

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Mission Statement

Castlebay Lane is a suburban elementary school dedicated, through its curriculum programs and educational opportunities, to educate, challenge, and inspire our students to reach their full potential. This is accomplished through our unique community-based partnership.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE – Vivian Ihuri

We are off to a great start! It's such a pleasure to visit the classrooms and see the students actively engaged in their learning.

As we set our goals for the new school year, the academic achievement of our students is paramount. Instruction based on the California State Content Standards is implemented in each classroom. The students are assessed regularly, and the results of those assessments drive the instruction in the classroom.

Also of great importance is character development through character education. We will continue to emphasize the "Six Pillars of Character." These universal values include trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. The students will be engaged in activities and lessons that focus on these values. We appreciate your support in this area.

There are a few concerns about safety. Please make sure that you and your children are using the crosswalks. Also, please do not drop off your children in or walk through the parking lot before or after school, as this is quite hazardous. The parking lot is for staff members only. Also, please do not drop off your children before 7:50 in the morning. There is no one on the yard to supervise the students before that time. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for all of your support.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE – Nancy Feigelson

We are off and running. This year promises to be as exciting and challenging as the last. Your children are one year older, making them one year wiser! They are all very excited about school, their new teachers, and their new grade levels. Good luck to them all.

Please check the flyers that are sent home with students for exciting upcoming Resource and Special Education events and meetings. Should you have any questions do not hesitate to call me.

EMERGENCY AND DISASTER CARDS

It is very important that you notify the school office when there is **any** change of information on the emergency and disaster cards.

LIBRARY – Laura Wolf

Welcome back to the library. Classes are visiting the library every other week. They are borrowing books for projects, research and recreational reading. Please remind your children that all library books need to be treated gently. Liquids and food will damage books. Library books need to be returned on time. A child will be able to borrow a book if they have returned one.

Parents are welcome to visit the library and may borrow books for their children. The library is open from 8:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. and is open after school until 3:30 p.m., providing there are no activities scheduled to take place in the library.

Thanks to the parents who signed up to volunteer. You help keep the library running!

ART UPDATE – Cindy Brenek

Art classes will be starting soon. Thank you for all the beautiful pictures for our note card fundraiser.

CAFETERIA – Juliana Loya

Please do not send large bills with students to purchase meals. The cafeteria does not have enough money to make change. Also, meal tickets are available for purchase in the cafeteria before school from 7:50 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Breakfast is served before school from 7:50 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. and again at recess.

SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL & ENGLISH LEARNERS ADVISORY COUNCIL

The first joint meeting of the Councils was held on Friday, September 22nd. Frida Samayoa, Parent Facilitator from District 1, conducted an orientation. On Friday, October 6th at 8:30 a.m. in the staff lunchroom, a second joint council meeting will be held to form the council and elect officers. These organizations are very important to Castlebay Lane, and we hope you will join us to become part of one, or both, councils. Please join us!

SCHEDULE CHANGES

The school will be closed on Monday, October 2, 2006. The school and after school playground will be closed. The YMCA will be open from 6:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. for students enrolled in the YMCA program.

The school will be on minimum day schedule: Tuesday, October 10, 2006.

Our minimum day schedule is as follows:

All Kindergarten students attend school from 8:11 a.m. – 12:40 p.m.

Grades 1 – 5 attend school from 8:21 a.m. – 12:50 p.m.

The YMCA will be open until 6:30 p.m. The after-school playground will be open until 4:10 p.m. No students will be permitted to remain on campus after 4:10 p.m.

Tuesday early dismissal begins on October 24, 2006. Kindergarten is dismissed at 1:30 p.m. and grades 1 – 5 are dismissed at 1:40 p.m.

Tuesday, October 31st is not an early Tuesday dismissal day. Students will be dismissed at 2:40 p.m. after the Halloween parade.

DATES TO REMEMBER

10/2	School closed
10/7	4 th Annual Resource Faire – 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (all students with an IEP received a flyer)
10/10	Back to School Night (school dismissed at 12:50 p.m. today)
10/11	Sp. Ed. Complaint Response Unit/Parent Resource Network meeting – 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
10/19	Picture Day
10/24	Early Tuesday dismissal time begins
10/28	Family Fun Day 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
10/31	Halloween Parade (rain cancels parade) 2:40 p.m. dismissal time today

THIS AND THAT

Welcome back! After the usual getting back to school routine is established, we generally like to review a few things with parents. Please take a moment to read over the following rules:

- Please tell your children if they forgot lunch, homework, backpacks, etc., to check in the office to see if a parent has delivered the items to the office. **The office and parents cannot disturb the classrooms during the instructional portion of the day to deliver forgotten items. The office will not be calling students to pick up delivered items that had been left at home.** Please be sure to send students to school with lunch money or lunch, snacks, homework, backpacks, etc.
- No parking in the faculty lot. The lot is reserved for Castlebay staff only and is not to be used to drop off or pick up students at any time. Please do not walk through the parking lot, as this is very dangerous.
- Use the carpool lanes as a safe way to drop off children.