



C.L. Smith Elementary School

Parent Newsletter

October 13, 2008

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

- October 20 Cookie Dough Sales Kick-off
- October 28 Superstar Assembly (1:30 p.m.)
- October 28 Carnival Committee Meeting (2:40 p.m.)
- October 31 Teacher Work Day (no school for students)
- November 3-7 Parent-Teacher Conference Week (1 p.m. dismissal)
- November 3-7 Book Fair (each day after school)
- November 3 Mock Election (2nd-6th)
- November 3 PTA Meeting (6 p.m.)
- November 10,11 Veterans' Day Holiday (No School)
- November 20 Honor Society (6:30 p.m.)
- November 24 School Site Council (3-5 p.m.)
- November 26-28 Thanksgiving Holiday
- December 4 Family Heritage Night
- December 5 Cookie Dough delivered to school

From the Principal

Safety □ It is a well known fact that children are more likely to grow up healthy when they feel safe at home, at school and in the neighborhood. Young people who feel threatened, unsafe, or scared often spend a lot of time trapped in fear or in their attempts to try to protect themselves. They're less likely to venture forth and take some risks. On the other hand, children who feel safe are more likely to feel secure enough to try new things. That's why safety is an important empowerment asset. Young people who feel safe at home, at school, and in the community are more likely to make positive contributions.

Yet fear is part of childhood. Young people face two types of fear: imaginary fears and reality-based fears. Imaginary fears vary depending on the developmental stage your child is going through. For example, toddlers are frequently frightened by separation and loud or strange noises. Preschoolers fear monsters and animals. Fears for older children and teenagers often revolve around injuries, natural events, and social anxieties. Television, newspapers, and other people fuel reality-based fears, such as crime and accidents. Parents can also add to this sense of insecurity by feeling anxious and believing the world is a dangerous place. Children pick up on our body language, our attitudes, and our beliefs □ even when we don't articulate them.

Having fears is normal, and acknowledging, understanding, and learning to deal with them is part of the child's continuing development. It's also important to do our part in ensuring that our homes, our schools, our neighborhoods and our communities are safe places for children.

Three ways to help your child feel safer:

1. Acknowledge your child's feelings of fear and discuss them openly.
2. Give practical suggestions on how your child can be safe in specific circumstances.
3. Reassure your child that one of your goals is to keep her or him safe.

Parents are always encouraged to call or e-mail me with concerns, complaints and even compliments about our service to you and your children. My e-mail address is: ashields@slcUSD.org.

Everyday Etudes: This week students will be listening to Pictures at an Exhibition Promenade and Gnomus by Modeste Mussorgsky (1839-1881).

PTA NEWS

Hello C.L. Smith Superstars * * *

Our PTA **Masterpiece cookie dough, pizza, pretzels and desserts sale** is scheduled for **October 20th – October 31st**. This fundraiser is easy and will bring much needed dollars to our school programs. All orders are delivered to school for parent pick-up on December 5th just in time for the holidays. The top 3 sellers receive a Scholastic Book Fair gift certificate redeemable at the Scholastic Book Fair.

A BIG THANK YOU to **Lisa Reinhart, Marie Foley, Jane Nichols and Jane Martin** for preparing our wonderful **Student Directory**. This year we've included e-mail addresses.

A BIG THANKS to the following sponsors for supporting this resource.

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The **Scholastic Book Fair** will open **Monday, November 3 – Thursday, November 13th in the Science Lab after school**. As you'll recall, school lets out early that week so the Book Fair will be open from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. This allows students and parents to come by before or after conferences. There are so many books and gifts to choose from and Scholastic Books always put out quality titles. This event also benefits our teachers! Remember to donate a gift to your special teacher... We look forward to seeing you there.

Carnival planning meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 28, 2008 at 2:40 p.m. in the science room. The breakout room will be available for the kids to do homework and enjoy a snack.

Denise Reynolds
C.L. Smith PTA President