



Kipps Konnection



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Kipps Elementary School
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From the Art Room:

Parents if you have not done so please pick up information outside the art room door with details about the art program. Please save egg cartons, styrofoam trays and large plastic lids for use in art class.

In Kindergarten Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Hopkins have helped students create a beginning of the year self-portrait. Cutting and gluing skills have been practiced as students have created cats and alligators. They have learned about Pop Artist Andy Warhol who did many paintings of cats. We will be painting and mixing colors in the next lessons.

First grade began the year learning about artist/illustrator Tomie DePaolo and did, as he did in first grade, a portrait of their teacher. We are in the middle of a series of lessons on primary colors. We are learning about artist Henri Matisse. Soon it will be time to mix colors in our fall landscapes which focus on the work of Claude Monet.

Second graders have learned about the artist Paul Cezanne and his still life paintings. They know why he liked to create still life paintings more than portraits. We began our work on color groups with secondary color butterflies. Soon second grade art classes will be hopping with clay frogs!

In third grade we begin the year by looking back in history to the earliest known artwork, cave paintings. We have created art in the style of that time in paper and clay. With hurricanes dominating the weather forecasts and Oceans in Motion coming to Kipps, we are working on ocean habitat artwork.

After a very successful beginning with Virginia Lighthouses students have moved on to large designs inspired by Georgia O'Keeffe's artwork. They are learning about tertiary colors, using them to create a variety of color values. Our next project will be to create ornaments for the Capitol Holiday Tree in Washington DC. We are very excited about contributing to this effort to provide 4,500 9"-12" ornaments from across the state.

For more information see www.capitolholidaytree2004.org.

Fifth graders expressed some things about themselves in our profile/name project. They learned about artist Nellie Mae Rowe, an untrained folk artist whose main medium was crayon. Ocean life in clay is very much alive in the art room. You will be seeing our clay creations in the front hallway showcases. Following our ocean project students will be learning about West African art and culture brought to this country by enslaved Africans in pre-Civil War times.

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**Make sure you check out our website:
<http://www.kippspta.org>
for regular updates, PTA and school events
and to email a PTA Board Members!!**

Library News:

All students have been to the library and should have brought a library book home over the past few weeks. Please take time to look at your child's library book and read to them or have them read to you. This is one of the most important things you can do to help your child become a reader!

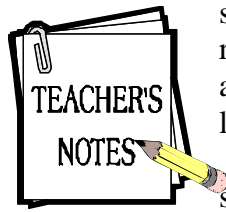
The first few weeks of school are very hard for students to remember when their library day is. In K-2 we are learning a song about when our library day is. Please ask your child to sing it to you.

We had several classes that all brought back their books during their library class and everyone was able to check out new books. A big hooray to Ms. Ruppert's, Ms. Olsen's, Ms Ewing's, Ms McClure and Mr. Jacomen's classes for bringing their books back on library

Kindergarten-

Kindergarten is off to a great start! We have been busy learning the routines of school life such as how to get through the lunch line and how to unpack our backpacks and check in for lunch. Parents have begun volunteering during our center time, a favorite time of day for kids and teachers.

If you come in during that time of day you may see parents and kids at these centers: painting, role-play, play-doh, writing, media table, blocks, computers, games. Come on in for a good time!



First Grade –

First grade started out the new school year with some fun outdoor activities. All five classes got together for a watermelon party on the soccer field during the first week of school. The following week, we held our annual first grade family picnic. Close to 200 people enjoyed a wonderful evening, with a variety of scrumptious food shared by all.

Second Grade –

For the past few weeks in second grade, we have worked on rights and responsibilities of good citizens. We have also studied the different stages of human life cycles and what responsibilities children, teenagers, and adults have. Our cycles concept has transferred to the animal cycles of frogs, butterflies, grasshoppers, and alligators. Our cycles unit will continue with plant cycles as well as how weather and the seasonal cycle affects plants and animals. Second graders will learn about hibernation, estivation, migration, camouflage and more!

Third Grade -

Third grade teachers have enjoyed getting to know our students these first few weeks! We have learned about citizenship and government and will begin studying animals and their habitats. We are looking forward to our first field trip to Radford University for the band concert.

Fourth Grade -

Fourth grade had a wonderful, successful start to the school year. To start our year off on the right foot, fourth grade participated in several team and class building activities. We were fortunate to learn many new things about each other!

The five regions of Virginia are the focus of study in social studies classes. Students have learned the differences and similarities of each region. Students are using map skills, note taking skills, reading skills, and cooperative learning activities to collect important information relating to these regions and the natural resources of our home state.

Students of fourth grade are also very busy conducting investigative research in science classes. Their research involves the dissection of plants. Detailed discussions about the results of the dissection and the relationship of life processes have taken place.

Fourth graders are taking a trip! Our students began a world tour in math, the starting place is our nation's capital, Washington, DC. Students will take a virtual tour of 50 countries throughout the world collecting data for analysis. Our world tour is also incorporated in our Language Arts program. The first unit in our literature program is titled "Journeys". Students have had the opportunity to apply the six main reading skills they learned during the first weeks of school.

Fifth Grade Rocks! –

Fifth grade is finishing up their units on oceans and geography of Virginia. We are beginning our Writer's Workshop & team-building activities. We are looking forward to a fun and learning-filled year!

FUNDRAISERS

PTA Fall Fundraiser ends October 8th

This year we will be offering Holiday Gift Ideas to help support the many PTA programs at Kipps. Everything from wrapping paper to Fall Bulbs, Fine Chocolates to Bath and Body gifts will be available for your Holiday gift giving! We think we have something for everyone and will have delivery of all items well before the Christmas Holiday Crunch!

Thank you for your continued support of the Kipps PTA!





Eating For Kipps Kids!

The winners of our random monthly drawing for a class popcorn party are Ms. Stanley, Ms. Gendron and Mr. Kitts. Make sure to keep those box tops and A+ labels coming in. If you have any questions please contact Alicia Stone at incentives@kippspta.org.

MISCELLANEOUS

Winner of the Raffle for PTA Membership/Volunteer sign-up on Meet Your Teacher night were **Gabrielle Minnich** - \$20 gift card to Outback Steakhouse and **Michael Vaught** - \$5 gift card to Ice Cream Crank. Thanks to all who support our children by becoming PTA members and a special thanks to **Outback Steakhouse** for donating the \$20 gift card.

From the School-Wide Discipline Committee

The Buck-A-Roo Bulletin is that Kipps kids love buck-a-roos and are being successful learning proper behaviors in all parts of the school. Feedback from teachers and students has been positive. Parents we appreciate your support of our new school wide learning plan for great behavior. If you have questions please see your child's teacher, Dr. Van Dyke or our Buck-A-Roo chairs, Julie Stanley and Kim Wade.

The PTA would like say THANKS to all the parents and teachers who helped chaperone at the Kids Sock Hop during Parent Orientation last month. A special THANKS to the dance teams that performed and taught dances to students, as well as, Earl Brown the DJ, who provided great dance music. Fun was had by all! We would also like to thank the parents that helped out with organizing the Fall Fundraiser and those who donated food for the Welcome Back luncheon for the teachers – they really enjoyed it!

Runnin' Roos began on Sept. Friday, 17th and will once again be offered in the morning 8:00-8:30 but on FRIDAYS. We meet on the primary playground side near the track. Any ?'s email lgraves2@radford.edu or spatrick@mail.mcps.org.

I serve on PTA with a wonderful job of "Sunshine Coordinator". On behalf of all parents, the PTA offers little surprises to teachers and staff in their mailboxes on holidays (Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentines Day, . . .), their birthdays and each day of Teacher Appreciation Week (the second week of May). I'm looking for others that may be interested in helping add some sunshine! Do you have a craft idea, a sweet gift idea, or just want to be part of the fun of showing our 80+ teachers and staff our deep appreciation? If yes, contact me, Debbie Christian, 951-0377, sunshine@kippspta.org!

Book Fair News

The book fair is coming Oct 4-8. The book fair will be open each day from 8:30 to 4:00. Parents and the public are invited to come to the Book Fair during the week. A percentage of the sales will go directly to the library to spend on library materials. All students will have the opportunity to come and browse and purchase items during the week of the Book Fair.

Ms. Austin will be sending home a letter with the final dates and times in the next two weeks. Students will also bring home a flyer with some of the books advertised that will be for sale. This year the Book Fair will be having a Teacher's Wish list program. Classroom teachers can pre-select books that they would like to have from the Book Fair in their classroom. Parents or students whole would like to purchase something for a teacher can look at their wish list and select a book.



OCTOBER EVENTS



Ocean in Motion – Oct 5th & 6th during school hours

Ocean in Motion, an SOL-based program sponsored by the Virginia Marine Science Museum, uses interactive activities to get students excited about science SOLs. The 3-part program includes 1) P.T. Phylum's Ocean in Motion Extravaganza which is an interactive assembly introducing students to aquatic habitats, food web relationships, and current issues affecting aquatic ecosystems, 2) a Touch Tank allows students to touch and observe sea stars, sea urchins, hermit crabs, and marine snails, and 3) the Aquarium Truck in which a museum educator "submerges" students in a discussion about the relationship between fish and their underwater habitats, life needs, and adaptation for feeding and protection. This aquatic program will be a great connection to Family Day activities on October 4.

Science Night - Tuesday October 26th Kipps Cafeteria – 7:00pm

This program is held in the Kipps cafeteria for the entire family and features a variety of science exhibits sponsored by local outreach groups in the community and from Virginia Tech. If any parent would like to set-up a hands-on exhibit at Science Night or if you know of a group that would like to participate, please contact Dede Stone (961-1407) or Lynn Graves (961-1056). Be sure to mark your calendar now so you don't miss this exciting program which is enjoyed by the entire Kipps family each year.

PTA Planning Session October 12, 7:00 – Kipps Cafeteria
All PTA members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Reflections Program 2004-2005 "A Different Kind of Hero"

The National PTA Reflections program offers students the opportunity to create works of art for fun and recognition. Students are encouraged to submit entries in four areas: literature, musical composition, photography and visual arts. These may be created as part of a classroom assignment or independently at home. The competition is open to all students, preschool and kindergarten through 5th grade, with prizes awarded in two age categories. The theme for 2004-2005 is "A Different Kind of Hero." The deadline for turning in material is November 3, 2004 in the Kipps main office. An awards reception will be held in December to honor all participants. If you have any questions please contact Nancy Meacham at 951-1923. PLEASE encourage your children to participate in this fun and learning contest. Detailed descriptions and requirements are located in the school office. Award winning works from previous years may be viewed at the National PTA and Virginia PTA web sites.



Last day to turn in PTA Fall Fundraiser is October 8th!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

On October 26th - We need people to help supervise **Science Night** and help set up tables with experiments.

We need LOTS of volunteers for our annual **Kipps Carnival**. The Carnival will be held Friday, **November 12th**. We need volunteers to help set up from, 4:45-5:45pm and clean up from 8:00-9:00pm. We also need volunteers to help run games and serve food from 5:45-7:00 and 6:45-8:00 and volunteers to donate cupcakes and cakes for the cake walk.

If you can help in anyway please email volunteers@kippspta.org.
Thank you to all who volunteer their time and services!

NOVEMBER PREVIEW

- PTA Planning Session
November 9, 7:00
- **Kipps Fall Carnival** - Friday,
November 12th - Fun, Games,
Prizes and our annual Auction
to raise money for our
Building Blocks.
- **Reflections** – All projects are
due on Nov 3rd – This years
theme is 'A different Kind of
Hero'
- **Title 1 Info Night** –
November 4th, 7:00-8:00pm
Kipps Cafeteria