



Three-Week Calendar

Please note that multiple events may happen on the same day.

Thu • Mar 29: **Frozen Fruit Bar Sales** on Thursday due to Friday holiday, 3–3:30 p.m., *School yard*

Fri • Mar 30: **Cesar Chavez Day: No School for Students**
Passover, begins at sundown

Sun • Apr 1: **April Fools' Day**
Easter

Apr 2–6: **Spring Recess: No School for Students**

Mon • Apr 9: **School Resumes After Spring Recess**

Tue • Apr 10: **SSC Meeting**, 5–6 p.m., *Library*

Wed • Apr 11: **Sequoia Sings! Student Performance**, 8:30–9 a.m., *Auditorium*

Wed • Apr 11: **Breakfast With the Principal**, 9–9:30 a.m., *Cafeteria*

Thu • Apr 12: **Dads' Club Meeting**, 7–8:30 p.m., *Red Boy Pizza (1500 Leimert Blvd)*

Sat • Apr 14: **Cambodian New Year Begins**

A Message From Our Teachers: We Need Your Support

During this week of Mar. 26–29, Sequoia teachers will again be working only our contractual hours, and volunteering no additional hours of work (referred to as “work-to-rule” or “work-to-contract”). This was a united staff decision in response to the current contract negotiations between the Oakland Education Association (our union) and OUSD.

The best way you can support OUSD teachers, counselors and school psychologists is by letting other parents and your community know what is going on in OUSD. Your tax dollars are not being used where it matters! Come to the board meetings and sign up to speak. Voice your concern. Bring an entourage!

Also email the board members your concern and encourage other parents and community members to do the same. You elected these people, so shouldn't they listen to their constituents?

District 1 jody.london@ousd.org; (510) 879-2161

District 2 aimee.eng@ousd.org; (510) 879-2162

District 3 jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org; (510) 879-2163

District 4 nina.senn@ousd.org; (510) 879-2164

District 5 roseann.torres@ousd.org; (510) 879-2165

District 6 shanthi.gonzales@ousd.org; (510) 879-2166

District 7 james.harris@ousd.org; (510) 879-2167

Superintendent Kyla Johnson Trammell superintendent@ousd.org; (510) 879-8200

We are open to talking with you about moving this process forward.

Spring Book Fair Volunteers

We need volunteers to help out for the book fair Apr. 16–20. We need people to help set up, tear down, and run the fair for about an hour each day after school. Contact Heather King, 510-846-5519, heatherking.lmt@gmail.com.

Principal's Corner: Safety First

There is no parking on Hearst from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. There have been some severely angry situations between parents, and dangerous altercations with parent parking and the buses. The only parking allowed there is for the buses and after-school provider vans. I know parking is horrible, but please use alternate areas and give yourself time to park and walk.

Please pick up your kids on time after school. There are children who are unaccompanied and staying in the yard after the bell. This has created some tense interactions and fighting between those children and the Healthy Start children as they are playing games. I understand that students want to hang out with their friends when they see them staying after, but our Healthy Start students are monitored by adults. When the school bell rings, we need all students who are not in an after-school program to safely get home ASAP. Please let your student know that if they are walking home, they need to head right home. If you are running late for pickup, please let the classroom teacher know before the school bell rings, so your child can wait in the office. It's unsafe for them to wait without adult supervision. Once you are at school you can call the office and we will send them out for pickup.

There is absolutely no drop off or pickup on Lincoln. This is one of the most dangerous places to stop your car. Period. Last week a car that was rear-ended doing just that. We need you to be patient, and model that patience for your child. I realize that we are all in a hurry. However, if you leave a little earlier to get to school and drop off your student at 8 a.m. (before the heavy traffic), it might be less problematic.

We need help forming a traffic committee. Who is interested in helping form a traffic committee, volunteer with our Safety Patrol, and coordinate a before and after-school support program? We have about 35 third, fourth and fifth graders who could use some adult support and mentoring. If you have some time, love interacting with students, and have a desire to help with our Safety Patrol and Traffic Safety Committee, please let me know. Thank you for all of your support and understanding on this.—*Donald T. Bertolo*

Sequoia Sings! Breakfast With the Principal, Apr. 11

The next Sequoia Sings event is scheduled for Wednesday, Apr. 11, at 8:30 a.m. in the auditorium. Families are invited to attend. After the performance, beginning at 9 a.m. in the cafeteria, join Principal Bertolo for breakfast and Q&A.



SSC Meeting, Apr. 10, SPTO Apr. 17

The Sequoia SSC meetings will be held on Tuesday, April 10, just after school resumes from Spring Break. SSC is scheduled for 5–6 p.m. in the library. Sequoia PTO is scheduled for Apr. 17, 6:15–8 p.m. in the cafeteria. Childcare will be provided. Dinner served at 6 p.m.

Dads' Club Meeting, Apr. 12

The Dads' Club is having its monthly meeting on Thursday, Apr. 12, at Red Boy Pizza on Leimert from 7 to 8:30 p.m. All are welcome.

Sequoia Elementary School Community Newsletter: Mar. 26, 2018



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

SequoiaSchool.net and Facebook.com/groups/sequoiaelementary

Happy Spring Break!

As a reminder, there is no school on Friday, Mar. 30, in honor of Cesar Chavez Day. Next week, Sequoia Elementary will be closed for Spring Break Apr. 2–6. School resumes Monday, Apr. 9.

¡Feliz primavera!

Como recordatorio, no hay clases el viernes 30 de marzo en honor al Día de César Chávez. La próxima semana, Sequoia Elementary estará cerrada durante las vacaciones de primavera del 2 al 6 de abril. La escuela se reanuda el lunes, 9 de abril.

Chúc mừng mùa xuân Break!

Như một lời nhắc nhở, không có trường vào ngày Thứ sáu, 30 Tháng 3, để vinh danh Ngày Cesar Chavez. Tuần tới, Trường Tiểu học Sequoia sẽ đóng cửa vào Spring Break 2-6. Trường học vào thứ Hai, ngày 9 tháng Tư.

快乐的春假！

提醒一下，3月30日星期五，为纪念塞萨尔查韦斯日，没有学校。下周，红杉小学将于4月2日至6日春假休息。学校将于4月9日星期一恢复。

استراحة الربيع السعيدة!

كتذكير ، لا توجد مدرسة يوم الجمعة ، 30 مارس ، تكريماً ليوم سيزار تشافيز. في الأسبوع القادم ، سيتم إغلاق Sequoia Elementary في عطلة الربيع من 2 إلى 6 أبريل. استئناف المدرسة الاثنين 9 أبريل.

Science Extravaganza Night Recap

What an amazing night of science, fun and snacks! I would like to thank these amazing parents for stepping up to assist running activity stations: Minda Murphy, Jessica Swesey, Dave Lewak, Kevin Smith, Jeremy Sutton and Dirk Williams and his whole crew for volunteering. We also had four Oakland Tech (thanks again to Jeremy Sutton) high school kids, two Berkeley high kids, and one Cal student helping to run the activity stations. Thanks to Mr. Fleischman for making sure we could get the kit and for running a station himself!

Your child will bring home a science fair packet with tips for doing a project at home. Projects will be done in the classroom; feel free to do one at home. Projects are due the week of Apr. 23. Use this link to download the packet <https://tinyurl.com/y9vz6vpv> or email me for a copy, ariannewagner@gmail.com.

Interested in seeing this event next year? We need a new Science Fair lead! Contact jennyckimball@gmail.com, our Sequoia PTO volunteer coordinator.

Sequoia Variety Show: Thank You!

Another Variety Show is in the books and what a wonderful night of performances it was. What a talented, dedicated, courageous, and passionate bunch of youngsters. We are always impressed with the creativity, initiative, and hard work the performers bring to this show. We would not have a show without them or their parents who make sure they practice, make it to rehearsals, and support them every step of the way. It truly is a community coming together, and all the hard work pays off when we see the final product. The Variety Show is a huge commitment and we appreciate all the dedication you show and model for your children.

See the full list of thank you's on the Sequoia website:

<http://sequoiaschool.net>.

Reflections on MUSE Orchestra

Written by the Student Council Communications Team

The MUSE Orchestra is like a music paradise for our band and string members here at Sequoia. MUSE, a free program open to all fourth and fifth graders, encourages their members to challenge themselves and work hard, but we don't do it alone, we do it together.

Ms. Vandervennet, Education Coordinator for the Oakland Symphony, says "playing in orchestra is a powerful experience because of making music with other people; music is a universal language!"

Fourth grader Ava Calibuso has been in MUSE since 1st grade. "After that first rehearsal, I never wanted to come again. But then, the next year I had a good feeling that it was going to get better and it did. Those next few months, from 2nd grade to right now in 4th grade, I have improved so much because of MUSE." Ava is currently Concert Mistro, 1st Violin.

"MUSE challenges me because of the music," Eliza King, a 5th grade flutist, added. "MUSE makes me practice more because of all the challenging and fun music."

"MUSE inspires me to become a better musician!" exclaimed 2nd Violin Jonah O'Brien of the 5th grade.

You can learn more about MUSE by visiting www.oaklandsymphony.org/community-education/muse/.

Family Workday! Apr. 21

Mark your calendars and please join us for our last Sequoia workday of the school year on Saturday, Apr. 21, 9 a.m. to noon. We will have jobs for all skill levels and interests. We'll need people to attend to the gardens, some indoor projects, and cleaning in the classrooms.

There is no requirement to stay for the duration, so drop in for as much time as you have. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. The playground will be open so kids can play while you work.

This event is sponsored by the Dads' Club. Please contact Chris Coffee at ccoffee@gmail.com for more information.

Shout Outs

Thank you TK/K!

Donations: Ms. Rau, Ms. Holmstedt, Freja, Siimi, Grammy, Grumpy, Justin, Liliana, Pablo, Ava, Eliseo, Nat, Jamie, Penelope, and Akai

Donors Choose Donations: Jay, Amanda, Katie, Norman, Roni, Laurel, David, Tracey, Atul, Lance

Book Organizing and Classroom Help: Grandma Sharon, Ms. A, Arin

Snack Set-up: Pam, Arin, Tomoko, Sasha, Saniyyah, Angela

Oakland Museum Chaperones: Jay, Katie, Melissa, Jebson, Judy, Rachel, Jenes, Andrew

Motor Skills: David, Pam, Lara, Joanne, Erik, Lynell, Annie, Daniel, Lucien

Snack: Freja, Zeke, Jack, Waylon, Jonah

