



## OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

John Knox Cooperative Preschool

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

[www.jkcp.org](http://www.jkcp.org)

### Director's Message

*"To teach is to touch a life forever."*

Whether or not you knew Kathie Hammer, she has touched your life for the better. Kathie retired in 2012, and sadly she passed away on September 25th. Kathie was on the staff here at JKCP for over 40 years and the Director for most of that time. She taught some of our current parents as children and gave wise advice to parents throughout the years. She treasured the Co-op community that she built and enjoyed coming to our Fall Festival last year. I know we all are so grateful for her guidance, leadership, and passion for children. I will always remember her big smile - there is a wonderful picture of her hugging our Daisy Bear in the hallway.

*A big thanks to Kathie and her husband Keith for all the love they shared to build a wonderful Co-op family.*

Fall is here already. The classes are doing well and we are all learning how to be kind and take turns and be away from Mom or Dad. I hope that you have enjoyed working in the classroom and are getting to know our wonderful staff.

We read "Have your Filled a Bucket Today" to the two older classes. We will read it to the 3 year old class in February. We use this theme all thru the year to help children understand that their words and actions affect others. We need to fill buckets to build friendships. You fill someone's bucket when smile, ask them to play with you or take turns. And guess what- when you fill someone else's bucket you feel good too. But if you make a mistake and grab something, or tell someone they cannot play with you you empty their bucket. You can praise your child at home if their actions fill your bucket and let them know if they emptied your bucket too.

I want to thank our wonderful parent board who work together so well. Our Fall Festival is such a fun family experience and I am looking forward to seeing all the smiles and giggles that night. Please take a look at all the

silent auction items and have fun shopping. The Ways and Means committee works so hard to get all of our wonder donations. Our classroom is very enriched because of successful fundraisers in the past.

October, November and December are all busy months here at JKCP. Please take a look at Mrs Richards calendar to see all the happenings. This year you will be decorating a cape and mask for your child at our Christmas workshop. There will be 4 times in November to choose from. The children will get your gift at our Christmas Party in December. So shhh please keep the surprise and think of what you will do to decorate. We provide the cape and paint and you and your imagination provide the rest

Happy Fall y'all

Leslie James

## President's Message



Happy Fall Everyone!

It has been a great first month of school. I hope you and your children are settling in and enjoying all that JKCP has to offer.

The Fall Festival is almost here. Please make sure your calendars are marked for Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 – 8:00 PM! There will be a train, a bouncy house, a photo booth, games, food, the Silent Auction and more! This is an event that my children look forward to every year. It's such a fun night for everyone, so please feel free to invite family and friends. A big THANK YOU to the board members who have been working tirelessly to put this event together. Also, thanks in advance to our parents for helping at the festival. By working a short shift, it enables everyone to have plenty of time for fun with family and friends.

Don't forget to check out the Silent Auction. I am certain that you will find something that you would like to bid on, as our Ways and Means Committee has been hard at work collecting many amazing items, such as Raiders tickets, a room at Harrah's Lake Tahoe, a party package at Campo di Bocce, wine tasting at Charles R Vineyards, a lunch date with the teachers and so much more!!! In addition, there is a Teachers' Corner, where you will find wonderful class projects which the teachers and children created together. We took home a stepping stool last year that was covered with the fingerprints of the whole class; the stool now has heirloom status! The complete list of items will be available the week of the festival.

All the proceeds of the auction go to the school. Half of the money is allocated to enriching the classroom, such as purchasing books, dress-up clothes and toys. Recently, we added some great Paw Patrol items. This year, we would like to add new books, toys and supplies for the science cabinet. The second half of the money is earmarked for capital

improvements. In the past, a portion of the proceeds was used to install air conditioning. This year, our plan is to renovate the bathroom area with new stalls, cabinets and flooring.

The Silent Auction is the school's main fundraiser for the year. Your participation is greatly appreciated! The auction will close promptly at 7:30.

A quick note about our Book Fair that will take place the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of December. It will be set up like a small bookstore and is a great source for holiday gifts. Book purchases also help JKCP earn points. More details to come in the November newsletter.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Fall Festival on 10/10!!!

Heidi Wallace

JKCP Parent Board President



## Assistant Director's Message

October is here and we have a fun and busy month ahead of us!

To start, we have our annual Fall Festival, with games, food, activities, and a silent auction. This event is fun for the whole family and a great way to socialize with our schoolmates. In October we also look forward to our pumpkin hunt during class. The children will get to make cookies and frost them for our class Halloween parties at the end of October. During the parties we will have a costume parade and sing songs for our families and friends. Afterward the children are free to visit and then go home with their parents. More information will follow in the weeks ahead.

### Highlights of our upcoming events:

- Thursday, Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> - **Fall Festival**
- Friday, Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> - **No school** (a day off after the big event)
- Wednesday, Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> - **Halloween Party for 4am**
- Thursday, Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> - **Halloween Parties for 3am & Pre-K**

### A peek into November:

- Monday, Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> - **School Pictures for 4am & Pre-K**
- Tuesday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> - **School Pictures for 3am**
- Thursday, Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> - **Sunol Regional Park field trip for Pre-K**
- Friday, Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> - **Sunol Regional Park field trip for 4am**
- See's Candy Sale - Early November
- Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> - **Thanksgiving Break**
- Parents' Christmas Craft Workshop - The week of Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>, more info to follow

Our letter of the week program has begun in the 4am and Pre-K classes. The children have enjoyed Show & Tell on Wednesdays highlighting the letter of the week. The letters for Show & Tell in October are:

Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> - F

Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> - G  
Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> - H  
Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> - I  
Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> - No S&T

Please note that our first field trip for the 4am and Pre-K classes are scheduled for November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Please look for sign-ups to help chaperone and remember to turn in your insurance forms.

Alice Richards - Asst. Director

## Parent's Corner



Often parents ask me what they can do to get their children ready for kindergarten. It is important to remember that our children are not computers that just need input. They are not cups that we fill up either. Encouraging their curiosity, imagination and love of learning is the gift you give to help them succeed in school and lifelong learning.

And **reading** to your child is a wonderful preparation for the years to come. Your gift of time spent reading together is a bonding experience. And READING opens the world of their imagination-whether you are reading stories of fiction or science books to explain their world.

When you read a story, ask your child what do you think will happen next. Follow the words with your finger and you are modeling for their future reading. Use different voices for the different characters- your child will love it. Books with rhymes are teaching phonics. Many stories model kindness and inclusion which we always encourage. There are books that encourage children in their own lives like leaving Mom (The Kissing Hands) too. And of course silly books are so much fun to read.

We love it when parents read books in our book corner at school. We add new books each year- there are so many wonderful children's books. The bookmobile comes to our school in the 4am class once a month to bring the school new books. So happy reading!

## Fall Festival



Our annual Fall Festival will take place on Thursday, October 10, 2019 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, a train ride, and other activities for all ages. There will also be a photo booth available all night. Parents are sure to enjoy our Silent Auction with exciting items and great deals to bid on.

There will be a catered dinner and many 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 and allows for our kids to experience wonderful opportunities throughout the school year. All preschool families help by working a shift during the event (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 donate. 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, gift cards and products (i.e. toys or craft kits) to complete 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 Kristin Kennard, our Ways & Means chairperson, at [kristin.kennard@gmail.com](mailto:kristin.kennard@gmail.com) for any questions. Thanks!

We will be collecting new and clean gently used Happy Meal type 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. We are looking forward to a fun evening at the Fall Festival and thank you for helping to make this event a great success.

## Fundraising

**A word about fundraising from Mrs. James...** We know that many schools do fundraising each month but at JKCP we do most of our fundraising at the beginning of the school year so we can use the funds for current year's students. The fundraisers for the year include the raffle at the orientation, silent auction at the fall festival (our biggest fundraiser), shopping night at Games Unlimited Toy Store in Danville, and our See's Candy holiday fundraiser in November. In February we have a community night at Barnes and Noble. We appreciate you supporting our fundraisers. In addition to adding to our classroom profits, fundraisers help to keep our tuition low.

**The See's Candy Fundraiser Is Coming!** Ordering will happen in November. An information sheet and order form will be sent home soon. All candy will be here before Thanksgiving!

## Book Corner

Welcome to our colorful book corner! You will notice all of the colored dots on the spines of the books and you might wonder what they all mean. The colored labels are a method for organizing our library and to help parents, children and teachers find what they are looking for.

There is a key on the wall above the bench that will tell you what all of the colors represent. Please read below to become familiar with our system for when you work in the classroom.

The books are shelved according to the dot on the top. The lower dot label indicates a subcategory. For example, there are several books that are too tall for the shelf. These are shelved with the “Too Tall Books” that lie flat on the bottom shelf with the neon green color label. The lower color label indicates the other category the book falls into, so you’ll see, for example, Work With the Digger has a neon green label on the top for “Too Tall Books” and a dark green label on the bottom indicating the “Transportation, Vehicles and Machines” category. All of the National Geographic books have black labels on the top, but different colored labels on the bottom indicating their subcategory. The “Stories” are labeled with a red dot but some of them will have another label on the bottom that is white with the letter “Y” on it and this indicates that it is a book for a younger child, 2 to 3 years old. Other books may also have the “Y” label.

It is helpful to use the key and the labels on the shelves to re-shelve the books at the end of the school session. That way it keeps our shelves neat and makes it easier for others to find what they are looking for.

If there is a book or topic that you are looking for, please check with Mrs. James or any of the teachers.

## Thank You, So Much...

<b>CLASSROOM</b>		
<b><u>ERICK RIVAS FOR FIXING THE CLASSROOM AIR CONDITIONING!!!!!!</u></b>		
<b>CIAN IN 3AM GLUE STICKS</b>		
<b>EMMA IN PREK BACK-UP SNACKS</b>		
<b>ALBERT IN PREK WIPES AND PUZZLE</b>		
<b>HANNAH PREK FALL DECORATIONS</b>		
<b>KALEB PREK GLUE STICKS</b>		
<b>MILO GLUE STICKS</b>		
<b>??? TOOTHBRUSHES AND GLUE STICKS</b>		
<b>ZOE SCHOOL SUPPLIES</b>		
<b>SETHUNI IN 3AM BACK UP SNACKS</b>		
<b>SNACK</b>		
<b>4AM</b>	<b>3 AM</b>	<b>PRE-K</b>
SOPHIA	ISABELLA	MYAH
KEVIN	BRYAN	???-CHARLOTTE
JIYA & JIYA	ATLEY	ANDREA
SOPHIA	JORDAN	ISAAC
DAXTON	HUDSON	MILO
BIRDIE	EVAN	KALEB
EDUARD	SABELLA	ISABELLA
MDKINLEY	BRYAN	MILO
BRAD	ATLEY	ZOE
PARKER	JORDAN	NATHAN
PENNY	HUDSON	VIVIANNA
		OWEN
		TESSA
		ISAAC
		MYAH

## Upcoming Dates 2019-2020

October 10 <sup>th</sup>	No School – Fall Festival (ALL families work one shift)
October 11 <sup>th</sup>	No School – Day after Fall Festival
November 4 <sup>th</sup>	Picture Day for 4AM & PreK
November 5 <sup>th</sup>	Picture Day for 3AM
November 7 <sup>th</sup>	Sunol Regional Park <b>field trip</b> for <b>Pre-K</b>
November 8 <sup>th</sup>	Sunol Regional Park <b>field trip</b> for <b>4am</b>
November 11 <sup>th</sup>	No School: Veteran's Day
November TBD	Parent Craft Workshop – 4 times available
November 25 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup>	No School: Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 20 <sup>th</sup> – Jan. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	No School: Christmas Vacation
January 20 <sup>th</sup>	No School: Dr. Martin Luther King Holiday
Jan. TBD	No School: 4am & PreK Conferences
February 14 <sup>th</sup>	No School: Following Dublin Unified Schedule
February 17 <sup>th</sup>	No School: President's Day
April 6 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup>	No School: Spring Break
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day of 3AM class
May 21 <sup>st</sup>	Graduation 4AM class - AM
May 21 <sup>st</sup>	Graduation PreK class - PM

