



# Kincaid Cat Tracks

Kincaid Elementary PTA  
[www.KincaidPTA.org](http://www.KincaidPTA.org)

Volume 17 Issue 4  
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## COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECTS

The first half of the year has been jam packed with activities and Community Outreach is no exception! We participated in Hands On Atlanta to spruce up Kincaid, we donated 40 costumes to The Center for Family Resources, we honored Veterans past and present with letters and thank-you cards, and we filled over three barrels of food to donate to the Thanks for Giving food drive sponsored by The Center for Family Resources to help Cobb families this Thanksgiving. In December and January we will be sponsoring a toiletry drive to benefit foster care and nursing facilities. Look for a flyer to come home mid-December and save those toiletry items from holiday travels and we will put them to good use! For more information on Community Outreach, contact Curi Ahrens, Community Outreach Chairperson at 770-420-3002 or [outreach@kincaidpta.org](mailto:outreach@kincaidpta.org).

## HONORING OUR HEROES ESSAY CONTEST

Nov. 11th, Veterans Day, was our kickoff for the Heroes Essay Contest! This is a great event that allows your child to celebrate someone in his or her life that has made a real impact or difference. A letter went home on Nov. 11th that stated history and guidelines for participating in this contest. Essays will be due by Jan. 11th and a brunch will be given for all of the contest participants and their heroes on Jan. 31st at 8:30am. Completed essays may be turned in to the Red/White/Blue Heroes box located outside the PTA office. For more information please contact Catherine Batteredton at [heroes@kincaidpta.org](mailto:heroes@kincaidpta.org).

## IMPORTANT CALENDAR CHANGE! PLEASE NOTE!

Please note that all school calendars show Early Release for December 21st and 22nd. There will **NOT** be early release those days. School will be dismissed at 2:20 pm both days. Winter party times will not be affected and will remain on Wednesday, Dec. 21st from 12-1 pm. Questions? Please contact the school office at 770-578-7238. Thank you!

## Lost and Found

It's cold out there, do you know where your child's coat is? There are many coats, sweatshirts, hats, etc. in the Lost and Found. All of the unclaimed items from Lost and Found will be collected and donated before winter break. If your child is missing something, be sure to check Lost and Found before December 23rd. Also, be sure to put your child's name on everything so that it can be returned. For more information on Community Outreach, contact Curi Ahrens, Community Outreach Chairperson at 770-420-3002 or [outreach@kincaidpta.org](mailto:outreach@kincaidpta.org).

**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: 7:50 a.m. to 2:20 p.m.

## From the PTA Co-Presidents



Happy Holidays from the Kincaid PTA! As we enter the giving season, we look around our incredible school and see so many opportunities to give back. Whether it's through Community Outreach by donating toiletry items, or Honoring our Heroes by writing an essay showing them you care or by choosing an ornament from Kincaid's Holiday Giving Tree to support those in need during the holidays.

Our children enrich our lives each and every day and everything we do in PTA is ultimately for them. We can give back to these precious gifts with our own gift of time. The season is busy and the schedules are crazy at times, but the gift of seeing their eyes light up when you walk into their school is worth it! When our students see us volunteering at their school, they see how important school is to us and so it should be to them. Whether it's 30 minutes copying for your teacher once a month or popping into your child's class as a mystery reader, just letting them know you care is a priceless gift. We have all been given the gift of a child or children, a fantastic school, caring staff and faculty as well as involved and concerned parents and we are grateful for those gifts. If you'd like to give the gift of time and would like to know how you can get more involved, please see our Volunteer Corner below. We wish you all a wonderful holiday season and safe new year.

Melody McDonald and Kelly Mellen

2011-2012 Kincaid PTA Co-Presidents

[President@kincaidpta.org](mailto:President@kincaidpta.org)

### The Volunteer Corner... Find Where You Fit!

Looking for that perfect gift for your child this year? Consider the gift of time – studies consistently show that family involvement is directly linked to academic achievement. What an easy way to help your student and your school at the same time!

We have a place for you! We are currently looking for help with these activities:

**Mondays, January 23 & 30 & February 6**-World Explorers' Club

Volunteer needed to check in students, help during sessions as needed, and facilitate dismissal 2:15-3:45pm.

**Tuesday, January 31**-Honoring Our Heroes Participant Brunch

Volunteers needed to help set up for brunch 7:30-8:30am.

**Saturday, February 11**-Foundation Silent Auction

\*\* The Silent Auction needs a coordinator! Without someone to lead this event, it will be cancelled, along with the Pancake Breakfast.

**Week of February 13-17**-Box Tops & Labels for Education Collection

Volunteers will be needed to clip, sort, and count the Box Tops and Labels that turn into needed monies and products for our school!

**Ongoing need for Translators/Speakers of other Languages** are needed to occasionally help with informal translation as we reach out to non-native-English-speaking Kincaid families.

Need more information or ready to volunteer? Contact Susan McCullough, Volunteer Coordinator, at [VC@KincaidPTA.org](mailto:VC@KincaidPTA.org), [Volunteer@KincaidFoundation.org](mailto:Volunteer@KincaidFoundation.org), or at 770/429-0797. Thank you for your time! Don't forget to download the Three for Me form from [www.KincaidPTA.org/Forms](http://www.KincaidPTA.org/Forms) after you've volunteered just 3 hours; return it to school and you could be the next winner!

## From the Desk of Assistant Principal Felicia Angelle

Dear Kincaid Families,

We are working diligently on one of our SSP (School Strategic Plan) goals, math computation. One way we are working on this goal is every Friday taking a Mega minute timed math test to improve our computation skills at grades first through fifth. Every six weeks the students will take the Megamind timed test where they can earn a Mega Band. Kincaid students are showing how hard they are working on these skills by 86% passing the first Megamind test and 70% passing the second test thus far. Way to go Kincaid Cougars!

We assess four levels through March and our next Megamind test is December 9<sup>th</sup>. When a child masters a level, he or she will be rewarded with a special silicone bracelet (Mega Band). Once the student masters all levels, the student will be presented with a red, white, and blue bracelet and will have his or her photo placed in the cafeteria with all of Kincaid's Math Megaminds.

Helping your child learn basic math facts at home is the best way to ensure a strong foundation from which math knowledge can be built. We know that families are busy with multiple activities and other school assignments, but by **practicing for just ten minutes a day**, you can help you child become a Math Megamind.

Here are some ideas for helping your child master basic math facts:

- **In the Car** – On your way to school or sports practices, quiz your child. Spend one ride working just on the seven facts; spend the next ride working on the fours.
- **Apps** – There are a number of cell phone apps available to help children practice their basic facts. PopMath, Math Flash Cards and Math Magic are just a few you can try.
- **Websites** – [www.playkidsgames.com/games/mathfact/mathFact.html](http://www.playkidsgames.com/games/mathfact/mathFact.html)  
[www.free-training-tutorial.com/math-games.html](http://www.free-training-tutorial.com/math-games.html)  
[www.oswego.org/ocsd-web/games/Mathmagician/maths1.html](http://www.oswego.org/ocsd-web/games/Mathmagician/maths1.html)  
[pbskids.org/cyberchase/webisode\\_1/web\\_3game.html](http://pbskids.org/cyberchase/webisode_1/web_3game.html)

We look forward to watching the students all become Math Megaminds.

### MATH MEGAMINDS

We are so excited to see so many students showing off their Math Megaminds! Keep practicing those facts, our next test is Friday, December 9th.

**First Grade** - Mixed addition/subtraction 0-12

**Second Grade** - Mixed addition/subtraction 0-9

**Third Grade** - Multiplication 0-6

**Fourth Grade** - Multiplication 0-12

In fifth grade we have a a new exciting challenge...

**Fifth Grade - Addition/Subtraction of whole numbers, decimals, and fractions**

The students will be using the facts they should have already memorized to compute accurately. Some of the skills tested will be

- adding and subtracting larger whole numbers
- adding and subtracting numbers with decimals (don't forget to line up those decimals!)
- finding a common denominator to add and subtract fractions

With a little practice each day, we can fill our school Math Megaminds!

## Kincaid Foundation News



Because of your generosity and willingness to support our students, the Kincaid Foundation is happy to announce that we are well on our way to achieving all of our short-term goals for this year. To date, we've already purchased 3 additional ELMO document cameras so that every teacher now has access to one of these important learning tools.

We also provided funds for each teacher to purchase necessary classroom supplies. We purchased science lab supplies for grades three through five, and will now focus on purchasing supplies for kindergarten through second grade.

In addition, we implemented a teacher grant program in which teachers can apply for monies for special classroom projects. After a thorough application and selection process, we funded the following grants:

- Ms. Marchelle and Mrs. Viars – Start-up materials to create a **recorded book library**. Books will be read by fourth and fifth graders and recorded on CDs. Younger students may check out the CDs and practice reading along with them at home.
- Mr. Tartaro – In-house **social studies field trip** featuring "Playing Through History" for all 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. This will aid in CRCT preparation.
- Mrs. Robertson - Support for our **first annual science fair** open to all third through fifth grade students.
- Kindergarten team – Six 9" x 12" **magnetic dry erase boards** to help with sight words and small group activities.
- Mrs. Kotarba and Mrs. Doherty – **Math materials** to tutor at-risk students.
- Mrs. Kotarba – Berenstain Bears "Keep Your Cool" and "Good Behavior" **counseling resources** for Kindergarten, first, and second grades.

As you can see, your contributions to the Kincaid Elementary Foundation are put to immediate use to benefit our students. Again, thank you for your ongoing support.

To learn more about how you can support the Foundation, including corporate and in-kind donations, visit [kincaidfoundation.org](http://kincaidfoundation.org) and click "Donate Now."

The Kincaid Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization serving the students at Kincaid Elementary. Visit [www.kincaidfoundation.org](http://www.kincaidfoundation.org) or email Alene Lee at [kincaidfoundtion.org](mailto:kincaidfoundtion.org) to learn more about how you can support the Foundation.

### Read to Succeed Six Flags Reading Program is back!

Students can earn a free admission ticket to **Six Flags Over Georgia** for recording 6 hours of leisure reading. Enjoy a good book during the winter break and log your reading hours. Parent letters and reading logs will be sent home mid December. If you have any questions, contact Liz Wood at 770-575-1360 or [lizwood4@gmail.com](mailto:lizwood4@gmail.com).

### PTA Reflections 2012-2013 "The magic of a moment..."

It's never too early to work on a Reflections entry. Next year's theme can bring inspiration to every Kincaid student! With the upcoming holidays, we wanted to share this wonderful theme because so many magical moments can happen during this time. There are six categories: Dance, Film, Literature, Music, Photography and Visual Arts. Be creative, have fun and make some magic!!

## Important School Information

### Box Tops and Soup Labels Collection

It's the most wonderful time of the year! So while you're celebrating this winter, remember to save your Box Tops and Campbell's Soup Labels to earn items for our school. We'll collect them again on February 10, 2012, so keep clipping! This fall, Kincaid's collection was hugely successful thanks to you. Congratulations to Second Grade for collecting the most Box Tops & Soup Labels. In celebration of their win, they had pajama day on Friday, November 18. Great job Second Grade! Thanks for your support! Questions? Contact: CF@kincaidpta.org.

### Legislation and Advocacy Committee update

On September 23, Kincaid PTA attended the Advocacy Conference at the State Capitol. It was a great experience to understand first hand PTA efforts to reach out and advocate for the kids.

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 your school district and school 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)



Georgia PTA is offering an online survey to determine the legislative priorities 2012. Here is a list of the most significant ones that the organization supports:

- 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.

You can enter your ranking of priorities by completing the survey at [www.georgiapta.org](http://www.georgiapta.org). With your input, the Board of Directors will be in a stronger position to formulate our priorities for the upcoming legislative session. Your responses will be compiled by the legislative team and presented by our Legislative Chair to the Board of Directors at an upcoming board meeting. The final decision on the 2012 Legislative Priorities will then be made by the Board of Directors and reported back to our constituents.

Your response to this questionnaire is anonymous unless you want to identify yourself at the end for any necessary follow-up. Thank you again for taking the time to help us help Georgia's children!

Carmen Roglan

Legislative Committee chair, [legislation@kincaidpta.org](mailto:legislation@kincaidpta.org).

## November Character Ed Students—Citizenship



Collin F., Nate W., Madi B., Jonathan S., Julian D., Ella C., Ben V., David H., Kelsie Cr., Meghan B., Alex G., Isabella M., Will P., Andrew J., Kelynn J., Andrew M., Ethan P., Suzuka S., Joe S., Eryn M., Brandon B., Allison M., Alice K, Ben E., Danielle S., Wyatt P., Harry M., Jacob L., Mahlet W., Tucker L., Coby L., Samar E., Ryan M., Claire F., Sebastian B.

### Character Education

The character traits for December and January are **compassion**—*showing concern or sympathy for others* and **resilience**—*the capacity to successfully manage high levels of change*. Expressing gratitude, generosity, and kindness to others are simple yet effective ways to demonstrate compassion. Showing humility; being self confident, flexible, and self-reliant; and taking initiative enable us to project the trait of resilience. Both compassion and resilience are invaluable qualities.

### PTA Day at the Capitol -- February 28, 2012

Mark your calendar for this annual event which brings PTA leaders, members, and supporters together with legislators, all with a focus on education and issues affecting children. Registration will be in late January so stay tuned for more information. Questions? Visit [www.GeorgiaPTA.org](http://www.GeorgiaPTA.org) or contact Carmen Roglan at [Legislation@KincaidPTA.org](mailto:Legislation@KincaidPTA.org) or at 770/509-0558.

### Kindergarten Parent Orientation

On January 24, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. there will be an information session in the Kincaid media center for parents of students that will be entering kindergarten for the 2012-2013 school year. Kindergarten registration will be held on March 28, 2012 from 8:30 - 11:00 a.m. Please pass this information on to anyone who will have a student coming to Kincaid in the next school year.

## PTA Business Sponsors

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



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### You're Invited: Kincaid School Council

Did you know that Kincaid – and every public school in Georgia – has a School Council? Did you know that YOU – and any person – are invited to attend any of the School Council meetings?

The Kincaid School Council serves to represent the community of parents and businesses. School councils help the Board of Education “bring communities and schools closer together in a spirit of cooperation to solve difficult education problems, improve academic achievement, provide support for teachers and administrators, and bring parents into the school-based decision-making process.” Council meetings promote a better understanding of and mutual respect between teachers, parents, local businesses, and school administrators, and provide a forum to share ideas for school improvement.

Each School Council must have the following members:

#### Principal

**At least four parents or guardians of students, two of whom must be businesspersons**

**Other businesspersons if desired**

**At least two experienced teachers**

**Optional members: Students, staff, representatives of school related organizations (such as PTA and the Foundation) or others**

The Kincaid 2010-11 School Council members are:

**Cheryl Mauldin, Principal**

**Iliana Icen, Parent & Businessperson (2010-12)**

**Andrew Lyon, Parent (2010-12)**

**Susan McCullough, Parent (2011-13) & PTA Liaison**

**Kim Cook-Boyd, IBM**

**Amy McCoy, Teacher**

**Scott Furr, Teacher**

**Alene Lee, Foundation Liaison**

Each member, other than the principal, serves a staggered two-year term. Members may not receive compensation to serve. Nominations and elections are held in the spring of each year.

What's Happening at Kincaid

## December 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 PTA BOD MTG 5:30 p.m.	2 Relay for Life Biscuit sales	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 4th and 5th Grade Spelling Bee	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Checkpoint Testing (1st— 5th grade)						
		Student banking Kincaid night @ Stevi B's			Kincaid Foundation Biscuit Sales	
18	19 Character Ed. Lunch	20 Kincaid night @ Texas Roadhouse	21 Kincaid Foundation BOD meeting 7:30 am Winter Parties 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.	22 End 2nd 9 wks Holiday Sing-along Holiday Lunch	23	24 WINTER HOLIDAYS NO SCHOOL (return January 10)
25 Christmas Day	26 Kwanza begins Boxing day	27	28 WINTER HOLIDAYS	29	30	31

## January 2012



	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Winter Holidays (return Jan 10)	9 Student Holiday Teacher Workday	10 Student Banking  Kincaid night @ Stevi b's	11 Honoring our Heroes Essays due	12  School Store	13 Relay for Life Biscuit Sales  Report card distribu- tion	14
15	16 MLK Holiday SCHOOL CLOSED	17  Kincaid night @ Texas Roadhouse	18 Kincaid Foundation BOD MTG 7:30 a.m.	19 PTA BOD MTG 6:30 p.m.	20	21
22	23 World Explorer's Club  Chinese New Year (year of the Dragon)	24 Kindergarten Orientation 9:00-10:00 a.m.  Last day to order yearbooks Student banking	25	26	27 Kincaid Foundation Biscuit Sales  Kindergarten 100th day Celebration Cougar Pride Day	28
29	30 Character Ed Lunch  World Explorers Club	31 Honoring our He- roes Essay Contest Brunch 8:30 a.m.				

