

## Letter From The Principal

Dear Parents:

I want to thank all of the parents who have attended our classes in the Parent Center. In November, we began a series of Nutrition Classes which will meet every Monday until December 15. There have been cooking classes taught by parents on Fridays where everyone gets to sample a new dish and take home a copy of the recipe. Computer classes are also scheduled on Fridays taught by our Computer Lab Teacher, Mr. Anker and Ms. Brown, one of our green track teachers. Also, the Clinica de las Americas has led sessions on Wednesdays since October 8 and will continue until December 17. If you have any ideas or requests for parent training, please come to the Parent Center and speak to Ms. Isomoto one of our Resource Teachers. I encourage all of you to come by the Parent Center to look at the calendar of parent training sessions and maybe you can arrange some time in your busy schedules to come and join us.



I also appreciate your cooperation in helping us maintain a Safe School Campus for all of our students. Teachers will remind their students, once again, that they must all exit through the Alexandria Avenue Gate at dismissal time. Some students have tried to leave school through the parking lot gate on Rosewood Avenue which has placed them in danger of being hit by the cars which are exiting at that time. Please remind your children that they are not to use the parking lot gates; we do not want any child or adult to be injured in an accident.

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 of the classrooms. We hope that you can join us for some of the special festivities. Information regarding the dates and times for the Winter Holiday Program will be sent home with the students on Blue and Green Track.

I would like to wish all of the Alexandria School Family a very happy holiday season.

Sincerely,

  
Carol Labrow  
Principal

Happy  
Thanksgiving



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## School Discipline Policy

The School Discipline Policy states that no toys are to be brought to school. Many students are bringing and wearing the new virtual pets which are considered to be toys. Once again, we remind you that all toys are to remain at home and if a teacher sees a toy it will be taken away from the student. A parent will be required to come to school to pick up the toys. Please remind your children that no toys are allowed at school.

## Lost and Found

Please write your child's name on his/her backpacks, sweatshirts, sweaters, coats, lunch boxes and any other item brought to school. If your child has lost an item, you may come and look through our "Lost and Found" box located in the Parent Center (Room 6). In December, we will schedule one day where all items in this "Lost and Found" box are placed on display for children and parents to search one last time for lost items. After this date, all items which remain in our box will be donated to a charity organization. Further information regarding the schoolwide "Lost and Found Day" will be sent home with your child. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Terry Campa our assistant principal.

## Afterschool Playground

The Youth Services playground closes promptly at 6:30 p.m. No playground staff will be on duty after 6:30 p.m. It is each parent's/guardian's responsibility to provide appropriate supervision and transportation home to ensure the safety and well-being of their children. The playground staff asks you to please pick up your children by 6:15 p.m. so that they have time to clean-up and lock up their equipment by 6:30 p.m. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

## School Entrance and Dismissal Gates

All first - fifth grade students are expected to enter and leave the school grounds through the Alexandria Avenue Gate. In the morning, a playground supervisor stands at the gate as the children arrive and enter the school. Instruction begins promptly at 8:00 a.m. and the gate is closed shortly after 8:00 a.m. Students who arrive late must enter through the main building door and go to the office to pick up a tardy slip before they go to their classroom. At dismissal time, all first - fifth grade teachers walk the students to the gate. Siblings are to wait for each other by the gate and not at the classroom doors.

Morning kindergarten students also enter school through the Alexandria Avenue Gate. Their instructional day begins at 7:50 a.m. They are dismissed through the Oakwood Gate next to the Auditorium after they eat their lunch. Afternoon kindergarten students enter school through the Oakwood gate next to the Auditorium. Their instructional day begins at 11:35 a.m. The afternoon kindergarten students are dismissed at 3:16 p.m. and exit through the kindergarten gate which faces Oakwood Avenue.

Children and adults are not to enter or exit the school grounds through the school parking lots. The parking lot gates are to remain locked during the instructional day.

## Flood Control Channels

Every rainy season creates the reality of dangerous conditions in and around flood control channels. The rain also brings with it the likelihood that children may get into flood control channels and be swept away. The forecast of harsh El Nino weather conditions could mean up to a 300 percent increase in rainfall during the upcoming rainy season.

### Dangers of the Water in the Flood Channel System:

- Each year there are approximately 6 drownings in the flood channels.
- The highest percentage of swift water rescues involve young people in the 5 to 18 age group.
- Swimming skills have nothing to do with surviving in a flood channel. The current can be so strong that even good swimmers get swept away.
- Water velocities in flood channels may range from 9 to 45 m.p.h. If water moving at 12 m.p.h. exerts a force of 540 pounds of pressure against the body, think about how much pressure is created at 45 m.p.h.
- It is against the law to be in a wet or dry flood channel. Never play, skateboard, walk or go near the bottom of a flood channel. Never try to retrieve toys, bikes, pets or people that fall into a flood channel.

### What do do if you see someone else fall in:

- Do not go in after the victim.
- Do not try to pull the victim out with your hands, rope or similar device.
- If possible, throw the victim something unattached that can be used as a flotation device, such as a spare tire, basketball or foam ice chest.
- Telephone 911

### What do do if you fall in:

- Remain calm.
- Try to float on your back with your feet downstream. Keep your feet up and use them to shove yourself away from obstructions.
- Get on top of and over debris.
- Keep your head up so you can see where you are going.



## El Nino Alert!

The City of Los Angeles and much of California is being warned by weather forecasters that we can expect El Nino to create the most severe wet weather conditions in our area in decades. The following information is for your use in preparing for the possibility that we will experience some bad storms this winter.

### Winterize your home now!

- Repair roof leaks.
- Fix broken windows and doors.
- Weather-strip doors and windows.
- Have emergency building materials handy for emergency weatherproofing.

### Take erosion control precautions now on hillsides prone to slipping or mud slides.

- Use landscape netting, sandbags or plastic.

### As in preparation of all emergencies/disasters:

- Store supplies at work, home and car in sealed waterproof containers. These supplies include: First aid supplies, medicines, food, water, portable radio, flashlight, spare batteries, spare clothing and rain gear.
- Have out of state emergency contacts for your family.
- Know safe routes from your home or office to high safe ground.
- Have a safe meeting place for family members.

### When you receive a storm warning:

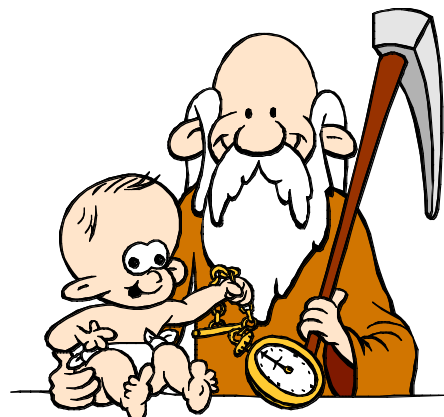
- If flooding is likely and time permits, move valuable household possessions to the upper floors of your home or office.
- If advised to leave your home, move to a safe area before access is cut off by flood waters.
- Before leaving, if time permits, turn off electrical circuits at the fuse panel and shut off gas service at the main valve.

### During the storm:

- Avoid areas that are prone to sudden flooding.
- Do not try to walk or drive across streams or roadways that are flooded.
- Do not sightsee in flooded areas.
- Avoid unnecessary trips. If you must travel during the storm, dress appropriately and advise others of your destination and duration of your trip.
- Tune to your local radio or television stations for emergency information and instructions.

### After the storm:

- Don't turn the gas or electricity back on in your home, rely on utility crews.
- Don't use fresh foods or canned foods that have come in contact with flood waters.
- Follow instructions regarding the safety of drinking water. If in doubt, boil or purify water before drinking.
- Avoid disaster areas; your presence could hamper rescue or relief operations.
- Don't handle electrical equipment in wet areas. If electrical equipment or appliances have been in contact with water, have them checked before use.
- Avoid downed power lines and broken gas lines, report them immediately to the police or fire department.
- Use flashlights—not lanterns, matches or candles—to examine building; flammables may be inside.



Happy New Year

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Parent Newsletter

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