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# Alexandria Avenue School Parent Newsletter

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Issue 3  
November 21, 1996

## Letter From The Principal

Dear Parents:

I would like to wish all of the Alexandria Family members a very happy holiday season. We are looking forward to our school Winter Holiday Program which will occur in December. There will also be special programs and activities in most classrooms. This is a good time of year to be involved and see if you can assist in the classroom, teach a holiday song from your country, tell a special story or help make a costume. We always look forward to the involvement of our parents.

Beginning December 4, we will offer a series of Parent Education Classes at 5:00 p.m. in the school auditorium. These Wednesday classes will be taught through the LEARN Parent Involvement Project over a six week period. The classes will emphasize the role of the parent as the child's first and most important teacher. We hope you have the opportunity to attend these sessions.

On August 27, parents were invited to an evening meeting where the new Report Card was presented. This Report Card was created by the teachers to simplify the grading process so that the student, parent and teacher may all clearly understand the academic progress of one school year. During the week of November 12, the teachers on Blue (A) Track held their parent conferences and distributed this new Report Card. If you have any questions, comments or concerns regarding this new Report Card, please share them with us. We are currently in the pilot stage of the new Report Card and plan to make the revisions so that we have an effective instrument of measurement. We appreciate your comments.

Please join us in welcoming our new assistant principal Dr. Terry Campa who began at our school on November 12. Mrs. Rodriguez has gone to a new assignment at Politi Elementary School. When you have the opportunity, please come by to meet Dr. Campa.

Happy Holidays to all of our Parents and Students.

Sincerely,



Mrs. Carol Labrow  
Principal



Mrs. Labrow with  
Superintendent Sidney Thompson

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## Los Angeles Community Adult School

Earn a 60 hours certificate and obtain an opportunity to work with the Los Angeles Unified District. The Los Angeles Community Adult School is offering Custodial Training Classes on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. There is a \$31.00 fee. Learn to be a custodian or a grounds worker. The school is located at:

4650 W. Olympic Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90019  
(213) 931-1026

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## **School Cleanliness**

At a recent School Governance Council Meeting, parents and teachers expressed a concern about the cleanliness of our school. It is everyone's responsibility to maintain a clean and safe learning environment at our school. We ask for your cooperation in reminding your children of following the same rules of cleanliness at school which you establish in your home:

### **1. Classroom**

- Place all your books and materials in the appropriate place.
- Clean up your area; do not leave things on the floor.
- No writing on the desks, chairs, books.

### **2. Bathroom**

- Dispose of toilet paper in the toilet and paper towels in the trash container.
- Flush the toilet after each use.

### **3. Lunch Tables and Playground**

- After lunch, throw away trays, food wrappers, utensils and leftovers.
- No spitting on the school grounds.
- Throw away all trash in the trash containers.
- No writing on the tables, benches and walls.

Alexandria Avenue School is your home away from home and it is to be kept as neat and clean as your own home. Let us take pride in our school.



## **The Joy of Learning**

Do your children ever get up late on their birthdays? Probably not, because most children leap out of bed when they're excited. Wouldn't it be nice to see them as eager to learn as they are to have fun?

One of the keys to school success is being motivated to learn—and realizing that learning can be fun! As a parent, you are the most important influence on your child's school success—even more than the teacher or school. Try the following motivating tips:

### **Show your interest**

Set aside a few minutes for your child to share what's being studied at school. Give encouragement and show interest: "You've learned so much about planets—what do you remember about Mars?"

### **Focus on the positive**

When you review your child's homework, point out items that are done well. When possible, help your child find at least one part of each assignment that is especially interesting.

### **Help just enough... and no more**

Mastering a difficult task motivates children to take on more difficult tasks. When your child wants to give up, encourage him or her by saying, "I know you can do it—try once more."

### **Show that hard work pays off**

When you put effort into doing something, talk about it.

### **Connect learning with real life**

Write notes to your child to demonstrate the value of writing. When you pay bills, show how math is used. If your child is studying nutrition, ask: "What food groups did we have at supper tonight?"

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## **Become a U.S. Citizen**

The Los Angeles Unified School District's Division of Adult and Career Education has been offering free citizenship classes for almost 100 years. There are 23 centers throughout the city which offer:

- FREE Citizenship classes
- FREE fingerprints
- FREE photographs
- FREE official INS interviews at selected centers
- Help in completing the citizenship application
- Direct delivery of the applications to the Immigration and Naturalization Service
- Optional, citizenship test approved by the INS is available at the sites for a small fee

Enroll today! Do not Wait! For more information and the center or adult school closest to you, call (213) 62-LEARN or (213) 625-3276.

## **Math Matters**

Bring math into everyday life. Figure aloud when you double the ingredients in a recipe. If you follow sports teams or work on a sewing project, point out how you're using numbers. Have your child make estimates, such as how much a day at an amusement park will cost, or how much the groceries cost. Play board games, such as Monopoly, that use math skills. Help your child design a simple budget for her allowance.

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## **1-800-954-HELP**

The Los Angeles Unified School District's Weapons Prevention Hot line (1-800-954-HELP) has been successfully in place for several years. You may call this "hot line" to report possession of weapons or other illegal activities occurring on school sites. Spanish speaking operators are also available.

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## **Vendors at or Near School Campuses**

Please assist us in keeping the street vendors away from the school area. The law states that all street vendors must be at least 200 feet away from the school. The street vendors will continue to station themselves around the school if you and the children continue to buy from them. This creates an unsafe situation for all our students due to the crowding on the sidewalks and streets. Our concern is for the safety of all our students. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

### 80.73 Los Angeles Municipal Code: Peddlers Near School

It shall be unlawful for any person to stop, stand or park any vehicle, wagon, or pushcart for the purpose of peddling, hawking, displaying or offering for sale there from any goods, wares, merchandise, fruit, vegetables, beverages, or food of any kind within 200 feet of the nearest property line of any school.

### 7.62.071 Los Angeles County Ordinance: Peddlers of Edible Products Near Schools

Any person engaged in the business of peddling or selling liquids or edibles for human consumption shall not engage in business within 1,000 feet from any school property boundary, while children are going to or leaving such school during opening or closing hours or during the noon recess period.

## Preparing a Family Earthquake Plan

When preparing for an earthquake, plan on having enough supplies to get you and your family through at least the first 72 hours. After a major earthquake there's a good chance that traditional emergency response teams will be too busy to take care of you and your family. You need to PREPARE your home and neighborhood.

### PREPARE A PLAN:

- Stock up on at least a three-day supply of food, water, clothes, medical supplies and other necessary equipment for everyone in your family. Make sure everyone knows where to find the needed items.
- Decide where and when to reunite your family.
- Choose a person outside the immediate area to contact if family members are separated. Long distance phone service will probably be restored sooner than local service. Do not use the phone immediately after an earthquake.
- Know the policies of the school or day care center your children attend. Make plans to have someone pick them up if you are unable to get to them.
- If you have a family member who does not speak English, prepare an emergency card written in English indicating that person's identification, address and any special needs such as medication allergies. Tell that person to keep the card with him/her at all times.
- Conduct "Drop, Cover and Hold" drills every six months with your family.
- Know the safest place in each room because it will be difficult to move from one room to another during a quake.
- Locate the shutoff valves for utilities. Learn how to shut off the valves before a quake.
- Establish all the possible ways to exit your house. Keep those areas clear.
- Know the locations of the nearest fire and police stations.
- Before a quake occurs, call your local Office of Emergency Services to find out about its plans for emergency shelters and temporary medical centers in case of such a disaster.
- Make copies of vital records and keep them in a safe deposit box in another city or state. Make sure your originals are stored safely.

### PREPARING A FAMILY EMERGENCY PLAN:

- Take photos and/or videos of your valuables. Make copies and keep them in another city or state.
- Include your baby-sitter and other household guests in your plans.
- Keep an extra pair of eyeglasses, house and car keys on hand.
- Keep extra cash and change. If electricity is out, you will not be able to use an ATM.

### OTHER GENERAL TIPS:

- Stay away from heavy furniture, appliances, large glass panes, shelves holding objects and large decorative masonry, brick or plaster such as fireplaces and chimneys.
- Keep your hallways clear. It is usually one of the safest places to be during an earthquake.
- Stay away from kitchens and garages which tend to be the most dangerous places because of the many items kept there.

November/December  
Parent Newsletter



Alexandria Avenue Elementary School  
4211 Oakwood Avenue  
Los Angeles, California 90004-3299  
Telephone: (213) 660-1936

Carol Labrow, Principal  
Guadalupe Inabu, Assistant Principal  
Terry Campa, Assistant Principal