



# Lincoln Log

**Lincoln Elementary School** (408) 252-4798  
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Cupertino Union School District  
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**February 11, 2010**

## Parent and Child Activity

Show your love for your children by reading to them every day.

Learn a tongue twister. At dinner, challenge everyone to repeat it three times fast.

*Source: Parent Institute*

## Calendar

Feb. 1-11	Kinder Registration
5-11	Open Enrollment
11	1 <sup>st</sup> Session Success, Inc. Ends
12	Valentine's Day Class Parties
<b>15-19</b>	<b>Mid-Year Recess</b>
	<b>No School</b>

## Abraham Lincoln's Birthday

Students have been learning about President Lincoln's contributions to unite this country. President Lincoln's humble beginnings are an inspiration to many that we can achieve the goals we set for ourselves. We are proud to bear this president's name at our school. Like our namesake, we set our goals to provide a balanced and rigorous academic program, attending to the development of skills, knowledge base, values and beliefs to enable all students to become successful, life-long learners.

## The Musical Watershed

The musical duo ZunZun came to Lincoln School yesterday and presented a musical assembly about watersheds. Did you know that no matter where you live, you are in a watershed? It's true! Our foothills, homes, yards, driveways and streets and storm drains are all part of a watershed. All the rain and yard water drains directly into local creeks and the San Francisco Bay. This means that keeping pollutants and yard waste out of the storm drain helps keep our creeks, Bay and the ocean clean. Ask your kids what they learned at this assembly. They might remember "a fish flying" or "people playing garbage instruments" or "someone catching a plastic bag while fishing in a creek". Ask them why those things happened in the show!

"The Musical Watershed" is sponsored by Watershed Watch ([www.mywatershedwatch.org](http://www.mywatershedwatch.org)), a public outreach and education campaign of the Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program and performed by ZunZun ([www.zunzuntunes.com](http://www.zunzuntunes.com)).

You can follow up with your kids too: check out the [watershedwatch.net](http://watershedwatch.net) website. Or, go on a storm drain walk in your neighborhood and try to guess which creeks and rivers your storm drains run to. Or go enjoy the great outdoors in one of the beautiful bayside parks where you can see wetlands, birds, and all kinds of wildlife who depend on a clean watershed. Some parks are: Don Edwards San Francisco Bay Wildlife Refuge at Alviso and Coyote Hills.

## Second Session of Success, Inc.

Our second session of Success Inc. begins on Monday, March 1, 2010. Permission slips went home with current Success, Inc. students this week and are should be returned by Friday, February 26, 2010. Additional permission slips will go home to students who qualify. Only those students who meet certain qualifications may attend the support program. Please contact the office with any questions.

## Parking on February 12

In preparation for our classroom parties on Friday, February 12, parking permits will be available in the school office. Please feel free to utilize these permits for parking on the surrounding streets. Happy Valentine's Day!

## Mid-Year Break

Lincoln School will be closed for the mid-year break from February 15-19. Enjoy the time with family and friends!

## Student Directory Use

A gentle reminder that the PTA Directory contents are confidential and for personal communication purposes only. The Directory is not to be used for commercial purposes or made available to outside organizations.

## Truancy and What It Means

Compulsory attendance is the law in California from age six until the age of eighteen (Education Code: 482600). A student who has three unexcused absences or three tardies of more than 30 minutes, or any combination thereof, without a valid excuse is considered legally truant. A student who has six unexcused absences or six tardies or absences of more the 30 minutes, or any combination thereof, is considered habitually truant and will be referred for further action.

## How does truancy impact students?

- Students suffer academic set backs when frequent absences occur.
- If tardy by even a few minutes, students start their day behind other students who have had a chance to organize and are focused on instruction.
- Students in school on a regular basis and on time do significantly better in school.
- Studies have shown that students struggling in high school developed patterns of absenteeism in elementary school.

These are just four items out of a long list of issues that negatively impact children when they are absent or tardy. Simply getting to school on time is one of the greatest gifts you can give your child. It teaches responsibility and punctuality: qualities every profession values. Let's make every effort to have our children in their seats when the school day begins.

## **Student Council News**

### **Haiti Fundraiser**

The Student Council will be raising money for the families in Haiti through February. Please help your child think of ways to earn the money they donate. They can do chores around the house or make crafts to sell to you. The money collected will be sent to a non-profit organization called Kids in Distressed Situations, K.I.D.S., who have been helping families in Haiti even before the earthquake. For every \$10, K.I.D.S will deliver at least \$100 of donated products to Haiti. Collection buckets will be in each classroom. Thank you in advance for supporting this worthy cause.

### **PTA**

#### **Teacher Appreciation Committee Needs You!**

Teachers make a huge positive difference in your son or daughter's life everyday they come to school here at Lincoln. It is important to acknowledge and encourage these hardworking teachers, and the staff that supports them, by thanking them. Every year the PTA does this by having a "Teacher's Appreciation Week" which this year will be April 5th to 9th (the week before Spring Break). During this week we provide yard duty for the teachers and food for all the staff breaks. In order for this to happen, the Teacher Appreciation Committee needs new committee members, as planning for this week starts at the beginning of March. If you would like to help in the planning part of this week and be on the committee, please email me, Gail Nordby at [nordby1@yahoo.com](mailto:nordby1@yahoo.com).

## **DISTRICT NEWS**

### **DE ANZA COLLEGE SUMMER**

#### **EXTENDED YEAR PROGRAM 2010**

De Anza College in partnership with the Cupertino Union School District will offer the Extended Year Program this summer, mornings only, from June 21 to July 16, 2010.

#### **Students entering grades 6 through 10:**

Classes will be held at Kennedy and Miller Middle Schools, and will include: Java Programming, Geometry, Intro to Algebra, LEGO Robotics, Speech and Debate, Fashion Design and many others.

#### **Students entering grades 1 through 5:**

Classes will be held at Eaton Elementary School, and will include: Pre-Algebra Prep, Writing: Paragraphs to Essays, Reading Intensive, Mandarin Chinese, Math & Art, Mandarin, Journalism/Writing, and more!

Program brochures will be sent home in early March and will also be available at your school office in early March. More information is available at [www.extendedyear.deanza.edu](http://www.extendedyear.deanza.edu).

Early registration is by mail only and will begin on March 8, 2010 and ends on May 21, 2010. There will also be walk-in registration available from June 1 to June 8, 2010.

## **ELIMINATION OF GRADE FOUR WRITING ASSESSMENT**

The CST for Writing (the writing component of the CST for English–Language Arts [ELA]), and the CMA for Writing (the writing component of the CMA for ELA) will not be administered to students in grade four in the 2009-10 school year. The elimination of the writing task will have no effect on students' achievement of proficiency because the CST for ELA in grade four and the CMA for ELA in grade four will be scaled and equated on the basis of the multiple-choice questions only.

### **2010 STAR TESTING DATES**

STAR Multiple Choice Testing for grades 2-8 will begin the week of April 26, 2010 and continues for two weeks. The STAR Program is a state accountability measure that helps us assess how we are meeting the needs of our students. You can help prepare your child for the test by ensuring your child goes to bed on time, eats a good breakfast, and leaves for school with a positive attitude. Please do not schedule any family trips or doctor appointments during this time.

### **2009-2010 District Calendar**

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