



Korematsu Kids School Newsletter

January 11, 2010
Volume 4, Issue 8

Calendar

January

11 Mon 3:30 pm

- School Site Council meeting, office conference room. All welcome

18 Mon

- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
— NO SCHOOL

19 Tue

- After-school math interventions begin

20 Wed

- Korean teachers visit

26 Tue 6:00 pm

- Explorit science family night

28 Thu

- Harper outreach concert

February

3 Wed 7:00-8:00 pm

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

15 Mon

- Presidents' Day
— NO SCHOOL

22 Mon

- Washington's Birthday
— NO SCHOOL

Next Korematsu Kids:

- Mon 25 Jan

From the Principal

Welcome to 2010! We hope you enjoyed your break with friends, family, and cheer. The new year is off to a busy start. Korematsu will be implementing or participating in after-school intervention math classes, Oral Language Fair, Explorit Science Center visits, preparing for STAR testing in April, and staff training in language for teaching. We have only three months before spring break, and we hope that our strong student, teacher and parent relationships will continue to build and reinforce excellence.

Social Justice: Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Fred T. Korematsu

Martin Luther King Jr. Day is one of three federal holidays marking the birthday of an individual. Dr. King's birth date is January 15, but the holiday is observed on the third Monday of January. Observance of the holiday was signed into law by President Reagan in 1983.

A core theme or philosophy of our school is social justice, in recognition of school namesake Fred T. Korematsu. That makes Martin Luther King Jr. Day more meaningful for our school. The upcoming Oral Language Fair is one of our events to highlight the work of Dr. King and his impact on social justice and equality. In February we will be reflecting on the 'Day of Remembrance' and the work of Fred T. Korematsu and other civil rights activists.

This is a great time to discuss this theme with our students and the importance of celebrating diversity through inclusion and acceptance of all. As Dr. King has said, "We are inextricably bound."

Discuss with your child at home how we are all 'bound', connected to one another, and why this is important for our community.

- Mary Ponce

Important Reminder:

Be Safe While Driving Near Our Kids

- Please... be courteous and patient in the school driveway and parking lot...
- Use crosswalks. Cross walk lines are painted on the pavement...
- Pull vehicles forward into parking spaces up to the concrete stops...
- Don't double park or park in fire lanes. It's unsafe and against the law...
- Don't park in spaces reserved for staff in both lots. The west lot (adjoining the playground) is reserved for CDC and staff during school hours.
- Pick-up your students on time.
- Follow directions from school staff.

Introducing Counselor Susie Carrell

I am happy to introduce myself as your new school counselor, who will be on-site seven hours a week. The next few months I will be working with K-2nd grade students, either through classroom lessons or in small groups. Classroom lessons will focus primarily on learning how to problem solve, recognize emotions and how to deal with difficult emotions. Through stories, puppets and role plays students will have an opportunity to practice these social skills. A limited number of small groups will also be available for students who need additional support with social/emotional development. Additionally, teachers and recess staff will have an opportunity to learn about social skills taught in the classroom so that they may become familiar with the language and reinforce these skill sets at recess.

After completing lessons with K-2, I will focus my attention on classrooms or small groups of students who need additional support in the classroom.

My experience includes four years as a social worker with special needs children and families; tutoring; youth group and scout leader; and elementary school counselor for the past four years. As school counselor I've taught social skills, conflict resolution programs, anger management and peer helper programs through classroom guidance, small group and individual counseling.

I look forward to being part of the Korematsu family.

Sincerely,
- Susie Carrell, MA/EdS

Student Council Officers Elected

Congratulations to newly elected sixth grade student council officers:

- President, Kanishk Pandey
- Vice President, Qudsiah Siddiqi
- Secretary, Helena Li
- Public Relations, Spencer Ault

Great job to all of our candidates! Our newly elected officers, along with classroom representatives, will work with the principal and staff to create and support a positive school climate.

We look forward to working with our newly elected student leaders.

School Arts Foundation 'Dazzle, Dessert, Dancing' Fundraiser Jan 30

The Davis School Arts Foundation (DSAF) is having its second annual evening of Dazzle, Dessert, and Dancing at the Davis Senior Center on Saturday, January 30, 8:00-10:00 pm.

The event will include a dessert buffet, complimentary wines, nonalcoholic beverages, dance lessons (voluntary), and exhibition performances by national dance competitors and The Davis Swing Kids. Dance lessons and "dj'ing" supplied by Erin Connolly. Desserts catered by The Sweet Nothings. Attendees to provide the 'dazzle.'

Suggested donation: \$20 per person. Proceeds benefit the Davis School Arts Foundation. For more information, please email: dsaf@dcn.davis.ca.us

- Colleen Connolly, President DSAF

Book Fair Thank You!

A big thank you to everyone who helped make the Fall Book Fair a huge success – including librarians Sandy Pattison and Ruth Beckon. We made a total of \$2,515.16, and the librarians were also able to take \$1,103 in books which Ruth cataloged and added to the library shelves. In addition, we earned enough points so that we can purchase our own cash register to reduce lines at checkout. We hope to see you at the Spring Book Fair in March. The theme is *Book Fair Diner: All You Can Read*.

P.S. I (Laurie) am the parent of a 6th grader so I will no longer be at Korematsu next year. Susan is the parent of a 5th grader so we've got her for one more year. We need to recruit some new parents for the Book Fair team. Duties are easy to divide up among several people. We'd love to start training some new folks this spring for a smooth transition next fall.

- Laurie Williams and Susan Kirby
Book Fair Co-Chairs

KPTO Fundraising Winners

Congratulations to Betsy Salomon, winner of KPTO's October campaign for eScrip/Nugget Scrip. She received a \$100 gift card to Nugget Markets. Thanks to all who signed up or made purchases with eScrip and Nugget Scrip.

Congratulations to Maddy Stanley, winner of KPTO's November campaign for Box Tops. She received a \$50 gift certificate to Alphabet Moon. We collected \$330 worth of box tops in one month. Keep collecting box tops; we'll have another campaign in the spring.