

# Cabrillo Cub Newsette

CVC 33<sup>rd</sup> District - A monthly newsletter published by the Cabrillo PTA to maintain quality communication between home and school.

## Principal's Message

### **Grand Opening of the New Cabrillo School**

Saturday, February 28th was truly a "grand" day for staff and students of Cabrillo School! See separate flyer next week about the details. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Grand Opening Committee for their dedication and hard work in making it a great success: Dr. Tom Johnstone, Mrs. Melissa Craig, Miss Corie Johnson, Mr. Michael Spiwak, Mrs. DeeDee Zirbel, and Mrs. Andra Taylor, PTA President. A special thanks to Mrs. Jeanne Smiley for her participation and for the inspirational speech.

### **Report Cards / Parent - Teacher Conferences**

Second trimester report cards and Title One continuums will be distributed on March 27th and parent conferences will run for five days - March 30th to April 3rd. The conference offers a special opportunity for parents and teacher to share information about the child. The best conferences end with both the parents and teacher feeling they have learned something about the child.

We will make the conference mandatory if your child is at risk of being retained. **If your child is far below grade level at the end of the second trimester, you will receive a letter stating that retention is a possibility for the 2009/10 school year.** We strive to keep open the lines of communication between the home and school in order to ensure your child's success at Cabrillo.

### **Before you go:**

- Schedule the conference in advance and keep the appointment.
- Talk to your child about the conference and find out if your child has any comments, questions, or concerns that need to be addressed.
- Be ready to discuss your child's positive and negative school experiences.

### **At the Conference:**

- Arrive on time.
- The teacher will tell you about your child's schoolwork.
- Here are some questions you might want to ask.
  1. In what subject does my child do well?
  2. What needs improvement?
  3. What can I do at home to help my child?

- Be willing to share pertinent information and answer questions.

Be aware that other parents are waiting for their conference. Leave promptly when your conference time ends.

### **When you get home:**

- Tell your child something good that the teacher said about him/her.
- Begin working with your child on areas that need improvement and follow-up on suggestions made by the teacher.
- Keep communicating with the teacher throughout the year.

**All kindergarten, first and second grade classes will be on shortened day schedule from March 30th to April 3rd. All Students will be Early Birds.**

### **Attendance**

Regular school attendance is important for many reasons. Children only learn school materials when they are at school. Most lessons are sequential in nature, with each lesson building on a previous lesson. Even though some of the work from a missed day can be made up, the lessons that were missed will not be taught again. Vacations, shopping trips, or other activities should be scheduled during non-school time.

As of September 1999, the State of California's Funding for School Attendance allows for no excuses. Students must be present for Wiseburn School District to collect ADA (Average Daily Attendance) funds. Please help us to maximize funding so that we can use the dollars to improve our schools' programs and services. If you find it necessary to have your child miss 5 or more days in a row, please ask the teacher for an Independent Study at least 5 days in advance.

**March is National Nutrition Month.  
Fight Obesity in our Schools.**

Please join us in teaching your children about healthy foods by making sure they eat a nutritious breakfast and bring healthy foods for snack and lunch. Some of our children don't eat a good breakfast and then come into the health office mid-morning for a snack. Stop this habit by being sure that your child eats breakfast before coming to school.

Why is teaching nutrition important?

- 1 in 5 school-age children in the United States is overweight or obese.
- Overweight children are at risk of developing heart disease and diabetes
- Overweight children have uncomfortable peer and social pressure
- Healthy children have higher classroom achievement

California Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell's goal is to improve the health of California's students! We at Cabrillo are accepting this challenge by teaching about good nutrition and encouraging physical activity. Participating in Walk to School Wednesdays is a good way to have your child get more physical activity.

Let's continue working together to make the next four months better than ever!

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Jane L. Comitz  
Principal

PTA President's Message

We are rapidly approaching Spring Break, and with it, our annual Readathon. Readathon is a fundraising opportunity and a challenge to our children to spend their time during Spring Break doing something good for their minds. It is also a competition. There will be prizes for the top readers in each grade, as well as for the top earners in each grade and for the top reading and earning classrooms. I know it seems inappropriate to have to pay a child to read, but there is something else at work during the Readathon. A contract is being made, and if we work together to support the process, children can learn something very valuable about commitment, contracts, and following through on what you promise.

Many fundraising organizations have gone away from the "per lap pledge" or the "cents per page pledge" for a couple of reasons. One is that it's simply easier to count the money when it comes in up front. Another, sadly, is that a lot of people pledge money and then don't pay up. We want our children to learn from the Readathon.

Great rewards come from fighting hard to meet a goal that is just barely within reach. Help your child decide how much they can read in a week. No fair padding the count with books that are too easy for your child's reading level. It's better for a child to struggle through a hundred pages of a chapter book which is at or a little above his or her reading level than it is to breeze through a thousand pages of baby primers which are neither challenging nor interesting. A suggestion for a pledge could be something like 5 cents per page read, plus an additional \$5 if the child meets the goal they set.

Author's Day

**March 12th is an extended day**

- Kindergarten: 8:30 am to 1:50 pm
- First & Second: 8:45 am to 3:00 pm
- BOOST: same schedule as usual

Parent/Teacher Conferences

**3/30 – 4/3 - all students are Early birds**

- BOOST:** same schedule as usual
- Kindergarten:** 8:30 am to 12:20 pm
- First & Second:** 8:45 am to 2:00 pm
- Second Grade** will be dismissed on 134th St.

Breakfast Sale

PTA Breakfast Sales are every Wednesday. Come join us in front of the office for coffee, juice, bagels, and other breakfast items. It's a great opportunity to ask questions, find out about volunteer opportunities, and just get to know other parents.

Goodie Sale

The next Goodie Sale will be on Wednesday, March 18th.

## March Calendar of Events

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- 3/12: End of 2nd trimester
- 3/12: Author's Day: extended day for all
- 3/13: Staff Development Day: No School
- 3/16: Hands-on-Art begins
- 3/17: St. Patrick's Day Spirit Day: Wear green!
- 3/24: First and Second Grades Student Success
- 3/25: Kindergarten Student Success
- 3/27: Report Cards sent home
- 3/30-4/3: Parent Conferences
- 3/30: Kindergarten Registration
- 3/30: Permit office open

## Rock Around the Block

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Flyers have gone home for the 6th Annual Rock Around the Block. This year's event will be held at **Anza School on April 4th**. Check out the WEF website at [www.wiseburnedfoundation.org](http://www.wiseburnedfoundation.org) for information on volunteer opportunities, donations, times and attractions. Remember, WEF helps to fund our district's music program and the Growing Great program to encourage healthy eating habits in our children and community, and Rock around the Block is their big event for the year. Come out and support a great program!

## PTA meeting

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The next meeting will be on Monday, **April 6th at 7:15pm** in the Parent Resource Room.

## Shelving Donation Needed

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The PTA is in need of two shelving units for storage and organization of the Hands-on-Art supplies. We are hoping for free-standing garage-type shelving units capable of holding the 18-gal. plastic tote boxes. If you have any you'd like to donate, please contact Andra Taylor at 310-297-0855 or [andramonkey@yahoo.com](mailto:andramonkey@yahoo.com).

## Walkathon

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Walkathon will be held on May 27th - look for more details as the date approaches.

## Hands-On-Art

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There will be a Hands-On-Art training session on **Wednesday, March 11th at 7 pm**. Flyers have gone home requesting volunteers to help teach and assist the children with the art project. If you are able to help, but cannot come at the time your child's class is scheduled, please consider helping in a different classroom. You will have a great opportunity to meet teachers you would not otherwise have cause to talk to, and we always need the help. Remember, you are your child's first teacher - don't be shy about stepping into a classroom!

## Wiseburn Public Library Events

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### Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration

The event will be at 10am on March 14th at the Wiseburn Public Library. Bring a purple snack to share.

**The 14th Annual Story Writing Contest** is going on "write" now. Many of Cabrillo's classrooms participate in this contest, so be sure to ask your child's teacher if your child has an entry. This is a terrific opportunity to encourage our children to develop a love of writing. Winner Presentations will be on April 18th. Winning stories will be read aloud and the presentations will be filmed by the local cable company for broadcast.

### Story time

Library story time is every Tuesday at 7pm and every Saturday at 10am.

Student Success Assembly – February 2009

**Kindergarten**

Room 1: Evelin Barba  
Hunter Toki-Mauigoa

Room 5: Matthew Marin  
Samara Pullen

Room 8: Zeina Akleh  
Anders Reely

Room 3: William Beltran  
Stephany Duran

Room 6: Josefina de Vera  
Sione Tukutau

Room 9: Eduardo Covarrubias  
Hannah Karnes  
Natalie Potter

Room 4: Andrew Morales  
Allison Nieves

Room 7: Kendall Coleman  
Daniel Medley

**First Grade**

Room 10: Sawyer Stein  
Breena Thompson

Room 14: Olivia Nguyen  
Leo Schleyer

Room 17: Damian Castro  
Kelley Goslin

Room 12: Khalid Jalloh  
Hannah Sierra

Room 15: Skyler Crise  
Darianne Meredith

Room 13: Luis Guardado  
Brandon Marin

Room 16: Jeffrey Morrow  
Jenna Primbsch

**Second Grade**

Room 19: Tamia Morton  
Storm Perdue

Room 21: Kayli Boyle  
Charlie Morgan

Room 25: Steven Gonzalez  
Paula Mendoza

Room 20: Michelle Chacon  
Anthony Curtis

Room 22: Kevin Guerra  
Celest Quinonez

Room 26: Eric Lopez  
Samantha Medina