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Laura Schwalm, Ph.D., Superintendent

December  
2010

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# PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

## From the Principal

Welcome back from our School Closure Days and Thanksgiving Break! We have three jam-packed weeks of learning before Winter Break begins. We are closing up the first trimester this week. End-of-Trimester Benchmark tests and report cards are coming home soon. This is a great chance for you to check in on your child's progress toward the goals you set with the teacher in October.

We continue to offer many great opportunities for parents and families. Here are just a few exciting events coming up soon! We hope to see you here!

Best wishes to each of you for a very happy Winter Break beginning December 20<sup>th</sup>. School resumes on Monday, January 3, 2011.



### PRINCIPAL AWARDS Evening Awards Ceremony Thursday, Dec. 2

@ 5:00 (Gr. 3 & 4) & 6:30 (Gr. 5 & 6)

Over 270 Clinton School students in Grades 3-6 will be honored for reaching District Goal 1 when they took the CST last spring. Invitations have already been sent home – please RSVP if you haven't already!

### Santa's Breakfast

Saturday, Dec. 4 @ 9:00-11:00 AM

A Clinton School Tradition! Come enjoy a pancake breakfast and enter to win a variety of wonderful raffle prizes. Breakfast is \$3 for kids and \$4 for adults. You can even get your picture taken with Santa for just \$2!



### Family Math Facts Night Tuesday, Dec. 14 @ 5:00-6:00

Look for more information to come, but mark your family calendar NOW! Come see how you can help your child learn their basic math fact, and leave with some fun at-home activities! The evening be offered in English & Spanish. Childcare will be provided. RAFFLE PRIZES!!



### Math Night for parents!

#### Math Night for Parents –

Thursday, Jan. 13 @ 6:30-7:30

This special evening will be presented in our cafeteria by our District's lead math teacher. Come and see what your children are learning in math and see how you can help them at home! Parents of all students from Kindergarten thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome. There will be Spanish interpretation and free childcare!

A Clinton Cougar  
**PRRRS** with Pride!

Be **P**roud

Be **R**espectful

Be **R**esponsible

Be **R**esourceful

Be **S**afe



Congratulations to our Cougars who are earning so many Cougar Cards! Check the "Dates to Remember" to know when the 100s Club Extended Recess, the 250s Club Extended ELECTRONICS Recess, and the 500s Club Lunch with the Principal are scheduled. Keep up the great behavior!

In December, we're prowling for Cougars displaying **Resourcefulness** - *dealing quickly and effectively with problems*. January brings our look for students showing **Safety** - *doing and saying things that keep people and their feelings free from danger or harm*.

When school resumes in January, you'll see school-wide changes in our home-school communication about behavioral problems. More info is coming soon!

### MATH BEE

Congratulations to **Angeles delaRosa** and **Tommy Pham**, our 3rd Grade Math Facts Champion & Runner-Up! Angeles will represent Clinton in the District Math Bee on Wed., Dec. 1st! Good luck!

### Meeting Goals?

#### Principal Awards

Trimester 1 Principal Awards are coming up on December 17<sup>th</sup>! Students in 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grades will earn the award when they reach their goal in English Language Arts or Math (or both!) on their Benchmark tests. Students in Kindergarten and First Grade will earn it based on their report card "overall performance" marks. Students will be awarded a special Principal Award certificate!

#### Report Cards

Report cards will go home on Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. Children receive grades based on their performance toward grade level state standards. If your child is meeting his or her goals, you may already be seeing better grades this year than last year! If you have any questions regarding your child's grades, please make an appointment to see the teacher. Your understanding of our grading system and your support of your child's education is very important! We appreciate and value your participation.



WINTER  
RECESS  
NO SCHOOL

Mon., Dec. 20 – Fri.,  
Dec. 31, 2010

**Happy Holidays!**  
School resumes on Mon. Jan. 3, 2011

### FALL FUNDRAISER

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

A great big THANK YOU to all of our families who participated in our Fall Fundraiser! Together we raised over \$5000 for our PTO to continue offering Field Trips for our students. Because of continuing state-wide budget cuts, field trips may not be paid for with school funds, so we really rely on your help to raise money for our students. Our top-selling classrooms were Room 10 and Room 101! Our friend Pete the Candy Man will be here soon to pull raffle names and reward students for their participation in the fundraiser.

## Principal Honor

Awards Assemblies

Thursday, December 2, 2010

5:00 – Grades 3 & 4

6:30 – Grades 5 & 6

*By invitation only*

### Dates to Remember

December

- 1 – District Math Bee
- 2 – 8:30 Goal 2 Student Reclassification Parent Meeting
- 2 – FIELD TRIP to Upper Newport Bay (half of Gr. 4)
- 2 – 100 Cougar Card Club Extended Recess
- 2 – 2:15 Student Council Meeting
- 2 – Principal Honor Awards (5:00 Gr. 3 & 4; 6:30 Gr. 5 & 6)
- 3 – Non-Student Day – NO SCHOOL
- 4 – Santa's Breakfast
- 7 – ASSEMBLY Ocean Institute (Gr. 5)
- 7 – FIELD TRIP to Aquarium of the Pacific (Gr. 1)
- 8 – 250 Cougar Card Extended ELECTRONICS Recess
- 9 – 6:30 Winter Concert
- 10 – Report Cards go home
- 10 – FIELD TRIP to Cal State Fullerton (Gr. 6)
- 13 – Disaster Drill
- 13 – FIELD TRIP to Upper Newport Bay (other half of Gr. 4)
- 13-14 – RIF Book Give-Away
- 14 – 5:00 Family Math Facts Night
- 15 – Cougar Cards due for December
- 16 – 2:15 Student Council Meeting
- 17 – 1st Trimester Awards Assemblies
- 20-31 – Winter Recess – NO SCHOOL

January

- 3 – School Resumes
- 4 – FIELD TRIP to Shipley Nature Center (Gr. 3)
- 6 – FIELD TRIP to Modjeska Canyon (Gr. 5)
- 6 – 2:15 Student Council Meeting
- 7 – 100 Cougar Card Extended Recess
- 12 – 250 Cougar Card Extended ELECTRONICS Recess (Dec.)
- 13 – 6:30 Math Night for Parents
- 17 – Dr. MLK Jr. Holiday – NO SCHOOL
- 19 – Cougar Cards due for January
- 20 – 2:15 Student Council Meeting
- 21 – 100 Cougar Card Extended Recess
- 24 – ASSEMBLY To Tell the Tooth (Gr. 2)
- 26 – 250 Cougar Card Extended ELECTRONICS Recess (Jan.)
- 26 – 500 Cougar Card Lunch with the Principal
- 31 – FIELD TRIP Tanaka Farms (Gr. K)



## Winter Concert!

DECEMBER 9<sup>th</sup>

Bring your family and join us for our annual Winter Concert at 6:30 PM. Our musicians and singers have been practicing and are ready to put on a great performance!  
**Children must come with an adult!**