



# January Newsletter

John Knox Cooperative Preschool

925-828-2887 [www.jkcp.org](http://www.jkcp.org)

## Director's Message



Happy New Year - wishing everyone 12 months of good health, 52 weeks of laughter, 365 days of fun, 8760 hours of joy, 525,600 minutes of good luck and 31,536,000 seconds of happiness!

We enjoyed singing Christmas carols with most of you- either during our small in-person parties or our distance learning teacher time. The aprons and t-shirts I saw were wonderful- parents are so creative. Please remember to take a picture of your child in them and their chef hat for a class cookbook that we will be making this winter. We hope you all made special memories during our very different holiday season.

I also want express thanks for all the donations and fundraising support this school year. I know that many families are struggling and I have seen the "it takes a village" mantra in action this fall. The teachers and I feel so valued that so many of you have given extra to help us survive through COVID's new normal. Throughout the year we teach the children tolerance and empathy and how to make friends and appreciate each other. It is heart-warming to be so appreciated by our families.

As we begin a new year, we will remind the children "How to Fill a Bucket" with kindness. As we get ready for Valentine's Day we want to remind you that we ask that you make or buy **Valentine's cards without candy**. It is the notes or drawings that express friendship that we stress (store-bought or homemade). The children will pass them out so please do not address them to individual friends. Look for more info in February.

As we return to school I feel I should remind you to look over our COVID protocols and sick policy. We have so appreciated families keeping their children home if they have any COVID type symptoms.

Please look for sign-up genius sign-ups for snacks and clearing and in-person Pre-k classes conferences. The children do not come to the conferences. We always enjoy discussing your child's progress. We do not have conferences for the 3 year old classes- but please let us know if you have any concerns.

Because of COVID we will not be having parent tours for future students but some prospective parents might be peeking in the windows from the parking lot. Continuing student registration packets will be sent home mid -January. Our parent board will be voting on tuition amounts for the fall in February so we will advise you tuition amounts then.

Happy New Year- Leslie James

## President's Message

Goodbye, 2020! Hello, 2021!

The one thing that we can take away from this unparalleled year is that we must abandon our old ideas of normal. We need to reach a different level of understanding, acceptance and tolerance of our fellow human beings. Most importantly, it is essential that we do this together.

In this spirit of togetherness, I would like to thank those who participated in Giving Tuesday and/or were able to contribute extra toward tuition. Every dollar helps offset JKCP's considerable costs and your support is greatly appreciated.

The Holiday Photo Fundraiser was so festive! Thank you, Claudia Suen-Lin, for your time, patience and expertise. The portraits are delightful. Thank you all for your participation and anyone that would like to make a donation, can still do so. Thank you all for your support with the other recent fundraisers. The See's Candy and Make-it-Plates went well and the restaurant nights for Dos Coyotes and Chipotle both earned approximately \$400 each.

A reminder about the upcoming Cookbook Fundraiser - I would like to encourage you to take a photo of your child in the Parent Craft gift (apron/hat/T-shirt) to use for the book.

A quick note about registration - if you need assistance in choosing which class is right for your child next year, or have any other questions regarding registration, please ask Mrs. James or the teachers for advice. Also, for the in-person pre-K classes, the parent/teacher conferences are coming up. They are quite informative, and it is a great opportunity to connect with the teachers and discuss your child's development.

So, without further ado, three words that I have been looking forward to saying:

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Heidi Wallace

JKCP Parent Board President



January 2021

## Assistant Director's Message

We're happy to welcome in 2021!!

We hope you enjoyed the Christmas break - with fun family times together in person, or together on Zoom, Facetime, or the like. We're excited to see the children again and are looking forward to picking up where we left off before the break. Here's what's happening in January...

### Upcoming events and holidays:

- Monday Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> – NO SCHOOL (last day of Christmas break)
- Tuesday Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> – School resumes
- Monday Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> – NO SCHOOL (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
- Friday Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> – AM Pre-K Conferences begin after school (12:00)
- Friday Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> – AM Pre-K Conferences begin after school (12:00)
- Wednesday Jan. 27<sup>th</sup> – PM Pre-K Conferences begin after school (12:00)
- Friday Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> – PM Pre-K Conferences begin after school (12:00)

### Letter of the Week for January:

Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> – “P”

Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> – “Q&R”

Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> – “S”

Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> – “T”

### Conference Info:

We are preparing our parent-teacher conferences for the In-Person AM Pre-K & PM Pre-K classes. This is a 15-20 minute time when we will discuss your child's strengths and kindergarten readiness. Children do not come to these conferences. Please watch for emails with more information.

Alice Richards – Asst. Director



## Inside your Registration Packets

We will be handing out registration packets for continuing students with crafts mid January

New student registration packet pick up will be *Tuesday, 1/26, from 1-3pm in Room C*. This will be a no-contact pick up, but the Registration Chair will be on hand to answer questions.

**Please consider being part of the parent board:** It is a way to get involved in the running of JKCP and is a lot of fun. The Parent board volunteer list is one of the pages in your registration packet.

Please email [jkcpreg@gmail.com](mailto:jkcpreg@gmail.com) for any registration questions.



### Parent's Corner

I mentioned in my Director's article, that we put a priority on filling each other's buckets and **being kind**. We teach the children tolerance and empathy and how to appreciate each other and make friends. These are skills that are innate but in our hurried and competitive world can be devalued. These skills are fostered in our play based, imagination building, classes. Being kind and inclusive does not mean being passive or submissive. It means being yourself and inviting others to be themselves and play along with you. We should also remember we are all still learning as we share our differences with each other. Especially after 2020 we can encourage our children to appreciate each other's differences. After all a soup would not be as delicious if it only had one vegetable, a garden would not be as beautiful if it only had one kind of plant, a floral bouquet would not smell as sweet with only one flower. And how disappointing a rainbow would be if it was only one color.

In getting back into routines after a holiday break, there can be bumps in the road- both at home and in class. So, taking turns with toys may be a challenge when we first return. There can be some separation tears again- but they won't last long. We will be warm and loving and remind the children of the rules- children feel reassured and feel safe when they know the lines (rules) are consistent.

Calm, kind and consistent parenting in the months to come will help children feel reassured at home too. As children grow and master something, they feel more confident. If your child suddenly says "no" or argues with you it can feel like they are challenging your authority. But really it is a sign of them growing up- which we all want

our children to do. By being “kind” and calm you regain control and that actually reassures them that you are in charge. It is important to listen to their thoughts for a moment (so they feel valued). Be sure to let them know you heard them but then let them know that they need to do what you ask. We think it is best to keep it simple (don't lose control of the conversation by letting it become a big discussion) but be sure that they feel heard. You can say "I heard you but this time you need to ....." And if they cry or scream try to give them 2 choices (one that they will not like) and after calming down they will usually go with your choice. Staying calm is key-

And it is always helpful to remember distraction is a wonderful way to divert a child from a confrontation- it gives them a way out.

Thank You...

Snack:

AM3

Nora, Scarlett and Gavin, Vivian, Madelyn, Dylan, Molly L, Nora, Madelym, Molly M., Molly M., Liam and Vivian

AMPrek

Valentina, Sydney, William, Tomas, Levi, Sanaya and Trishna, Bryan, Levi, Izzy, Valentina, Sydney, Tomas, Trishna and Sanaya, Bryan, Izzy, William, Trishna and Sanaya, Gio

PMPrek

Fisher, Cian, Mckinley, Savi, Carley, Ryan, Mehran, Ryan, Cian, Mckinley, mehran, Savi, Fisher, Mason, Emma, Amelia, Cian, Mehran, Fisher, Carley, Emma, Mason, Fisher

Thank you...

For...

Sterling Salter

several wipes and sanitizers

Savi Gordan

paper towels

Molly Leu

case of disinfecting wipes & baby wipes

William Barrick

Clorox wipes and new swiffer

Valentina Bermudez	Clorox wipes
Bryan Benkowski	Clorox and alcohol wipes
Sydney Shaw	new castle and puzzle
Carley Jenkins	disinfecting wipes

A big thanks to Claudia Suen for taking holiday photos and emailing them to families.

A big thanks to Stacy Levy for coordinating our See's Candy fundraiser

Thanks to Shannel Glaspy and Jackie Carr for our monthly restaurant fundraisers

## Upcoming Dates 2021

January 14th	Restaurant fundraiser: Mountain Mikes
January 18 <sup>th</sup>	No School: Martin Luther King Day
January 15, 22, 27, 29th	AM PreK and PM PreK conferences
February 11th	Restaurant fundraiser: Panera Bread
February 12 <sup>th</sup>	No School: Following Dublin Unified schedule
February 15 <sup>th</sup>	No School: President's Day
April 2nd - 9th	No School: Spring Break
May 18th	Last Day of AM 3 class
May 19th	Graduation AM PreK class - AM
May 19th	Graduation PM PreK+ class - PM

