

Pony Express Newsletter

May 2016

Debra Hetrick, Principal

Rod Fong, Interim PTA President

Principal's Message

Dear Families,

As we approach the final five weeks of school, we have no intention of slowing down. Our calendar is booked with completing the state testing, field trips, learning, and activities.

Book Fair: May 17th-20th. The book fair will be open from 5:30pm-7:30pm during Open House.

Important May Dates:

May 2-6	Staff Appreciation Week
May 10	PTA Meeting 6:00PM
May 19	Open House 5:30PM-7:00PM
June 3	Picnic on the Green 11:30PM-12:30PM
June 16	Last Day of School

Pony Express Open House: Thursday, May 19th will begin at 5:30pm and end at 7:00pm. We will meet in the multipurpose room at 5:30pm, introduce our wonderful staff, discuss our accomplishments and goals for the year, and let you visit classrooms. Classrooms will be open allowing teachers and students to showcase the year's activities. Please plan on attending this important night with your children.

"Girls on the Run" is a life-changing, non-profit prevention program for girls in the 3rd through 8th grade. Erin Duarte, one our 6th grade teachers, Suzy Foote, our RSP teacher and Shiela Darvell, our clerk have been working with a group of girls to inspire confidence in a healthy atmosphere. The culminating activity will be a 5k run on May 14th. You can sign up for this run also. Go to their web site for details.

Mark your calendar for Picnic on the Green: Friday, June 3rd from 11:30am-12:30pm. Come and have lunch with your student at our annual Picnic on the Green. Bring a picnic lunch, blanket, umbrella, and spend lunch with us for this fun filled activity. Plan accordingly as most fast foods had long lines.

Nature Bowl Competition: engaging youth in science, conservation and citizenship: Pony Express took a third grade team and fifth grade team and participated in a Nature Bowl competition at Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge. The teams spent countless hours learning about the Northern California environment prior to the competition. Thank you to Mrs. Wortman and Mrs. SanAhmadi for taking on this project. The student teams competed in 6 categories and had to answer tough environment-related questions aligned with State Science Standards. Congratulations to both teams for a job well done. We are proud to announce that the 5th grade team won their division and have advanced to the finals. They compete on May 14th at California State University, Sacramento. Wish them luck!!

Runnin' for Rhett Youth Fitness Program: Congratulations to all who participated in the Runnin' for Rhett Youth Fitness Program that ran in the 5K race. The race took place on May 1st in conjunction with the annual Pony Express Marathon held in Sacramento. Thank you to Mrs. Hemesath, parent volunteer, and Sam Hemesath, Junior Coach, who trained about 70 students twice a week for 5 weeks.

Dropping Off and Picking Up Students:

Just a reminder for the remaining days of school, there is NO student drop off in the parking lot from 8:30am to 9:00am and/or pick up from 3:00pm to 3:30pm. Safety cones are placed at the entry way to school at these times to minimize traffic congestion and maximize safety when your child arrives and leaves school. You may also drop your child off and pick him/her up at the gates along Los Cerros Avenue. Do not double park, make U-turns or jay walk when dropping off or picking up your child. Your child's safety is our top priority and we

Pony Express Newsletter

May 2016

ask for your support. Please remember to use the crosswalks and thank our crossing guard, Mr. Rick, for his efforts.

Sincerely,

Debra Hetrick

Principal

PTA President's Message

Hello Pony Parents:

We are now in the home stretch sliding into May. This month, as has all the others, will probably fly by for the PTA, beginning with PTA's hosting of Staff Appreciation Week for all of Pony's finest. This particular event starts with breakfast every morning and culminates in a luncheon for the staff on Friday. Pony teachers are some of the most hardworking people out there, and they certainly deserve the gifts, potlucks, and whatever else our school community decides to pull together for them. So if you have the opportunity, say hi and show them your appreciation.

On Tuesday, May 10th, PTA will hold what should be our last meeting of this school year. During the meeting we will take floor nominations for president and treasurer, followed by a vote by the membership. To repeat myself from last month, should we not elect a board, there is a real possibility that Pony's PTA will have to disband. Therefore, please join us on May 10th at 6:00pm for our next PTA meeting and help elect the new board for next year. The agenda will also include time for discussing the 6th grade promotion and the final big event, Play Day.

Lastly, I would like to say thanks to those parents, grandparents, guardians, who graciously contributed their time, breakfast items and/or monetary donations to help celebrate Staff Appreciation Week (and hopefully, I'll get the chance to say thanks to many others, but as of this printing) they are: Herb & Kristi Yin, Akima Martin, Florence Oto-Wong, Trang Nguyen, Pauline Ng, Teresa Carranza, Yesica Perez, Shana Wingfield, Paula Garden, Neng Thao, Michelle Hull, Rebecca Ramirez, Jovina Neves Pacas, Melanie Takehara, Pardeep Kaur, Marcela Gutierrez, Meredith Riley, Carlos Gamino, Ngoe Ho, KokYee Lee & Diana Chow, Vianey Sanchez, Shilo Baena, Christina Schlink, Florence Lemoine, Lorena Moya. Thanks for all your support.

Sincerely,

Rod Fong

Interim PTA President

