

# Sequoia Elementary School Community Newsletter: Jan. 3, 2017

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

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



## Four-Week Calendar

Wednesdays are minimum days



- Tue • Jan 3: **School Resumes After Winter Recess**  
Tue • Jan 3: **MLK Oratorical Practice Sessions and Workshops Begin**, times TBD  
Wed • Jan 4: **No Sequoia Sings Student Performance in January**  
Wed • Jan 4: **Breakfast with the Principal**, 9—9:30 a.m., Cafeteria  
Thu • Jan 5: **Dads' Club Meeting**, 7—8 p.m., Red Boy Pizza (1500 Leimert Blvd)  
Fri • Jan 6: **Epiphany/Three Kings Day**  
Sat • Jan 7: **FOSS Meeting**, 10 a.m.—12 p.m., childcare provided, Dimond Rec Center
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- Tue • Jan 10: **SSC Meeting**, 5—6 p.m., Library  
Fri • Jan 13: **Movie Night**, 5:30—8 p.m., Auditorium  
Mon • Jan 16: **Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday: No School For Students**
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- Fri • Jan 20: Last Day for Options Enrollment  
Fri • Jan 20: **MLK Oratorical Assembly**, Auditorium  
•Grades 3 - 5: 9—10:00 a.m.  
•Grades TK - 2: 10:30 —11:30 a.m.  
Fri • Jan 20: **MLK Oratorical Evening Performances**, 6:30—8:00 p.m., Auditorium
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- Thu • Jan 26: **Frozen Fruit Bar Sales on THURSDAY Due to Friday Holiday**, 3—3:30 p.m., School yard  
Fri • Jan 27: **Professional Development Day for Teachers: No School For Students**  
Sat • Jan 28: **Lunar New Year: Year of the Rooster Begins**

## Thank You artSPARK Volunteers!



A huge thank you to everyone who helped make artSPARK happen, from designing posters to setting up tables to making labels (and soooo many other tasks)! Thanks, too, to anyone we may have inadvertently left off of this list. We could not have done it without you!

Raylene Samson & Susannah Prinz, Sarah Gumataotao, Sean Wehymiller, Michele Ramirez, Tim O'Brien, Nicole George-O'Brien, Jim Kosinski, Kara DeKernion, Gina Lewis, Chris Loomis, Tracey Kelp, Caren Roddy, Jenaver Goodman, Nancy Ogden, Keith Ogden, Marcela Wehymiller, Charron Wright, Matt Williams, Ron Kimmons, Daria Sanler, Anna Cruz, Melanie Kelsey, Jen Moxley, Erin Conner, Damion Mosier-Tidd, Arianne Wagner, Shane Donahue, Mary Fuller, Kristin Nelson, Joe Hayes, Julianne Sterling, Deborah Fishman, Jessica Appelgren. Awesome kid kitchen crew & servers: Jessica, Nora, Garrott, Hazel, Yvonne, Felix, Ronit, Jonah, Hadasah, Amieh, Hudson. And last but not least, all of our Sequoia student artists!

Un enorme gracias a todos los que ayudaron a hacer artSPARK un éxito! Gracias a los artistas, y cualquier persona que no mencioné, ¡no podría haber pasado sin ti!

非常感謝每一個幫助artSPARK成功的人！感謝藝術家，任何人，我們沒有提到，它不可能沒有你發生！

النجاح! بفضل الفنانين، وكل artSPARK وشكرا لكم هائل لكل من ساعد في جعل أننا لم ننكر، فإنه لا يمكن أن يكون قد حدث دون لك!

Một lớn cảm ơn bạn cho tất cả mọi người đã giúp làm cho ArtsPark một thành công! Nhờ các nghệ sĩ, và bất cứ ai, chúng tôi không đề cập đến, nó có thể không xảy ra nếu không bạn!

## Sequoia's Annual MLK Oratorical Assembly Jan. 20

Sequoia's annual MLK Oratorical Assembly is scheduled for Friday, Jan 20, 2017. Students are invited to recite a poem/essay/speech relating to civil rights, freedom, justice and equality in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as well as other leaders of peace and justice such as the late Nelson Mandela, Gandhi, etc. Some classes will be preparing their own group presentations, while other students can choose to perform as an individual or as a small choral group (2 or more students). Top performances go on to Oakland Unified's district competition.

Every year we get approximately 80 of your children to participate. The commitment requires some work and discipline from these brave students. But when your child decides he/she will stand up in front of the school and recite, they grow in all sorts of ways! They develop public speaking skills, fine-tune their comprehension skills as they interpret written work, cultivate work ethic through repeated memorizing and rehearsing, deepen their understanding of equality and social justice, last but not least, gain self confidence! Moreover, those students choosing to perform as a group learn how to work collaboratively. As parents and caregivers, we can play an important role by encouraging participation, and then supporting them as they memorize and rehearse their delivery.

Each classroom should have a binder of oratorical material available for students to choose from. Feel free to seek out pieces at the library, online, or in your own personal collections. A child's own written poem/essay would be a wonderful addition to the Oratorical. DO NOT feel as if you need to wait for your child's teacher to orchestrate or begin this process, and if you have any questions about material, feel free to email me below. Getting started today can make the entire process easier for your child, as this is definitely something that will need to be worked on outside of class!

From Jan. 3 - 19th, Parent volunteer coaches will be occasionally pulling participants into the auditorium for some extra coaching sessions. If you are a parent/caregiver looking for a wonderful volunteer opportunity, please consider being part of the MLK Oratorical Coaching Team. Your role would be to help build our students' confidence, and coach them on delivery, articulation, pronunciation, gesturing and stage presence. No skills necessary, just a love of helping kids reach their highest potential! Contact Damond if you would like to help.

\*\*Remember, help your child pick out a poem/essay/speech to be memorized by the assembly, the one-on-one coaching sessions begin after we return from Winter Break! Then, watch them shine at our MLK Oratorical Assembly on Friday January 20, 2017!\*\*\*

Feel free to contact Damond: [damondmoodie@sbcglobal.net](mailto:damondmoodie@sbcglobal.net)

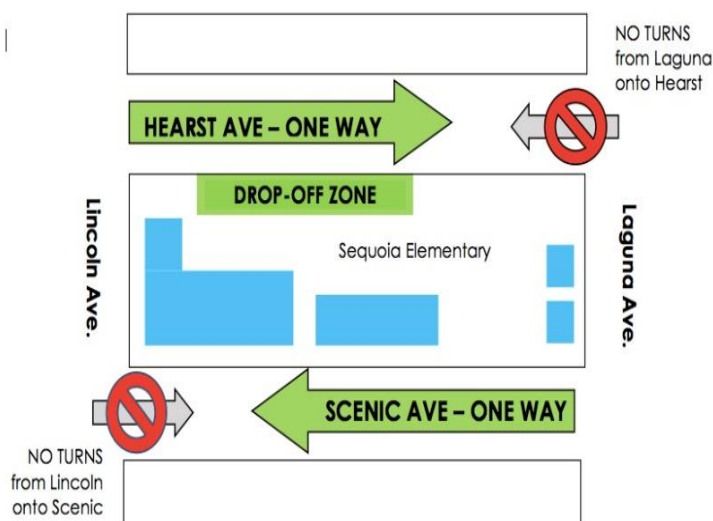


## Sequoia's Drop-Off Policy

For those who do not have time to park and must drop-off quickly, please follow the guidelines below so we can get our kids to school safely:

- Use the map below to determine your best route to the drop-off zone on Hearst Avenue.
- Do not ever block driveways, double-park, or leave your car unattended in drop-off zone.
- Do not make U-turns on any streets around the school.
- Pull over completely at legal parking spots or drop-off zone, before letting children out.
- Slow down and watch for pedestrians, especially at crosswalks.
- Please note that there is no yard supervision until 8:20 a.m.
- If your child is in TK/kindergarten, you must stay with your child until the 8:45 a.m. bell.
- Be courteous and helpful to neighbors and other parents.

### SEQUOIA ELEMENTARY TRAFFIC SAFETY MAP



## Sequoia Safety Patrol

During morning drop off... **PLEASE** do not allow your student to exit your vehicle on the drivers side. **It isn't safe** and the **S.S.P. will not assist.**

Have your student ready to exit the vehicle before you drive into the cone zone it only takes a few minutes to cause a back up on Lincoln Ave.

Our S.S.P. is developing nicely. Our students are strong and want to enforce the schools safety plan. Soon you will see us on Lincoln and Hearst, we will complete our training when we return from winter break.

We will start our 3rd grade recruiting campaign in January 2017, we will come to the class room for a 15 minute presentation, students will need three (3) signatures parent, teacher and principle to participate.

Rules to remember: No U-turn's in the cone zone (drop off on Hearst)

**No jay walking**

**No speeding**

**Pull all the way forward (to the S.S.P. stop sign)**

**No hugging the S.S.P. students while on duty**

**Pull all the way up to curb**

(the students are not allowed to step off of the curb)

## Shout Outs!

Thank you and Shout outs for Motor Skills:

Vicky, Caesar, Leigh, Kirsten, Tacy, Monique, Annie, and Crystal

## FOSS Meeting This Saturday

Please join us for the next FOSS meeting this Saturday, Jan. 7, from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the Dimond Rec Center. Childcare will be provided for school-aged children

## Sequoia Auction Donations Needed

We are seeking donations of all kinds for the Third Annual Sequoia Family Dance & (mostly) Silent Auction, to be held on Saturday, Feb. 11. All proceeds will go toward Sequoia's enrichment programs! To register a donation, go to the link below and complete the form:

<http://sequoiaschool.net/calendar-events/dance-auction>.

## Arabic Translations Needed

The Communications Team is looking for a parent volunteer to assist with Arabic translations for the newsletter. Each week the newsletter features at least one article translated into several languages, thanks to the efforts of parent translators. If you are able to assist with Arabic translations, please contact Andrew Gordon at [agordon72@gmail.com](mailto:agordon72@gmail.com).

## Movie Night: Spy Kids on Jan. 13

The second Movie Night of the school year is Friday, Jan. 13, with a showing of "Spy Kids (2001)" (rated PG). Parents can check-in and drop off their children between 5:30-6:30 p.m. and pick-up by 8 p.m. in the auditorium. A dinner of hot dogs, fruit, veggies, and popcorn is included. The cost is \$5 per child. The Movie Night open to all Sequoia students and their siblings. Parents can drop off the kids and enjoy a few 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 and 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. If enough volunteers are available, the cafeteria open for eating, playing games, drawing, or reading as well.

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 TK and kindergarten students require parent chaperone.

We hope that all students will practice the core Sequoia values of Respect, Compassion, Responsibility and Honesty during the movie and will follow these guidelines during the movie: **No running, no rough play, no throwing, no taking belongings, no climbing, no piano, and no electronics.**

The Dads' Club volunteers may call a parent or guardian if a child cannot follow these rules.