



# October Newsletter

John Knox Cooperative Preschool

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

## Director's Message

Fall is here, ready or not. Somehow the beginning of each new season brings hope even during COVID times. The leaves in our Mulberry trees are beginning to turn yellow and the days are getting shorter and a little cooler.

Instead of thinking of Halloween as the holiday of horror, for young children Halloween is the holiday of pretend. Imagination is so important in a young child's life and Halloween is their turn to be something else- royalty or an animal or a rescue hero etc. Pretending and make believe are an important part of play, and young children can use their imaginations to be creative. Take a moment to listen to your child talking to themselves (or a stuffed animal or toy) and you will be delighted. We are looking forward to seeing your children in their Halloween costumes (but no weapons please).



This Fall will be different for us because we cannot congregate for our annual Fall Festival. As this was the main fundraiser of the year with our wonderful silent auction, we hope you will be able to support some new fundraisers this school year. Our Ways and Means Chairs (Jackie Carr and Shannel Glaspy) and our Parent Board have been evaluating fundraisers that support local business and that will be fun for our families. We understand that not every family can participate in every opportunity and appreciate whatever you can do. Please see their comments below in the newsletter and look for emails about upcoming fundraisers.

I want to thank the parent board for all of their suggestions to help us be responsive and helpful through this COVID era. And thank our staff for being so flexible in finding new ways to create a bonding and positive learning environment for all the children- both in person and distance learners. I believe we are one of the only preschools offering both types of learning and that is because our staff is so willing to go above and beyond.

Take care,  
Leslie James



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## President's Message

Fall is here and there is excitement in the air!

Distance learning continues to evolve, now with two zoom meetings a week. One is a dance and sing along, while the other is teacher time.

This year we will have a modified Halloween party for on-campus learners where the children will sing Halloween songs, have a parade and receive a goody bag. For distance learners, we will have a drive-up parade in the school parking lot.

Normally, JKCP has its biggest fundraiser, the Fall Festival, in October. Hopefully, the existing virus conditions will have improved enough to have a substantial festival in the spring. In the meantime, we will have more Covid friendly fundraisers, such as a Pie Fundraiser for Thanksgiving, See's Candy sale and a Cookbook in the winter. Please see the Fundraising message in this newsletter for further details. The profits raised greatly help the school. The goal is to maximize these earlier fundraisers so that your child can reap the benefits throughout the year. Your support is much appreciated.

Spirit wear is available now for the children and is another way to help the school. The t-shirts are \$15 and the sweatshirts are \$25. My two girls have always enjoyed their spirit wear. It truly makes the teachers' day when the children display their school spirit by sporting the shirts.

We are unable to hold our traditional holiday Parent Craft Workshop at school this year, instead, parents will work on their child's craft at home. This year, the choice is decorating a full apron, a half apron or a t-shirt which will be a meaningful holiday gift for our children. Your child wearing the apron or shirt makes for a cute photo to use for the Cookbook fundraiser (which will happen in the beginning of 2021). The Cookbook will have a picture of each child along with two versions of a favorite recipe - the actual one and the child's version.

John Knox Co-op Preschool is a place full of heart. It starts with our director, Leslie James, and our wonderful teachers who have been hard at work providing safe and fun activities for our children. It continues with our Parent Board, which meets monthly to discuss fundraising options and ways to improve the school. JKCP is a true co-op. The teachers are grateful for the collaboration with parents as it is so essential to the school's success and operation.

If you have questions or ideas or just need to talk, please feel free to email me at [heidwallacestevens@gmail.com](mailto:heidwallacestevens@gmail.com) or contact our director, Leslie James.

Heidi Wallace

JKCP Parent Board President





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## Assistant Director's Message

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

In October we look forward to our pumpkin hunt during class, and we are looking forward to Halloween parades, safe & fun, with music & costumes too! More information will follow in the days ahead.

### Upcoming events:

- Thursday, Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> – Halloween Parade for **AM 3's & PM Pre-K**
- Thursday, Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> – Halloween "Drive-up" for **Distance Learners**
- Friday, Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> – Halloween Parade for **AM Pre-K**

### A peek into November:

- Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> – **Thanksgiving Break**

### Letter of the Week (for AM & PM Pre-K classes)

Oct. 2<sup>5th</sup> – F

Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> – G

Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> – H

Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> – I

The children are making wonderful progress! Please remember to help your child with a proper pencil/crayon grip (pinching with fingers & thumb, not a fist grip), and starting their "letters at the top" ...warning, they may break into song ☺

Alice Richards – Asst. Director



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## Parent's Corner



Several parents have emailed me concerned about their child's progress through COVID.

This month I want to reassure you that "this too shall pass". Just as adults are trying to keep their feet on the ground, children may be a little more stubborn and be fighting for control in their own little ways. Some parents have been concerned about toilet training, or selective eating or that their child cannot write their name yet. Please try and relax- no child will be in a pull-up at age 10 so if potty training isn't going the way you wanted- it will be ok in the end.

I am so glad that parents are reaching out to us with these questions. Please feel free to use us as a resource for ideas to help with your little one. When we worked alongside you in class, it might have been easier for you to approach us- but we are here for you to give you any advice or ideas and let you know that your child is behaving very age appropriate. Between all of our staff we have close to 100 years of parenting experience, so please reach out.

One thing that may not be so bad about our COVID era is that we have to set aside our "goal oriented society" and enjoy the little moments. Whether it is cooking at home more to save money or so much more family time because parents are working from home. I know it can be difficult, but I think when we look back, we will remember special family times that we might not have noticed in our hustle and bustle world before.

The staff and I are here to help.



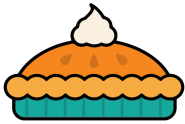


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## Fundraising



Hello Friends!

This is a different year, no doubt, but one thing that remains constant for us is our amazing JKCP family! As your Ways and Means committee chairs, our goal is to support our preschool's budget by finding ways to raise money that align with our families' interests.

This November we will participate in **The Pie Company fundraiser**. You will have a chance to order from a variety of freezer-friendly pies which will be ready for pick-up before Thanksgiving. After that we will host the **See's Candies fundraiser**. We sincerely hope that these two fundraisers align with purchases you would make during the holidays, but with the added bonus of giving money back to JKCP!

Along with these fundraisers, we will host a **monthly restaurant fundraiser**. You will be able to order food from participating restaurants and JKCP will receive 15%-20% of your check! Here are the restaurants and dates:

Oct 15th: Coach's Grille

Nov 18th: Chipotle

Dec 7-13: Dos Coyotes

Jan 14th: Mountain Mike's

Feb 11th: Panera Bread

Thank you,

Jackie Carr & Shannel Glaspy

Ways and Means



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Thank you so much...

## Donations

|                                           |
|-------------------------------------------|
| JKCP families - clorox /alcohol wipes     |
| Bryan - clorox /alcohol wipes             |
| Audrey - clorox/alcohol wipes             |
| Emma - clorox/alcohol wipes               |
| Tomas - ziploc bags                       |
| Bryan - ziploc bags                       |
| Fisher - disposable children's face masks |

## Snack

| AM 3               | AM PreK            | PM PreK+          |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Dylan              | Trishna and Sanaya | Fisher            |
| Madelyn            | Sanaya and Trishna | Cian              |
| Scarlett and Gavin | Bryan              | Ryan              |
| Vivian             | William            | Mehran            |
| Tommy              | Tomas              | Audrey            |
| Liam               | Gio                | Ryan              |
|                    | Izzy               | Fisher            |
|                    | Bryan              | Braden and Bryson |
|                    | Gio                | Ryan              |
|                    | William            | Emma              |
|                    | Gio                | Bryson and Braden |
|                    | Trishna and Sanaya | Mehran            |
|                    |                    | Carley            |
|                    |                    | Cian              |



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## Upcoming Dates

2020-2021

|                                              |                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Oct 15th                                     | Restaurant fundraiser: Coach's Grille                               |
| Oct 29th & Oct 30th                          | Halloween celebrations (in person parades and distance car parades) |
| November 11 <sup>th</sup>                    | No School: Veterans Day                                             |
| November 18th                                | Restaurant fundraiser: Chipotle                                     |
| November TBD                                 | Parent Craft workshop (info to come)                                |
| November 23 <sup>rd</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup> | No School: Thanksgiving Holiday                                     |
| Dec 7th - 13th                               | Restaurant fundraiser: Dos Coyotes                                  |
| Dec 21 <sup>st</sup> - Jan 4th               | No School: Winter Vacation                                          |
| January 14th                                 | Restaurant fundraiser: Mountain Mikes                               |
| January 18 <sup>th</sup>                     | No School: Martin Luther King Day                                   |
| January TBD                                  | No school: 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 3AM class                                               |
| May 19th                                     | Graduation AM PreK class - AM                                       |
| May 19th                                     | Graduation PM PreK+ class - PM                                      |

