



Kincaid Cat Tracks

Kincaid Elementary PTA
www.KincaidPTA.org

Volume 17 Issue 1
September 2011

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Get Ready for FundRunners!

Kincaid PTA is THRILLED to announce this year's fundraiser! We are partnering with Fundrunners, a pledge-based fundraising company that places emphasis on character development. If you have been around Kincaid, you will notice similarities to our former fundraiser. We will still focus on being healthy and staying fit by running. However, FundRunners has distinct differences that we hope will be a better fit with our students. Here are a few:

- Higher percentage of funds retained. The more we earn, the more we keep!
- Online payment option. Donors will have the option to make payments online through a secure checkout. Of course cash and checks will still be accepted.
- Less emphasis on prizes. You spoke and we listened! Fundrunners team members will be in classes 3-5 minutes each day focusing on character building. Prizes will be given by the teachers at their discretion at a later time.
- Extras on FundRunners day. Each and every student will receive a t-shirt and participate, regardless of their pledges. Water will be available throughout the runs and each student will get an ice pop at the end. There will also be mister tunnels for the kids to run through to stay cool.

We invite you to join us for FundRunners on Friday, Sept. 16th to cheer the students on. K-2nd will run from 8:55-10:00 am and 3rd-5th will take to the tracks from 10:05-11 am. This will be PTA's ONLY fundraiser and we thank you in advance for your support. If you have any questions, please contact Alison Plomaritis at funrun@kincaid.pta.org.

CALLING ALL STUDENTS AND PARENTS! WANT A CLASS PARTY?

PTA needs you to be a piece of the puzzle! Our goal is to have 100% membership by the end of September and your student's class can help. The PTA membership committee will host a **PAJAMA, MOVIE AND POPCORN PARTY** to the class with the highest percentage of memberships and an **ICE CREAM PARTY** to the runner up class! Did you know that anyone in your family or extended family can join our PTA? Even students can be members! We want every child in our school to have a voice. If you or a family member are interested in joining PTA, you can pick up a form from the PTA bulletin board in the cafeteria or contact Heather Voeltner at membership@kincaidpta.org. Just send the form, along with your \$5.00 PTA dues with your child to school. We are looking forward to making sure EVERYONE FITS this year in PTA!

Kincaid
PTA[®]
everychild.onevoice.[®]

Kincaid Elementary School
1410 Kincaid Road
Marietta, GA 30066
770-578-7238

Cheryl Mauldin, Principal
Felicia Angelle, Assistant Principal
www.CobbK12.org/Kincaid
School hours: 7:50 a.m. to 2:20 p.m.

From the PTA Co-Presidents



Welcome to the first edition of Kincaid PTA's Cat Tracks, for the 2011-2012 school year. Inside you will find out what's going on around Kincaid and ways to get involved with your PTA. Check the calendar in the back to find important upcoming dates for September.

If you need additional information about what's going on around the school, please visit the new Kincaid PTA website www.kincaidpta.org. We are proud of the efforts of our volunteers to make this site user friendly and packed with up to date information.

Our biggest event in September will be **FUNDRUNNERS**. With the donations that come from your family and friends through FundRunners, our PTA can operate for the year and keep providing the terrific programs you and your children know and love.

Our programs are a part of our goals and those goals haven't changed much over the years. Our vision has been clear and our efforts strong.

- We need you to join PTA. As the largest child advocacy organization in the United States, our strength is in our numbers. Our goal is to have 100% membership, so that each child in our school has someone representing them.
- We need you to be involved. Children love to see their family members volunteering their time in their schools. It not only shows them how important their education is to you, but it improves the quality of the programs PTA offers.
- We recognize diversity and abilities. Our theme this year is Kincaid PTA: Where everyone fits. We celebrate all the diversity in our school and want everyone to fit, no matter what their abilities.
- We want to partner with Kincaid's fantastic staff to provide quality programs to help our students succeed on all levels

Thank you to the entire Kincaid staff and the many volunteers for all their hard work to ensure a safe and successful back to school season. August was a busy month and September is packed with ways to get involved as a family and spend time together. We are looking forward to a wonderful school year and are honored to serve you in any way we can.

Melody McDonald and Kelly Mellen
2011-2012 Kincaid PTA Co-Presidents
President@kincaidpta.org

THE VOLUNTEER CORNER...FIND WHERE YOU FIT INTO THE PUZZLE!

Looking for leadership experience? Need to bolster that resume with management know-how? Have a few hours, a few days, or a few months to do something good at Kincaid? Then we have a place for you!

We are currently looking for chairs for the following committees:

PTA

Environmental Education
Welcome Committee
Clean Air Campaign
Cougar Pride
Family Fun Nights

Foundation

Pancake Breakfast
Silent Auction

Events we need volunteers for in September:

Hands On Atlanta Saturday, Sept. 10
Hearing and Vision Screening Mon./Tues., Sept. 13-14
Fundrunners Friday, Sept. 16

Other volunteer needs:

Media Center (every other week for 2.5 hours)

Need more information or ready to volunteer? Contact Susan McCullough, Volunteer Coordinator at 770-429-0797 or email at vc@kincaidpta.org for PTA events or volunteer@kincaidfoundation.org for foundation events.

From the Desk of the Principal...Cheryl Mauldin

Dear Kincaid Families,

It has been a wonderful start to our new school year. Our theme this year for the staff and students is "How Full is Your Bucket?" The teachers are going over the fact that each of us has an individual bucket. It is constantly emptied or filled, depending on what others say or do to us. When our bucket is full, we feel great. When it is empty, we feel awful.

Our campus has undergone many construction projects this summer. The projects completed include a kitchen upgrade, new front playground, retaining wall, fence and sprinkler system. We also had sprinklers installed in many parts of the building. The only project not yet completed is the gym. We are working on the storage and bathrooms. The construction area is between the gym and the K building. We ask that you not use the back playground until the construction is completed.

Remember school starts at 7:50 a.m. and ends at 2:20 p.m. Attendance and punctuality are very important. There is a direct correlation between attendance and student achievement, and it is our goal that all children achieve at their optimum level. Being on time to class allows a child to settle in and get into a routine without being rushed. Encourage your child to be up and ready for school each morning early enough to either catch the bus or car pool. If you use the car pool line please make sure that your child can get out on the sidewalk side of the car, as this is where the adults are to assist them. Crossing behind the car from the other side is not safe for the students.

As always, thank you for your continued support, and on behalf of the Kincaid faculty and staff, we wish you the best that this school year has to offer. Together we can make a difference in the lives of our children!

Cheryl Mauldin

WHAT IS REFLECTIONS?

The **Reflections** program, sponsored by the National PTA, has encouraged millions of students across the nation and in American schools overseas to explore their artistic talents. This program is open to EVERY Kincaid student. Children can enter in any and all of the following categories: Dance Choreography, Film/Video Production, Literature, Photography, Musical Composition, and Visual Arts. The **Reflections** program for 2011-2012 will begin soon.

"Diversity Means..." is the theme for this year. Packets will be sent home in the next two weeks. Please read the instructions carefully and make sure that you have attached the entry form to the back of your child's artwork. All entries are due by the end of the day on Friday, September 30th. There will be a box in the media center labeled **"Reflections Entries"**. **NO LATE ENTRIES CAN BE ACCEPTED!** Various volunteers that are active in the community judge the entries. All participants and their parents are invited to a evening reception honoring participation on Thursday, October 20th. Winners from each category will be announced during the reception. All of the children's artwork will be on display for everyone to enjoy. This program is a great way for your children to stretch their imaginations and for you to encourage their creative talents. Thank you for taking the time to support the children and Kincaid. Your efforts are greatly appreciated by everyone!

NOTE: In an effort to save paper and reduce costs, only general information and entry forms will be sent home with each student. Please visit the following websites to read detailed category rules:

<http://www.georgiapta.org/leadership-reflections>

<http://www.cobbk12.org/Kincaid>

If you do not have internet access or need help getting the information, please contact: Michele Rhyne, Reflections Chair at 770-321-6268 or at reflections@kincaidpta.org

Kincaid Foundation News



Welcome back Kincaid. After a successful inaugural year, the Kincaid Elementary Foundation is looking forward to another year of serving the needs of our school.

In our first year, the Foundation raised \$43,800. More than half of those funds went into our capital reserves. They'll eventually be used to fund a full-time science lab teacher, maintain supplies for a science lab, and establish a writing lab. Funds that did not go into capital reserves were used to purchase classroom supply gift cards for the teachers, 15 ELMO document cameras, and a language arts curriculum supplement for each grade.

This year, the Foundation hopes to accomplish the following goals:

- Science Lab Supplies - install hardware and acquire supplies for the new science lab.
- Teacher Classroom Supply Funds - provide funds to help teachers furnish their classrooms.
- Technology - purchase three additional ELMOs.
- Teacher Grants - establish a teacher grant program for special classroom projects.
- Capital Reserves - continue to build up our capital reserve to pay for a full-time science teacher, provide additional classroom technology, and fund a writing lab.

We need your help to reach our goals. Please make a 100% tax-deductible donation to our Family Investment Campaign. Simply complete the Family Investment form that was mailed home this summer and return it with your donation to the Kincaid Foundation. You may also download a copy of the Family Investment form from our website. Go to www.kincaidfoundation.org. Click "Donate Now" and "Family Investment Donations." While you're visiting our website, sign up to receive email updates. You can also follow us at [Facebook.com/kincaidfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/kincaidfoundation) and [Twitter.com/supportkincaid](https://twitter.com/supportkincaid).

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



Did you know that first and foremost, PTA is an *advocacy organization*? PTA – nationally, statewide, and locally – is a non-profit, charitable organization designed to bring families together with schools for the ultimate goal of improving the lives and education of children. As the largest volunteer organization in the nation, PTA provides families with a powerful voice to speak on behalf of every child. There are many easy ways YOU can work with PTA to advocate for your child:

- **Join the Kincaid PTA!** Our goal is to have at least one adult member for each student at our school.
- **Sign up for the Georgia PTA Grassroots Advocacy Network.** Visit www.GeorgiaPTA.org, click on Capitol Watch, and go to Grassroots to register.
- **Attend the Georgia PTA Advocacy Conference** down at the Capitol on Friday, September 23, 2011.

Contact Carmen Roglan, Kincaid's Legislation & Advocacy Chair, at Legislation@KincaidPTA.org or at 770-509-0558.

Si tiene cualquier pregunta puede ponerse en contacto con Carmen Roglan, presidenta del Comité Legislativo, en Legislation@KincaidPTA.org.

Important School Information

Hearing and Vision Screening

The Health Committee needs volunteers who are willing to be trained in Hearing and Vision screening. This program is an important first step in helping to identify children who may be experiencing a barrier to learning because of a deficit in hearing or vision.

The training is scheduled from 8:30 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. on Thursday, September 8th at Palmer Middle School. The screening will be conducted on all 1st and 4th grade students on Monday and Tuesday, September 12th and 13th. If you are interested and can volunteer on those days, please contact Angel Stokes at 678-469-6487 or at stokeca@bellsouth.net.

Character Education at Kincaid

With the start of a new school year, we at Kincaid are excited about this year's Character Ed program. Kincaid PTA is proud to support this Cobb County program which encourages students to incorporate good character traits at school, as well as at home and throughout the community. Each month of the school year a different character trait is emphasized and at the end of the month every class selects a student who best represents that trait. The student is recognized with a small goody bag, a Character Ed ribbon, a photo with all Character Ed winners published in *Cat Tracks* and an invitation for a family member to have lunch together at school. September's trait is *Integrity*---Steadfast adherence to a strict code of moral, ethical or artistic values; to be consistently truthful, sincere and fair; keeping one's word. The character trait for each month is posted on Kincaid's PTA Calendar, so everyone can do their part to encourage development of that trait at school and at home.

Kincaid School Store

Teaching Financial Literacy

Did you know that your child is acquiring more than just school supplies when they shop at the School Store? Along with the material items purchased, but they are gaining important Financial Literacy skills that will help them in the future. Each month, students come with money in hand, go searching for items they cannot live without. A swarm of students descends upon the School Store table, checking out all the items for sale.

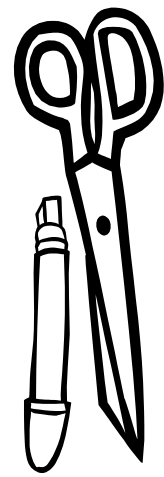
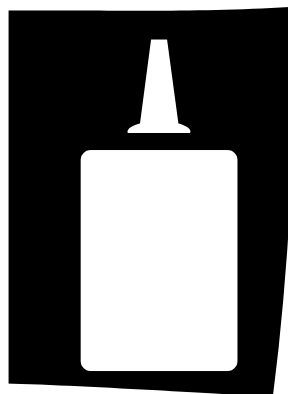
But consider this: Each student must decide how to spend the money, if the item(s) is worth the cost, and if s/he has enough money to purchase the item(s). This requires using

MATH SKILLS to add up the intended purchases. If they want more than they can afford, the next step is to make that tough decision to prioritize and forgo some items. And this is another economic lesson – **OPPORTUNITY COST**. Whether you give your student money or they use their own, your child is learning how to handle money and gaining skills that they can build upon in the future.

In addition, all 5th graders get an additional economics lesson. Each class will have the opportunity this year to help with the pricing and ordering of items for the school store. Ask your students about what they learned – you may be surprised!

Our first School Store of this school year will take place on Thursday, September 1st from 7:15-7:45. Please note that nothing sold at the School Store costs over \$1.

Questions about School Store? Want to volunteer? Contact Lori Bartik, Financial Literacy Chair, at SchoolStore@KincaidPTA.org or at 770-565-3295.



School Makeover-Hands on Atlanta

Are you an HGTV gardening show fan? If so, mark your calendars to participate in our own school's makeover on Saturday, September 10th from 9am to 2pm. While you won't meet any HGTV celebrities, you will work alongside our Partner in Education, IBM, as we spruce up our school grounds in just a few hours. Please contact our volunteer coordinator to sign up at vc@kincaidpta.org. Any questions, contact Tracey Pitts at tklpitts@gmail.com

Box Top and Label Collections

With the craziness of Back To School hopefully calming down, we just want to give you an early heads up that Kincaid will once again be collecting Box Tops and Labels For Education. Our collection drive will be in October so this will give you plenty of time to keep your eyes open and start clipping. As the collection drive nears, more information will be sent home in your child's folder. If you have any questions before then, please feel free to email us at cf@kincaidpta.org

\$\$ Helping Kids Save Money \$\$



Student Banking begins September 6 and is an easy and practical way to save at school, one-on-one with an adult volunteer. Students who participate in this voluntary program make deposits, earn interest, work toward or reach their savings goals, and by the time the school year is over, have acquired a vital life skill. Banking days are every other Tuesday, before school, in the Media Center. Make as many or few deposits with as much or as little money as you wish. To get started simply open a youth "fee free" deposit account for your child at your bank or credit union or use an existing account. Then visit www.schoolsavings.com to enroll your child in the program. The parent volunteer will collect, record and deposit the money and a receipt will be sent home. Super Saver points will be awarded for each deposit made with opportunities to win prizes through drawings held by school-savings.com throughout the year. If you have any questions, contact: Cathy Summers at StudentBanking@KincaidPTA.org.

Diversity and Inclusion – Be a Part of Kincaid's Mosaic

Mosaic is the art of assembling pieces of colored glass, stone, or other materials in a pattern to create a unique image or picture. You may have seen mosaics as part of art exhibits, interior decoration, or ancient buildings and this year you'll see it at Kincaid. We are launching a Diversity and Inclusion program called the Kincaid Mosaic.

The "mosaic" approach reflects that our PTA is representative of the families we serve. Rather than wanting every family just blend into our school, we want each family's culture and experiences to be integrated and embraced. If you picture a mosaic work, it is the collection of many pieces that creates the beautiful design.

The Diversity and Inclusion committee is designed to:

- Strive to insure that we are inclusive, making each family feel welcomed and valued
- Provide and communicate ways to be involved at Kincaid
- Create programs to celebrate diverse cultural beliefs, traditions and family structures
- Translate or interpret materials and meetings
- Encourage sharing of ideas, challenges, and successes of our families

We need you to complete the mosaic! To get involved or learn more, contact Laurie Rashidi-Yazd at diversity@kincaidpta.org or 404-808-9099.



2011-2012 Kincaid PTA Welcome Back Picnic

Thanks to all the students, families and friends who came out to enjoy PTA's annual Welcome Back Picnic. Thanks to DJ Bond for spinning great tunes, Ms. Ambrose for taking care of dinner for us all, the PTA membership committee for the cold ice cream and to all the volunteers and staff who helped organize such a fun-filled family event!



Order Yearbooks now and Save

Don't forget to order your yearbooks now and save! The Special low price of \$18.00 expires on October 29, 2011. Any the price will increase to \$25.00 after that date. Don't miss out on this timeless time capsule! Order forms will be coming home soon. Calling all photographers! We need your pictures for the yearbook. Please submit your first day of school, meet and greet and back to school picnic pictures. Instructions for submitting photos are as follows: <https://images.jostens.com/login>, user name 400133265, password: kincaid.

Science Olympiad is Coming!

Have you ever wanted to see just how fun science can be? Well trying out for our 2011-2012 Science Olympiad Team will give you that chance. Our Science Olympiad program at Kincaid involves hands-on experimenting, in-depth scientific research and independent study. Future Olympiads should be self-starters, motivated and curious about all things science.. During the year, Kincaid Science Olympians work together as a team and prepare to compete against other teams in Cobb County. After the county competition, the team prepares to compete in May against other teams from all over the State of Georgia. Most meetings will be on Mondays with a few on Thursday or Friday as we get closer to competitions. Be looking for the Science Olympiad Application and Audition dates to come home soon!

PTA Business Sponsors

If you own a business and are interested in becoming a Kincaid Elementary PTA Business Sponsor, please contact John Vogt for further information at VPKincaid@KincaidPTA.com.

	<p>Accounting Solutions Group, LLC Serving Metro Atlanta Nonprofits Christina L. Paloski, CPA President/Owner 770-312-4231</p> <p>Providing nonprofit financial check ups, outsourced financial services, and accounting software implementation for over 10 years.</p>
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<p><i>Friends & Family</i> CHIROPRACTIC</p> <p>2500 Sandy Plains Rd. Marietta, GA 30066 770-485-0322</p>

September 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 School Store PTA BOD MTG 6:30 pm	2 Relay for Life Biscuit Sales 3rd Grade Math Challenge	3
4	5 Labor Day Holiday School Closed	6 Fundrunners Kickoff/Pep Rally Student Banking Kincaid Night@ Chik-Fil-A	7 Room Parent Orientation (1-5) 9:15-10:15	8	9	10 East Cobber Parade Hands on Atlanta Workday at Kincaid 8:00 AM to 200 PM
11	12 Hearing and Vision Test (1st and 4th graders only)	13 Hearing and Vision Test (1st and 4th graders only) Kincaid Night @ SteviB's	14	15 Hispanic Heritage Month begins	16 Kincaid Foundation Biscuit Sales Fundrunners Fun Run Cougar Pride Day	17
18	19 Start Collecting Fundrunners donations	20 Student Banking Kincaid night @ Texas Roadhouse	21 Kincaid Foundation BOD Meeting 7:30 AM	22	23	24
25	26 Character Ed Lunch (August/ September)	27 Kincaid night @ Dominos	28	29 Rosh Hashanah begins	30 Fundrunners Donations Due Reflections Entries due	



Kincaid Elementary School Vision Statement:
 Growing in character takes us to the top,
 hard work keeps us there.

