

## Letter From The Principal

Dear Parents:

I hope that all of our families had a wonderful holiday season and are enjoying the new year. We are now over halfway through the school year!

When the State of California provided the funding for us to reduce class size in first and second grade, you supported us in the implementation of our plan to reduce the primary classroom size to "twenty to one". In September, 1996 we reorganized our classrooms, hired new teachers and placed the students in every available classroom space on our school grounds. At that time, we also added our name to a list of schools requesting additional classroom space to accommodate all our students. I am pleased to tell you that I now expect the arrival of additional classroom bungalows in February. These bungalows will be placed on the school grounds near the main building and by the Rosewood Parking Lot but they will not take away playground areas required for our students. I will keep you informed on the progress of the installation of these additional bungalows.

Another proposal for accommodating students in our school is to send our fifth grade children on to Virgil Middle School to receive their sixth grade education. This year was especially difficult for many of the 120 kindergarten students we sent to other schools by bus. Our school is so over-crowded that we cannot accommodate all students who live in our attendance area. I will schedule a parent meeting in February for parents of all fifth graders so that I may answer your questions and discuss your concerns.

If you have not had an opportunity to meet our new Music Teacher, Mr. Tom Armbruster, I invite you to come to our school auditorium in the afternoon to observe him teaching our students. Every student in Kindergarten - Sixth Grade, meets with Mr. Armbruster on a regular basis to receive music instruction. Please ask your children to share with you some of the songs and activities they have learned in music.

Parent/Teacher Conferences for Red (B) Track are scheduled for the week of February 10. Blue (A) and Green (C) Tracks are scheduled for the week of March 17. Please be sure to attend these important meetings with your child's teacher.

Sincerely,



Carol Labrow, Principal



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### Adult Literacy Program of the Los Angeles Unified School District

Free Literacy Training Classes are available throughout the Los Angeles Unified School District. Classes are designed to help the nonreader as well as those who have developed some reading skills. To locate a community adult school convenient to someone in need of literacy education call (213) 625-6471 or (213) 62-LEARN.

### Citizenship Project

The Citizenship Project has scheduled several meetings at our school this year. During their meetings, they assist individuals who are interested in becoming U.S. citizens. If you have not had an opportunity to attend one of their meetings and are interested in becoming a U.S. citizen, please contact their office on Saturdays, from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.:

Citizenship Project  
4759 Hollywood Boulevard #C  
Los Angeles, CA 90027  
Phone: (800) 889-1988

## 1997-98 Sixth Grade Students

Alexandria is an over-crowded school. There are several hundred students who ride the bus to other schools each year. This school year, over 120 kindergarten students have taken the bus to White House Primary Center and Logan Elementary School. To allow these four and five year olds to attend Alexandria and stop putting them on the bus, we need to send our fifth graders on to Virgil Middle School to receive their sixth grade education. All of the surrounding elementary schools already send their sixth graders to Virgil at this time.

To give parents an opportunity to share their concerns and to answer any questions, we will schedule a Fifth Grade Parent Meeting in early February. There will be representatives from Virgil Middle School at the meeting who can answer questions about their programs.



## REMINDER: Student Dress Code/Uniforms

All students are required to wear a school uniform or outfit with the school colors:

Navy blue pants, skirts, shorts or sweatpants  
White or yellow tops  
School T-Shirt or Sweatshirt

The following items are restricted for safety reasons:

1. Hanging chains or belt buckles with initials. The belt must fit the waist of the child.
2. Oversized pants or shirts, cut-off pants with high socks, pants with split seams, pants with staples, overalls with straps hanging, see-through or mesh-type shirts, hats, or any kind of clothing that becomes associated with an off-campus group or gang.
3. Bathing suit-type tops, blouses or shirts that expose the midriff and tank tops.
4. Open shoes.

For your convenience, a school uniform vendor will come to our school to sell the uniforms on the following dates:

February 12, 1997      March 12, 1997      April 9, 1997      May 14, 1997      June 11, 1997

Parents are urged to support the dress code with their children. If a parent has a strong belief which prevents the wearing of a uniform, please contact the school and discuss how to get an exemption.



## Children and Appealing Toys

Children and appealing toys... one cannot imagine one without the other. The American Academy of pediatrics and the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission have developed guidelines for selecting toys that are both appealing and appropriate for the child's age, interest and skill level.

Age 2-5: "Experimental" toys include short story books, blackboard and chalk, building blocks, non-toxic crayons, finger paint, clay, sandbox, tape recorder, record player, tricycle or wagon.

Age 5-9: Encourage the child's skill development and creativity. Toys include card games, "occupational" kits, hand puppets, balls, bicycles, crafts, jump ropes and roller skates.

Age 9-14: Suggested items are computer games, needlework, table and board games and science projects.

From "Pursue Prevention", April, 1995.

## **A New Year: A New Beginning**

1997 is here and it's a great time for you and your children to make a fresh start. For example, why not make the second half of the school year better than the first? Here are some New Year's resolutions for parents determined to make 1997 a great year for their children. After you read them, write down a few of your own to help your children.

### Start With Good Reading Habits

Read to your child every night at bedtime... even if it's only five minutes. Make a weekly trip to the Library to allow your children to choose their own books.

### Make School a Priority

On weekdays, homework must be done first... do not let television and video games take up so much of your children's time.

### Put Goals in Writing

This year put your goals and promises in writing; like a contract between you and your child. Sit down together every week to see how you're doing.

### Show Them You Care

Stay in touch with the teacher: in person, by phone or by writing notes. Look over his homework and read the papers brought home. Tell your children how proud you feel when they try their best.



## **Los Angeles Resource Program**

### **Give The City All You've Got!**

### **L.A. Resource Program Launches Paper Recycling Campaign**

In an effort to significantly increase clean paper recycling and reduce the flow of trash to Los Angeles-area landfills, the L.A. Resource Program urges all L.A. residents to recycle their clean paper. In order to meet the state-mandated goal of reducing the waste we send to our landfills 50% by the year 2000, Los Angeles residents must recycle clean paper.

Following the 1989 California legislature mandate that all cities and counties reduce their waste stream to landfills 25% by 1995 and 50% by 2000, the L.A. Resource Program has been educating citizens about the importance of recycling. The L.A. Resource Program exceeded the 1995 goal by reducing landfill waste by 34%. Now, to avoid state fines and meet the 50% goal, residents must concentrate on recycling their clean paper products. Nearly half of our weekly waste is paper that needlessly goes to our landfills!

Residents can recycle paper at the curbside alone with other materials like yard trimmings, glass and plastics. Clean paper must be free of food waste and kept dry. Wet or food soiled paper cannot be recycled. Some examples of clean paper are:

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|---------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| envelopes     | newspaper      | magazines       | telephone books       |
| unwanted mail | catalogs       | facsimile paper | corrugated cardboard  |
| colored paper | computer paper | cereal boxes    | snack food type boxes |

Clean paper can be placed for collection in a paper bag or cardboard box no larger than the yellow recycling bin. Clean paper may also be bundled but must not weigh more than 30 pounds.

Residents with questions about how to recycle clean paper or other items may call the Collection Services Hot line at 1-800-773-CITY. For information on-line, please visit the City's World Wide Web site at [www.ci.la.ca.us](http://www.ci.la.ca.us).