

## A Look at Last Month

### Food Drive

Kings Park would like to thank **Interstate Van Lines** for their assistance providing boxes and the transportation of our additional food drive items. What a great business partner!



We thank everyone at Kings Park for their participation in our annual canned food drive. We had our most successful year with over 1400 items collected, twice what the students had chosen for our original goal.

Kings Glen thanks everyone for their contributions which helped make our food drive such a success!



### Thanksgiving Celebrations

Kings Park and Kings Glen schools invite family and friends enjoying a traditional Thanksgiving meal, including turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, cranberries and green beans.



### Kings Glen Anti-Bullying Assembly

Kings Glen students collected anti-bullying smiley faces during Bully Prevention Week November 14-18.



Kings Park and Kings Glen Elementary Schools

# KP/KG NEWS

December 2011 / January 2012

## Snuggle Up and Unwrap A Good Book

As the weather starts to turn cool and outdoor play becomes less and less likely, the all too familiar phrase of "I'm bored" rears its head. We encourage you to take this opportunity to read with your child or to encourage your child to snuggle with a good book. You may be amazed to hear what the research says about reading:



- Children who live in print-rich environments and who are read to during the first years of life are much more likely to learn to read on schedule.
- Books contain many words that children are unlikely to encounter frequently in spoken language. Children's books actually contain 50% more rare words than primetime television or even college students' conversations.
- Reading aloud to young children is not only one of the best activities to stimulate language and cognitive skills; it also builds motivation, curiosity, and memory.
- The nurturing and one-on-one attention from parents during reading aloud encourages children to form a positive association with books and reading later in life.

Looking for a good book to share with your student? Some of our favorites are listed below:

Mr. Elson - [Blueberries For Sal](#) and [Trumpet of the Swan](#)  
Mrs. Lin - [Bread and Jam for Francis](#)  
Mrs. Smith - [James and the Giant Peach](#)  
Mrs. Mallory - [The Ramona Quimby Series](#)

During the winter holiday season we have many reasons to gather together, be thankful, and to celebrate. We partner with you as we celebrate the successes, gains and developments of your child both academically and socially. We look forward to working together to ensure 2012 is filled with health, happiness and the joy of learning.

**From the principals**  
Dotty Lin  
Sam Elson

**Kings Park and Kings Glen School Newsletter**  
December/January

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# The PTA Connection

Erica Hosken, PTA President (president@kpkgpta.org) www.kpkgpta.org

## PTA Meeting, Monday, December 5 at Kings Glen

Please join us for our next meeting at 6:00 pm in the KG Library. **All parents are welcome.** Selected Kings Glen sixth grade strings students will play for your enjoyment starting at 5:50 pm. Child care will be provided. Please send us an email at kpkgpta@gmail.com if you would like to use the child care so we know how many children to expect.

## International Night

Save the date of January 20! This will hopefully be our International Night. However, our chairperson has had to step down. We have committee chairs ready to help but we need a leader. If you are interested in chairing this exciting community event contact us at kpkgpta@gmail.com.

## Silent Auction, March 2

Mark your calendar for an evening of Auction and Bingo fun on **March 2.** Thank you to those who came to our first planning meeting. There are many opportunities to participate in the Silent Auction. For more information or questions contact Elke Trick at elke.trick@gmail.com.

## Reflections

Congratulations to all of our **Reflections participants!** We had a record year with 54 entries! Thank you **Kim Jensen** and **Kecia Lansbury** for enabling our students to participate in this program. Next year's theme is "The Magic of a Moment..."

**Thank you** to everyone who came to Austin Grill Spirit Night! A special thanks to **Kim Shaw** for organizing this event!

## Thank you, Fall Festival Volunteers

Another smashing success! There were over 600 attendees!!! Thank you to:

**Wendy Hoffman** and **Rajika Mahan** for chairing the festival  
**Claire Hutfles** for the creative and fun decorations  
**Anne Ortale** for the great signage

Our wonderful **DJ Dana Beck** for donating his services

The leaders and girls in **Girl Scout Cadet Troop 1929**

All of our **volunteers** and our **special guest readers** in the library.

The **PTA's mission** is "To make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children." The success of our PTA depends on your involvement and support. **How can you participate?**

- **Stay in touch** – sign up for our eNewsletter at our web site and join our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/kpkgpta
- **Attend our meetings** – December 5 and January 9
- **Join** – it's not too late to become a member
- **Volunteer** – there are many opportunities! One is sure to fit every parent's schedule.
- **Support** – use the Amazon.com link on our PTA web page and a percentage of your purchase will be returned to support the PTA.

# Need to Know

This is a double issue newsletter and covers both December and January information. It includes a double calendar insert.

## Winter break

Winter break is December 23 - January 2. Students return to school on January 3, 2012.

## Your Views and Opinions Are Important to Us!

This spring, a random sample of Kings Park parents will receive the **Parent Opinion Survey.** This survey is part of the Principal Performance Evaluation Program and offers parents an opportunity to provide anonymous input about various issues related to our school. These include curriculum, safety, parent involvement, communications, and expectations for student achievement and behavior.

The survey will arrive in the mail and will be returned directly to the Fairfax County Public Schools' Office of Student Testing for Processing. If you receive a copy of the Parent Opinion Survey, please take a few minutes to complete and return the survey. Your opinions do matter.

## Advanced Academic Program

Parents/Guardians of students not in the second grade screening pool may initiate the full time AAP (Level IV) screening process by completing and submitting an Advanced Academic Program Level IV Referral form to the school Principal no later than February 3, 2012. **No late referrals will be accepted.** Second graders **not** in the pool and **all** third through seventh graders are screened only by referral. Parent information packets will be available in the Kings Park and Kings Glen school offices in January. Forms are available on the AAP website at [www.fcps.edu/IS/aap/index.shtml](http://www.fcps.edu/IS/aap/index.shtml). Please note that Parents or Guardians of students who are in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade pool will be notified by the school and will require no referral form. Students who are not in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade pool will not receive notification. The benchmark score used to create the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade pool will be published on the Advanced Academic Programs website in mid-January.

## Holiday Food Drive Helps Area Families

Students at Kings Park and Kings Glen together successfully assisted families with their Thanksgiving meals through our annual food drive. We thank you for your continued generosity, enabling area families have holiday meals with family and friends. We are grateful to our students, parents and staff for their tremendous support! Both schools will also be assisting families for the winter holidays.

# Coming up

## Kings Glen Human Growth & Development

Kings Glen will hold a Parent Preview Night on December 1 at 6:00 pm, to discuss the Human Growth and Development (HG & D) Curriculum for grades 4, 5, and 6. Materials are also available for review by appointment in the KG office as well as Fairfax County Public Libraries.

## KP and KG Book Fairs

**Kings Park Book Fair, December 6th - 9th.**

**Kings Park Book Fair hours are:**

8:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. Tuesday (Preview Day/Family Night)  
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday



**Kings Glen Book Fair, December 5th - 9th.**

**Kings Glen Book Fair hours are:**

Preview Day Monday  
8:00 am - 7:00 pm Tuesday (Family Night)  
8:00 am - 3:00 pm Wednesday and Thursday  
8:00 am - 12:00 pm Friday

## Partners in Print at Kings Park

On Tuesday, December 6 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm, KP will host Partners in Print. This event offers exciting, hands-on activities for families to encourage and support early literacy skills. Snacks and free books for students and take home materials for parents make this event well worth your time!

## Kings Park Informances

Mrs. Burke's Music *Informances* will be held the week of December 13–16. Ms. Wilson-Morgan's music celebrations will be held in June.

## Kings Glen Chorus

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade members of Kings' Chorus have been selected to perform for the Zoo Lights Concert Series at the Washington DC National Zoo. On Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm our Gators will serenade zoo visitors with spirited winter music. Admission is free.

## Annual Gator Volleyball All Stars

Kings Glen will hold their annual year end volleyball match December 22 at 9:00 am. The 6th grade All Stars will compete against the Kings Glen Staff.