



John Knox Cooperative Preschool

School: 925-828-2887 Registration: 925-413-4636

www.jkcp.org

Welcome to John Knox
Cooperative Preschool!

welcome! Each month you'll receive our newsletter with school information and upcoming dates.

The newsletter will also be posted on the entry door at school. The next newsletter will be in **October**. If you have questions or suggestions about our newsletter, please contact Rebecca Johnson, JKCP board secretary, at secretary@jkcp.org or (925) 699-6783.



President's Message

Happy summer, hope everyone is having a great summer. The first day of school is right around the corner.

I would like to welcome the new and returning families to John Knox Cooperative Preschool. The parent board and staff have a fun year planned and can't wait to share it all with you and your children! This will be my family's fourth year at John Knox Co-op Preschool. My son Austin first started off in 3am, and now will be attending Kindergarten.. My daughter Zoe will be entering Pre-K this year making it our final year at JKCP.

I am very pleased to be on the board with such hard working parents this year. We have been working through the summer to make the Parent Orientation (August 26, 2015) and the Fall Festival (October 8, 2015) fun and successful events. These two events always kick the year off to a great start and provide a great opportunity for all our school families to get to know each other better.

The Parent Orientation is a **mandatory meeting** for at least one parent from each family. This meeting is very important for both new and returning families. We all know that August can be a very busy and hectic back-to-school month, and attendance at this meeting is imperative. During the meeting, we will walk through the classrooms and discuss specific instructions of what is expected of parents when working in the class. We will then have a fabulous pot-luck dinner while we visit with old friends, meet new friends, and hopefully win some great raffle prizes. Remember to buy your raffle tickets that evening!

The Fall Festival is a fun event for all ages, as well as our *biggest fundraiser* of the year. Please invite your family and friends for food, children's games, a bounce house, and an amazing silent auction (the teacher baskets and class projects are priceless!). We are also very excited to have the train ride return again this year. Parents can ride with their children or hold their infant children. It will truly be a family event!

We are so fortunate to have such a wonderful and caring staff at John Knox:



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Leslie James will be entering into her 17th year of teaching and her fourth year as Director. She will be teaching classes for the 3-year-olds, 4-year-olds, and Pre-K. Her warm personality and energetic ways are appreciated by the children and parents alike. Assistant Director, Stacy Omo who has been at John Knox for 15 years, will also be involved with all three classes. This will be her fourth year as assistant director. She encourages the children to experience new things in a fun environment and always offers a warm smile as they enter the classroom. Teacher, Alice Richards will be entering her 9th year at John Knox. She has such a kind spirit and brings out the best in all of the children. Teacher, Teri Judin is working on her 4th year with us. Her sons attended JKCP and she was a parent board member as well. Teacher, Ann Harper will start her 2nd year as a regular teacher at JKCP. Prior to coming to John Knox, she subbed occasionally for us and also spent 12 years teaching preschool in the Tri-Valley.

John Knox is such an amazing and special place for our children to grow. We as parents are lucky to be able to take such an active role in their first school experience. Your children will blossom right before your eyes, and I think you will agree that you have made the right choice for them and that John Knox is an incredible school. I look forward to meeting you at the Parent Orientation on August 26.

Rene Phillips
President



Orientation Dinner

Welcome to John Knox Coop Preschool!! The mandatory orientation dinner is scheduled for **Wednesday, August 26th from 4:20- 8:00 pm**. An invitation will be sent via mail in early August with specifics of the night. Please read thoroughly to not miss any details.

We look forward to seeing you all there!!

Your Hospitality Committee: Lori Gagnon & Jennifer Cook



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From the Teachers

I want to welcome you and your children to the Co-op. The Co-op experience of parent participation enriches our school and nurtures new friendships as well. (and helps keep our costs down). For me it provides a wonderful opportunity to get to know you parents as well as your children. You will see first hand how our curriculum integrates play, learning, academics and social and emotional development and makes us such a wonderful school. We like to say "everything you need to know you learn in preschool". I am a director in the classroom so please feel free to ask any questions as they come up. Looking forward to seeing you at the orientation.

Mrs. James
Director

Welcome, Welcome, Welcome,

I hope your summer has been filled with fun and adventure; I know mine has! Now it's time for us to start getting the school set-up and ready for the beginning of a great year. I am looking forward to seeing our returning families and meeting new faces. I can't wait to hear about all your summer stories. See you in a few weeks.

Mrs. Omo
Assistant Director

Welcome to a new school year!

For many of you, this will be your child's first school experience. For our returning families, being part of a co-op has proven to be a very rewarding experience for the children and parents alike. We welcome you all! We know this will be an exciting, fun, and very important year for your child and you. Our program is creative, challenging, and fun, and we are looking forward to seeing you all very soon!

Mrs. Richards
Teacher

Welcome both new and returning John Knox Co-op families! I am so excited to see your children in a couple of weeks!! Being a part of this co-op family has been such an enriching experience for me. I absolutely love being a part of this amazing school where both teaching and learning is creative and fun. I can't wait to start the school year as I know there are many wonderful things in store for your children. See you all soon.

Teri Judin
Teacher

Welcome back to school! After a nice long break it is fun to look forward to smiling faces at preschool. I love being part of JKCP and look forward to seeing returning families and meeting new ones.



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The co-op environment is my favorite way to teach. I believe having parents participate is good for everyone – children, parents and teachers. We will have fun playing, creating, thinking and making new friends. Thanks for working so hard to make JKCP what it is, and I look forward to seeing you and your children very soon!

Mrs. Harper
Teacher



Medical Forms

Deadline Reminder: All registration forms are due to Deanna Nudo JKCP Vice President, no later than August 15, 2015.

This includes the following forms:

- Physician's Report (form 701) - for your child and a history of immunizations.
- Parent's Health Report (form 503) - a record of parent's TB test and results.

These forms can take up to several weeks to be completed, depending on how your doctor's office processes them.

Anyone who plans to work in the classroom (mother, father, grandparent, etc.) must have a 503 health form and a current TB test on file at the school. If you are a returning family, we will move your 503 from last year to this year's file if the TB test was done in the 2014-2015 school year. You need to have a TB test done every two years.

If your child has a summer birthday and you are waiting for an appointment and therefore have not yet submitted the Physician's report, please email Deanna Nudo at dmnudo@gmail.com to let her know your appointment date. State licensing requires that we have a 701 in your child's file before he/she can come to class in August///September.

Forms can be mailed directly to Deanna Nudo's home:
9876 Brunswick Way
San Ramon, CA 94583

For more information, contact Deanna at [510.672.0171](tel:510.672.0171)



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Fall Festival

What happened to the Ice Cream Social?

JKCP's fun annual event has grown over the years from a group of JKCP families gathering for fun and ice cream decades ago to a fantastic evening full of fun and fundraising with a silent auction, delicious food, and games for the entire family. It seemed appropriate that the name of the event should reflect more than just a sweet treat, and it is now called our Fall Festival.

This year, our annual Fall Festival will take place on Thursday, October 8, 2015 from 4:30 to 8 p.m. Join us at our Winnie the Pooh and Friends themed night with fun carnival games, a clown, a bounce house, and activities for all ages, including a train ride. Returning by popular demand, a photo booth, a massage therapist that will relax you and an artist helps your kids explore their creativity. Parents are sure to enjoy our Silent Auction with exciting items and great deals to bid on. Dinner will be catered again by El Molino's delicious Mexican food, and there will be treats such as popcorn, cotton candy, and ice cream. Nothing Bundt Cakes and our generous families provide Bundtini's, a treat that sells out quickly, so get yours before they're gone.

This is our biggest fundraising event for the school. It helps keep our tuition low, families connected and continues to give our kids wonderful opportunities. All preschool families' help during the event is **mandatory**. We thank you in advance for your participation and efforts in making this year's Fall Festival a success!

Our silent auction is an amazing array of items that JKCP families and local businesses offer, including yours! We appreciate any donation that your family or company is able to provide, such as sports & concert tickets, craft items, trade services, cabin & vacation rentals, and gift certificates. Other very popular items include wine, spa, jewelry, Crayola, and toy/puzzle/book themed baskets. We can wrap up your items in an attractive basket if you don't have one. Your empty baskets for the auction items are also appreciated. Please contact Lisa Daver or Avanitika Ahuja, our Ways & Means chairpeople, at waysandmeans@jkcp.org for more information. You are welcome to contact Dana Stadleman or Shelley Berger with any Fall Festival questions at fallfestival@jkcp.org Thanks!

We will be collecting new and clean gently used Happy Meal toys to be used as game prizes at the Fall Festival. Please save them and watch for more information about when and where to drop them off.

Please invite your friends and family to join you and your little ones to a fun evening at the Fall Festival and help make this event a great success.



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Tuition



Monthly tuition fees for the school year 2015-2016 are:

3AM Class: \$1,700/annual – broken into 10 payments of \$170/month.

4AM Class with Kindergarten Readiness: \$2,100/annual – broken into 10 payments of \$210/month.

Pre-Kindergarten Afternoon Class: \$2,750/annual – broken into 10 payments of \$275/month.

We are fortunate to have successful fundraisers throughout the school year, and this directly affects the reasonable fee we charge our families.

Tuition is due by the first of each month. A late fee of \$25 will be assessed if payments are received after the seventh. If you are going to be out of town when tuition is due, please make arrangements to ensure your payment is received on time. Returned checks are also subject to a fine of \$30. After a second returned check, future payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier's check.

If there are unexpected financial circumstances that present a hardship to individual families, Mrs. James can be consulted and special arrangements can be made.

We are pleased to accept tuition payments monthly, by semester (Fall/Spring), or in full. As an incentive for paid in full tuition or by semester (2 payments), we will have 2 drawings and award a gift certificates to the lucky winners at the orientation. Additional details will be provided at the Orientation Dinner.

Please remember to **bring your checkbook or credit card** to the orientation dinner, as you will be visiting several stations for payments and donations which will include the September tuition, raffle tickets, spirit wear and the one time supply/activity fee. (Breakdown by class as follows)

3AM class will be \$85 for the year

4AM class with Kindergarten Readiness will be \$120 for the year

Pre-Kindergarten Afternoon class will be \$145 for the year

Please contact Shannon King, Tuition Chair by email: tuition@jkcp.org if you have any questions or concerns.



Class Times

Class	Days	Times
3 AM	Tuesday & Thursday	9:00 am – 11:30 am
4 Am	Monday, Wednesday & Friday	9:00 am – 11:30 am
PreK	Monday - Thursday	12:20 pm – 3:15 pm

Please Submit Your Photos



Did you know that JKCP creates a photo album for each school year? We collect photos from parents and staff all year and maintain them in an album available for everyone to see. It's a fun way to record some of the wonderful happenings in your child's class throughout the year.

So, don't forget to bring your camera to the classroom on the days you work and to social events at the school!

When you have photos you want to **share**, here are two ways to do it:

1. Download your photos onto either of the 2 thumb-drives located in the publicity box.
2. You can also email your photos to me, Heather Hamby, at publicity@jkcp.org.

Donations

Donations are greatly appreciated! Items currently needed include:

- Disinfectant Wipes (Clorox or Lysol)
- Swiffer Wet Jet Cleaner bottles and pads
- Swiffer dry pads
- Gallon size zip lock bags
- Sandwich size zip lock bags
- Black sharpie markers - medium tip
- Small glue sticks



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Communications & Website

Check out the JKCP website at www.jkcp.org. The website has information regarding programs, tuition, registration, curriculum, facilities, staff, parent endorsements, photos of the school, and ways to email the school.

You will also receive regular email updates regarding class activities and school business.

Find us on the internet –

- Like us on [Facebook](#).
- Check us out on [Yelp](#).
- Connect with us on [Linked In](#).

Maintenance

Our Maintenance Chair, Liz Gottfred has begun scheduling maintenance hours for parents for the upcoming school year. It is required that each family perform 6 hours of maintenance over the course of the school year per child. We do our best to match you with your preferences from the yellow sheet you submitted with your registration but please keep in mind that all tasks must be completed and your contributions make our school function the way we need it to.

Remember, many hands make light work. The more helpers we have the faster it goes.

You will be hearing from Liz shortly regarding your maintenance hours. If you have any questions, please contact her at maintenance@jkcp.org.

Parents on our board are all volunteers who are giving their time to make the school better for the children; so when they contact you please keep this in mind.



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Upcoming Dates 2014-2015

August 26 th	Orientation Dinner 4:20-8:00
August 27 th	3 AM class introductions (short visit set up by the teachers)
August 28 th	New 4 AM and New Pre-K class introductions (short visit set up by the teachers)
August 31 st	First day of school for 4 AM and Pre-K
September 1 st September 7 th	First day of school for 3 AM No School - Labor Day
October 8 th	No School- Fall Festival
October 9 th	No School after Fall Festival
November 11 th	No School: Veterans Day
November 23 th – 27 th	No School: Thanksgiving Holiday
December 21 st - January 1 st	No School: Christmas Vacation
January 18 th	No School: Martin Luther King Day
January 25 th	No School: Teacher work day
February 15 th	No School: President's Day
April 4 th - April 8 th	No School: Spring Break
May 30 th	No School: Memorial Day
June 2 nd	Last day of school for 3 AM
June 3 rd June 4 th or June 5 th	Last Day of School and Graduation for 4 AM and Pre-K Pack up School