

S U P E R S T A R S N E W S L E T T E R

www.ArlingtonPTA.com

December 2008 / Issue: 3

Hello Arlington Families,

Not to start off with a cliché but my how time flies!!! It is hard to believe another month has come and gone and the holidays are right around the corner. Wow!!!

The last week of October was dedicated to Red Ribbon Week. Thank you very much to chairpersons Ray Hsieh and Sandra Jones for coordinating a wonderful week of "I Elect to be Drug Free" educational activities and events. From the "Red Ribbon Week Kickoff" that was held at the Monday morning assembly which included a visit from two Torrance PD officers who delivered a drug free message to our entire student body and helped with the announcements of the Red Ribbon Poster Contest winners to Friday's "Say BOO to Drugs Day," it is certain a valuable impression was made on all the children about the importance of saying no to drugs.

On Halloween, Arlington held its' annual Halloween parade festivities. Although there were a few raindrops here and there, no one let a little rain, rain on our parade. It was led by our very own new sheriff in town, Vicki Roloff. We had a parade of ghosts and goblins, princesses and fairies and many other creative characters. Our "Marine Life Kinders" highlighted our parade with their performance of "A Great Big Fish." Although, I must add, the expectant 2nd grade teachers and their delivery doctors were also a highlight. I'm glad Mrs. Lyu made it through the parade!!! The fun was enjoyed by many of our Arlington families and friends. We thank everyone for coming out and sharing a very fun filled morning with all of the children.

Arlington's Reflections Contest came to an end the first week of November. Thank you to all of the children who participated in this year's Reflections Contest. WOW!!! Everyone did a fantastic job. Thank you to chairpersons Joyce Nishikawa and Laura Shiozaki for all of your time and hard work.

The Holiday Marketplace was held on Saturday, November 15th. We had a terrific turn out. If you weren't able to attend this year, mark your calendar for next year. Sharon Sawai, chairperson, did an awesome job putting it all together. There were over 50 vendors to shop from and it was easy to see everyone was having a great time looking around and shopping. I saw people with bags and smiles. Thank you very much to Sharon and her volunteers for all of their countless hours of hard work and pulling off a truly extraordinary event.

Our 5th Grade Class of 2009 had their own concessions stand thanks to the hard work and efforts of chairs Laura Aoyagi and Sharon Akioka and their many volunteers. The hot dogs, pizza, chips, nachos, candy and drinks were all delicious but the chili rice and spam musubi were definitely the hits. Also a hit, was all the fun our 5th graders had taking orders and helping out. Thank you also to Lisa Takata for her work on the gift baskets raffle. Congratulations to Miss Roloff, one of the lucky winners!!!

Thank you also to everyone for your generous donations of baked goods for the PTA's bake sale. Everything looked so delicious and so tempting. It was very hard to sell and not sample instead. Thank you all for your continued support!!! And thank you to Mr. Kamida and his students for providing their exquisite musical entertainment for our listening pleasures.

With the holiday season upon us, please take a look at the bulletin board in front of the office. This year under the direction of Linda Corello, Holiday Giving chairperson, Arlington will be collecting items for BHS (Behavioral Health Services, Inc.) This organization provides a Residential Drug and Alcohol Treatment Program for Women and their Children. I am sure anything collected will be appreciated.

Please join us on Thursday, December 11th for our 2nd PTA Association Meeting in the cafeteria at 6:30 p.m. The Kindergarteners will provide this year's holiday program performance immediately following the meeting.

Lastly, with this being the final newsletter of the year, I just want to wish everyone a wonderful and magical holiday season. With the hustle and bustle this time of year brings, I sincerely hope you will be able to find some time to spend with family and friends and really enjoy each other's company and welcome into your hearts the spirit of the season. With the recent devastation of the California Wildfires, I am sure we all have many things to be thankful for. Please keep those not so fortunate in your thoughts.

Wishing everyone a happy and safe holiday season!!!!
Until next year.....

Alicia Mashiko
PTA President



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Torrance, CA 90504

Vicki Roloff, Principal

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Arlington PTA
Torrance Council of PTA's
Thirty-Third District, California State PTA

Alicia Mashiko, President
Chris Mason, Newsletter Editor

Principal's Message

IMPORTANT information

Parents **MUST** know about Emergencies!

Arlington participated in the Southern California Great Shake Out today. This drill was to prepare for a 7.8 earthquake. Going through the drill sparked many **reminders of important information that our parents and families MUST know in case of an evacuation, earthquake, and/or disaster affecting our school.** In the event of a major earthquake, the entire campus will be locked down. **The only gate that will be open** to access students will be on **178th street by the playground.** Parents will be allowed on campus to reunite with their children however, strict check out procedures will be in place. Families **must check out** with our personnel at the gate by turning in the child's emergency card that the child will be holding/wearing. The personnel at the gate will circle the name of the adult on the green card who took the student. The school will do its best to try and record a possible location the family member is headed to, however, **families are strongly encouraged** to have a planned location selected in advance with family members and the adults listed on the green card. A reminder, the 4.0 earthquake we experienced this summer knocked out phone access displaying the importance for a planned location. **Students will only be released to adults listed on the green card.** It is **imperative** that the parents list trusting adults who can access students within our school location, especially if families work out of town. It is highly likely that freeways and roads could be closed, access into the city could be restricted, or worse yet a parent could be injured or severely hurt in the quake. Thus, for these reasons, families must make sure there is more than "mother" or "father" listed on the green card. Please come into the office to make additions or updates. Thank you. We will all work together to keep our students and your children safe and calm in an emergency such as a major earthquake. Arlington will go through another mock drill in January where we actually have "injured students" and parents coming to campus to "check out" their students. This drill is intended to help us better our preparedness.



Principal
Arlington Elementary

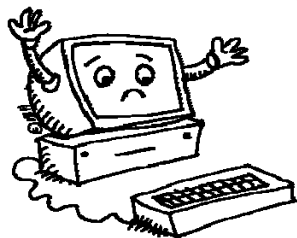


THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE

- Dec. 11 - Holiday Program 6:30pm
- Dec. 18 - **SANTA VISITS** Arlington
- Dec. 15-19 - Parent Conferences
2:05 Dismissal
- Dec. 11 - Jan 2 - **NO SCHOOL**
Winter Break



Visit ARLINGTON on the Web!



<http://www.ArlingtonPTA.com>

Daniel Hoff
Arlington Webmaster
webmaster@arlingtonpta.com

FIFTH GRADE NEWS

A HUGE THANK YOU to LAURA AOYAGI and SHARON AKIOKA
for planning and coordinating **our Fifth Grade Food Booth** at the **Holiday Marketplace!**

They did an AMAZING and superlative job!
Our hats off to you both for your outstanding contribution!

Thank you also to all the dedicated parents and fifth graders who worked so hard preparing and selling food that day! Thanks to Cathy Watanabe, Kellie Watanabe, Tami Balasbas, Jason Balasbas, Lisa Okada, Kyle Okada, David Berch, Traci Saruwatari, Ryan Saruwatari, Kevin Aoyagi, Laura Aoyagi, Ty Aoyagi, Elizabeth Sumida, Craig Akioka, Justin Akioka, Sharon Akioka, Lisa Takata, Megan Takata, Lauren Sabihon, Evan Mejia, Joy Mejia, Justin Baba, Richie Mashiko, Renzo Pereyra, Tommy Shirota, Kiane Wang

Thank you to all the families who donated items such as spam musubis, candy, and drinks for the booth! Thank you to the Joshua Kaneshiro Family, Kyle Okada Family, Ty Aoyagi Family, Evan Mejia Family, Dylan Hatai Family, Justin Baba Family, Jusitn Akioka Family, Jason Balasbas Family, Kellie Watanabe Family, Megan Takata Family, Kiane Wang Family, Ethan Shelton Family, Madeleine Butler Family, Lauren Sabihon Family, Ryan Saruwatari Family, Michael Izawa Family, Nathan Santiago Family, Hope Sochia Family.

A special thank you to Ohana Grill for donating the coffee.
A special thank you to all the vendors who kindly donated items for our raffle baskets!
Thank you to Lisa Takata for heading up our raffle basket sale! Great job!

We are so fortunate to have such dedicated and hard-working people helping out our fifth grade class! Please forgive me if I have missed anyone. Thanks so much to all!!

Arlington 5th Grade Class

FROM THE LIBRARY:

The Library has begun labeling books for the school's Accelerated Reader program. This process entails:

- Comparing our library's database with the Accelerated Reader Program's master list
- Creating labels for each book containing pertinent information requested by Ms. Roloff and the teachers
- Pull books off the shelf, attach labels, re-shelve the books
- Various other tasks (covering, repairs, etc.)

Thank you to the following parents for coming in and helping with this project (sorry if I have left anyone out):

Jan Akahiji, Molina Albrecht, Barbara Bainton, Janet Fujimura, Nancie Fukushima, Sandra Jones, Alicia Mashiko, Kim Miyamoto, Cayme Momita, Jan Nguyen, Donna Rabut, Paula Samora, Aleah Sawai, Sharon Sawai, Lena Seitz, Laura Shiozaki, Daphne Tanimitsu, Julia Tominaga, Diane Wang

Thank you also to our daily parent volunteers who have helped me keep the library running smoothly while we tackle this project:

Teofila Aldozaabal, K.L. Chok, Erica Hettinger, Stacy Ishimaru, Sheri Kamiya, Ayako Kimura, Jessica Maurer, Emiko Miyamoto, Naomi Suzuki, Eve Tanaka, Kristi Tanaka, Naomi Toyota, Denise Yamaguchi

This project will be ongoing throughout the school year so if you have the time and are cleared to volunteer (volunteer form and TB test on file in the office), please come by and give us a hand. We'd really appreciate it!!!

Karen Paguirigan
Arlington PTA Librarian

MURAL

The library mural is nearing completion!

Mr. Mason, Arlington's resident artist has been volunteering his talents on the mural since mid-August and the mural is nearly 80% finished - If you are visiting campus please feel free to drop by and take a peek.



This year Arlington Elementary Superstars will be helping

Behavioral Health Center, Inc.'s Patterns...

Patterns is a residential drug and alcohol treatment program for women and their children. The home is located in Hawthorne and alcohol and drug dependent women and children from all South Bay cities.

This facility is unique in that it allows women with dependent children, up to age 10, to enter the program as a family unit.

Participants develop a sense of responsibility for themselves, their children and their program while preparing for a successful transition to the sober community.

Gift tags for the women and their children requesting items from shoes to toys are now available. Please see the Holiday Giving Board located in front of the Cafetorium each morning and afternoon.

Please open your hearts to these women and children. If you have any questions or would like to help, please contact Linda at 310.324.2433.

Please Read!

Changes to TUSD Attendance Policy

For the 2007-08 school year, the Torrance Unified School District (TUSD) lost almost \$5,000,000.00 in guaranteed funds from the State of California.

During the 2006-07 school year, the District lost over \$4,300,000.00. The State of California provides TUSD with \$33.14 for each day every student is in school. This money helps run the day-to-day operation of the schools. If your child is absent from school for any reason (unless there is a prearranged contract with the school), the District is not paid by the State of California. Per the California Department of Education Code, absences can only be counted as excused student absences for illness or a medical appointment, quarantine, or to attend a funeral of a student's immediate family member. Even if the absence is excused, the TUSD will not receive State monies.

Effective immediately, if your child is absent for vacation, etc., the absence will be recorded as unexcused. The TUSD considers more than 10 days of absences and/or tardies in a school year to be excessive (unless there is a doctor's note verifying an illness). If a student exceeds the above-mentioned absences and/or tardies, interventions will occur. As you know, our school district is in a severe budget crisis. We appreciate your assistance in having your children in school every day that they are not ill.

PAPER DRIVE CONTINUES

Arlington is participating in its first paper drive. We are seeking any voluntary donations of Xerox paper to be donated directly to the school for our beloved teachers to use for student work, homework, or student news. If you, **or the company you work for** are interested in donating any paper and/or gift cards for supplies - please feel free to drop it off in the school office.

Thank you for supporting Arlington's first paper drive.



YEARBOOK

Holidays are fast upon us, and work on the 2009 Arlington yearbook continues - if parents or teachers take any 5th grade pictures during any of the holiday parties or school activities and events, please be sure and contact Chris Mason with any photos you may want included in the yearbook!

Thanks,
Chris Mason
2009 Yearbook Chairman
cmbatz34@sbcglobal.net



Galleria School Rewards - GSR

ARLINGTON is currently in 3rd place as of 11/15/08. Please get your receipts stamped and logged at the **Guest Services** desk by **Nordstrom**. For your convenience, there is a **GSR Receipt Collection Envelope** in the **School's Office**. If you need your receipts back, please put them in an envelope with your child's name and room # written on it. **AFTER** your receipts are stamped, they will be returned to the Collection Envelope. **ELIGIBLE RECEIPTS MUST BE DATED 2/1/08-12/31/08 AND LOGGED BY 12/31/08!** The 2008 GSR program ends on 12/31/08 and will resume on 2/1/09.

TRIPLE POINTS for **ALL** purchases in **DECEMBER!** **QUADRUPLE POINTS** for **ALL SOUTH BAY GALLERIA Gift Card** purchases made and logged in **DECEMBER**.

BLACK FRIDAY (11/28/08) - ALL purchases MADE and LOGGED on Friday, 11/28/08 will receive 10 bonus points per dollar. Present combined receipts (**EXCLUDING** department stores) totaling \$150 or more at Guest Services and receive a **FREE \$10 Galleria gift card.** Limit one free \$10 Galleria gift card per person.

TEN POINTS for Santa photo purchases **11/8/08-12/31/08.**

GALLERIA E-CLUB - NEW sign ups will earn 250 bonus points. **ARLINGTON** must be put in the **SCHOOL NAME** box under "Areas of Interest" in order to get the bonus points. Sign up at www.southbaygalleria.com.

Sign Up for and earn money for Arlington!

Register your **Macy's credit card, Vons/Pavilions/Safeway Club cards, and HOWS Market eScrip Community Cards** at www.escrip.com. These companies **donate up to 6% of your purchases** to Arlington. **OfficeMax, Diner's Club, Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover,** or an **ATM card** can also be registered at www.escrip.com. Remember to use your registered cards when you shop at **eScrip** merchants. **Arlington's Group ID # is 6470421.** **HOWS Market eScrip Community Cards** are available in the **School's Office**. Please register the card at www.escrip.com/howes.jsp or call **1-800-931-6258.** **Macy's cards** can also be registered by calling **1-800-254-5404.** **TopValu, Valu+, Buy Low, PriceRite, Valu-Mart, and Amar Ranch** have joined eScrip! **KV Mart eScrip Community Card** are available in the **School's Office.**

BUY GROCERIES AND EARN MONEY FOR ARLINGTON!

NEW Ralphs Rewards cards must be registered/re-registered for the new term period, 9/1/08-8/31/09. Ralphs Rewards cards can be registered at www.ralphs.com. Click on **School Programs** and then **Sign in/Register.** **Arlington's NPO (Non-Profit Organization) # is 80905.** After your card is registered, you will see the message "**At your request, Ralphs is donating to ARLINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA**" at the bottom of your Ralphs receipt. If you have any question regarding your Ralphs Rewards Card, please call **1-800-660-9003.** You **MUST** scan your Ralphs Rewards card in order for Arlington to receive the donation for your purchase. **Food 4 Less Community Rewards cards** are available in the school's **Office** and can be registered at www.food4less.com. **Arlington's NPO # is 80905.** **Albertsons/Sav-On Preferred Savings cards** can be registered at www.albertsons.com/cp. **Click on Shoppers.** **Arlington's ID# is 49000125476.**



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Office Depot donates 5% to schools. **Arlington's school ID # is 70015831.** Please give this # to the cashier before your transaction is totaled. Online purchases at www.officedepot.com are also eligible for the 5% donation. You will need to know your Office Depot order #. The **5% Back to Schools Program** is listed under **SPECIALS** at www.officedepot.com.

