



COUGAR CLIPPINGS



Volume 20 Issue 1

Kingston Elementary School

September 17, 2009

A Note from the Principal

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school! I am very enthusiastic about the 2009-2010 school year. I hope everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing summer break with family and friends and is prepared for a very exciting and successful year at Kingston. Additionally, I hope that many of you had the opportunity to continue learning with your children through many different avenues such as family vacations, community events, quality family time, as well as reading daily with your children.

We have many fantastic opportunities offered for our students through classroom instruction, field trips, after school tutorials/enrichment courses, student council, school newspaper and much more.

At the end of last year, we were sad to see some of our wonderful teachers move on. However, we are very excited to welcome our new teachers. Joining us in second grade are Sarah Pianalto and Amy McCall. Amy Gore has been added to our third grade team and Kirsten Sager and Nikki Klee round out our fourth grade team. We are also thrilled to have Sandy Whitney join our gifted resource team and Cheryl Elliott on our special education department. Finally, we are excited to have Betsy Townsend take over as library media specialist. Please join me in welcoming all of these these new additions to the Kingston family.

Parent involvement is very important at Kingston. Communication about school activities and important information is one way that we try very hard to involve parents. Every month, you should expect a new edition of the Cougar Clippings. This newsletter should contain information from the office, pertinent dates and times, and useful information about all school events.

I believe that parents are one of our greatest resources in education. Through your support and partnership, the teachers at Kingston will strive to make this an exceptional year for the students. We want you to be a part of your child's education. Our feelings about parent support are strong, and we understand that many of you have gifts and talents that you can bring to the school as well. Please feel free to call, e-mail or stop by to see me if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Greg Furlich

Principal



Welcome!

Welcome to the first issue of the 2009-2010 *Cougar Clippings*. This newsletter is packed with announcements of upcoming school events, students' school achievements, and PTA business. Please look for this publication every month. It will give you insights into the variety of activities at Kingston.

If you would like to submit an article for publication, please send an e-mail to cougar.clippings@gmail.com. The distribution dates and article deadlines for the remainder of the school year are listed below.

<u>Article Deadline</u>	<u>Distribution Date</u>
10/05/09	10/08/09
11/02/09	11/05/09
12/07/09	12/10/09
01/11/10	01/14/10
02/01/10	02/04/10
03/01/10	03/04/10
04/12/10	04/15/09
05/03/10	05/06/10
06/07/10	06/10/10

Cougar Fund Update

THANK YOU to all for your generous support of the Cougar Fund direct donation fundraiser. As of September 11, 2009 we have received **\$15,694.00** in donations. **We have received 84.8% of our goal of \$18,500!**

We will be contacting all BIG CAT and Cougar donors next week. All tax letters will be mailed at the end of September.

Please call or email if you have any questions regarding the Cougar Fund (Christine Philbrick, 631-0911 or cophilbrick@cavtel.net).



Volunteer of the Month

Congratulations to the Kingston PTA Volunteer Of The Month for August - Veronica Byng!! Veronica has shown quality leadership in the areas of the Finance Committee, helping to launch the PTA website, and contributing to the 2009-2010 PTA theme. She is instrumental in many areas, and we are very fortunate to have her as a member of our PTA. Thank you Mrs. Byng!

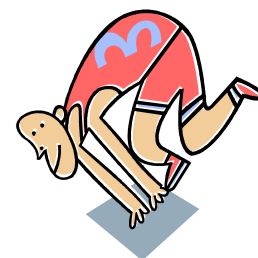
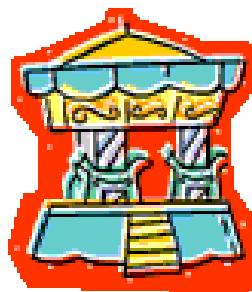
Beach Ford All-American Run, Carnival and Silent Auction!

Don't miss out! The **27th Annual Beach Ford All-American Run and Family Fun Day** is Saturday, October 10th. Registration forms for the Run were sent home in the first day packets and can also be printed off the Kingston PTA website: www.kingstonpta.org. All children who register for the 1 mile race will be entered into a raffle for a cool new Apple iPod Shuffle music player and iTunes gift card!

The **Carnival and Silent Auction** start right after the races at 10:30. Come ready to bid on the many wonderful items included in the Silent Auction. If you have some items or services to donate, it's not too late to donate them to the Auction. And if you don't have time to cook that day, don't worry! You can buy your breakfast, lunch, or early dinner at the Carnival!

Representatives will be taking race registrations, selling t-shirts and carnival wristbands on September 28th through October 8th. The times will be 7:45 – 8:30 A.M. in the lobby by the library, and 11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. in the cafeteria.

If you have any questions, please contact:
 Run: Betsy Kainer (428-0322) or Kara K. Minson, (karakminson@cox.net).
 Carnival: Taunya Abaya (648-1312) or Beth Royle, (961-8007)
 Silent Auction: Kim Moss (340-5028) or Lisa Burris, (754-3445)



Chesapeake Bay Initiative

We are ready to begin a new year of our fifth grade Knee Deep in the Chesapeake program and our fourth grade Oyster Reef keepers program in October. Parents of fourth and fifth graders should look for a paper to come home in your child's folder asking you if you have interest in this after school club. The fourth grade program will be growing oysters at two separate sites, will take a field trip to First Landing State Park and will take a boat trip to transplant the oysters at the end of the year. Our Fifth grade program will take two field trips, one to First Landing State Park and the other to the Virginia Aquarium Stranding Center. We will have several hands on sessions with people from the Virginia Aquarium at Kingston as your children learn about the Chesapeake Bay and surrounding area. The goal of both of the programs is to enrich your children's understanding of the Chesapeake Bay and the creatures that live in our very own back yards.

In an effort to keep with the Green Team's efforts to go green, we will have a separate link on the Kingston website for the Chesapeake Bay Initiative. Look for the paw print with the world in it to find information of our clubs activities and dates. Click on our paw print to find more information on our club and what we are doing. We will have all of our forms there for you to print at home in an effort to not waste so much paper.

We are also going to recycle ink cartridges. Please look for a box at the front of the school and further instructions to help our Kingston cougars go green!

Stay tuned to the next edition of the Cougar Clippings for more information or click on our special paw print at the Kingston website. You may also contact Lauris Geheren at lgeheren@verizon.net or Nancy Hansson at mauilars@verizon.net with any questions



Reflections

The Reflections Program is an arts recognition and achievement program. It provides an opportunity for students to create and be recognized for original works of art in six categories based on a pre-selected theme. The theme for this year is "Beautiful Is...!"

Our 2009-2010 **Reflections** contest has begun. There are six categories including: literature, photography, video, dance, music, and art. Entry forms and Rules can be found on the PTA website at www.kingstonpta.org.

Please make note of the following:

Deadline for Entries: **October 23, 2009**

Theme: **"Beautiful Is...!"**

Submission Location: Reflections Box in school library

Entry Form: Every entry must have its own entry form. (Extras available in library alongside of Box)

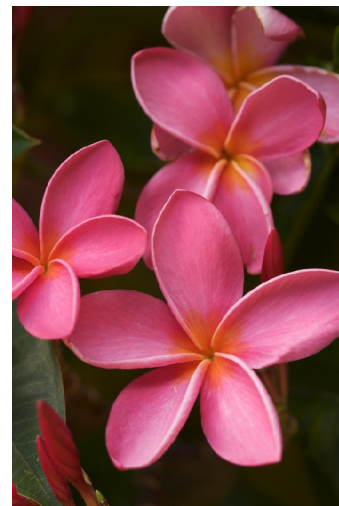
Tips for Success:

- Parent guidance! Student's work must be original and created specifically for the contest. Parents should make sure the finished product conforms to the rules, is neat, and presents well.
- Multiple entries – Students may submit up to two entries per category. A separate entry form must be submitted with each entry.

Please encourage your child to enter!

Nancy Duncan, Chair

nduncan@cox.net



Top Ten Reasons to Join the Kingston PTA!

1. Small changes=big differences, each membership makes a difference!
2. You will receive a free Kingston telephone directory!
3. You will get a handy Kingston magnet complete with Kingston contact info and important calendar dates!
4. You get a vote on PTA decisions.
5. Each member increases the PTA's ability to advocate for children.
6. A membership costs you no more than a value meal (it's healthier too)
7. You will receive exclusive member benefits from the PTA national organization- including a 5% discount at Barnes and Noble.
8. Membership is not just for moms: dads, grandparents, caregivers are welcome to join.
9. The PTA is the nation's original parent group in schools And finally,
10. The main reason to join the PTA is the satisfaction you will get from being a part of your child's education.

Join today! Our 2009-10 membership is growing quickly and it is exciting to see. Our goal for membership this year is 136%. It is easy to join, simply fill out the membership envelope that came in the open house packet with your check made out to the KES PTA and send it in with your child to school. Need another envelope? No problem, there are envelopes available in the front office of Kingston or contact Angie Shaeffer at shaefferfam@verizon.net, and I will make sure that you get one. Thank you for your support! On behalf of the Kingston PTA we are looking forward to a great year!



Be A Volunteer in Education

The Kingston PTA Volunteers In Education Program helps to facilitate and coordinate the volunteer efforts of our school community. The following positions are currently available:

Hospitality Chairperson(s) - coordinates various celebrations such as those for Teacher Appreciation Week and the Welcome Back Luncheon.

Concessions Chairperson(s) for the All American Run and Kingston Carnival - coordinates the sale of food and beverages for a morning and afternoon shift. This position can be divided into two separate committees accordingly.

Yearbook Chairperson(s) - organizes student and class picture pages for the school yearbook. Also, coordinates the sale of yearbooks.

Vice President of Programs - this is an Executive Committee Officer position. Schedules and oversees PTA Programs to enrich the students' school experience.

If you are considering serving in any of these positions please contact one of the VIE Committee Members. We'd be happy to answer your questions.

Faith Sinacori - faithsina@hotmail.com

Dawn Coutts - dacouttsx2@aol.com

Liz Tuck - liz.tuck@cox.net



Gifted Testing/Screening

Please ensure that all referral forms are returned to the Gifted Resource Teachers on or before the date listed below. Your child's teacher needs time to write a detailed referral.

- Oct. 21, 2009 1st Quarter testing – referral forms due to GRT on or before Sept. 30, 2009
- Dec. 15, 2009 2nd Quarter testing - referral forms due to GRT on or before Nov. 18, 2009
- Feb. 2, 2010 1st grade screening for all 1st graders (no forms due)
- Feb. 16, 2010 ODC/KLMS screening - referral forms due to GRT on or before Jan. 11, 2010
- Jan. 11, 2010 Art and Dance applications – please return to GRT on or before this date if possible
- March 16, 2010 1st grade testing - referral forms due to GRT on or before Feb. 18, 2010
- May 11, 2010 4th Quarter testing for 4th graders, 2nd grade Holds, and students new to Virginia Beach (since Jan) - referral forms due to GRT on or before April 20, 2010



Parent Information Nights:

KLMS: Tuesday, Jan. 12, 2010 (schools A-N) alternate date Jan. 13 if you can't attend on the 12th.

ODC: For parents of students currently in 2-4 – Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2010 (schools A-N), alternate date Feb. 16 if you can't attend in Jan.

WatchDog Dad Update

Due to the the overwhelming positive response to the WatchDog Dad sign-up opportunities presented at Sneak-a-Peek and Open House, the Pizza Night event was cancelled. There are a few dates still available for WatchDogs who would like to volunteer, so a sign-up list has been provided in the Administration Office. Dates will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Once these dates are filled, we will also be soliciting names for substitutes who might be available to fill-in as openings occur. The substitute sign-up list will also be available in the Administration Office.

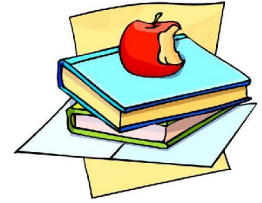
Next Cougar Clippings

The next *Cougar Clippings* will be distributed on Thursday, October 8th. The deadline for articles to be submitted is Monday, October 5th, at 3:00 P.M.

Alternative formats of this publication, which may include taped, Braille, or large print materials are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. Call or write Mr. Greg Furlich, Principal, 3532 Kings Grant Rd, Virginia Beach, VA 23452, phone 648-2840, for further assistance.



SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER
2009



<p>SEPTEMBER 21 GR 4 STANFORD 10 ODC DAY SCA CAMPAIGN</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER 22 GR 4 STANFORD 10 SCA CAMPAIGN</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER 23 GR 4 STANFORD 10 SCA CAMPAIGN 8:40-9:25 Strings in MPR</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER 24 GR 4 STANFORD 10 SCA CAMPAIGN 5:15 PM School Planning Council Mtg. in MPR</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER 25 GR 4 STANFORD 10 SCA CAMPAIGN 8:40-9:25 Strings in MPR</p>
<p>SEPTEMBER 28 ODC DAY</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER 29 SCA Campaign Speeches on "Cougar Broadcast" and voting.</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER 30 SCA Campaign Speeches on "Cougar Broadcast" and voting. 8:40-9:25 Strings in MPR</p>	<p>OCTOBER 1 SCA Campaign Speeches on "Cougar Broadcast" and voting.</p>	<p>OCTOBER 2 SCA Campaign Speeches on "Cougar Broadcast" and voting. 8:40-9:25 Strings in MPR</p>
<p>OCTOBER 5 ODC DAY Cougar Clippings Deadline</p>	<p>OCTOBER 6 2:00 SCA Installation in Cafe</p>	<p>OCTOBER 7 8:40-9:25 Strings in MPR</p>	<p>OCTOBER 8</p>	<p>OCTOBER 9 8:40-9:25 Strings in MPR OCTOBER 10 PTA ALL AMERICAN RUN</p>
<p>OCTOBER 12 PROGRESS REPORTS GO HOME ODC DAY</p>	<p>OCTOBER 13</p>	<p>OCTOBER 14 8:40-9:25 Strings in MPR It's Your Choice Assembly in Café 9:45-10:45 1:30-2:50</p>	<p>OCTOBER 15</p>	<p>OCTOBER 16 8:40-9:25 Strings in MPR</p>

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