



Two Week Calendar



Every Wednesday is a minimum day

Tue Sept 22:	Yom Kippur
Tue Sept 22:	SSC Meeting , 5 p.m., Library
Wed Sept 23:	First Day of Fall/ Fall Equinox
Wed Sept 23:	Choir Rehearsals Begin , 1:25-2:15 p.m., Auditorium
Thu Sept 24:	Fall Potluck – TK, Kindergarten and 1st Grade , 6:30-8 p.m., Cafeteria
Sat Sept 26:	Family/Teacher Conferences , Times Scheduled with Teachers, Classrooms
Sat Sept 26:	5th Annual Bike Day , 10 a.m., School yard
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Tue Sept 29:	Fall Potluck – 2nd – 5th Grades , 6:30 p.m., Cafeteria
Thu Oct 1:	Dads' Club Meeting , 7 p.m., Red Boy Pizza (1500 Leimert Boulevard)

Fall Potlucks Start This Week

Our fall potlucks have been part of Sequoia's community-building endeavor for many years. These annual events combine good food and an intimate gathering that encourages new and meaningful connections.



The first potluck will be for TK-1st grade, Tuesday, Sept. 24, and the second is for 2nd – 5th grades on Tuesday, Sept. 29. Both potlucks are 6:30-8 p.m. in the cafeteria.

Please bring a dish if you can:

Main dishes: last names starting with A-G

Salads/Sides: last names starting with H-M

Desserts: last names starting with N-T

Beverages: last names starting with U-Z (no alcohol please)

So come enjoy an evening together – reconnect with old friends, make new ones, and eat some delicious food! If you can help with set-up or clean-up, please email Aruna Sokol at aruna70@gmail.com.

¡Disfrutemos de una cena juntos con las familias de Sequoia!
¡Conviva con viejos amigos, conozca nuevos amigos y disfrutemos de una comida deliciosa! Convivio de Cena Familiar para familias del grado TK a primero es el jueves 24 de septiembre y para las familias de segundo a quinto grado es el martes 29 de septiembre. Ambos convivios son de 6:30-8 p.m. en la cafetería. Si puede, se pide que cada familia lleve un plato para compartir.

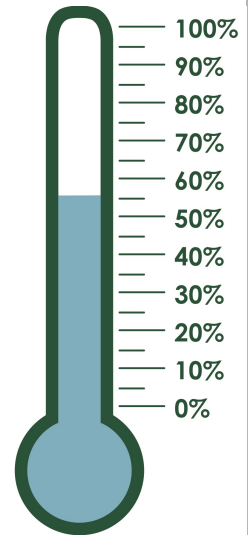
請來參加 Sequoia 學校的餐會，還可以結識朋友和美好的食物。幼稚園和一年班在九月二十四日，星期二。二年班至五年班在九月二十九日，星期二。這兩天的時間從晚上六時三十分至八時在學校的飯堂。如你們可以帶食物來，請跟隨這指示。

Hãy tận hưởng một buổi tối cùng nhau tại Potlucks Fall Sequoia! Kết nối lại với bạn bè cũ, kết bạn mới và ăn một số thực phẩm ngon. Các nhà trẻ để potluck lớp đầu tiên là tháng 24 và lớp thứ hai để potluck lớp năm là tháng 29. Cả hai potlucks là từ 6:30-08:00 trong nhà ăn. Mang một món nếu bạn có thể.

تعال التمتع بأمسية معا في Potlucks خريف سيكوييا! إعادة الاتصال مع الأصدقاء القدامى، وجعل جديدة وتناول بعض الطعام لذيذ. مرحلة ما قبل الروضة إلى الصف الأول المتوفر هو 24 سبتمبر والصف الثاني إلى الصف الخامس هو الطعام المتوفر سبتمبر 29. كلا potlucks هي من 30:6 حتي 00:08 في الكافيتيريا. تقديم طبق إذا كنت تستطيع.

Support Sequoia Fundraiser Update

Thank you for supporting our school's biggest and easiest fundraiser! The Support Sequoia campaign started with a bang last week, as 35 percent of students returned their forms. So far you have raised more than \$33,000, putting us more than halfway toward our target of raising \$60,000 by October 9.



Your donations help pay for enrichment such as the weekly art, music, science, garden, and library programs that start this week. These programs benefit everyone by providing vibrant learning opportunities for kids and much-needed planning time for teachers.

The programs that rely on fundraising cost around \$300 per student per year, so Sequoia is counting on your support.

Our goal is 100% participation. Return your form with or without a donation to get this year's new Sequoia wristband. A donation of any size enters your student into the weekly classroom drawing for a free frozen fruit bar.

To make your donation online, go to <http://sequoiaschool.net/donate>. You can make a one-time donation, or you can spread your donation over the year by signing up for twelve automatic monthly payments. If you can, please consider increasing your donation to support enrichment for another child in the Sequoia community.

First SSC Meeting is This Week

The first School Site Council (SSC) meeting of the school year will be this Tuesday, Sept. 22, at 5 p.m. in the library. The SSC is a group of Sequoia teachers, parents and community members who work together with the principal to develop, review and implement an ongoing School Improvement Plan.

The SSC works with the principal to develop, review, evaluate and allocate state-awarded funds for school improvement programs. Additionally, the SSC is a place where overarching school issues are discussed in an open environment among teachers, administration and parents.

Ride Over to 5th Annual Bike Day

Come to Bike Day at Sequoia this Saturday, Sept. 26th from 10 am to 1 p.m.

Mechanics will help get kids' bikes in working order (including removing training wheels), new riders will get up on two wheels for the first time, kids will learn to ride safely in town, students can decorate bikes, and lots of other fun activities.

Bring bikes and helmets if you have them – otherwise, loaners will be on hand for kids. Also available: La Farine Pastries, Four Barrel Coffee, bike-blender smoothies and taco-truck tacos!

We still need some help! Please contact Joe Hayes at undeterred@hotmail.com.

Family/Teacher Conferences

On Saturday, Sept. 26, families will meet with their student's teacher to discuss academic progress and behavior, goal setting and what to expect during the year. Teachers are contacting families directly to set up times for these meetings.

Employer Matching Donations

If you donated money to the Support Sequoia fundraiser, please check if your employer will match your donation. Many large companies have matching programs. Employer matching is a great way to double your donation without taking anything extra out of your own pocket.

Garden Notes



What a wonderful turn out for the Garden Party work day. So much work got done and the garden is looking great and is ready as an outdoor classroom for classes that start next week.

Thank you so much to every parent, student and helper that showed up. We moved three cubic yards of mulch and two cubic yards of soil from the street to the garden, did massive weeding, trimming and pruning, created a wonderful seed harvesting circle under the shade of the olive tree, did some lovely transplanting, and hauled, moved and chopped garden debris for the soil building compost bins. A huge shout out to Hazel's dad (3rd) for his tireless work on the irrigation.

We really could not have a garden program without your gracious tending. Special thanks to the Smith-Gumataotao family (Felix, 1st), and Donna Milich (Penny, 1st and Lucy, 3rd) for their huge effort and presence in organizing, working their tails off and supporting the Garden Nutrition Program as much as they do.

Volunteers for Traffic Safety



Do you have some extra time one morning a week? We need two to four volunteers each morning from 8:10 - 8:40 a.m. to help make drop-offs smoother and safer for everyone.

Please go to the following link to enter your name and days that you are available: <http://doodle.com/ywvz9373uimbsqxf>. Follow that up with an email to aruna70@gmail.com so that we can send you instructions separately. You can also recruit others to help out - let's work together!

If you are available afternoons between 2:45 - 3:15 p.m. (Wednesdays 1:05-1:45 p.m.) - let us know. We are focusing on organizing the mornings first, but afternoons are needed too!

Join a Walking School Bus

If you live within walking distance of the school and usually walk to school with neighbors, we'd like to add you to our map so that others can join if they'd like. Please email aruna70@gmail.com or jenjoeysmith@gmail.com. We will also be placing this information outside of classrooms so that parents can sign up at their classroom.

Join Cub Scout Pack 296

Cub Scout Pack 296 invites boys in 1st - 5th grades to join and build an adventure!

Learn about scouting and Pack 296 at the recruitment meeting at Joaquin Miller Elementary School's library on Wednesday, Sept. 23 at 7 p.m. During the meeting, boys and their siblings will participate in supervised activities with members of Cub Scout Pack 296 and Boy Scout Troop 305.

Shouts Outs!



Shout out to Gina Lewis, Arianne Wagner, and Annelisa Hedgecock for all their work on the Support Sequoia fundraiser. These awesome parents put together the materials for the Support Sequoia packet that kids brought home last week. If you see them around, tell them thanks for helping to raise money for our beloved enrichment programs.

A giant thank you to Emily Songster for coordinating this year's Sequoia calendar. Emily not only figures out when all our events happen, she also makes sure that this information is posted to our website and distributed in the registration packets for the new school year. Emily also makes sure that the website calendar gets updated any time there is a schedule change.

Thank you to FOSS and our friends at Dimond Rec Center for providing Back to School Night childcare. Thanks also to Adrian Goldstein for making the childcare arrangements.

Shout out to Mr. Bob and Sequoia's fabulous 5th graders for putting on a great show at the first Sequoia Sings concert of the year.

Shout out to Dale Beevers for all her help with the Support Sequoia fundraiser. Dale made those eye-catching posters that you see in the hallways, and she made custom goal thermometers for each teacher so that all of the classrooms can track their progress toward the goal of 100% participation. An extra thank you to Dale's daughter Grace for her help coloring in the goal thermometers!

Giant thank you to Aruna Sokol for working so energetically on school traffic issues so that morning drop-off can be safer and more pleasant for everyone.

Thank you to all the parents who made time in your busy lives to come to last week's FOSS meeting to learn, to offer ideas, and to make our community stronger. Thank you also to the 2015-16 FOSS officers for a well-organized meeting. There was lots of information and good discussion. By providing dinner and childcare, you really made it easier for families to come.

Thank you from TK/Room 9:

Donations: Leo, Tarin, Allen, Jeffrey, Finn, Pablo
Snack set-up: Aruna, Kirsten, Hailey, Vicki, Elizabeth
Google group: Vannette
Room Parents: Nel, Kate, Kirsten
Lunch help: Michael, Jessica, Rachel
Classroom help: Rachel

Volunteer Opportunities at Sequoia

As a Sequoia parent, you signed a pledge when school started to volunteer at least three hours a month. Looking for a way to fulfill your promise and get involved? Current volunteer opportunities are listed on the Sequoia website at <http://sequoiaschool.net/volunteer/current-volunteer-opportunities>. If you're interested in any of the volunteer roles listed there, reach out to the contact listed or email sequoiavolunteers@yahoo.com.

TimberNook Day Camp - Oct. 16

Since Sequoia will be closed October 16 for a Professional Development Day for teachers, registration is now open for TimberNook's one-day camp in Joaquin Miller Park from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. on that day! TimberNook was designed by a pediatric occupational therapist to inspire children's creativity, imagination, and independent play skills in the great outdoors. Learn more at www.timbernook.com, or find "TimberNook Bay Area" on Facebook to see photos from its recent summer day camps that received rave reviews from local parents!