Third Grade -

Third grade is looking forward to our trip to Monticello on April 15!! We are learning about Ancient Greece and Rome! We will have our Kipps Classics Day at Virginia Tech on April 22. Professors Andy Becker, Trudy Becker, and Terry Papillon always put together a super day for us. The children will learn some Latin, create and perform a myth, look at ancient artifacts, and have an architectural scavenger hunt around campus.



## Fourth Grade -

We are finishing up our energy unit and the students have enjoyed learning how to create electrical circuits. They even got to teach second graders about simple machines. We also learned the most efficient way to make butter and found that the least efficient method tasted the best. We are beginning to study the history of Jamestown and Williamsburg in preparation for our trip there in May. Our novel will be The Haunting of Williamsburg. In mid - March we will also get to see an Appalachian storyteller at the Lyric Theater. What an exciting time this will be.



## Fifth grade rocks!

The fifth grade students have been busy working. After finishing up their SOL Writing test they continued with preparation for their March 23<sup>rd</sup> Celebration of African American History. The program was held in the school cafeteria and was a great success. The children recited poetry, played musical instruments, read literary works and sang two songs: *Lift Every Voice and Free At Last*.

As we move into spring, fifth graders will culminate their studies of light and sound and will begin an intensive unit on the five kingdoms and civil rights. We will also be visiting Lexington and taking our first trip to Blacksburg Middle School.



# APRIL EVENTS

## Fourth Grade Music Program – Monday April 26<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm

Come one, come all to the Colonial Fair! The fourth graders at Kipps will present an evening of colonial entertainment -- songs, dances, puppetry, and some riddles for your amusement on Monday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm in the Kipps cafeteria. Park your horses in the lot and come on in for a grand evening of fun!

**Spring Break** – Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>, Friday 9<sup>th</sup> and Monday 12<sup>th</sup>. School will be closed during these days.

**D.A.R.E. Graduation** – April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2:00pm

1. **PTA Planning Session** April 1<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 – The meeting will be held in the cafeteria. Every parent is encouraged to attend! **Doug Eckel, our School Board representative will be coming to speak at our next meeting on April.** He will be addressing the group for information, questions and concerns.

# MAY PREVIEWES



- **PTA Planning Session** May 6<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 – All PTA members are encouraged to attend.
- **Curriculum Night** – Tuesday May 4<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 – 8:00pm
- **Reading Celebration** (Title I) – Thursday May 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm Kipps Cafeteria
- **Kindergarten Orientation** – Thursday May 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm.
- **Field Day** is Friday May 28. I will be sending letters home asking for volunteers in early May. – Thanks, Casey Jones
- **Bike Rodeo & Ice Cream Social** – Be sure to join Kipps PTA for the last program before summer break when families can bring bikes and enjoy a family hot dog cook-out. Time and date will be announced next month.

# SOL SCHEDULES

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Schedule:

Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 9:15am - Science  
 Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 9:15am – English:  
 Reading and Writing  
 Tuesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 9:15am – Math  
 Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 9:15am – Social  
 Science  
 Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 9:15am – Make-ups

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Schedule:

Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 9:15am – Math  
 Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 12:00pm – Science  
 Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 9:15am – Social Science  
 Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 9:15am – Reading  
 Monday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 9:15am – Make-ups

# MISCELLANEOUS

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## Spring P.E.P. News

The spring session of P.E.P. classes are up and running with approximately 145 students registered in eight classes. The only class with openings is Scrapbooking for grades 2-5 on Thursdays. If your child is interested in this class, please contact the P.E.P. Coordinator, Connie Froggatt, at 951-5649. Parents, please remind your child to go to class after school on their designated class days. Also, remember to be at Kipps **no later than 4:30** to pick up your child after class. An updated class schedule is provided below.

Exploring Nature, Mondays, Apr. 5, 19, 26.

French with Flare, Mondays, Apr. 5, 19, 26; May 3.

Cooking for Fun, Tuesdays, Apr. 6, 13, 20.

Tuesday Cool Chemistry, Tuesdays, Apr. 6, 13, 20.

Gardening Club, Wednesdays, Apr. 14, 21, 28; May 5.

Scrapbooking, Thursdays, Apr. 1, 15, 22, 29; May 13.

Native American Crafts, Thursdays, Apr. 1, 15, 22, 29; May 13.

Thursday Cool Chemistry, Thursdays, Apr. 1, 15, 22, 29; May 6.



The PTA would like to thank everyone who once again made this session a success: the parent and community volunteers, the teachers who provided classrooms, the office staff and volunteers who helped with registration, and the custodians who clean up after us.

# FUNDRAISING

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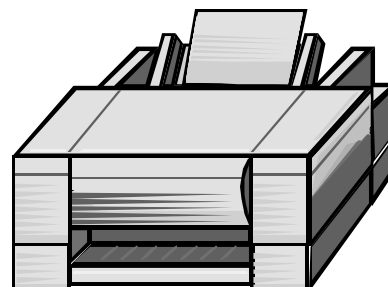


Keep those Boxtops coming! Mrs. Wheeler's class won the Feb. Drawing for a popcorn party. Thanks so much for the terrific response to the reminder of the March 31 deadline. We are, at this date, at just over \$700 in Boxtops. Thanks to Kelly Olsen for helping to cut and package them. Also, PLEASE do not trim the A+ labels. They only accept the WHOLE BAG OR BOX TOP!! Thanks for trimming the General Mills Boxtops. It really helps!

Hope Ingram

**\$ YOUR PTA DOLLARS! \$**

Kipps PTA has purchased nine printers for the school to use. The printers will be distributed throughout the building, for use in many places.



Celebrate National Library Week  
April 18-24

We are so fortunate here at Kipps to have a wonderful library filled with many resources for teachers and students. Please remind your children that they are always welcome to come to the library between 8:45-9:15 in the mornings to exchange library books.

Grades 3-5 are still in the process of learning about the various resources that are in the library. They are learning how to be life-long library users. They are being introduced to the following skills: encyclopedia, dictionary, online research, ABC order, and thinking and listening strategies. During skill lessons students often do not have time to check out a book: therefore, it is important that they remember the morning check out time.

Several parents have inquired about checking out library books for themselves or other children in the family. Our policy is not to allow this because we feel our collection would be spread too thin if we opened it up to the public and we would not have the resources our students need. However, there is another option for parents, and that is the Blacksburg Public Library. If you've not yet introduced your child to the wonderful world of public libraries, then this would be a perfect time. They offer a variety of programs for children that are free.



Research has proven that students who either read or are read to every day for at least 15 minutes will become better readers. Please read with and to your child.

Spring is finally here. You can begin to hear the many animals emerging out of the forest. You can also smell the fragrance of the fresh blooming flowers. You can enjoy the sweet delicious fruit of spring. Many of you enjoy the outdoor sports. Aren't you glad springs finally here?

We can now see animals in action. All the animals wake up from hibernation .We hear birds chirping and simple laughter in the air. When you go hiking, the voices of the animals come alive. I bet you can't wait to hear, see and smell all of the wonderful animals of our region.

Something your mom has been waiting for...flowers. Spring is a time when all of the flowers, fruits, vegetables and other plants come out of dormancy. You get to taste watermelons again! You can have corn on the cob, green beans and all the fruits and vegetables you can get your hands on if, of course, you like them. Do you know why plants come out of dormancy? Well, there is no more cold weather and the snow has finally melted away. Now you can get ready to plant seeds, have trees, and most of all have fun!

I bet you just can't wait until you can dive into the cool pool. You can even begin to hear the crack of the bat if you're into baseball. You can also hear people kicking the ball into the air and reaching the goal. Let the games begin!

- Fourth Grade SCA

