



Korematsu Kids School Newsletter

March 1, 2010
 Volume 4, Issue 10

Calendar

March

1 Mon 3:30 pm

- ATS testing 4-6 grades, Rm E34

3 Wed 7:00-8:00 pm

- KPTO meeting, in the library; all welcome

8 Mon 6:00-8:00 pm

- Scholastic book fair Family Night, in the library

8-12

- Parent conference week; 1:30 dismissal grades 1-6
- Scholastic book fair Mon-Thu 11:30-4:30; Fri 11:30-2:30

11 Thu 7:00 pm

- Auction committee meeting: see article on page 2

14 Sun

- Daylight Saving Time begins; move clocks forward

15 Mon 3:30 pm

- School Site Council meeting, office conference room; all welcome

18 Thu

- Vision screening; grades K, 3
- Kindergarten orientation 2010-11 school year; 6:30 pm in the library

19 Fri

- Battle of the books competition

25 Thu 8:30 am —3:00 pm

- Kindergarten registration, in the MPR

Next Korematsu Kids: Mon Mar 22

Hungry for a new book? Dig in at Book Fair Diner!

Support the Korematsu library at the spring Scholastic Book Fair March 8-12, Mon-Thu 11:30-4:30; Fri 11:30-2:30. Family Night Mon Mar 8, 6:00-8:00 pm.



Serve up some fun as a book fair volunteer!

Parent volunteers are needed during book fair hours as well as for set up on Friday, March 5 and breakdown on Friday, March 12. If you are interested in helping, return the volunteer form sent home with students or email Laurie Williams at williamsfam4@hotmail.com

School Budget Update

The school district faces at least a \$5.6 million budget shortfall. This will affect programs including but not limited to class size reduction, secretarial and custodial staff, and lunch yard duty.

In addition, school sites' categorical funds will be reduced by about 90% (a shortage of more than \$27,000 for Korematsu). These categorical funds, called SLIB (School Improvement Block Grant), fund computer specialist, counselor, supplemental curriculum supplies, library, science, and computer lab.

KPTO and School Site Council are working with staff to prioritize

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New Website About DJUSD Budget

As part of the district's ongoing effort to keep the community informed, Superintendent James Hammond recently introduced District Dollars (www.districtdollars.org) – a web-based, interactive program to help you understand the DJUSD budget situation. It provides information on:

- How California pays for schools
- How much money the district gets and how it is spent
- The different options for balancing the budget
- The superintendent's reduction plan

District Dollars lets you ask questions, provide feedback and share your own values about education priorities. This information will be reviewed by the administration and the Board of Education throughout the budget process. In June, the Board will adopt a final budget for the 2010-11 school year.

Look for the "Intent to Return" form attached to this newsletter
 If the form is missing, please contact the school office.

School Budget Update — Continued from page 1

critical funding needs for the 2010-2011 school year. We will focus on expenses that are essential to keep these important programs running.

The KPTO auction is very important this year. Proceeds will be directed to critical funding shortages in the year ahead. Please support the auction. Your participation and contributions are greatly appreciated.

Parent-Teacher Conferences March 8-12

Parent conferences are next week, March 8-12. Students in grades 1-6 will be dismissed at 1:30. The kindergarten schedule is unaffected.

Spring conferences are shorter in time and more compact. It will not be necessary to meet with all parents. If your teacher's child would like a conference with you it will be noted in the conference letter. However, all parents are very welcome to ask for a conference. Please return the conference letter to your child's teacher as soon as possible.

Kindergarten Registration March 25

- In the Korematsu MPR
- 8:30 am – 3:00 pm
- Children must be 5 years old on or before Dec 2, 2010.

Required documents:

- Birth certificate or passport
- Immunization record
- Proof of residence (Current PG&E, homeowner's insurance, rental agreement, escrow papers)

Korematsu Auction Needs Donations; Meeting March 11

Korematsu's silent auction – the school's primary fundraiser – seeks donations of appealing items to offer for bid. Vacation homes for the weekend, River Cats, A's, Giants or King's tickets, gift cards to local restaurants, stores and services; tickets to plays, concerts, and special events; any interesting item that would appeal. Please email auction chair/KPTO VP Monica Reeves: danicareeves@aol.com

An important planning meeting of the auction committee will be Thursday March 11, 7:00 pm.

Please contact Monica at the email above for location and more information. Your help and participation is welcomed and appreciated.

Battle of the Books March 19

Reading for the Battle of the Books is underway! For 4-6th grades, in teams of four. Each student reads at least two of the 8 titles. Each team will try to answer questions about each of the titles:

- Eager by Fox
- Fair Weather by Peck
- Sasquatch by Smith
- Danger on Panther Peak by Wallace
- Riding Freedom by Ryan
- Letters From Camp by Klise
- Strider by Cleary
- Snow Treasure by McSwigan

We will need parent volunteers to act as judges. (Judges will be given the answers). Please phone 530-757-5358 x 112.

- Sandy Pattison,
Library Media Teacher

Win Prizes for Biking, Walking, Carpooling to School!

Korematsu students are eligible to win prizes in the DJUSD-wide contest with Save a Gallon. To participate, register at saveagallon.org (Use your first initial and 3 letters of your last name as a username, and join the Korematsu team corresponding to your teacher and class year).

Log any kind of alternative transportation miles (walking, bicycling, skateboarding, public transit, etc.) if they substitute for a car trip to any destination. Carpooling counts, but only when two or more non-related students share a trip somewhere; parents driving students to school does not count as carpooling.

Prizes are awarded monthly for the most miles or most days logged, so be sure to log your miles each day! Prizes include a bike computer from Freewheeler Bicycles and a \$25 gift certificate for repairs at B&L Bike Shop.

Congratulations to Korematsu student Nick Borowsky, who won December's contest for "most miles logged" – a whopping 351! If you have a question about the contest, e-mail Korematsu's Saveagallon rep, Virginia Matzek: vmatzek@csus.edu

Students Raise \$1,200 for Haiti

Thank you Korematsu students for your generosity in raising \$1,200 for Haiti earthquake relief through the Red Cross. And thank you Ms. Lieth for organizing the campaign.