

JOHN ADAMS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

www.johnadams_torrance.com

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Principal

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THANK YOU TO OUR ADAMS DONORS

A huge thank you to all of our students who have participated in "community service" events. At holidays Miss Anderson's 5th graders wrote books and gave them as gifts to patients at Children's Hospital. For Valentines Day our students made 350 valentines that Miss Sharon delivered to the Veterans' Administration Hospital in Long Beach, and for Jump for the Heart we collected donations to give to the American Heart Association (we'll tell you how much later). It's clear that PATRIOTS CARE!

Thank you to: Child Life Books for the donation of Manners I Care, for our school Library (a matching gift from Kaylee Davis); the Woofers (Kari Lynn and Kassandra), the Schulchters (Kendall and Alexa), the Oharas (Ryan), and the Hamachi's (April) for the donation of copier paper; and South Bay Bank for the donation of \$120 to purchase jump ropes for each child for our Jump for the Heart event.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SECOND SEMESTER STUDENT COUNCIL

Our second semester officers are: President - Madison Noble; Vice President - Sydney Webb; Treasurer- Noelle Ly; Secretary - Madison Kelley; Activities Director - Tyler Wise.

Our Student Council Representatives are: Rm. 2 - Autumn Frlakin & Brandon Leevy; Room 6 - Emma Reynolds & Evan Dahl; Rm. 9 - Ronnie Wise & Sammy Baron; Rm. 10 - Philip Poulin & Arielle Santos; Rm. 11 - Riley Chance & Amanda Applegate; Rm. 12 - Phoebe Cho & Matthew Lee; Rm. 13 - Glen Abalayan & Heidi Synn; Rm. 14 - Josie Salcido & Erika Goto; Rm. 15 - Jack Jansen & Victoria Salinas-Gutierrez; Rm. 16 - Haley Rueger & Tommy Nash; Rm. 17 - Linda Oh & Anuujin Togtohbayar

Thank you to all of our students who ran for Room Rep. and for Council office. You're the best!! We had a very high level of participation and spirit!

SCIENCE FAIR - March 29-30

Our annual Science Fair is coming March 29th. Projects are due in the cafeteria first thing in the morning. If the teachers have asked for them ahead of time the students will set them up the afternoon before. We are asking that students keep display space down to what is actually needed for their project. If you can use a space smaller than the standard display board, we'd really appreciate it. PTA will be selling display boards in the school office on a first come first served basis for \$3 for those who choose this mode of presentation.

Projects will be judged by Torrance High science students. One project from each grade level will be selected to represent Adams at the District Science Fair on April 5th. The judges will interview each student who submits a project. Judges will make their selections based on: use of the scientific method, originality, presentation, ability to discuss the project, understanding of underlying concepts, and participation in building the display. Judging will take place on March 29th. Our classes will visit the Science Fair on March 30th, and parents will have the opportunity to see the projects that evening at Open House. The projects may go home at the end of Open House or on Friday morning.

KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP - By Appointment Only

Kindergarten Round-Up is a chance for our incoming Kindergarteners and their parents to pre-enroll for the fall, meet the staff, and see what kindergarten is like. Round-Up is also a chance for our teachers to meet our incoming students and for the PTA to welcome parents and share ways to be involved in their child's school experience. Some parents have questions about their child's readiness for kindergarten - Round-Up can help to answer those questions. We will have information about the Preppy program - the "gift of time" for students who are old enough to begin kindergarten, but may developmentally need a little more time with a pre-K program. If you have a student who will turn five on or before December 2nd, 2006, or know of someone else who does, please make sure to schedule a Round-Up appointment. We are making appointments for April 25, and May 3. Call Sharon Jones at 533-4480.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR PHONE - LET THE OFFICE KNOW

Please be reminded that it is your responsibility to inform the office if any of the information on your emergency card changes during the school year. If you move, please let us know immediately. If you move out of the area and wish to finish the year at John Adams it may be possible to accommodate your request. If you move and don't tell us, you jeopardize your right to have your child continue at John Adams. Remember, we can help you in case of emergency or if your child is sick or hurt only if we have correct phone numbers. Please do not jeopardize your child's health and safety; keep us up to date.

STUDENT CELL PHONE USE

State law authorizes student possession of cell phones and pagers provided that the devices do not disrupt the educational program or school activity. Cell phones and pagers must be turned off during school hours, and at any other time directed by a TUSD employee. If a cell phone or pager is used by a student during the school day it will be confiscated and turned in to the school office. **At Adams, all cell phones and pagers must be turned off from 8:25 a.m. until 2:47 p.m.** We discourage families from sending cell phones or pagers to school with students as they are expensive items and the school cannot assume responsibility for loss or damage.

OPEN ENROLLMENT

If you are a Torrance resident and wish to have your child attend a school other than your "home school" you can apply through Open Enrollment for the TUSD school of your choice. Open Enrollment is granted on a space available basis. If granted, it's like a permanent permit, you only need to go through the process one time. Your open enrollment status continues through the elementary, middle and high school years - so the student would be expected to continue to attend the feeder schools in the area to which he/she has applied. This would change only if you applied for a permit to go elsewhere or moved out of the district. Open enrollment applications are available in the school office if you are interested in participating in the program. Your application must be

delivered in person to the Child Welfare and Attendance office at 2335 Plaza del Amo March 6-10, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; March 13-17, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; or March 18, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Late applications will not be accepted under any circumstances. No applications will be accepted via telephone or fax.

SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL

School Site Council met on January 18th. We approved the Single Plan for Student Success and submitted it to the Board of Education for approval. The draft of the Parental Involvement Policy was presented and approved. The policy will be posted on the site web page and available in the office for anyone interested. The safe school report noted that we had had no incidents of vandalism since the November meeting and 2 suspensions before the holidays.

ELMAC MEETS FEBRUARY 24TH

The second meeting of our English Learners Multicultural Advisory Committee will be at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, February 24th, in the school library. All parents/guardians of our second language learners are encouraged to attend. American Educational philosophy, testing in California schools, the Annual Parent Notification Letter – Releveling and Redesignation, and other topics that you have questions about. We hope to see you there.

DENTAL HEALTH MONTH

The Month of February is Dental Health Month. On the 23rd we will be having dental screenings, donated by the dental clinic at the South Bay Children's Health Center. Parent permission is required for your child to participate in this free screening. The health office will be sending home permission slips, and for those participating will let parents know if there are dental care issues that may need follow-up. In addition, a local dentist, Dr. Mark Kahn, will be visiting classrooms and discussing dental health with our students. Education is the best form of prevention! This is an outreach program of the American Dental Association. To encourage students to take good care of their teeth, Dr. Kahn will be giving each student a toothbrush.

PARENT EDUCATION NIGHT FOCUSING ON READING/WRITING SKILLS

Our second parent education night for this school year will be held on Thursday, Feb. 23. Mrs. Miyake, Ms. Pioch and Mrs. Chance will lead sessions focusing on strategies to help students with reading and writing skills as you work together at home. We are providing a pizza dinner at 6:00 in the Cafeteria, and child care at the YMCA to make it easier for parents to participate. We have requested advanced reservations – especially for dinner. If you haven't reserved and would like to join us for the sessions (and child care if you need it), please call the office and let Sharon know.

PARENT CONFERENCES COMING IN MARCH

March 14-24 are the dates for our third trimester Parent-Teacher Conferences. These are particularly important because it is the time to touch base and evaluate the success of our collaborative efforts and a chance to discuss any interventions that we might still try to help your child succeed during the final trimester. At this time we review our retention/promotion options and discuss available summer programs. Be sure to mark your calendar and plan to attend a conference with your child's teacher. **On these dates dismissal times are: Kgn. – 1:30; 1st –3rd grades – 1:38; 4th & 5th grades – 1:47. Homework Club will be cancelled during conferences.**

MONTH AT A GLANCE

February – 5th Grade State Mandated Fitness Testing

Feb.	16	Family Dinner and Honorary Service Awards (Dinner 5:30-6:30; program at 6:30)
	17	Flag – Special Recognition
	20	Presidents' Day Holiday – No School
	21	TUSD Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 PM
	22	School Site Council, 3:00, Room 7
	23	Dental Screening Grades K-5 Parent Education Night – Reading/Writing Strategies – Dinner 6-6:30, sessions 6:30 – 8:00
	24	ELMAC meets, 9:00, room 22 (Library)
March	1	5 th Grade Fire Safety Training
	2	3 rd Grade Whale Watch
	3	Student Free Day – No School for students (teachers at workshops)
	6	TUSD Board of Education Meeting – 7:30 PM
	7	4 th Grade STAR Writing Test
	8	4 th Grade STAR Writing Test make- Variety Show 0 9:00 AM for students; 6:30 for families
	10	End of 2 nd trimester; Report Cards
	13	Dairy Council "Cow" assemblies
	14-24	Early Dismissal – Parent Conferences - Homework Club Cancelled
	16	Vision and Hearing Screenings
	17	St. Patrick's Day Flag – Special Recognition
	20	TUSD Board of Education Meeting
	21	5 th Grade Panorama
	24	Flag – Writing Wonders Award
	29	Science Fair – Projects Due/Judging
	30	Science Fair/Open House
		Kindergarten Minimum Day – 12:30 Dismissal
	31	Spring Pictures