



Korematsu Kids School Newsletter

November 2, 2009
Volume 4, Issue 5

Calendar

Check for calendar updates at
www.korematsupto.org

November

1 Sun

- Daylight Saving Time ends (turn clocks back)

6 Fri

- Elementary school holiday — NO SCHOOL

7 Sat 12:15-1:45 pm

- Diamonds Gymnastics Fundraiser—open gym

11 Wed

- Veteran's Day — NO SCHOOL

14 Sat 6:30-10:30 pm

- Diamonds Gymnastics Fundraiser—parents' night out

16-20

- Parent conference week; KPTO lunch time staff hospitality. 1:30 dismissal grades 1-6.

16 Mon 6:00-8:00 pm

- Scholastic book fair family night. In the library.

16-20

- Scholastic book 11:30-4:30 Monday-Thursday and 11:30-3:00 on Friday. In the library.

18 Wed 7:00-8:00 pm

- KPTO meeting, in the music room; Silent Auction committee meets at 8:00 pm. All welcome.

23-27

- Thanksgiving break — NO SCHOOL

Next Korematsu Kids: Mon 16 Nov

From the Principal

Conference week is November 16-20. Students in grades 1-6 will be dismissed at 1:30 pm to provide time for teachers to meet with parents or guardians. (Kindergarten schedule will not change).

This is a time to focus on your child's academic progress. In the twenty minutes you will have with the teacher, consider the following to make the time more valuable for both you and your child.

- Talk to your child about the conference and decide whether there are questions or concerns to discuss.
- Prepare by writing down questions you would like to ask your child's teacher.
- Determine whether your child is working up to his/her potential. Ask how you can assist your child at home.
- Ask which instructional techniques have been most effective with your child.
- Determine how your child interacts with other students and whether he/she is following behavioral expectations. If your child is having problems, ask how you can work together with the school staff to turn negative behavior into positive behavior.
- Ask about areas of the curriculum that you wish to know more about.
- Express concerns in a positive way.

After the Conference:

- Share information with your child. Point out strengths and give encouragement in specific areas.
- Develop a plan immediately if follow-up action is necessary. Make sure your child understands that you and the teacher are working together.
- Stay in touch with the teacher. Follow-up to determine what progress is being made.

Your attendance is important to ensure a strong, positive program for your child. Please keep your conference time so that teachers have an opportunity to meet with each child's parents or guardian. Thank you for your commitment to your child and his/her educational program!

- Mary Ponce

Diamonds Gymnastics Hosts KPTO Fundraisers

Davis Diamonds Gymnastics is hosting KPTO fundraisers on Saturday November 7, during 'open gym' 12:15-1:45 pm. \$7 members, \$10 non-members, and during 'parents' night out' on Saturday November 14, 6:30-10:30 pm. \$25 for members, \$30 non-members. Siblings \$5 off. Look for a separate sign-in sheet for those affiliated with Korematsu, including siblings. 20% of proceeds will go to KPTO. Davis Diamonds Gymnastics, 2795 2nd Street, 530-750-3547.

Change This Month:

KPTO general meeting:

November meeting only;
Wed Nov 18, 7:00-8:00 pm;
In the **music room** (next to the MPR).

**Destination Book Fair
'Read Around the World'
November 16-20**

Reading is the seed to lifelong learning. The deeper kids dig into books, the stronger they grow. Scholastic book fair is coming to Korematsu November 16-20. Held during parent-teacher conference week, there are lots of fun activities planned. Family night will be Monday, November 16, 6:00-8:00 pm, with goodies and raffle drawings for book fair gift certificates. Principal Mary Ponce will be reading to children.

Book fair hours:

- 11:30-4:30 Monday-Thursday
- 11:30-3:00 on Friday

We need lots of volunteers to make this event possible. If you would like to help, please contact Susan Kirby at sskirby@comcast.net or Laurie Williams at wiliamsfam4@hotmail.com.

All proceeds will benefit the Korematsu library. Thanks for your support!

STEAC Needs Cooking Oil

The school district is helping local nonprofit STEAC (Short Term Emergency Aid Committee) replenish their food pantry. Each school site is collecting designated items – for Korematsu, it is cooking oil. Please drop off donations of cooking oil to the school office by this **Friday, November 6.**

**Davis School Arts Foundation
Needs Matching Funds**

The Davis School Arts Foundation (DSAF) is a non-profit, volunteer organization supporting and celebrating arts education in the Davis public schools. Each year the DSAF commits to raising \$18,000. That amount is then matched by the district with \$16,000 cash and \$2000 in in-kind services. Every dollar you donate becomes two dollars in arts experiences for our children. This \$34,000 directly funds the arts programs district-wide with elementary school site grants, Hershberger Classroom Grants, Brunelle Harmony Choirs, support for a strings coach for the All-City Orchestra, the purchase and refurbishing of instruments for the lending program, and support for the orchestras, bands, choirs, and theatre programs in the secondary schools. We can't do it without your help.

DSAF raises funds through benefit events throughout the year, but the lion's share comes from memberships and donations. We ask you to consider how important art, music, and performance is to your child's school experience and join us in our mission to support and celebrate arts education in the Davis public schools. Membership forms and information: www.dcn.davis.ca.us/go/dsaf Please join us in our effort by sending a donation to: DSAF PO Box 4203, Davis CA 95617.

STEAC provides immediate, short-term emergency assistance with basic necessities to those whose incomes are at or below the federal poverty level – including rental and utility assistance, food, and clothing. STEAC provides a critical safety net for those whose needs cannot be met by other charitable or government agencies. More information: www.steac.org

**Students:
Avoid the Car — Win a Prize**

Green Schools Initiative and Davis Bicycles are sponsoring a "Save-a-gallon" contest for students (no adults) through next May. Save a gallon of gas and win a prize. Walk, bike, skateboard, carpool – avoid getting into a car and enter a contest to win prizes ranging from Jamba Juice to an iPod nano. Students join a Davis school team on the saveagallon.org website. For details, please contact Christal Waters: chrystal2waters@yahoo.com

- More info Davis Bicycles: www.davisbicycles.org
- More info DJUSD green school's initiative: www.djUSD.net/learn/green-schools

**Silent Auction
Planning Underway**

Last years' silent auction was a huge success – raising over \$15,000 for the school. It's time to start planning the May 2010 silent auction. The committee is looking for volunteers to lead subcommittees for procurement, teacher outings, data input, graphics, and writing. If you're interested please contact KPTO vice president and auction chair Monica Reeves: danicareeves@aol.com

**Conference Week
Hospitality Donations
Needed**

Parent conference week is November 16-20. KPTO's hospitality committee is organizing buffet style lunches for staff. We ask for your help with food donations. Please contact: Melinda Swift 757-7412 melindasbc@sbcglobal.net, Camille Melendres 297-7268 camelend@hotmail.com or seansharonadams@comcast.net