

January 11, 2019

Happy New Year!

Monday was a little sleepy, but since then the speed and energy at school have ramped up to be once again an exciting place to learn! Everyone is well-rested and eager to continue the complex and satisfying work that we all do here.

I spent my two weeks at home with my family and it was divine. My seventh-grader got a longboard and had fun skateboarding to all of his friends' homes, and my first-grader and I watched Mary Poppins in the theater and visited the Exploratorium. I know some of you traveled far and wide, and some of you enjoyed staycations. Regardless, I hope the new year finds you all feeling well-rested and ready for the rigors of raising and educating our children!

Please continue reading to learn about some upcoming John Muir events, and remember to follow us on Twitter [@JMuirElementary](https://twitter.com/JMuirElementary).

Event for Prospective TK and Kinder Families

A special Principal's Coffee will be held on Friday, February 1st at 8:40 for parents of students who may join us next year for either TK or Kindergarten. The agenda is as follows:

- Learn about the registration process for both current TK students who would like to remain at John Muir instead of going to their home school, AND for students who do not currently attend TK but may attend Kinder at John Muir next year.
- Learn about some similarities and differences between TK and Kindergarten
- Learn about the fantastic weekly art and music instruction that all Muir students receive
- Briefly tour a Kindergarten and a TK classroom

Please spread the word among your friends and neighbors who may be interested!

Have You Donated Yet?

As of this month, about 60% of Muir families have donated this school year. Our Art, Music, Tech, and Library programs depend partly, or solely, on funds raised by the good work of our PTA. The suggested annual donation is \$400, but all amounts are welcome. Your student benefits from these programs, and you can support them by donating only \$40 per month (or more! or less!). [Click here](#) to donate, or visit the PTA page of the John Muir website.

Geography Bee

Our annual Geography Bee takes place during lunch next Wednesday, January 16th. Fourth and fifth graders are invited to participate.

Disaster Drill

Our annual Disaster Drill will take place next Wednesday, January 16th, at 1:10-2:15pm. **Please do not plan to check in or out your student during this time. The office will be closed.**

The purpose of the drill is to practice the steps we would take during an actual disaster, which in our area would most likely be an earthquake. During the drill, staff and students will first duck and cover in their classroom, and then evacuate to the preschool playground. Staff members will enact their specific assigned roles, such as Student Supervision, First Aid, and Search and Rescue. Some volunteer PTA parents will be on the scene as well to enact various situations that may occur at Student Release.

Karen Burnett Author Assembly

On Wednesday, January 16th, children's author Karen Burnett will present her assembly in our GLC at 9:15 and 10:35. Ms. Burnett is a former elementary school counselor who is now an author of several books for children that deal with teasing, insults, and other commonly-experienced negative behaviors. [Click here](#) to read more about her books and her positive message for our kids.