



Dragon Dispatch



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Kerstin Johnson, Principal

Cupertino Union School District

December 2, 2016

Board of Education - Anjali Kausar, Josephine Lucey, Kristen Lyn, Soma McCandless, Phylis Vogel Superintendent – Wendy Gudalewicz

Traffic Volunteers for the week of Dec. 5th – 9th are from room 7
Traffic Volunteers for the week of Dec. 12th – 16th are from room 6

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Dec. 6 Chorus Performance – 7:00 p.m.
- Dec. 9 Dilworth Day
- Dec. 10 Holiday Book Fair – 12:00 – 4:00
- Dec. 12 – 16 Holiday Book Fair – 8:30 – 3:00
- Dec. 16 Inside-Out Day
- Dec. 19 – Jan. 2 Winter Recess – NO SCHOOL**
- Jan. 3 Students Return to School**

Dear Dilworth Families,

Welcome back! I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving vacation.

This Friday, the first trimester report cards will be sent home. This is a great opportunity to sit down and talk to your child about their schoolwork and learning. A rubric score of a three indicates that “the student demonstrates a proficient understanding of, and ability to apply, the knowledge and skills specified in the standards.”

The next three weeks at Dilworth will be busy, with many celebratory events. Next Tuesday, our 3rd-5th grade chorus students perform. On Friday, our Morning Enrichment students present their final projects. After that, we open our Holiday Book Fair. I look forward to seeing many of you at these events!

We are having many students arrive late to school. Please plan to leave home with ample time to get to school before 8:30. Coming to school even just a few minutes late impacts a child’s start to the day and causes them to miss important instruction. It’s very important that every child is in line by 8:30 AM, ready to learn. Thank you, Ms. Johnson

CURRICULUM CORNER: INFORMATIONAL WRITING

This week we launched our second unit for the Writer’s Workshop program. During this unit, students will be writing informational pieces. Through modeling, mini-lessons, and mentor texts students will learn about the structures of informational pieces, like science lab reports and non-fiction books, and practice the craft of writing themselves. You can support your students at home by showing them the kinds of informational text you read: magazines, newspapers, professional journals, memos, etc. The more exposure our students have to informational text, the stronger their own writing will become!

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: ART - Thanks to the support of our Home and School Club, all students at Dilworth receive art instruction for a portion of the school year from CSMA (Community School of Music and Arts). This fall, some of the 5th grade students from Mrs. Mathalikunnel’s class will have their work displayed as part of the “Organic Form” exhibition at the Children’s Discovery Museum in San Jose. Congratulations Krish, Vidit, Munan, Patrick, Peter, Alex, John, Anindit, Anshul, Anika, Kriti, and Halie!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR NURSE - As the cold and flu season is now upon us, we would like to remind you of our district policies regarding illnesses. If your child has any of the following symptoms within 24 hours, please keep them home until there are well:

- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Frequent coughing or sneezing
- Evidence of a communicable disease such as a rash, swelling, or unusual sores
- A temperature of 100 degrees or above (your child may not return to school until he/she has been fever-free for 24 hours without medication).

We do have students on our campus whose ability to fight off infection may be weakened due to medication, chemotherapy, or illness. Please follow these guidelines to ensure your child and all the students and staff at Dilworth can remain healthy through the winter.

FAMILY GIVING TREE

On Wednesday, our 5th graders hosted Dilworth's fifth annual charity day: Dare to Care. This successful event raised funds for a local organization called The Family Giving Tree. Family Giving Tree provides clothing and toys to children in need during the holiday season. If you would like to sponsor a child in need, please come by our school office and select a card from the tree. All gifts are to be dropped off in the school office by December 7th so we can deliver them to the donation site in San Jose. For further information about The Family Giving Tree, please visit: <http://www.familygivingtree.org/>

SCHOLASTIC HOLIDAY BOOK FAIR

Saturday December 10 from 12noon – 4:00 pm

December 12 – 16 from 8:30am – 3:00pm

The Scholastic Holiday Book Fair will be here soon and we're very excited about sharing the joy of reading. We invite your entire family to participate by visiting us during book fair week. Your child will be able to purchase books during their classroom library time or at lunchtime, and you are invited to come in either during regular school hours or during our Saturday community event on December 10th.

We need some help with the book fair so the students can come in during lunchtime. If you can help, please sign up using this link <http://signup.com/go/RNfZAc>

Thank you in advance for helping to make our students lifelong readers - we couldn't do it without you. Susan Gauthier

SCRIPPS SPELLING BEE

Congratulations to all our 1st - 5th grade students that participated in the Spelling Bee. The following students will be representing their classroom in the school-wide bee that is scheduled for Jan. 11th.

Adella J., Michael T., Amy T., Bharath P., Esha I., Niyati R., Alexander P., Daniel W., Jonathan K., Shovan J., Aarav J., Aditya R., Maya S., Anika S., Iris W., Lexie C.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

A heartfelt thanks to the following community members that took time from their busy schedules and helped with the Walkaround Counting event on Tuesday evening. We could not have done this without your support. Thanks!

Amritha Raghunathan
Yuka Bowers
William Liaw
Debbie Ward
Jennifer Leder
Kerstin Johnson
Susan Gauthier

DISTRICT NEWS SECTION - Vol. 9 2016-2017 - Elementary School



A MESSAGE FROM THE CUPERTINO EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION - Your support of the events below will allow us to perpetuate the legacy of educational excellence for all 25 elementary and middle schools of CUSD for years to come.

GREAT SCHOOLS GROCERY DAY AT WHOLE FOODS

Wednesday, December 7th, 2016 - 8 AM – 10 PM

Whole Foods Market - 20955 Stevens Creek Boulevard, Cupertino

Turn your grocery purchases into dollars for our Great Schools! 5% of net sales all day Wednesday will benefit our 19,000+ elementary and middle school students of CUSD!

Spread the word to your family, friends, and colleagues about this great opportunity to support our students. And please be sure to visit us at our table that day, where we will have activities for all to enjoy!

ANNUAL GALA: "SPRINGTIME IN PARIS"

Saturday, March 18th, 2017 - 5:30 PM – Midnight

The Fairmont San Jose

Please join us at our annual gala, "Springtime in Paris," as we celebrate over 30 years of partnerships with parents, businesses, and our local community in support of our CUSD schools.

The Gala will honor not only the 2016 - 2017 CUSD Teachers of the Year and the 2016 - 2017 District Teacher of the Year, but also the recipients of the Sandy Liu Community Service Leadership Award, the Innovative Technology Educator Awards, and the Patricia A. Lamson Endowment Fund for Reading Literacy Scholarship.

Additional highlights of the evening shall include tastings with local wine makers and breweries. Live and silent auctions, as well as a casino and dancing, will make this celebratory evening complete.

www.ceefcares.org

<https://www.facebook.com/ceefcares/>

CAC SPEAKER SERIES - JANUARY 18: INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS PANEL

Location: Fremont Union High School District Professional Learning Center, 589 West Fremont Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94087

Time: 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Presenter: General and special educators from SELPA II

Teaching all children, regardless of their needs, together in a single classroom is what "Inclusion" is all about. This panel discussion will cover how inclusion is currently being implemented within SELPA II. Our speakers from all three school districts will encompass general education and special education teachers from different grade levels. They will discuss strategies to include children in mainstreaming opportunities and meaningful inclusion in general education classrooms. They will address issues like communication and training with the general education staff and how they work together to ensure all student's needs are being met. Please come prepared with your questions about how inclusion is being successfully implemented at our schools.

ATTENDANCE REMINDERS

For every child to be successful, s/he must be healthy and attend school regularly. It is our desire to be supportive and work collaboratively to help you with your child's educational success. Regular attendance plays a significant role in student achievement.

Student Absence Reporting Expectations:

- If your child is going to be absent from school, please **notify the school office** either before the absence or in the morning of the absence.
- Office notification does not automatically make an absence excused.
- If your child has a fever, diarrhea or is vomiting, please keep your child at home. Students returning to school should be symptom-free for 24 hours.
- If your child has a doctor's appointment during the school day or is seen by a physician resulting in a school absence, please submit to the school office a doctor's note verifying the appointment/absence within five days of the absence.
- Per Education Code, an **advanced written request** must be submitted to the **school office** to receive a full day excused absence for participation in a religious exercise or holiday.

Failure to provide the advance written request will result in your child receiving an unexcused absence.

- A partial day absence for religious instruction or participation in religious exercises may be considered excused; please discuss options for such purposes with the school office.

The District does not support the practice of taking trips/vacations on school days, and parents are urged to schedule their travel during school breaks. If a family must plan a trip during the school year, parents may request a Short-Term Independent Study provided the student will return to school at least five (5) days before the last day of school. Such absences are unexcused unless it is prearranged and a Short-Term Independent Study contract has been approved by the school principal. Requests for Short-Term Independent Study will be evaluated by the school principal on a case-by-case basis after consideration of the criteria set forth below, including whether the student possesses the necessary motivation, commitment, organizational skills, and academic skills to work independently.

1. Requests **must be made at least ten (10) school days in advance** of the planned absence
2. The student must be in attendance at their assigned school for at least three (3) weeks before the commencement of the independent study
3. Absences for this purpose must be for a minimum of five (5) school days and a maximum of ten (10) school days per school year and shall not occur during the Spring assessment period
4. Student truancy patterns, including the number of unexcused absences or tardy (more than 30 minutes) for three days without a valid excuse, will be considered before approval

Student assignments under Short-Term Independent Study contracts are due on the first school day immediately following the student's return to school.

