



# COUGAR CLIPPINGS

Volume 22 Issue 6

KINGSTON ELEMENTARY

December 1, 2011

## A Message From Our Principal

Dear Parents,

The week before Thanksgiving I took four teachers on a school visit to Raleigh, North Carolina to visit A.B. Combs Elementary School. A.B. Combs is a leadership magnet school founded on the concept that students can begin learning and applying leadership concepts, particularly those that can be found in Stephen Covey's 7 Habits of Highly Effective People. While we have begun over the last year and a half to teach the 7 habits to Kingston students, nothing could have prepared me for what we saw on Leadership Day at A. B. Combs.

Our day began with a shuttle bus ride to the school. A second grader served as our tour guide using a microphone to tell us about the history of A.B. Combs as we made the ride up the hill to her school. Upon reaching the school, we were escorted through the doors by students. The vast majority of the program was led by students, some as young as five, who showed no hesitation in addressing a room full of adults. We had the opportunity to visit classrooms and see leadership concepts incorporated into daily lessons. Students, who referred to each of us as "sir" or "ma'am", shared their data notebooks which included both the learning and personal goals each had set. In fact, almost every student we met during our visit began their conversation with us with eye contact, an introduction, and a firm handshake.

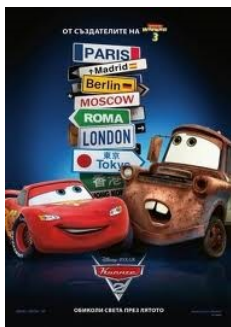
As part of our day we had the occasion to meet with a panel of parents who were able to explain how their students had put what they had learned in school to use at home. The effect on families was sometimes dramatic. While it is a magnet school, close to fifty percent of the students at Combs qualify for free or reduced lunches. Having the opportunity spend a day at a school where almost every student gets off the bus in the morning and turns to the driver to say, "thank you," was one of the most eye opening of my career.

At Kingston, we'll continue our focus on the 7 Habits. We have a group of teachers who will be participating in a study of The Leader in Me, the Stephen Covey book on leadership in elementary schools, and we will continue to look for ways to foster leadership in our students to ensure that we are teaching the skills our children will need to be successful in the twenty-first century. Please feel free to contact me if you're interested in learning more.

Greg Furlich

### ***FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT!***

***Friday, Dec 2nd - 6:00pm***



Get your cast and get ready to attend the BIG PREMIERE! Cars 2 will be showing! FREE PIZZA AND DRINKS for those RSVP'ing to [Nancy Stephenson](#). Don't forget a blanket to sit on!

### ***PTA Reflections***

PTA Reflections winners have been chosen, and their names will be announced at the Family Movie Night on Dec 2 at 6 pm. Many thanks to our wonderful judges who spent so much time evaluating all the great entries. A full list of winners will be in the next edition of Cougar Clippings!



*AR News*

The Accelerated Reader Program (AR), which started on November 14<sup>th</sup>, should be up in full swing now after the Thanksgiving Holiday! The bulletin board is going up this week and incentives will be distributed as of next week to all the classrooms. Believe it or not, we have several students who have already reached levels 5 and above! If your child has not started his or her Journey to Adventure through Reading, suggest that they speak with the classroom teacher to find out more about this fun program. To all our Super Readers - Keep Roaming the World of Reading!!!



**Calling All Kingston's Talent Tonight . . . Tonight**



**Let's All Dance & Sing on the Hollywood Sign  
For the Kingston Elementary School**

***Talent Show***

**When : February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**Intention Forms Due by: December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011**



**Auditions: Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**Beginning @ 3:15 in Cafeteria**

**\*\*Parents Make sure you arrange to have an adult present with your student at their audition on the audition dates.**



Spirit Day!

Thursday, Dec

22

Pajama and Slipper Day

***Kingston PTA Tenth Annual Book Swap January 9<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup>***

If you're participating in the book swap this year, it's almost time to bring in those books!

In honor of national reading month, the Kingston PTA wants to encourage our students to read, read, read. The book swap is a great opportunity to get a batch of "new to you" books to get your year started off right.

As you are cleaning up to prepare for the holidays, please pull aside any gently used books for your child to swap in January. **This is what you need to know about the swap:**

- ◆ Bring in school age books
- ◆ 2 donated books = 1 "new" book
- ◆ Please send in middle school level books if you have them!
- ◆ No adult books, preschool board books or restaurant giveaway books will be accepted.

Drop off books only on Monday or Tuesday during scheduled times.

Signed permission slips must be with books when dropped off so students get credit for books. All books remaining after the swap will be donated to groups in need of books.

***Schedule: Monday and Tuesday are the only days you can drop off books, we need time to sort. Wednesday and Thursday, kids swap during lunch after they finish eating. Friday any remaining books are sold during lunch for .50 each.***

Permission slips to participate will be coming home the first week of January, 2012. Please contact [Veronica Byng](#) 580-8229 or [Wendy Briggs](#).



**Adjusted Dismissal**

**Thursday, December 8**

**Winter Holiday**

**Friday, December 23—Tuesday, January 3**

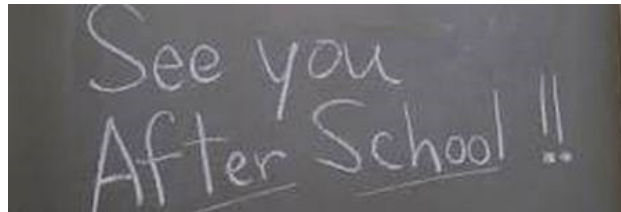
**December Events**



- Dec 2** - Family Movie Night
- Dec 8** - Adjusted Dismissal
- Dec 12** - Gifted Parents Workshop
- Dec 12-16** - After School Enrichment
- Dec 15** - Chick-Fil-A night
- Dec 20** - PTA Board Meeting
- Dec 22** - Spirit Day! Pajamas and Slippers
- Dec 23** - Winter Holiday Begins

**Next Cougar Clippings Issue**

*Cougar Clippings* is published in electronic format twice per month and posted on the Kingston PTA website [www.kingstonpta.org](http://www.kingstonpta.org). The next issue will be posted Thursday, December 15. Please e-mail any submissions by Tuesday, December 13 to [mo-darling1@hotmail.com](mailto:mo-darling1@hotmail.com). You can reach Cougar Clippings chair Kitrian Meagher at [kitri-andy@msn.com](mailto:kitri-andy@msn.com)



**After School Enrichment coming soon!**

After School Enrichment is an after school program that offers a plethora of programs for all grade levels. The program will run from December 12th-16th. All classes are offered for a small fee and are offered first come first serve. This year we are trying a new enrollment procedure. December 1st from 3:30-7:30 you may enroll in cafeteria. December 2nd from 4-6 you may also enroll. Payment is cash or check made payable to KES PTA.

Questions? [Michelle](#) or [Brenda](#)



**Operation Smile Final Mile**

1st Registration Deadline - December 31, 2011



**2011-2012 COUGAR FUND SPONSORS**

**BIG CATS**

Sheila Clapperton <i>Sheila Clapperton</i>	Joe & Kim Moss <b>JOSEPH MOSS</b>	Chad & Margot Manke Atlantic Orthopaedic Specialists
John & Rachel Ashby ORTHODONTICS John D. Ashby, D.D.S., M.S. Cathy W. Doherty, D.D.S. 10000 North Chatham Street 281-461-0300 <a href="http://www.kingstonortho.com">www.kingstonortho.com</a>	Chan & Leica Nguyen <b>MCR</b> LAWRENCE C. MCGEE LAW OFFICES	Mary Beth Bracken <b>ADVANCE</b> SERVICES COMPANY An Affiliate of The Home Depot Store Network
Dr. Lisa & Neal Stern - The Van de Water Family Tom & Diane Johnston		

**COUGARS**

Bob & Diane Clay <b>LONG &amp; HENDER</b> 298-6040 Grand Over City	Kevin & Jeanne Stewart <b>STEWART &amp; COMPANY</b>	Reid & Laurie Pocock Reid & Laurie Pocock <b>MARVIN</b> Windows & Doors ERVIN
Start Packing, Inc. Wagner Moving & Storage (757) 631-1000	Jennifer Russell <b>Prudential</b> Towne Realty	Bryan & Kelly Rex <b>CORNERSTONE</b> FINANCIAL SERVICES
Banner Provided By: <b>SIGNS</b> Miles & Laura Lumbard - The Lanier Family Lance & Karissa Torcom The Muelliners - Michael & Martha King		

### *Green News*

The Green Team finally kicked off the year with a great meeting on Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>! Parent support has allowed our team to double in size and we have a great group of motivated, interested students helping out. I'm learning to set up websites and blogs, and while they are quite primitive, I'm managing to add posts, photos, and documents.

On our site, you will learn what we collect for recycling and up cycling at Kingston, our latest projects, green tips and recipes, and much more. You can visit our site at: <https://sites.google.com/site/kingstongrowinggreen/>.

Please join us and become a part of Kingston's Green Community!

Sincerely,

Sandy Whitney



### *New Growing Green Team Collection Item: Keyboards and Mice*

Each year millions of keyboards and computer mice are needlessly discarded and end up in landfills. TerraCycle is proud to partner with Logitech to create a second life for these used items.

If you have old or unused keyboards and computer mice, send them in to the Growing Green Team, rm 29, and we will send them in for up cycling into fun and innovative products through Teracycle. We will be awarded TerraCycle points which can be redeemed for a variety of charitable gifts or a payment to our Growing Green Team. Last year the team chose a combination of both and took selecting the charities very seriously.

**The following types of waste can be collected through the Keyboard and Mouse Brigade:** plastic wireless computer keyboards, plastic computer keyboards, plastic wireless computer mice, plastic wired computer mice, plastic electronic packaging

### *Parent Connection Event*

#### **Bright Child/Flexible Mind: Reducing Frustration in Your School-Aged Child**

**Wednesday, December 7, 2011 7:00-9:00 p.m.**

**Advanced Technology Center Theater  
1800 College Crescent, Virginia Beach**

This session is designed to share ideas on how to help energetic, curious, intense children develop their abilities at impulse control, shifting from one task to another, and regulating their emotions. This presentation is for parents of bright or gifted children who sometimes let their intellectual or emotional responses interfere with their ability to get along with others or to be successful in school. For some students, managing these executive functions appropriately and effectively can be the difference between success and ongoing frustration. At this presentation you will learn research supported techniques and have the opportunity to share in the discussion with other parents about what works, and does not work, for them. This session is free but registration is required by calling Sandra Gizzi at 757.263.1461.

Presented by Shannon Cray and Emma Cole, pre-doctoral residents in clinical psychology, Virginia Beach City Public Schools.

Please allow additional time for parking