



Lincoln Log

Lincoln Elementary School (408) 252-4798
21710 McClellan Road, Cupertino, CA 95014
<http://www.LincolnElementary.net>

Cupertino Union School District
Board of Education

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December 11, 2008

Parent and Child Activity

When you are in the car, have your child estimate how far it is to your destination. Use the odometer to check.

During the holidays, have your child talk to older relatives about their childhood days.

Source: Parent Institute

Calendar

Dec.	12	10:20, 11:25	Chorus Singalong
	12		Crazy Hair/Pajama Day
	19	1:30 pm	First Grade Musical - MP
	22-Jan. 2		Winter Recess
			NO SCHOOL
Jan.	5		School Resumes

Crazy Hair & Pajama Day Tomorrow

Our student council is sponsoring Crazy Hair and Pajama Day tomorrow, Friday, December 12. Students should come to school in appropriate attire such as long sleeve pajama tops and bottoms, or sweats. They can bring slippers but must also have their tennis shoes. We are looking forward to a comfortable and cozy day!

Holiday Donation

There is a flyer in today's MESH folder regarding Lincoln's annual Holiday Donation program. If you are able to donate to deserving families in our own community, please put your donations in an envelope marked "Holiday Donation" and turn them in by December 15. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

First Grade Musical

On Friday, December 19 at 1:30 pm in the MP room, our first graders will perform in a musical called "Life Cycles." First grade families are invited to watch this special performance as well as join their child's class for holiday festivities afterwards. Parking permits are available in the office. We hope you can make it!

Promptly Pick up Your Student

Please note that all students need to be picked up promptly upon dismissal each day. Except morning kindergarteners, all students are dismissed Tuesdays at 2:25 p.m. All other days, K-3rd are dismissed at 2:55 p.m. and 4-5th at 3:25 p.m. Students need to be picked up promptly. We appreciate your support!

Independent Study Contracts

If you plan to be away from school for a minimum of five school days and a maximum of ten, please contact the school office and your child's teacher at least one week ahead of your departure date to arrange for a special Independent Study Contract. **These policies are consistent across the Cupertino Union School District.**

- A student must be enrolled for three consecutive weeks before an Independent Contract can be initiated.
- The contract and homework must be returned the first day back to school with all the work completed, so days missed do not count as unexcused absences.
- Students who are absent for more than ten consecutive days will be dropped from the district rosters.** When the student returns, if space is available at his or her school, the student will be reinstated. If no space is available, the student will be assigned to another school in the district where space is available.
- If you are traveling for less than 5 days, your child's absence will be recorded as unexcused.

2009 Spring Registration – Save your January or February PG&E Bill for Registration

Kindergarten registration for the 2009-10 school year is scheduled to begin February 2 through 12. Registration packets will be available at the neighborhood school beginning January 26, 2009. Registration packets are numbered sequentially. The registration number on the packet is valid for packets returned between February 2 – February 12, 2009. **For more details check the district website at <http://Cupertino.CA.campusgrid.net>.**

Emphasize 'Giving' Rather Than 'Getting' This Holiday Season

To be successful in school, children must learn to share and become less selfish. A little philanthropy – giving to others – will help your child do this. There are many ways parents can promote giving this season and all year long. Here are a few ideas to get you started.

- **Introduce the word *philanthropy*.** It means sharing your time, talent or treasure to help other people.
- **Identify volunteers** and other people in your community who give. Talk about how special and important these people are.
- **Let your child see you giving** and let her participate. Take her with you when you volunteer. Ask her what charities she'd like to help out.
- **Help your child make simple gifts** to give to family and friends or to distribute at a shelter. He'll discover the joy of giving something he's made.
- **Have your child gather toys and clothes** she's willing to donate to a local charity. Be sure to take her with you when you drop them off.
- **Cook soup or bake something together** to take to a sick or elderly neighbor.
- **Praise your child when he gives to others.** Point out how good it makes him feel to share with other people and to know he has made a difference in someone's life.

Source: Parent Institute

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

PTA

PTA Meeting

There will not be a December PTA Meeting. The next PTA meeting will be Wednesday, January 14th.

DISTRICT

CUSD Parent Seminar

“The Well-Balanced Child: Avoiding Stress and Over-Scheduling”

Monday, January 12, 2009

7:00 p.m.

Nimitz School, Guided Learning Center

545 E. Cheyenne Drive

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

No RSVP Needed

Nimitz Elementary School is hosting a parent seminar titled “The Well-Balanced Child: Avoiding Stress and Over-Scheduling.” This presentation is targeted at parents of elementary students.

Children today live in a culture that is increasingly characterized by a "more is better" and "earlier is better" mindset, both in and out of school. This fast-paced existence for kids too often places them under undue pressure and stress, which can result in burnout, disengagement, unhealthy life patterns, or debilitating health problems.

In this presentation, parents will:

- Explore the unique demands placed on children's time today
- Examine how today's high-pressure, fast-paced culture can have unintentional but damaging effects on children
- Discover simple ways your family can counter the fast-paced culture without sacrificing achievement and while allowing kids to be kids.

This seminar features Jim Lobdell, M.A. Mr. Lobdell is an educational consultant with expertise in curriculum design, school reform, parent education, and youth sports. Mr. Lobdell co-founded Teachers' Curriculum Institute, widely regarded as the nation's most innovative publisher of K-12 social studies curricula. This thought-provoking program is a must for parents seeking a healthy balance between achievement and personal fulfillment for their children.

K-8 Math Curriculum Textbook

Adoption

This year the Cupertino Union School District will adopt new Math textbooks for kindergarten through eighth grade. The materials to be considered will be on display in the district's Teacher Resource Center (TRC) from December 8 through February 6, 2009. Interested parents are invited to go to the TRC during this time, view the textbook, and fill out a survey located next to the materials. This survey provides you an opportunity to voice your ideas regarding the new Math materials.

The Teacher Resource Center is located at 10255 N. Portal Avenue in Cupertino. The hours of operation are 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and 11:30 AM to 7:30 PM on Wednesdays.

Healthy Student Vision

You might not know if your child's vision is normal. It is difficult to tell when children are having trouble with their eyesight. That is because they may think that poor eyesight is normal. Even if your child already wears glasses, he might not let you know if his vision has changed. An eye exam is the only way to be sure.

10 Signs that a child may need an eye exam

1. Eyes are crossed when looking across the room
2. Has trouble learning to read
3. Gets headaches
4. Can't color inside lines
5. Squints to look at something
6. Sits too close or too far from the TV
7. Has trouble catching a ball
8. Complains that his/her eyes hurt or feel tired
9. Can't see objects being pointed to
10. Gets colors like blue and brown confused often (especially for boys)

Make an appointment with an optometrist if you notice any changes in the way your child sees.

Certain families may qualify for low or no-cost health insurance through the North County Children's Health Initiative Collaboration, which administers Medi-Cal and the Healthy Families and Healthy Kids program. Additional information is available at (408) 874-1828.

CEEF's 25th Anniversary Gala:

"From London with Love"

Saturday, January 17, 2009

5:30 p.m.

Fairmont Hotel, San Jose

The CEEF Gala has been acknowledged as the Valley's premiere “party with a purpose” – raising critically needed funds for arts and innovative math and technology resources at each of our district schools. Join us in celebrating educational excellence in our schools and honoring our Teachers of the Year on Saturday, January 17, 2009 at the Fairmont Hotel in San Jose. Superintendent Phil Quon has challenged all 25 schools to organize a table of 10 with the promise to serenade the audience if the goal is met!

For reservations or more information, please call 408 446-2333 or email CEEF at gala@ceefcares.org.