

Sequoia Elementary School Community Newsletter: Nov. 16, 2015

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

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



Three Week Calendar



Wednesdays are minimum days

- Tue Nov 17: **SSC Meeting**, 5 – 6 p.m., *Library*
 - Tue Nov 17: **Prospective Sequoia Family Information Night**, 7:15 - 8:30 p.m., *Auditorium*
 - Thu Nov 19: **artSPARK Workshop!** 3-4:30 p.m., *Cafeteria*
 - Fri Nov 20: **School Portrait Make-Up Day**
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- Nov 23 - 27: **Thanksgiving Recess: No School For Students**
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- Mon Nov 30: **School Resumes After Thanksgiving Recess**
 - Mon Nov 30: **artSPARK Project Submissions Due**
 - Mon Nov 30: **Breakfast with Principal Bertolo**, 8:30 - 9:30 a.m., *Cafeteria*
 - Wed Dec 2: **Sequoia Sings! 2nd Graders Performing**, 8:30 – 9 a.m., *Auditorium*
 - Thu Dec 3: **Dads' Club Meeting**, 7 - 8:30 p.m., *Red Boy Pizza (1500 Leimert Blvd)*
 - Sat Dec 5: **artSPARK**, 3:30 – 6 p.m., *Auditorium*
 - Sun Dec 6: **First Night of Hanukkah**, *begins at sundown*

School Closed Thanksgiving Week

Please note that Sequoia is closed the entire week of November 22 for Thanksgiving. The school reopens on Monday, Nov. 30. Happy Thanksgiving!



Se le recuerda que la escuela Sequoia estará cerrada toda la semana del 22 de noviembre por el Día de Acción de Gracia. La escuela abre de nuevo el lunes 30 de noviembre. ¡Feliz Día de Gracia!

Sequoia 學校會在十一月二十二日至二十九日,放假一星期來慶祝感恩節。在十一月三十日回服上課,多謝!

Trường sẽ đóng cửa nguyên tuần Thanksgiving
Xin lưu ý rằng, Trường Sequoia sẽ đóng cửa nguyên tuần của Lễ Tạ Ơn, bắt đầu từ Thứ hai Ngày 23 Tháng 11. Nhà trường sẽ mở cửa lại vào Thứ hai, Ngày 30 Tháng 11. Happy Thanksgiving!

الرجاء ملاحظة أن سيكوييا ستكون مغلقة لأسبوع كامل من 22 نوفمبر بمناسبة عيد الشكر. وستفتح المدرسة يوم الاثنين 30 نوفمبر. عيد شكر سعيد

Prospective Parent Information Night



This Tuesday, Nov. 17, Sequoia will have a Parent Information Night. If you know any families who are interested in attending Sequoia, please let them know about this information night. Also, any Sequoia parents who are interested in volunteering to be tour guides for this event, or help with the information night, please let us know right away. We will also be looking for tour guides to help with tours that will be held in December and January. The information meeting will be from 7:15 - 8:30 p.m. in the Auditorium. Spanish-language Interpretation and child care will be provided.

artSPARK Workshop Thursday, Nov. 19



After school on Thursday, Nov. 19 in the cafeteria. Join us and start your artSPARK project! We will have some supplies and adults helping the kids with their projects. If they aren't in after school program, kids need to be picked up at 4:30 p.m. Sign up in the lobby by the artSPARK bins. If you're an adult and want to help in the workshop, email us: SequoiaArtSpark@gmail.com

artSPARK Needs You!

artSPARK is coming, on Saturday, Dec. 5 from 3-5:30 p.m. We need support making artSPARK feel like an authentic gallery experience for our young artists. Perhaps you own a business and can easily get some of these items wholesale. Maybe you are going to Costco soon and can pick up something extra or you can't come to the event the day of, but would like to support it by donating! We need white tablecloths (70 x 120); large bottles of water and sparkling water; juice and apple cider; and clear plastic cups (small) and hot beverage cups (small.) Since our theme is Around the World (& Home Again), we'd love to have international finger food! Sequoia has so many cultural backgrounds represented, and we would love to sample food from as many of those as possible! Can you donate homemade or purchased appetizers? Help prep food the kitchen the day of the event? Prepare a healthy snack? If you have a 4th or 5th grader, would they like to be a volunteer server at the event? Questions? Want to drop off your donations? Sarah Gumataotao: camillusoflellis@gmail.com or SequoiaArtSpark@gmail.com

Can you volunteer to help Friday afternoon, December 4 after school or Saturday, December 5 at 10 a.m.? We will be cleaning the auditorium, setting up tables and artwork. Please let us know how you can lend a hand! Contact us at SequoiaArtSpark@gmail.com or Susannah Prinz at 925-786-8457

Bret Harte Middle School Info Nights & Tours

Attention Prospective Middle School Parents: Visit Bret Harte! Come learn about all the great things that are happening at our amazing neighborhood middle school! Tours will take place on the following dates. (All tours begin at 9:30 am and meet in the office)

- Monday Nov. 16
- Friday, Dec. 4
- Wednesday, Dec. 9
- Monday, Dec. 14
- Friday, Jan. 8
- Thursday, Jan. 14



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

Also, don't miss one of our two prospective family information nights:

- Wednesday, Nov. 18 at 5 p.m. (followed by our annual Castle Walk at 6 p.m.)
- Wednesday, Dec. 16 at 5 p.m. (followed by our annual Winter Concert at 6 p.m.)

Join the Sequoia Yahoo Group

Email: sequoiacommunity-owner@yahoogroups.com

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.



Garden Nutrition Program:

- Big shout out to Victor Gascon for hauling away the last of the large garden debris after last year's alley way sheet mulching. Thank you Victor!
- Another shout out to Josh Phillips for getting the K garden beds irrigation flowing after several attempts!

Thank you TK and K!

- Donations: Pablo
- Dictation: Hailey
- Lunch help: Kirsten, Michael
- Box Tops: Santiago
- Snack set-up: Hailey, Michael, Aruna, Elizabeth, Kirsten
- Motor Skills: Jeffrey, Keith, Aruna, Chet, Tracey

Garden Notes

Last week in garden classes 1st graders prepared and planted the last of the playground garden beds by adding Sequoia's home built Black Gold top soil and seeded them with a cover crop of peas to supplement soil with nitrogen.



Second graders harvested dinosaur kale and Swiss chard that we cooked up in a tasty sauté that every student really enjoyed, including those who refused it last year! Look for recipe coming home :)

Kinder and TK students are learning about the life cycle of a plant by planting fast growing radish seeds in transparent containers so that they may watch seedling growth week to week, then to be transplanted into the garden and eventually harvested for the school salad bar. Those who did not get the greens sauté this week will enjoy it once we have another harvest!

Youth Programs at the YMCA

The Downtown Oakland YMCA has several programs for youth available to Sequoia families. These include "Kids Night Out Downtown Oakland YMCA", "Spanish Creative Movement" (physical, creative way to learn Spanish), "Jump In and Step Up" (Youth Hip Hop Dance Class), and an Indoor Soccer Clinic. All activities/programs are available for a fee at the Downtown Oakland YMCA, 2350 Broadway Oakland CA.

For more information or to register visit <http://ow.ly/UEA9a>

Frozen Fruit Bars!

Please support 5th grade field trips by buying refreshing frozen fruit bars. Students will be selling frozen fruit bars next to the cafeteria this Friday from 3 - 3:30 p.m. There are six delicious flavors - strawberry, banana, mango, coconut, strawberry cream, and lime - and only \$2 each.



Book Fair a Huge Success!

The October Book Fair Total Profit Rewards came to \$2,498.87! All of this money is used for new books and audio books for the teachers and the library.



Thank you so much for everyone that came and helped: Sara Steenhouse, Sarah Smith Gumataotao, Tina MosierTidd, Rebecca Wolske, Stephanie Pepitone, Kristen Dwelley, Sarah Thompson and Dirk Williams.

Thank you Sara Steenhouse for coming to the Book Fair training in Fremont and to Heather King for organizing the whole event!

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



Six Flags Read to Succeed

When Sequoia students read for fun, they can earn a free ticket to Six Flags! The Six Flags Read to Succeed program encourages K-6th grade students to read six hours by February.



Here's how it works:

- Students read for fun (not homework or classwork). They read alone or with an adult.
- Families help students fill out a reading log, and sign off on children's reading.
- After students have read six hours, they turn in the reading log to their teacher.
- All reading logs must be turned in by February 12, 2016.
- In May, Six Flags will give out tickets to students who read/ logged six hours by the deadline.

Look in your child's backpack for a reading program packet. For more information please contact Jennifer Bowman at jennifer.bowman@ousd.org.

How to Submit to the Newsletter

Use our online form to submit an article for inclusion in the upcoming week's newsletter by 5 p.m. Tuesday the week before you wish to have your content published in the school's weekly newsletter. You can find the form at this link: <http://bit.ly/1np1pcO>