



Korematsu Kids School Newsletter

September 21, 2009
 Volume 4, Issue 2

Calendar

Check for calendar updates at
www.korematsupto.org

September

21 Mon

- Music program begins for grades 4-6.

21 Mon, 7:00 pm

- Math program at Pioneer (see details below)

23 Wed 8:15 am: front of library

- Coffee PTO member drive.

23 Wed

- Universal GATE testing Grade 3.

23 Wed 6:30 pm: room F-47

- ELAC English Learners Advisory Committee (for parents).

23 Wed 7:00 pm

- Sixth grade parent meeting Walker Creek Ranch Outdoor Education. Look for signs for meeting location.

29 Tue

- Picture Day

30 Wed 5:30—7:30 pm

- Familia Fiesta Picnic, on the quad behind the library. Free.

October

7 Wed 7:00-8:00 pm

- KPTO meeting, in the library. All welcome.

25-31

- California School Garden Week.

Next Korematsu Kids: Mon 5 Oct

Trick Roper to Perform at Familia Fiesta Picnic — Join us on Wednesday September 30

Have fun with families, friends and staff at Korematsu's annual Familia Fiesta Picnic, Wednesday September 30, 5:30-7:30 pm on the quad, behind the library.

Yolo County based trick roper and California folklore storyteller James Barrera will perform from 6:00-6:30 pm. A guided tour of the school garden will begin at 6:30 pm. KPTO will provide piñatas for the kids.

Bring a blanket, picnic and beverages for your family and friends. This is a free event sponsored by the KPTO.

KPTO Budget On Tap

KPTO will decide spending priorities for the school year, at the October 7 general meeting (see calendar).

Last year's KPTO passed on \$8,000 of seed money to this year, based on income of \$34,264 and expenses of \$26,263. The stunning success of the Asian Pacific Fest and Silent Auction was largely responsible for the positive results.

Watch for future reports of how funds raised are spent.

Making Math Add Up Tonight — Sept 21

Join DJUSD Math Specialist Diana Zaragoza for an overview of Everyday Mathematics, the new district-wide math curriculum designed to ensure focused coherent learning, and using and implementing math skills. Monday, September 21, 7:00 pm, Pioneer Elementary School MPR, 5215 Hamel Street.



Special Donation Helps Meet Many Needs

Warren Hardaker hit the jackpot when awarded a million points in Campbell Soup's "Labels for Education" Redemption Program. He generously donated the points to Korematsu – a cash equivalent estimated to be about \$11,000.

From a redemption catalog, teachers selected classroom books, playground, science and technology equipment, classroom supplies, and books/DVDs for the library. Over a 100 items – all daily necessities.

The Korematsu community – teachers, staff, parents and students are very grateful for Warren's donation, which comes at a time when funds to purchase these items is greatly reduced or eliminated.

KPTO's Marc Ishisaka-Nolfi Wins G.R.O.W. Award

Congratulations to KPTO Garden Coordinator (and KPTO president) Marc Ishisaka-Nolfi, for winning the Davis Farm to School Connection's G.R.O.W. award, presented at the annual Village Fest event in August. (GROW = Garden Recognition for Outstanding Work). On hand to congratulate Marc were DJUSD trustees Tim Taylor and Sheila Allen, district administrators, and community leaders including former mayor and food expert Ann Evans, Davis city council member Sue Greenwald, and former California Superintendent of Public Instruction Delaine Easton.

Marc received the award for his outstanding efforts in developing our school's garden and garden-based learning program.

The Davis Farm to School Connection supports a district-wide school garden program at all fifteen schools. The program ties into California's academic content standards and provides a valuable hands-on learning experience for students.

The garden program needs volunteers to extend the program to more classrooms. Please contact Marc at korematsupto@yahoo.com

English Learner Advisory Committee Meets Sept 23

A welcome back to school meeting for parents of students learning English will be Wednesday, September 23, 6:30 pm in room F-47. This first meeting acquaints parents with ELAC programs and services. ELAC will meet at least four times this school year.

Welcome New KPTO Officers

New or re-elected KPTO officers are serving the school this year: Marc Ishisaka-Nolfi, President (and Garden Coordinator); Monica Reeves, Vice-President; Richard Reed, Vice-President; Rebecca Brunette, Secretary, and Betsy Salomon, Treasurer. Contact any or all by email at: korematsupto@yahoo.com. Very special thanks to outgoing officers Shari Dailey, vice president; Sandra Walter-Perry, vice-president; and Stacey Horigan, treasurer. (Shari continues her service as recycling (RISE) coordinator).

KPTO – Join Now!

The KPTO membership drive is in full swing. The classroom with the highest percentage of parent members enrolled will win a pizza party. Enroll online (address below), or pick-up an enrollment form in the school office. Completed forms and payments can be turned in to the school office.

Stop by a KPTO table for coffee on September 23, 8:45 am, in front of the library.

School Site Council (SCC) To Meet Soon

School Site Council monitors the implementation, evaluation, and update of the School Improvement Plan (SIP), and makes decisions on spending certain 'categorical' funds. Monthly meetings are open to the public. Members include teachers, staff and elected parents. Parents serving this year: Sujatha Branch, Mina Garcia, Steve Inouye, Elisa Levy, and Jennifer Vinh. The first meeting will be announced soon.

Money for Recycled Packaging!



Recycling firm TerraCycle will pay the school's RISE recycling program two cents each for the following items. They convert recycled packaging into things such as purses, back packs and tote bags sold at national chain stores.

We ask your help in collecting, cleaning and depositing: wine corks and the following brands of packaging: Balance and Clif energy bars, Capri Sun and Honest Kids drink pouches, Flavia 'freshpacks', Kashi products, Nabisco (Chips Ahoy, Oreo) cookies.

After collecting and cleaning, please deposit the packaging in the "TerraCycle" box in the school office. For questions or to help with the recycling program, contact volunteer coordinator Shari Dailey at korematsupto@yahoo.com.

Yearbook? — Volunteer!

We've heard that some parents might want to continue a tradition from Valley Oak to publish a school yearbook – either for the entire school or limited to sixth grade. While KPTO would be happy to sponsor a yearbook, the project requires dedicated parent and teacher volunteers. Tasks include sales, collecting fees, distribution, working with staff to gather content and photos, preparing and uploading photos, and using the publisher's online tools to design the book. The window of opportunity closes in early October, so if anyone is interested, act now. Attend the October 7 KPTO meeting (see calendar). For yearbook production information, visit: yearbooks.lifetouch.com