

# NOVEMBER 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

Thank you very much for attending our Back to School Night. It was a wonderful evening, and I was so happy to see all of you. I'm sure that you found the teachers' presentations very informative and helpful. We are fortunate at Castlebay that the teachers, parents, and staff work together as a team to help our students to succeed.

Parents often ask for ways in which they can help their children at home. One of the best ways is to read with them as much as possible. Take an interest in what they are reading and ask them to tell you about what they are reading. You can also share with them a book that you are reading. By doing that, you are modeling the love of reading. I've also attached a list of "Homework Tips." I hope you find them helpful.

I want to thank those of you who have volunteered to help with the traffic in the morning. It makes such a difference in keeping the carpool lane flowing. Please remember not to jay-walk during the heavy traffic periods. It is very dangerous, especially when you are walking with your children. We want to make sure that we are setting a good example for them.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. It really is a time to appreciate and spend time with friends and family. On a personal note, I am very thankful for having the opportunity to be the principal of such a wonderful school.

### ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE – Nancy Feigelson

I would like to wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving. Enjoy your families and all of those wonderful foods that represent this time of the year.

The next Complaint Response Unit/Parent Resource Network monthly meeting will be on November 8, 2006 at the PCSB Auditorium. We will be starting our parent evening meetings soon. When our speakers are confirmed, I will send out notifications of dates and times. If you have a request, simply call me or write a note and have it placed in my mailbox at school. Remember, my door is always open should you have questions.

Have a wonderful holiday season. I wish you peace and wellness.

### 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 card.

**LIBRARY** – Laura Wolf

Classes are coming to the library every two weeks. They are checking out books for reports, projects, as well as for recreational reading. Please make sure your children return their books on time and in good condition. If a book is lost or damaged, please pay any fine assessed promptly so that your child will be able to continue to check out books.

The library hours are 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Please come in and check out books for your children!

The Entertainment Book Sale was a great success. Thank you for your support.

**COMPUTER LAB UPDATE** – Steve Ignacio

Welcome back Mr. Ignacio! We look forward to starting computer classes again this month.

**ART UPDATE** – Cindy Brenek

Students are busy working on projects for upcoming contests. Check the hallway for student artwork.

**CAFETERIA** – Juliana Loya

Meal tickets are available for purchase at the cafeteria before school from 7:50 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. When you purchase 20 tickets, you will receive 22! Also, as a reminder, breakfast is served before school and again at recess.

**P.A.T.H.** – Thea Carlson

Please continue to send in your 100% tax deductible donations for the *Just Think!* campaign. The funds are so important to your child's education at Castlebay. We appreciate all the pledges sent in to date.

P.A.T.H. meetings are held the first Friday of the month at 1:20 p.m. in the library. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. Get involved!

**SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL & ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS COUNCIL** – Marylin Short

The ELAC parents met October 6, 2006 and formed the council for the 2006-07 school year. The officers elected are as follows: Chairperson, Mika Kondo; Vice Chairperson, Nazimi Amiri; Secretary, Marylin Short; Representative to the local district ELAC, Naoko Miyaniishi; Alternate, Yuko Kashimi. A big Thank You to all those council members for helping us to do the best we can for our English learners. The next meeting of the council will be on Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome to join us.

The School Site Council met on October 6<sup>th</sup>. All but one of the members are returning for their second year. Toni Speyer was elected to the open position. The next meeting of the council will be on Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:45 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to attend the meeting and get involved.

### **SCHEDULE CHANGES**

The school will be closed on Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>.

The school and after-school playground will be closed. The YMCA will be open for those students enrolled in the "Y" program.

The school will be closed on Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> and Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup>.

The school, after-school playground, and YMCA will be closed.

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

#### **November**

11/1-3	Halloween candy drive
11/1	ELAC meeting 8:30 a.m.
11/3	PATH meeting 1:20 p.m. – Library
11/6-17	Food Drive
11/6	SSC meeting 2:45 p.m.
11/10	Closed
11/23-24	Closed

#### **December**

12/4-15	Toy & Coat Drive
12/18-1/5	Winter Break

### **THIS AND THAT**

Parents: Please let your children know to check in the office if they have forgotten items at home that should have come to school. **The office will not be calling students to pick up forgotten items.** Students and parents need to remember to check to make sure that students have everything with them in the morning. This includes homework, lunch (includes tickets and money), sweaters, coats, projects, etc.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!