



With Our School Children, Teachers, Parents

Kit Carson Continues 'Good Reader' Drive

A DRIVE TO ENCOURAGE parents to provide Kit Carson School students with more reading material in the home is featured in the current issue of the Kit Carson Express, published quarterly with the cooperation of the Clark County School District's Informational Services Dept.

Noting that the first of the three "Rs"—reading—is being continually stressed at Kit Carson, the feature article recalls that a letter was sent parents last month requesting that minimum standards in home reading be set for Kit Carson children.

Suggested minimum standards include subscription to at least one local daily newspaper and two nationally-circulated magazines, availability of 12 children's books of general interest and one set of reference books or encyclopedias.

"We want to make it perfectly clear that much of a child's success in his or her school work is a direct result of how much and how well he or she reads and is able to understand from such reading," Principal H. P. Fitzgerald points out.

"We are most appreciative for the close cooperation parents have given the school during the past nine years to help make it one of the best in Clark County," Mr. Fitzgerald said. "We think our children are among the best-dressed in the school district and our attendance is high. But there is something else we must aim for at Kit Carson and that is to have the best-read children in the district."

IT WAS EXPLAINED that first grade teacher Mrs. Lorraine Hall has organized a reading club in her classroom and has requested students to trade books with friends after reading them in order to make the program as inexpensive as possible.

The third quarter issue of the Kit Carson Express also calls attention to the fact that the "pilot study" box lunch program at Kit Carson will be continued until the end of the current school year under a directive from the school district's board of trustees.

It was stated that a marked increase in overall school attendance has been noted since the project was started last September, while general academic achievement and student morale has improved. Average daily sales through early February were reported as 107 during a period when many wage-earners in the school community were unemployed.

Articles on the importance of parents becoming better acquainted with their children's teachers (by Mrs. Shirley McDaniel) and the necessity for parents to use good speech in the presence of young children (by Mrs. Joanne Pughsley) are included in the March issue of the Kit Carson publication.

Kids Live It Up



DOOLITTLE DOINGS--Happy Timers and Bicycle Club members recently had joint party at Doolittle Center. Photos above show small fry enjoying refreshments and dancing.

MATT KELLY SEEKS PARENTS' OPINIONS

"WHAT DO YOU WANT?" will be the basis for discussion at tonight's (March 18) Matt Kelly School PTA meeting starting at 7:30. In posing the question, unit officers and school officials wish to assure all parents, "We will not do it for you, but we will help you do it!"

It was emphasized that ideas and suggestions are needed to help answer two important questions: What are the Matt Kelly community needs? What programs do parents want at the school and community center for their children and themselves?

Small group "buzz sessions" will be held at tonight's meeting in order for parents to express their desires and opinions. And parents are reminded that they are invited to write down their questions and suggestions in between PTA meetings and send them in with their children.

MATT KELLY NOTEBOOK: The Paperback Library is now open on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9 and after school until 5 p.m. More paperbacks are needed. . . Parents are reminded that school starts at 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. SHARP. Most children arrive on time, but too many are tardy and thereby disrupt classes. . . Parents with children who ride bicycles to school are urged to impress their children with safety rules outlined by teachers. Many children have been seen riding their bikes in the middle of the street. THIS IS DANGEROUS! . . Miss Margaret York, the drill team instructor, is working hard with the fourth grade girls. Matt Kelly will be proud of them in the coming parade. . . Parents are urged to encourage their children to participate in the science fair by helping them to obtain necessary supplies. Some materials will be furnished by the school. This is an excellent opportunity for a child to work on a project of personal interest. . . Sixth grade students living SOUTH of Lake Mead Blvd. are scheduled to go to Hyde Park Junior High next fall. Those living NORTH of Lake Mead Blvd. will be assigned to J. D. Smith Junior High. Buses will pick up Hyde Park students. J. D. Smith students will walk to school. In some cases, children will be permitted to attend R. O. Gibson, Jim Bridger and K. O. Knudson Junior Highs next fall under the "open zoning" policy. For these exceptions, parents must provide transportation where needed. Once enrolled, a student will be required to remain at the chosen school for one year. . . Each child is different. Even children in the same family may be different in certain respects. In order for parents to understand and deal with these individual differences, a Parent-Child Relations Class will start on Monday, March 22, at 7:30 p.m. The six-week course, with Mrs. T. Stauff serving as discussion leader, will cost one dollar. Participation in this program should prove profitable to most parents.

READING PROJECT AIDS MADISON 3RD GRADERS

THIRD GRADERS at Madison School are being encouraged by Room 40 teacher Mrs. M. S. Barr to read more by assembling a bulletin board with the caption, "How Many Books Have You Read?"

In addition to encouraging the children to read a variety of books regularly, this class project is designed to provide practice in oral expression. The children also are taught to be good listeners, to note errors in English usage and to make intelligent criticisms.

Each child tells the story of a book read in his or her own words. The child's name, the book title and its author's name are then placed on a card for bulletin board display.

Eloise Jenson, Vernola Kyle and Dennis Ray Sanders were reported to have progressed most rapidly in the number of books read and in developing more skill in reading.

GARSDALE JUNIOR HIGH students (incorrectly reported as being from Roy Martin Junior High in a previous release) met with Madison School principal Dr. Joseph Caliguri and speech therapist Mrs. Helen Anderson last Monday, March 15, to continue discussions for easing the transition of sixth grade students to the junior high level.

Plans were made for the junior high group to hold panel discussions with each Madison sixth grade class at the school during afternoon sessions later this month.

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(AFRICA, from page 2)

free. But the odds against him are numerous. A LOUD SHOUT OF JOY greets independence, but troubles come. The 13 former colonies that became the United States fell to quarreling with one another, and some experienced rebellions against the state governments not too long after independence. Indeed, the first experiment with nationhood, a confederation, failed and was succeeded by the United States of America when the new constitution was accepted in 1789.

We were, as we are very fond of saying, a nation blessed of God, with vast riches and a firm seat in the just beginning industrial revolution. Yet, it is hardly likely that God has any great enmity toward less-favored and new nations of the last half of the 20th Century.

Gambia provides some understanding of the difficulties of borders, historical background, poverty, and lack of trained personnel.

What the map of Africa will look like in the year 2000, a mere 35 years from now, is an interesting speculation. Gambia is the 36th of the one-time European colonies in Africa to gain independence. We can all wish Premier Jawara a long run of good luck.