



Lincoln Log

Lincoln Elementary School (408) 252-4798
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<http://www.LincolnElementary.net>

**Cupertino Union School District
Board of Education**
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December 3, 2009

Parent and Child Activity

Plan a week of alphabet dinners – serve foods that start with the same letter. Choose a different letter each day.

Play alphabet games with your child. List countries, animals or cars in alphabetical order.

Source: Parent Institute

Calendar

Dec.	4	Report cards go home
	11	10:30 & 11:30 Chorus Sing-a-Long
	16	6:00pm 3 rd Gr. Play, Rms.19,21,23
	18	1:30 1 st Grade Performance
	21-Jan. 1	Winter Recess NO SCHOOL
Jan.	4	School Resumes

Report Cards

Report cards reflecting student achievement for the first trimester will go home with students tomorrow. Report cards are issued regularly to evaluate children's school progress. They are used to identify strengths and weaknesses and allow teachers, children, and parents to make plans for improvement.

Problems are created when report cards are used for rewards. When rewards are given for high proficiency levels, some children will work for the reward without striving to do their best for the sake of learning. Bright students will do what it takes to get by, while others may learn material for tests, which will be promptly forgotten. Rather than providing monetary or concrete rewards, praise children for good work and for doing their best.

Problems are also created when children are punished for low proficiency levels. Extreme pressure to succeed may cause children to develop a poor attitude about learning. They may become disruptive at school, show signs of frustration or just quit trying. Rather than punishing children by taking away privileges, degrading them, or spanking them, try some alternatives.

- **Don't be surprised.** Talk with your child about his/her progress in school throughout each trimester.
- **Talk calmly with your child** about each curriculum area. What does he/she think can be done to improve?
- Remember – **Report cards reflect what has already happened.** The past can't be changed.
- **Don't just focus on problem areas.** Even if your child's report card isn't as good as you'd like, look for something positive. Comment on an improved area or a teacher's comment about how hard your child is working.
- **Focus on the future.** Use an area of weakness as a platform for change.
- **Write a plan.** Sit calmly and discuss what your child can do to improve his/her proficiency level. Consider asking the teacher for ideas.
- **Put report cards in perspective.** They measure how students are doing in school. They don't measure a student's worth as an individual. Nor do they judge your success as a parent.

Report cards are only part of the overall evaluation of a child's school progress, reflecting both effort and ability. Used correctly, they can help build on strengths and improve weaknesses. When your child's report card arrives, remember to talk together and set goals appropriately to help your child maintain the best attitude toward school and learning.

Holiday Chorus Performance

Please join us as the Chorus sings seasonal and holiday songs on December 11, at 10:30 and 11:30 am in the MP room. Thank you to Michelle Dellobuono, Sarah Winn and Katie Renaghan for their musical leadership.

Outdoor Science School

Lincoln's fifth grade students spent 3 days at Outdoor Science School at Mission Springs in the Santa Cruz Mountains. I had the pleasure of visiting the students on Wednesday and saw students actively involved in learning about the environment, conducting scientific studies, and learning the importance of both self-reliance and collaboration. Thank you to Mrs. Hernlund, Mrs. Sanchez, Ms. West, Mrs. Eller, Mrs. Wong, and Mrs. Krishnamurthy for their time and effort.

A Special Thank You

Thank you to all of the parents who helped with essential playground and parking lot supervision this school year. A very special thank you to all the volunteers who have helped regularly in our yard duty. We appreciate the time and dedication these parents have given to our school. We are currently in need of parents who can volunteer one/two days a week for the remainder of the school year. Please contact the office if you are available.

Yard Duty

Jyothi Reddy	Fatma Elkolosy
Tuhina Pant	Gail Nordby
Theresa Glazbrook	Linda Hull
Padma Nadvavajhala	Susanne Millar
Suja Anichetty	Shobha Charginolla
Visali Naga	Palmyra Pawlik

Valet Parents

Vinayak Gupta	Nagashree Krishnamurthy
Linda Hull	Fuying Lam
Haiyan Li	Hong Ma
Helen Matharu	Susanne Millar
Ann Ngo	Lekshmi Muthuswami
Shari Paborji	Premalata Raghuram
Alivelu Viswanadha	

Word of the Month

The word for the month of December is CARING. PeaceBuilders show how they care for others by using Praise Words. There are many ways to show that you care:

- listen to a friend when they have a problem
- help with a project or chore
- do something nice for another person
- donate a toy or book to charity

From our Student Council

Christmas in November

Thank you to all of you who have donated toys for our toy drive. We have collected over 4 big barrels of toys for the less fortunate children in the Bay Area. What a wonderful lesson for our students in service to others.

PTA

Holiday Donation Campaign

Tomorrow is the last day to send in any Holiday Donations. Thank you to the generous donations already made to our Holiday Donation Campaign. The holidays are a difficult time for many families in our community. **If you know of a family in our community in need, or you are a family in need, please submit the name to the office.** It is a time when even small contributions can be of great help. Please consider donating \$2 per student, or any amount you feel comfortable donating. This is a great opportunity to give back to those less fortunate this holiday season.

DISTRICT NEWS

H1N1 GUIDELINES

The Santa Clara County Public Health Department guidance recommends that, based on current flu conditions, students and staff with flu-like illness stay home until at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever or signs of a fever without the use of fever-reducing medications (any medicine that contains ibuprofen or acetaminophen).

You can help keep our schools healthy by adhering to the following guidelines:

- Continue to enforce proper hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette - The recommendations continue to emphasize the importance of the basic foundations of disease prevention: stay home when sick, wash hands frequently with soap and water when possible or alcohol based hand sanitizer, and cover noses and mouths with a tissue when coughing or sneezing (or a shirt sleeve or elbow if no tissue is available).
- Leave accurate information as requested on the school's absence line if your child is sick. This will help the school identify any potential issues as soon as possible.
- Promptly pick up your child from school if they are sent home for being ill. The school will keep ill students separated from others until they can be sent home. Please make sure that the school office has your updated contact information.
- Any returning students after an illness with a fever will need to have their temperature taken in the school office before returning to class. Teachers will be sending returning students back to the office to have their temperatures taken if they arrive directly to the classroom without being cleared.

PARENT SPEAKER SERIES

SELPA II (Special Education Local Plan Area II) is proud to host the following guest speaker presentation to parents of students with special needs.

Tuesday, December 8, 2009

"Social Thinking"

Speaker: Michelle Garcia Winner, M.A., CCC-SLP

Back by popular demand: Michelle Garcia

Winner, developed social thinking for the treatment of individuals with social-cognitive deficits: those with diagnoses such as Autism, Asperger syndrome, ADHD and Nonverbal Learning Disorder (NLD). Come early. At last year's event seats filled up fast!

The event takes place at Bishop Elementary School (450 N. Sunnyvale Avenue in Sunnyvale) in the auditorium from 6:30-8:30 PM. There is no registration required to attend the event. Onsite childcare is available, but registration is required for childcare and closes one week prior to the event, with no exceptions. For childcare contact Linda Toda at (408) 522-2474.

2009-2010 District Calendar

Dec. 21, 2009 - Jan. 1, 2010	Winter Recess
January 18, 2010	Martin Luther King Day
February 15-19, 2010	Mid-Year Recess
March 15, 2010	Staff Learning Day
April 12-16, 2010	Spring Recess
May 28, 2010	Staff Learning Day
May 31, 2010	Memorial Day
June 10, 2010	Last Day of School

