

Sequoia Elementary School Community Newsletter: Jan. 11, 2016

3730 Lincoln Avenue Oakland, CA 94602 (510) 531-6696

www.SequoiaSchool.net -and- [Facebook.com/groups/sequoiaelementary](https://www.facebook.com/groups/sequoiaelementary)



Three Week Calendar



Wednesdays are minimum days

Thu Jan 14:	Bret Harte Middle School Tour , 9:30 a.m., 3700 Coolidge Ave, meet in the office
Mon Jan 18:	School Closed for MLK Holiday
Fri Jan 22:	Last Day for Options Enrollment
Fri Jan 22:	Movie Night , 5 p.m., Auditorium
Mon Jan 25:	Breakfast with Principal Bertolo , 8:30 - 9:30 a.m., Cafeteria
Tue Jan 26:	SSC Meeting , 5- 6 p.m., Library
Wed Jan 27:	MLK Oratorical Assembly , times TBA, Auditorium
Wed Jan 27:	MLK Oratorical Evening Performances , 6:30 – 8 p.m., Cafeteria and auditorium
Thu Jan 28:	Frozen Fruit Bar Sales on THURSDAY Due to Friday Holiday , 3 p.m. School yard
Fri Jan 29:	Professional Development Day for Teachers: No School For Students
Sat Jan 30:	Sequoia Family Workday, sponsored by the Dads' Club , 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., School yard

Support Silent Auction Sponsors

Please show some love for our Family Dance and (mostly) Silent Auction event sponsors, who have generously agreed to underwrite the cost of hosting the event:

- IBEW Local 595 (www.ibew595.org), arranged by Jason Gumataotao
- Jennifer Joey Smith of Platt Inc. Real Estate (www.plattinc.com)
- Dimond Improvement Association (www.dimondnews.org), arranged by Jennifer Joey Smith

This means that ALL of the money raised at the event will go directly toward enrichment programs including library, science, art, music and garden! If you haven't already done so, please mark your calendars for the evening of Saturday, Feb. 6 and look for a link to the bidding website very soon!

Auction Items Urgently Needed

We've got some fantastic donations lined up but we'll need more items if we are to reach our fundraising goal. We need all auction items donated by Friday, Jan. 15. So if you've been thinking about donating an item or have friends, clients, customers or family members who might be interested in supporting a good cause and building some community goodwill, now is the time! It's easy: just email us at SequoiaAuctionTeam@gmail.com or complete the simple form on the school website: <http://bit.ly/1kUdyLA>

All donations are warmly welcomed, but there are some categories where we could especially use your help:

- Lessons/classes: musical instruments, art, photography, cooking, tutoring, sports, dance, voice, etc.
- Restaurants
- Salons and other "treat yourself" services
- Gift baskets

School Closed for MLK Holiday 1/18



Sequoia will be closed on Monday, Jan. 18 in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day holiday.

Trường sẽ đóng cửa Thứ 2 Ngày 18 Tháng 1 để mừng lễ Martin Luther King, Jr.

學校會在一月十八日停課一天，來興祝馬丁·路德·金假期。多謝各位家長！

ستغلق المدرسة يوم الاثنين 18 يناير وذلك لعطلة يوم مارتن لوثر كينغ الابن .

Sequoia estará cerrada Lunes, 18 de enero para el Martin Luther King, Jr. vacaciones.

MLK ORATORIAL ASSEMBLY is on the Horizon!



Sequoia's annual MLK Oratorical Assembly is around the corner, scheduled for Wednesday, Jan 27, 2016.

It's not too late for those students interested, to begin organizing themselves and preparing for their individual or choral presentations. All students have access to a class binder of poems and speeches relating to justice, freedom and civil rights. Student's own original poems and essays are absolutely welcome, as is material that parents and students discover on their own. Individual orators, as well as choral groups (groups comprised of 2 or more students) will participate in the assembly by delivering their memorized selection for the school assembly. Our top 4 entries will then be eligible to advance to OUSD's MLK Regional Oratorical Fest. We need parents to be part of our ORATORICAL COACHING TEAM! Parent volunteers can help build our students' confidence, and informally coach students on their delivery, articulation, pronunciation, gesturing and stage presence. NO SKILLS necessary, just a love of helping kids reach their highest potential! Each year, we have more and more brave and talented students participate. It is always immensely rewarding to see our young orators shine. I hope you consider being part of this inspiring event! Contact: Damond Moodie damondmoodie@sbcglobal.net

The School Directory is Here

Better late than never! By the end of this week, every Sequoia family will receive a copy of the 2015-16 Sequoia directory (our school phone book). If you have more than one child at Sequoia, the directory will be sent home with your youngest child. We print a limited number of booklets, so make sure to get your copy from your child's backpack. If you need an additional copy for a second household, please contact directory@sequoiaschool.net or leave a note in the FOSS box in the office.

Friends of Sequoia School (FOSS) creates, prints, and distributes this directory as a service to our community, to help foster closer connections among families. Please do not share directory information with people outside of the school community.

Sequoia Shout Outs

Sequoia would not be the wonderful school it is without the efforts of our volunteers. Each week we express appreciation for those efforts.



Thank You TK & K!

Box Tops: Rory, Connor

Snack set-up: Hailey, Aruna, Elizabeth, Kirsten

Motor Skills: Jeffrey, Aruna, Ann, Molly, Oscar, Chet, Michele, Nicole, Kristin, Matt

Garden Notes

The new year has brought in much needed rain! Things were pretty wet in the garden last week, so we made use of the opportunity to do drawings indoors of dinosaur kale, pineapple sage and mint leaves with a focus on shape, color and texture. Students paid careful attention to line, shadow and subtle color differences in order to 'draw what it feels like', gaining a deeper understanding of each plant. Keep an eye out for these beautiful drawings on display in the cafeteria! The break in the rain on Thursday allowed for garden students to enjoy a quiet walk through the garden observing how all the different plants responded to the rain and frost we had over winter break. The lettuce is growing prolifically with the cold moist weather and Ms. Daniele's and Mr. Handy's classes enjoyed fresh salad made with ingredients harvested from the garden. Students also watched a time lapse video of seedling germination and mushroom growth. The Lincoln Garden was one of the only places on the school site that was not flooded except the paved area entering the garden where the drain was clogged with a great deal of plastic debris. Let's make an extra effort in the new year to dispose of plastic wrappers and reduce plastic consumption in general so to not pollute our waterways, streams and oceans!



Movie Night: Friday, Jan. 22

Showing: Big Hero 6 (rated PG)

Location: Auditorium

Check-In & Drop-off: 5 p.m.

Pick-Up: 8 p.m.



Dinner is served from 5 pm to 6:30 p.m. \$5 donation per child.

The Sequoia Dads Club hosts a Friday Movie Night open to all Sequoia students and their siblings! Held in the school auditorium, drop off kids while parents enjoy three hours off. Parents are also welcome to stay and join in the fun.

Supervised by the volunteers of the Dads Club, kids will be secure, safe and guaranteed to have a blast. Kids are allowed to dress-up in PJs, bring a pillow and a blanket, stake out a spot on the floor, and enjoy hot dogs, popcorn, fruits and veggies!

After-school program (SHS/CDC) students who would like to participate should make arrangements with the coordinators of those programs. (Permission slips are available with SHS/CDC).

All T-K and Kindergarten students require an adult chaperone.

You can learn more about the movie Big Hero 6 by visiting: <http://bit.ly/BigHero6review>

Bret Harte Middle School Tour 1/14

Attention prospective middle school parents: visit Bret Harte Middle School!

Come learn about all the great things that are happening at our amazing neighborhood middle school. **The final tour will take place on Thursday, Jan. 14, 9:30 a.m.** Please meet in the office.

Please call 531-6400 or email gayle.fake@ousd.k12.ca.us to reserve a spot.



No School Friday, Jan. 29

Friday, Jan. 29 is a professional development day for teachers, there will be no school for students.

Viernes, 29 de enero es un día de desarrollo profesional para los maestros, no habrá clases para los estudiantes.

周五，1月29日是一家专业开发日为教师，就没有学校的学生。

Thứ 6 tháng 1 29 là một ngày phát triển chuyên môn cho giáo viên, sẽ không có trường học dành cho sinh viên.

الجمعة تاريخ 29 يناير هو يوم التطوير المهني للمعلمين، ولن يكون هناك مدرسة للطلاب .



Students Enforce Drop-off Rules

These awesome 4th and 5th graders are taking their oath seriously as they pledge to make drop-offs safer and more efficient for everyone. They are monitoring the drop-off zone on Hearst Avenue so that you can pull up safely to the curb and wave good bye as your child is escorted to the gate. Please remember that there is NO PARKING at the drop-off zone, even for a few minutes. This curb is to remain free for school buses and cars dropping off students. Follow the signs and the directions of our Sequoia Safety Patrol and we can keep all our squirrels safe and on time to school!

Support Sequoia With Box Tops!

Just cut the BOXTOPS coupons from your cereal box and other grocery items. Put them in a plastic baggie with your student's name and teacher's name and return to Angelina in the main office.



Sequoia Is On Schoola.com!

Here's how it works:

1. Bring your gently-used women's and children's clothing to Sequoia. We'll send them onto Schoola for you!
2. Visit schoola.com/schools/sequoia-elementary-oakland-ca to shop for adorable pre-loved clothes at dramatically reduced prices.
3. 40 percent of proceeds from each sale will go towards supporting Sequoia's awesome enrichment programs!

Questions? Please contact Angelina: angelina.bazan@ousd.k12.ca.us.

