

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

www.ArlingtonPTA.com

January 2009 / Issue: 4

Hello Arlington Families,

Happy New Year!!! Hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and was able to get some rest and relaxation during the Winter Break.

Well, it's the start of the New Year and there is much to look forward to but before looking forward, just a quick look back at what went on prior to our Winter Break.

Thank you to Linda Corello for chairing this year's Holiday Giving Program. Once again Arlington families opened up their hearts donating items that were requested by BHS (Behavioral Health Services, Inc.) I am sure because of Arlington's giving hearts, it made the holidays for some, brighter. Thank you Arlington families for your ongoing generosity.

Applause-applause, bravo-bravo to our Kindergarten students and our Kindergarten teachers. Their holiday program performance "Holidays by the Shore" was enjoyed by many. The children were so cute dressed in their holiday beach attire and they all sang their hearts out getting everyone who attended, into the holiday spirit. Thank you K's for treating Arlington families and friends to an evening of song and joy. A performance well done!!!

And right before Winter Break, Arlington had a visit from Old Saint Nick himself. Thanks for your visit Santa... Ho, Ho, Ho...

Now on to the present.....

Honorary Service Nominations are now being accepted. Deadline is January 15th, 2009. HSA recipients will be honored at our HSA/Founder's Day Program/Association Meeting on February 19th. For further details, please contact Michelle Sabihon @ (310) 515-3988.

Family Math Night for 4th and 5th graders will be held on Thursday, January 22nd. Come out for not only an evening of fun filled math activities but also an evening that will show our students, learning math can be fun.

Arlington's Scholastic Book Fair will be held January 22nd - February 2nd with Family Book Fair Days being held on January 24th and 31st. Chairperson Tim Hartlove will be bringing in an assortment of books and other items for students to view and purchase. It's a great event that encourages reading!!! Family Book Fair Days will be held on January 24th and 31st. 5th Grade will be selling concessions. Proceeds will go towards year end activities. Come join in on all the fun!!!

Please be reminded, for all the latest news at Arlington, visit www.ArlingtonPTA.com 24/7.

Finally, with the New Year upon us, this is a great time to make new resolutions, set some goals and once again focus in on our "Shining Stars of Today and Tomorrow." As time allows in the midst of our busy schedules, try to take the time to spend with your children and listen to what they have to say. Time goes by so quickly....

Here's to a New Year!!! Have a wonderful and happy 2009!!!

Alicia Mashiko
PTA President



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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

Dear Arlington Families and Friends,

I hope the winter vacation found you well rested, fed, and ready to get back into the school routine. As many of you know, the State of California is experiencing a serious budget crisis. As part of the Governor's proposal to address this crisis, the State will be requiring Torrance Unified School District to cut over 8 million from our already lean budget. To date, the district had already cut 8 million dollars from the budget for this school year. Clearly, these cuts will have a direct impact on our programs at Arlington.

We need to stay positive and be proactive in ensuring that the quality education your child receives at Arlington continues. This can only happen with the support of our dedicated teachers, staff, and supportive parents and community members. How can you help?

One way you can greatly help support our programs is participating in our PTA fundraising activities. Supporting these programs directly helps the funding of programs and activities for our students. Registering your shopping cards at Ralphs and Target as well as turning in receipts from shopping at the Galleria Mall. Check out our website for additional fundraising opportunities at www.arlingtonpta.com

In addition, one of our biggest expenses at school is paper. We would enthusiastically accept donations of sealed reams of copy paper. Our primary color is white, but other colors would be appreciated as well.

Arlington families can also make tax-deductible donations to Arlington Elementary School. In addition, many corporations offer their employees gift matching programs to schools. Please check with your employer about their school donation programs. Donations would go toward purchasing new technologies, providing before and/or after school intervention classes, as well as other programs and materials necessary for your child's education.

We, as a staff are committed to writing grants to support our educational program. Arlington teachers have written grants bringing in additional money to purchase materials to enhance the educational program, as well as updating a classroom with 21st Century Technology. As you can see, we are dedicated in doing our part, too.

If you have any questions, or would like to meet with us on how you can help us get through these difficult financial times, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



*Principal
Arlington Elementary*



THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE

- Jan. 19 - **NO SCHOOL** MLK Day
- Jan. 21 - Earthquake Drill
- Jan. 22 - Family Math Night Grades 4 & 5
- Jan. 23 to Feb. 2 - **BOOK FAIR**
Family Days (24 & 31)
10:am - 4:pm
- Jan. 30 - **NO SCHOOL** Student Free Day
- Remember early dismissal every Wednesday at 2:20pm



FIFTH GRADE NEWS

The fifth grade Five Star Club is beginning this month. We have a lot of exciting things planned, as we learn about leadership and character.

Five Star is open to all fifth grade students, and will be meeting two Fridays a month, after school from 3:10-4:15pm.

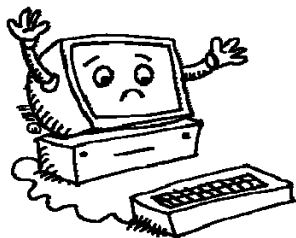
Meeting dates for Five Star Club will be on **January 9 & 23, February 6 & 20, March 6 & 20, April 3 & 17, May 1 & 22, and June 5.**

All fifth graders will be receiving class t-shirts soon. Please be sure to get your sizes and orders in! Wear your shirt on Fridays to show your 5th grade class spirit!

Don't forget to turn in your photos for the year-book! We need baby photos, kindergarten photos and candid, and photos of fifth grade activities.

Looking forward to lots of FUN!

Visit ARLINGTON on the Web!



<http://www.ArlingtonPTA.com>

Daniel Hoff
Arlington Webmaster
webmaster@arlingtonpta.com

In November, Arlington held its Annual PTA Holiday Marketplace & Bake Sale. A huge "Thank You" goes out to the participating vendors, customers, & many volunteers who helped make this another successful event!

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You to:

The Set Up/Clean Up Dads: K.L. Chok, Ricky Pagurigan, Ryan Momita, Robert Sawai, Derek Kawamura, John Fukushima, & Calvin Mizobe.

Bake Sale Crew: Cayme Momita & Nancie Fukushima (Coordinators)
Nancy Nishihira, Alicia Mashiko, Lena Seitz, Karen Pagurigan, Leah Sawai, Michelle Sabihon, & Paula Samora (Volunteers)

A huge Thank You to our "**Arlington Bakers!**" who donated all of the goodies: The Schultz Family, Terie Tinsley, Kozue Kondo, The Hotta Family, Sarah Rivera, Akane Nagashima, Ayako Kimura, Sandy Tsukamoto, Medali Ramaley, Penny Lacy, Cayme Momita, Nancie Fukushima, North High School Marching Band, Dan Carter, Leah Sawai, Fiona Maier, Joyce Nishikawa, Susan Brooks, Tina Whelchel, Donna Rabut, Barbara Crawford, Jean Yamanaka, Kristin Ishida, Charlene Sakatani, Janet Fujimura, Sheri Kamiya, Alicia Mashiko, Melanie Misumi, Pam Shigeta, Traci Saruwatari, Pauline Hirabayashi, Jodi Iwakiri.

My apologies if I inadvertently left anyone out.

I sincerely appreciate everyone's donation, help, & support for this event. This could never have been done without everyone's participation.

**Thank You again,
Sharon Sawai
Holiday Marketplace Chair**

5 "GREEN"

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

Think outside the (disposable plastic) bottle – Plastic bottles require massive amounts of fossil fuels to manufacture and transport. Last year, Americans consumed about 50 billion of these plastic water bottles. And did you know that several bottled water brands use the same H2O that's available from your faucet. The solution: buy an eco-chic reusable stainless steel bottle, and refill it throughout the day — for free!

"Green" is the new black – Donate old, unwanted or out-of-date clothing rather than disposing of them. You'll be saving on landfill space and your gently used items will be greatly appreciated by families in need. Also, when shopping for your own wardrobe, try to avoid cheaply-made, trendy items that aren't meant to last more than a season or two. These items are often made overseas, and use synthetic fabrics that won't biodegrade.

Just say "NO!" to paper AND plastic – Bring your own reusable bag when shopping. Your reusable shopping bag is not only for use at Trader Joe's or Whole Foods! Take them everywhere, even when you shop at the mall. And don't worry; stores will not discriminate if you are toting a reusable bag from a competitor. They will be happy for your business.

Food for thought – Consider where your food comes from, how many chemicals are used and how much pollution and waste have been generated in the production of your food products. Instead, support local agriculture by shopping for food at a farmers market. We have many local farmers markets, even one held here in Torrance at Wilson Park on Tuesday and Saturday mornings. The goods will be fresh, and it can be a fun outing for the whole family!

RECYCLE, RECYCLE, RECYCLE – You've already been filling your light gray Torrance recycling container every week, but don't let the recycling bin be the only green badge you wear. Try buying products that sport the triple arrow recycling symbol that is also a triangle, which indicates that something is both recyclable *and* made from recycled materials. Without a market for recycled-content products, there could be no need, or opportunity, for us to recycle.

PTA Holiday Breakfast

Our annual PTA Holiday Breakfast for the faculty and staff was a huge success! We received many compliments and thanks for what was brought. Thank you to everyone who brought food, helped set-up and clean up. Thank you also to those who donated gifts for the raffle. We couldn't have done it without you! We apologize if we are missing anyone.

Mona Albrecht, Barbara Crawford, Janet Fujimura, Nancie Fukushima, Pauline Hirabayashi, Ray & MaryAnn Hsieh, Sandra Jones, Shelley Liebsack, Kim Miyamoto, Cayme Momita, Jan Nguyen, Karen Paguirigan, Michelle Sabihon, Charlene Sakatani, Paula Samora, Lena Seitz, Pam Shigeta, Laura Shiozaki, Julia Tominaga, and Diane Wang

Thank you!

**Barbara Crawford, Cayme Momita
and Karen Paguirigan
4th VPs of Hospitality**

Pennies for Patients

Arlington Elementary will once again participate in the Pennies for Patients program. Since 1994, millions of dollars have been raised in pennies & other spare change by more than 10 million Elementary, Middle, & High School students throughout the country. The funds collected directly benefits The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

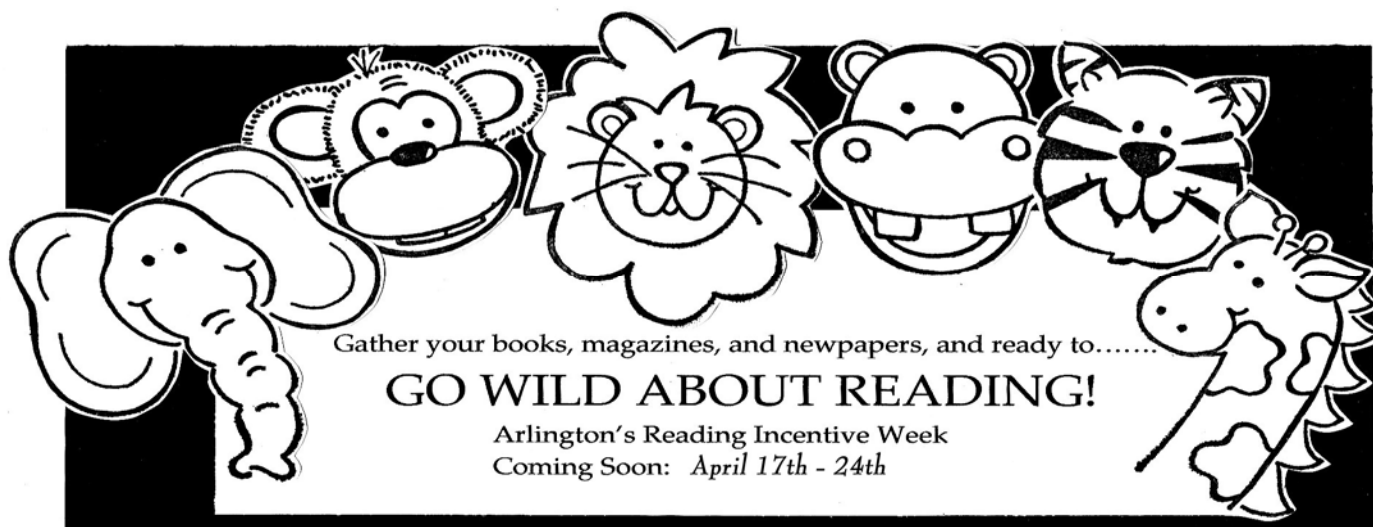
The Coin Drive will run February 10 - 27th, with each Arlington classroom having a coin bank for the kids to dispense their donated coins into. Various prizes are available for the classrooms with the most money donated.

Please note that this is not a "fundraiser" that directly benefits Arlington Elementary, but rather benefiting a charitable cause. We hope to not only raise money for medical research, but to also teach the children the importance of giving.

Thank You.

Nancie Fukushima & Sharon Sawai

Ways & Means



Adventures in Art

Happy New Year! Hope you all had a great vacation and are up for some more fun art projects! In January, we will be doing **Shibori Banners**, using dyes to make beautiful patterns. **This will be lots of fun, but it may be messy too. Be prepared and bring a smock or old t-shirt to wear.**

WARNING: You may want not want to wear your new Christmas clothes for this one!

Also, we will be needing newspapers and containers for this project. If you have **any newspapers or 15 oz. margarine or sour cream containers with lids, or tofu containers to donate, we would appreciate it!** Let's go green and recycle! You can drop these items off in the Adventures in Art donation bins in the cafeteria.

Thanks for your help! Hope you enjoy the Project!

MURAL

The library mural should be done this month

Mr. Mason, Arlington's resident artist has been volunteering his talents on the mural since mid-August and the mural. (as of this writing is 95% complete) If you are visiting campus please feel free to drop by and take a peek.



Galleria School Rewards - GSR

ARLINGTON is currently in 4th place as of 12/15/08. The GSR Awards Ceremony will take place on Thursday, 1/29/09 at 10:00am on the 3rd level in the Food Court. Please come and support Arlington! The 2009 GSR program will resume on 2/1/09. Please log your South Bay Galleria receipts at Guest Services Desk on the 1st level by Nordstrom starting on 2/1/09. There is an Unstamped GSR Receipts Envelope in the School's Office for your convenience.

Sign Up for eScrip 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/how.js or call 1-800-931-6258. Macy's cards can also be registered by calling 1-800-254-5404. TopValu, Valu+, Buy Low, PriceRite, ValuMart, 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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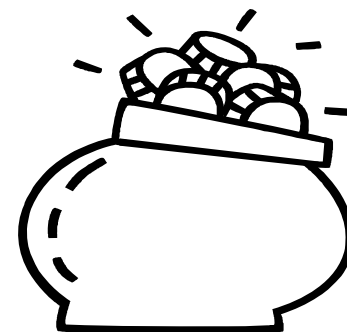
Want to help Arlington? Here's how.

If you're already a Upromise member, simply log in and link your account to our school.

If you're not a member, you can join FREE at www.upromise.com/schools. For more information on how you can save for college and raise money for our school, visit www.upromise.com/schools. Arlington's ID # is 2783071372

Office Depot-5% Back to School

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



YEARBOOK

Work on the 2009 Arlington yearbook continues - if parents or teachers take or have any 5th grade pictures of 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
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(310) 516-0155

