



Two Week Calendar



Wednesdays are minimum days

Mon Feb 22: **Breakfast with Principal Bertolo**, 8:30 - 9:30 a.m., Cafeteria
Tue Feb 23: **SSC Meeting**, CANCELLED
Fri Feb 26: **Readathon Begins**, continues through Monday, March 7
Fri Feb 26: **Lost & Found Items Cleared and Donated**
Sat Feb 27: **Dads' Club Sponsored Variety Show Try Outs**, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Auditorium

Feb 29 - Mar 11: **Golden Sneaker Contest**

Tue Mar 1: **Family Reading Night**
Wed Mar 2: **Sequoia Sings! Student Performance**, 8:30 - 9:00 a.m., Auditorium
Wed Mar 2: **Dr. Seuss's Birthday and Read Across America Day**
Thu Mar 3: **Dads' Club Meeting**, 7 - 8:30 p.m., Red Boy Pizza (1500 Leimert Blvd)
Fri Mar 4: **Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) Day**
Sat Mar 5: **Variety Show Workshop**, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Sat Mar 5: **FOSS Meeting**, childcare provided, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., Dimond Rec Center (3860 Hanly Rd)

Readathon Starts This Friday

Please check your child's backpack for their Readathon packet on Friday, Feb 26. In it you will find all the materials you need to keep track of how many minutes your child reads between February 26 and March 7. Being read to by another person, and listening to an audio book (book on tape/CD) also counts. Please help your child track their minutes since the child who reads the most minutes in each class is invited to a special Reader's Tea.



Fundraising is the other important part of the Readathon. You and your child can solicit donations from family, friends, coworkers, neighbors, Facebook friends, etc. The Readathon packet will contain information about reaching out online through Razoo, which was very successful for a lot of Sequoia families last year. Please help your child keep track of donations on the log provided. The top fundraiser from each class is invited to the Readers' Tea.

We are looking for volunteers for the following Readathon events:

Friday, March 4: DEAR Day - Help sell La Farine pastries on the school yard before school.
Friday, March 18: Donate food for the Readers' Tea, help set up and/or clean up, staff the button-maker for attendees.
Email us at sequoiareadathon@gmail.com if you can help.

The organizers of Family Reading Night (Tuesday, March 1) and the Scholastic Book Fair, (Thursday, Feb 25 to Wed, Mar 2) are also looking for help. Please see their separate entries in this newsletter for more information
Thanks and Happy Reading!

Variety Show Tryouts on Saturday

Tryouts for the Sequoia Variety Show will be held Saturday, February 27, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the Sequoia auditorium. **Tryouts are mandatory** for any student who wants to be in the March 18 performance. Get ready for tryouts in three steps:



1. Check out the Performer Information page at <http://sequoiaschool.net/calendar-events/variety-show/performers/>. It has everything you need to know about getting an act ready, policies, commitment, etc. Please be aware of a few rules:

- One act per student. (Exceptions made for acts with 10+ kids.)
- The performer **MUST** be at tryouts, and attend both rehearsals, to be in the show on performance night.
- Music must be appropriate for elementary school audiences.
- Group act members shouldn't keep changing! Decide who's performing and stick with it.

2. Pre-register your individual student for the Variety Show at <http://sequoiaschool.net/calendar-events/variety-show/registration/>. If your student is doing a solo act, this will also serve as the registration for that act. If your student is part of a group act, one parent must **ALSO** fill out a group act form at <http://sequoiaschool.net/calendar-events/variety-show/variety-show-group-act-registration/>.

3. Reserve your song, and upload your music file if you're using recorded music. Songs are first-come, first-serve! If we have multiple acts that want to use the same song, we'll let the act that registered first take priority. Use the student/group act registration form to reserve and upload music, or use <http://sequoiaschool.net/calendar-events/variety-show/submit-your-music-file/> to submit music separately. It's very important that we have your background music file before tryouts!

We need some help on tryout day!

We could use some extra adults to help with tryout registration and check-in, crowd control, and coaching and supporting performers on February 27, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you're interested, please contact Stacey Gordon at stacey@suiteseven.com or Heidi Aboites at heidaboites@gmail.com.

Family Reading Night on March 1

As part of Read-a-thon week, please join us for Family Reading Night on Tuesday, March 1 from 6-8 p.m. We will provide a simple dinner at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria. From 7-8 p.m., kids will rotate stations in the auditorium to hear stories read aloud to them.

Volunteers are needed to bring a dessert to share, set up and clean up. To volunteer, contact Susannah Prinz at susannaheloyse@yahoo.com.

Safe Routes Golden Sneaker Contest

Lace up those shoes, dust off those bikes, or get ready to share your ride! The Safe Routes to Schools Golden Sneaker Contest is coming to your school!

For two weeks from February 22 to March 4, participating classrooms will be tracking and talking about the benefits of using active transportation – walking and rolling (biking, skateboarding or using a scooter) or shared transportation (riding the school bus, using public transportation and/or carpooling with other families) - to come to school. The classroom with the highest percentage of these healthy travel choices will win the Golden Sneaker Trophy and celebration.

The Golden Sneaker contest offers a chance for every student to participate. If you live too far from school to walk or roll you can always:

- Park a few blocks away and walk
- Meet up with friends who live close to school and walk as a group
- Start a carpool

Book Fair February 25 - March 2

The Book Fair will be held in the auditorium after school from Thursday, Feb. 25 through Wednesday, March 2.

Volunteers are still needed to help set up, run the fair, and clean up at the end of the day.

We're using VolunteerSpot to organize our upcoming Sign-ups. Here's how it works in three easy steps:

- 1) Click this link to see our Sign-up on VolunteerSpot: <http://vols.pt/v9GmVy>
- 2) Review the options listed and choose the spot(s) you like.
- 3) Sign up! It's easy - you will not need to register an account or keep a password on VolunteerSpot.

For more information, contact Heather King at heatherking.lmt@gmail.com.

Garden Notes



Last week we had the happy accident of reading the wonderful bilingual (English/Spanish) book *I Am Sausal Creek*, by local writer, Melissa Reyes, about the history of Sausal Creek that runs through Diamond Park, one of the few remaining creeks in Oakland that runs free. It ends up, Melissa Reyes, the illustrator and the translator of this fine book will all be coming to Sequoia on March 4 as part of D.E.A.R. day! So glad students will get to meet the authors.

After we read *I Am Sausal Creek*, students made their own 3-D maps of the Oakland watershed using colored markers to show creeks and streams, forests and trees, where trees have been all cut down, roadways, and where poisons might be sprayed to kill weeds. Then using a spray mister they got to see what happens when it rains by misting their 3-D maps watching where the waterways may get polluted by run-off and land erosion, and where the waters remained healthy clear and blue. Ms. Thompson's class harvested some peas, cilantro, carrots and borragé flowers to make a delicious garden salad. And TK enjoyed *I Am Sausal Creek*, then learned how to harvest peas and cilantro and enjoyed them for a fresh garden snack.

California Healthy Kids Survey

Did you know that 33 percent of high school students in OUSD experienced a debilitating depression? Or that 31 percent of 9th graders experience high levels of caring relationships with adults at school? We know these things and many more about our students' well-being at school because of the California Healthy Kids Survey! The survey can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/zrpjzby>.

If you have not already filled this out online or on paper, please do! If you fill it out online, return the paper copy to school with "Online" written across the front. This survey provides crucial information for school improvement, and state funding for district programs.

For the first class to have 100 percent participation, the teacher receives a \$50 Barnes and Noble card for classroom resources and students get a (constructive) free period. For the second highest participation rate, the teacher receives \$25 Barnes and Noble card and free time for class.

Science Fair Needs Volunteers!

The Sequoia Science Fair is coming May 1 and we need you!



We are looking for volunteers who want to help our kids make their own awesome discoveries and do fun science engineering and tinkering activities.

Right now could use some help with publicity, distributing information packets, and gathering science project materials. Later we will need help setting up the fair and science activity booths. Contact Leonore Reiser (leonore.reiser@gmail.com) if you can help out.

Minimum Days for Week of 3/7

Every day during the week of March 7 will be a minimum day; students will be dismissed from school at 1:20 p.m. The minimum days will accommodate report card conferences. Not all students will have a conference; students' teachers will contact families if a conference is needed.

Todos los días durante la semana del 7 de marzo serán días mínimos; los estudiantes saldrán a la 1:20 todos los días. Los días mínimos serán para las conferencias de maestros y padres. No todos los estudiantes tendrán una conferencia; los maestros se pondrán en contacto con las familias de estudiantes que necesitan una conferencia.

جميع الأيام الدراسية خلال الأسبوع الممتد من 7 مارس سيكون دوامها قصير ، وسيتم صرف الطلاب في 1: 20 بعد الظهر من كل يوم . سوف يكون الدوام قصيرا في هذه الأيام وذلك تجهيزاً لاجتماعات أولياء الأمور من اجل التقرير المدرسي الخاص بالطلاب . و ليست هناك اجتماعات لكل الطلاب ، و سيتم التواصل من قبل معلمين الطلاب بأسرهم إذا كانت هناك حاجة للاجتماع بولي الامر .

每天, 3月7日至3月11日是放早學, 放學時間是下午一時二十分. 是教師學生回顧等級. 多謝各位家長!

Tất cả các ngày học trong tuần bắt đầu Ngày 07 Tháng Ba sẽ là ngày ngắn; trường sẽ tan học lúc 1:20 chiều mỗi ngày. Những ngày học ngắn sẽ được dành cho các hội nghị giữa Thầy Giáo và Phụ Huynh. Không phải tất cả mỗi học sinh sẽ cần có một cuộc họp; giáo viên của mỗi học sinh sẽ liên lạc với gia đình riêng, nếu một cuộc họp là cần thiết.