



# Kincaid Cat Tracks

Kincaid Elementary PTA  
www.KincaidPTA.org

Volume 16 Issue 3, October, 2010

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## Reading Saves the Day!

Kincaid Elementary PTA will host a Scholastic Book Fair on October 18-22, the same week as Conference Week. Families, teachers, and the community are invited to attend the Book Fair, featuring specially priced books and educational products, including new releases, award-winning titles, children's classics, interactive software, adult books, and current bestsellers from more than 150 publishers.

**Preview Week October 11-15:** All students will be given the opportunity to preview the selection of books and complete their own Wish Lists during the week of October 11. Watch for a flyer coming home with your child soon.

**Open for Business October 18-22 (Conference Week):** See the tentative schedule below. There are before-school hours every day, and one late day.. Book Fair customers may help the school build classroom libraries and improve children's reading skills by purchasing books through the Classroom Wish List and One for Books programs. Be sure to check our Book Fair Homepage for up-to-date hours of operation at <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/kincaidelementary>.

Tentative Schedule:	Monday	7:15-7:45 am	12:30-4:00 pm
	Tuesday	7:15-7:45 am	12:30-4:00 pm
	Wednesday	7:15-7:45 am	12:30-2:00 pm
	Thursday	7:15-7:45 am	12:30-6:30 pm
	Friday	7:15 am-1:00 pm	

**One for Books:** We will be collecting donations again this year for the One for Books program. All of the money collected goes directly to purchasing more books for our school. Scholastic will match monetary donations raised with a donation of up to one million books to three non-profit organizations dedicated to helping kids and families in need. They include: Kids in Distressed Situations, Inc., National Center for Family Literacy and Toys for Tots.

**Want to help?** Contact Co-Chairs Alicia Reed and Jenny Starker at [BookFair@KincaidPTA.org](mailto:BookFair@KincaidPTA.org) or visit the book fair website at <http://BookFairs.Scholastic.com/HomePage/KincaidElementary> for more information. All volunteers will receive a 10% discount on their purchases.

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**PTA**<sup>®</sup>  
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Kincaid Elementary School  
1410 Kincaid Road  
Marietta, GA 30066  
770-578-7238

Cheryl Mauldin, Principal  
Felicia Angelle, Assistant Principal  
[www.CobbK12.org/Kincaid](http://www.CobbK12.org/Kincaid)  
School hours: 7:55 a.m. to 2:20 p.m.

## From the PTA Co-Presidents

Dear Kincaid Students, Families, Teachers, Staff, and Community,

By now, your students have rolled, run, laughed, cheered, and had a stellar time at the 2010 Boosterthon Fun Run & Roll! PTA is committed to healthy fundraisers that include *every* student, regardless of funds raised. We are also committed to providing quality programs that support valuable physical, social, mental and academic goals for our students and families. And PTA's fundraising goal is to **ONLY** raise enough money to support these planned programs. PTA tries to spend these funds equitably for *all* students, K-5, at Kincaid; this is not always fully possible, but we definitely try.

Please remember that your Boosterthon pledge is your commitment. As collection days wrap up over the next week, please encourage your students' pledgers to honor the commitments made to your student and to our PTA. We, along with Mrs. Mauldin, the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors, teachers and staff, and the over 750 PTA members of Kincaid PTA THANK YOU for your financial support and dedication.

Of course, providing programs to our students and families also takes people – and we need YOU. Please consider joining the PTA leadership at Kincaid now and in the future. Do you like Family Fun Nights? Has your student come home excited about Celebration of the Arts Day? These programs are in jeopardy because we need someone to lead them. If you are interested in leading one of these programs, please contact us immediately.

We recently attended Georgia's PTA Advocacy Conference, where we learned about the importance of *learning* about the issues affecting public education and child safety, *voting* for candidates who share your views, and *advocating* for children. Want to know more? Contact Carmen Roglan, our Legislation & Advocacy chair, at [Legislation@KincaidPTA.org](mailto:Legislation@KincaidPTA.org), and read her article on page 5. Each of us is just one voice – until we join together and speak with one voice, for every child.

Finally, we want to congratulate the Kincaid Foundation for achieving two short-term goals in just two months of school. All students are now enjoying supplemental Language Arts materials and all teachers received gift cards for classroom supplies, due to the Foundation and Kincaid's supportive families. Way to go!

Thank you for working with us this year to help our students shine,

*Susan & Kim*

Susan McCullough & Kim McMasters  
2010-2011 Co-Presidents, Kincaid PTA  
[President@KincaidPTA.org](mailto:President@KincaidPTA.org)



Le gustaría leer este artículo en español. Por favor, contáctenos en [President@KincaidPTA.org](mailto:President@KincaidPTA.org).

### Teacher of the Year Pep Rally: October 26

Come join Kincaid's Teacher of the Year, Gail Viars, at the Cobb Chamber's Teachers of the Year Pep Rally! Everyone is invited to this fun, exciting event at Roswell Street Baptist Church at 11am on Tuesday, October 26. Bring your posters and cheer for our very own Mrs. Viars!!

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*everychild.one voice.*<sup>®</sup>

## From the Desk of the Principal...Cheryl Mauldin

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Can you believe that we are already approaching the end of the first nine-week grading period? Oct. 18 – 22 is conference week, where you will learn how your child is progressing. As a parent you think you have a pretty good idea what the teacher is going to say, but there's always the possibility you might be surprised about how your child is doing at school. Before conference time, you really hear only one perspective--your child's. Conference time is important because it gives parents the opportunity to meet with the teacher to discuss your child in all areas of their learning--academics, behavior, and socialization. During the conference you hopefully will gain insight into how your child is progressing and further your relationship with your child's teacher. To make the most of this meeting, consider the following tips.

### Before the conference

Attend a conference prepared. Take time before hand to talk to your child about how they feel about school.

Make a list of your questions and concerns.

Be on time. Typically, schedule conference times are limited in the amount of time because the teacher has many parents to meet with.

### At the conference

Start the meeting in a positive way. This will help to put the teacher at ease and allows an effective discussion to develop.

Be an active listener.

Expect to hear both positive and negative remarks about your child.

If the teacher uses words or education jargon you don't understand, ask for clarification.

Stay focused. Remember time is limited.

### After the conference

Thank the teacher for taking time to meet with you and discuss your child.

You should have a good idea about your child's behavior and academic progress.

Take some time to discuss with your child information you received at the conference.

Conferences are important meetings for both parents and teachers. The meeting offers both parties an opportunity to learn information from each other and devise a plan to ensure that a child is given the necessary tools to succeed in class. We look forward to meeting with you at school soon!

Sincerely,

Cheryl Mauldin

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## Character Ed Winners —

Aiden F., Luke Z., Kamryn W., Julie B., Aydin H., Andrew M., Kathryn Anne C., Eric P., Cassine J., Jack H., Grace K., Macey M., Zach B., Kendall C., Annelise G., Allison M., Justin J., Kate S., Julia H., Stacia B., Maddy L., Tori M., Evan D., Amanda B., Hannah H., Shane B., Christian S., Jonathan L., Lizzie F., Jacob D., Sierra V., Sarah M., Raven S., Lexi K., Damian B.



## Kincaid Foundation



Kincaid Elementary Foundation continues to make good progress. Through generous support from 22% of our Kincaid families, corporate donations, biscuit sales, and proceeds from after school clubs, the Foundation has already accomplished two of our short-term goals.

In August, the Foundation provided the much-needed language arts supplements for each grade level. In September, the Foundation gave teachers a \$75 gift card to School Box for classroom supplies. In addition, the Foundation is working with teachers, Foundation grade level representatives and PTA room parents to generate teacher registries at School Box and Lake Shore Learning. These registries are classroom "wish lists" to help provide additional resources for the classroom.

Yet, there is still so much more to accomplish. The Foundation plans on purchasing 15 document cameras (ELMOs) for the school. Document cameras are classroom technology resources, which along with Smart Boards and overhead projectors have truly moved the classroom into the 21<sup>st</sup> century! The Foundation is also looking towards the future and building our capital reserve to provide for a writing lab and science lab.

*YOU* can help the Foundation accomplish these goals by supporting the following fundraising efforts.

- Make a 100% tax-deductible donation to the Foundation.
- Enroll your child in one or more of the Foundation-sponsored after-school education enrichment clubs. A portion of the proceeds goes to the Foundation.
- Purchase a chicken biscuit during the monthly Foundation Chicken Biscuit Sales.
- Participate in the first ever, kids only *Spooktacular Costume Ball* on Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 – 5:30 PM.

*Invest in you child's future by investing in the Foundation.*

To learn more about how you can support the Foundation, check out our Website at [www.KincaidFoundation.org](http://www.KincaidFoundation.org) or email Alene Lee at [President@KincaidFoundation.org](mailto:President@KincaidFoundation.org).

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### Reflections on... Reflections!

A BIG THANK YOU to all of the students who submitted entries in this year's national PTA Reflections contest! We had 68 students submit 142 entries interpreting the theme "Together We Can..." with literature, photography, visual arts, musical composition, and dance choreography. All students who participated will be invited with their families to a special reception on Thursday, October 21st. Look for your invitation to come home soon! Questions about Reflections? Contact Michele Rhyne at [Reflections@KincaidPTA.org](mailto:Reflections@KincaidPTA.org).

### Trick-or-Treat!

With Halloween right around the corner, it is time for the Community Outreach Annual Halloween Costume Drive! We will be collecting new and gently used costumes or makings of costumes (hats, masks, etc) October 11th-22nd, 2010. Clean out those closets and help families in need to have a fun and festive holiday! Donations will be given to The Cobb Center for Family Resources. If you have any questions or want to get involved with Kincaid's Community Outreach, please feel free to contact Curi Ahrens at [Outreach@KincaidPTA.org](mailto:Outreach@KincaidPTA.org) or 770-420-3002.

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## Important School Information

### Legislation & Advocacy 2010: KNOW Before You VOTE!

#### Why does PTA advocate?

PTA was founded as an advocacy organization over 100 years ago. Since 1906 Georgia PTA has worked to improve the lives of children and their families. Decisions made by the Georgia General Assembly impact our school district and schools across the state. That is why it is critical that PTA members, now more than ever before, become active advocates for public education. These are milestones of PTA achievements through advocacy:

Free public kindergarten for all children (1910-1970s)

Child Labor laws and Juvenile justice (1900s)

Federal aid to public schools (1900s)

School lunch programs (1940s)

#### What are PTA's priorities?

Georgia PTA is currently determining the 2011 legislative priorities. This list includes significant issues supported by PTA:

Reduce childhood obesity through physical education and nutrition programs in regular school programs

State-provided health care for otherwise uninsured children

State funding for a full-time licensed nurse in every school

The right of local boards of education to manage and control local public schools (in matters such as selection of instructional materials, hiring of personnel, millage rate, and school calendar) as they seek to improve the quality of education for all students and are sensitive to differences in educational needs of children and youth.

Visit [www.GeorgiaPTA.org](http://www.GeorgiaPTA.org) for more information on legislative issues and to find out about Georgia legislators' voting records. Questions? Contact Carmen Roglan, Legislation & Advocacy Chair, at [Legislation@KincaidPTA.org](mailto:Legislation@KincaidPTA.org).

Si tiene cualquier pregunta puede ponerse en contacto con Carmen Roglan, presidenta del Comité Legislativo, en [Legislation@KincaidPTA.org](mailto:Legislation@KincaidPTA.org).

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### 13 TRICKS TO KEEP YOUR TREATER SAFE

1. Custom fit all costumes. Nothing spoils Halloween quicker than a skinned knee. Minimize the risk of tripping by making sure that your child's costume fits properly. Masks should have roomy mouth openings and large eyeholes.
2. Be fire-smart. Tiny flashlights, electric votives and glow sticks in pumpkins make for a safer holiday decoration. Look for costumes that are made of flame-retardant materials.
3. Reflect on visibility. Everyone should be able to see your little goblins, including car drivers. Use flashlights, and decorate costumes and treat sacks with reflective paint or stickers.
4. Join in! Experts agree that an adult should accompany younger children as they go door to door.
5. Only allow your child to visit homes with the lights on. That way, your kids will be much less likely to trip over steps or lawn ornaments, and you'll be much less likely to disturb neighbors who do not observe Halloween.

Continued on page 8...

## Health & Wellness

### LOOKING FOR FAST, HEALTHY RECIPES AND EASY TIPS?

**The PTA Health and Wellness Committee is here to help....**We've all heard the dire statistics about childhood obesity and we all want our children to live a long and healthy life. Many diseases can be prevented by regular exercise and a healthy diet. That doesn't mean eating carrots and lettuce every day. The Health and Wellness Committee wants to make it easier for you to prepare quick and healthy meals during the week and offer suggestions that will help get the whole family moving. We know it's difficult to juggle a job, homework, after school activities all while trying to plan healthy meals for a family because we're trying to do it too! Our aim is to be realistic and we'd love to hear from you! If you have a healthy, delicious recipe that really helps you get dinner on the table in a flash, send it to us. Look for the recipes, ideas and tips in weekly Keynotes and monthly Cat Tracks. Here's to a healthy school year! If you have questions or would like to submit an idea please contact Jennifer Modi, Health and Wellness Committee Chair, at [Health@KincaidPTA.org](mailto:Health@KincaidPTA.org)

What's Happening at Kincaid

**COULD YOUR STUDENT BE GIFTED?** Are you curious about how students qualify for gifted services in Cobb County? Are you interested in knowing more about the gifted eligibility process? Then come to PTA's Family Education Night on Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. Kincaid's own Target teachers, Mrs. Debbie Stewart and Mrs. Mandy Robertson, will explain how test scores and other criteria are used to determine a child's gifted eligibility. We'll meet in the Media Center at 7pm; free childcare provided by the Relay for Life Team for Kincaid students & siblings (no diapers). Look for a flyer to come home next week.

**Earn Free Money for Your School!** Next week, October 11-15, we will have our fall Box Top & Campbell's Labels for Education collection drive. Please bring in your box tops & labels to add to your class' collection box. If you have more than one child at Kincaid, just label your bag with all student names, teachers & classes, so that each grade gets credit. The class collecting the most box tops & labels will win a pajama day at school. If you have any questions please contact Kelly Monce at [CF@KincaidPTA.org](mailto:CF@KincaidPTA.org).

### SQUARE ONE ART KICKOFF...October 6th

Get ready to be "squared" away with holiday and personal gifts as your little artist will soon be bringing home forms in which to order their masterpieces, created during Ms. Irelan's art class. If you want to preview some of the gift items upon which your child's artwork can be displayed, please come by Kincaid's front lobby to check out the Square One Art display.

### Cafeteria News

Carrots are loaded with Vitamin A and can help you see at night. Vitamin A is known to prevent night blindness. So eat lots of carrots this month.

**Kincaid’s Teacher of The Year: Gail Viars**

Kincaid’s 2010-11 Teacher of The Year is our Media Specialist Gail Viars! Mrs. Viars has been a Media Specialist for 20 years, 10 of which have been right here at Kincaid. Her favorite part of her job is “the family we have here, and watching the children grow and change.” In addition to ensuring that our Media Center is well stocked with books, movies, and computer access appropriate for all of our K-5 learners, Mrs. Viars says that being a Media Specialist is just like being a parent – she does “a little bit of everything!” Mrs. Viars would like Kincaid families to know that the Media Center, as one of the opening and welcoming places here, is the heart of the school. Do you want to get to know Mrs. Viars and the Media Center better? Sign up to volunteer by contacting Jennifer Hughes, Volunteer Coordinator, at VC@KincaidPTA.org.

**OCTOBER 2010**

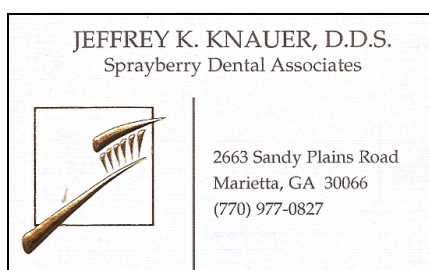


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Relay for Life Biscuit Sales Boosterthon Reflections Entries Due	2 Hands On Atlanta at Kincaid 9:00am-1:00pm
3	4	5 PTA 9th district Fall Conference Student Banking	6 Square One Art Kick-off	7 School Store	8 End of 1st Grading Period	9
<b>IOWA Testing</b>						
		Kincaid Night@Chick-fil-A	International Walk to School Day	PTA Board of Directors' Meeting 7pm		
10	11 Columbus Day	12 Fall Picture Day Student Banking Kincaid Night@Stevi B's	13	14 Boosterthon Pledges Due Family Education Night	15 Kincaid Foundation Biscuit Sales Campbell's Labels & Box Tops Due Cougar Pride Day	16
17	18	19 Student Banking	20	21	22	23
<b>Fall Book Fair, Conference Week, Early Release 12:20</b>						
		Kincaid Night@Rita's				
24	25 Character Ed Lunch	26 ToTY Pep Rally & Luncheon Student Banking Kincaid Night@Domino's	27	28	29 Last day to order Yearbook@discount Relay for Life Donuts w/Dad Kincaid Foundation Costume Party	30

**Don't Forget: Nov. 2-Election Day/No School**

## PTA Business Sponsors

If you own a business and are interested in becoming a Kincaid Elementary PTA Business Sponsor, please contact Amie Fann for further information at [Membership@KincaidPTA.com](mailto:Membership@KincaidPTA.com).



...continued from page 5

6. Think traffic safety. Since most trick-or-treating is done in the dark, traffic accidents on Halloween are a real concern. Make a point of discussing road safety with your children before heading out.
7. Beware of dogs. With all those strangers coming to the door, Halloween can be a scary time for dogs too! Remind kids to be extra careful around animals and never to pet a dog without the owner's permission.
8. Find safety in numbers. Large groups are less likely to be approached by threatening strangers; encourage your child to travel with friends.
9. Teach doorway etiquette. Instruct children to receive all treats from the doorway and never to enter a stranger's home without you.
10. Double check your property. To minimize the risk of falls, illuminate porches and stairs. Leave a light on outside to help little ones maneuver your pathway.
11. Choose risk-free treats. Buy wrapped candies from a store, or give such alternative goodies such as stickers or small toys.
12. Inspect the goodies. Remind your child not to eat anything until you've inspected it. Throw out anything that looks strange or unwrapped.
13. Have a fun, safe and festive holiday!

*Lori Kotarba*