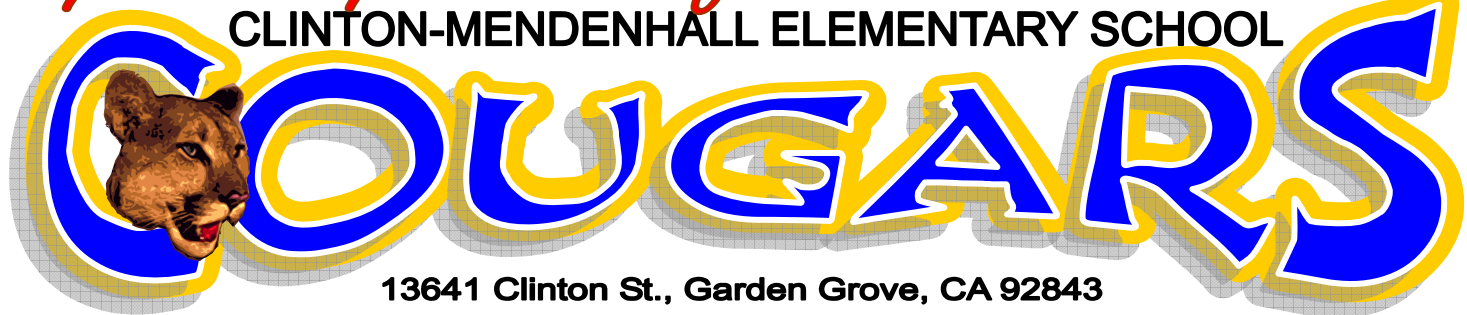


Garden Grove Unified School District

CLINTON-MENDENHALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



13641 Clinton St., Garden Grove, CA 92843

714.663.6146 - 714.663.6481 (FAX) - www.ggusd.us/clinton

Laura Schwalm, Ph.D., Superintendent

Carrie L. Mitchell, Ed.D., Principal

OCTOBER 2009

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

From the Principal

It's almost time for parent-teacher goal setting conferences! This is a great time of year when you, your child, and your child's teacher review the progress your child made toward grade-level standards last year and make plans for growth this year. **Make the most of this one-on-one time with your child's teacher – bring your child and come prepared with questions and ideas.**

Remember, our goal for each and every student is that they advance a level a year toward proficiency in Language Arts and Math. Once students are proficient or advanced, their goal is to maintain those levels. This goal will guide your goal-setting conference with your child's teacher.

Some questions you might ask the teacher are:

- What do you enjoy about my child? What makes him/her special?
- How well did my child perform last year? Did s/he reach his/her goals last year?
- What are my child's strengths in Language Arts? In Math?
- What areas does my child need to strengthen in Language Arts? In Math?
- What are you and the other teachers planning to do to address my child's needs?
- What do you think my child's learning goals should be in Language Arts? In Math?
- What can my family and I do to support my child's learning goals at home?

Dates to Remember

October

- 8 – Lock Down Drill
- 9-16 – Goal Setting Conferences (Dismissal @ 1:00)
- 15 – The Great Southern California ShakeOut Earthquake Drill
- 22 – Evening Principal Awards Ceremony (5:00 – Grades 3 & 4; 6:30 – Grades 5 & 6)

November

- 6 – Picture Day
- 9 – 1st Quarter Language Arts Benchmark Testing begins
- 11 – Veteran's Day – NO SCHOOL
- 16 – Make-Up Picture Day
- 19 – Fire Drill
- 26-27 – Thanksgiving Holiday – NO SCHOOL

December

- 4 – Non-Student Day – NO SCHOOL
- 5 – Santa's Breakfast
- 10 – Winter Concert
- 18 – 1st Trimester Awards Assemblies
- 20-Jan. 1st Winter Recess – NO SCHOOL
- TBD – Disaster Drill

A Clinton Cougar
PRRRS with Pride!

Be **P**roud

Be **R**espectful

Be **R**esponsible



Be **R**esourceful

Be **S**afe

COUGAR CARDS & OFFICE REFERRALS

As you heard at Back to School Night, our students are busy earning Cougar Cards for being a Clinton Cougar who **PRRRS** with Pride! Check with your child to see how many cards they've earned. Maybe you've already seen your child's "This Cougar Really **PRRRS**" certificate, showing that they've already earned 25 Cougar Cards this year!

In October we'll begin sending home referral slips for you to see and sign. Children earn a referral slip whenever the teacher needs to remind them more than once to follow school or classroom rules. The principal will briefly talk with students who earn referrals, quickly and positively reminding students of the rules and encouraging them to earn more Cougar Cards. *If your child brings home a referral for you to sign, it's a chance for you to do the same – positively remind your child to follow the rules and to be their best at school.* If your child has two referrals in a day, something more serious may have happened at school, and may warrant a more serious conversation at home. If there are three or more referrals in a day – or if your child has a major behavioral problem at school – the principal will call you to talk about it before your child brings home their referrals.

Parent-Teacher Goal Setting Conferences

Fri., Oct. 9 – Fri., Oct. 16
MINIMUM DAYS

ALL STUDENTS Grades 1-6 ATTEND 8:00-1:00

(PreK & Kindergarten schedules do not change)

Principal Honor

Awards Assemblies

Thursday, October 22, 2009

5:00 – Grades 3 & 4

6:30 – Grades 5 & 6

By invitation only

FALL FUNDRAISER

September 25 – October 13, 2009

Once again this Fall we're looking to our families to help the PTO raise money to send our students on field trips and provide special assemblies. We're again working with QVC to provide you a variety of wonderful gifts – just in time for the holidays! All orders will arrive before Thanksgiving.

Remember, children should not sell items door-to-door. We encourage families to sell items to parents co-workers, family members, and friends. All students who participate in our fundraiser will get a special reward – *and* entry into our drawing to win a fabulous prize! The top selling classroom wins a pizza pig-out party, and the second-place classroom wins an ice cream party.

LUNHTABLES

Thank you to our parents who have expressed a concern about children eating lunch on the sunny outdoor tables. You'll be glad to know that we are working with the district to provide shade covering for our outdoor tables. In the meantime, children are offered a choice to eat indoors or outdoors. Please help us by reminding your children that they need to stay seated – whether they choose to eat indoors or outdoors – until they are dismissed to play by a noon supervisor.

WE NEED YOU!

School Site Council (SSC) is a group of elected parents, teachers, and staff that acts in an advisory capacity to the principal. We meet three or four times per year to discuss school programs, student progress, funding, and other issues. This is an excellent opportunity to represent the voice of parents and families in school decisions, and a wonderful way to become involved in the way the school runs.

The **English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC)** is an elected group of parents advises the principal, staff, and School Site Council on programs and services for English learners. The ELAC usually meets with the School Site Council and discusses issues together.

Spanish translation will be available during our meetings. If you are interested in participating in the SSC, please complete the form below and return it to school **by Friday, Oct 16th**. Our first meeting is scheduled for November 5 @ 2:30.

YES!

I am interested in making a difference at Clinton School!
I'd like to be part of the Clinton's (check one)

School Site Council

English Learner Advisory Committee

Parent's name _____

Phone number _____

Child's name _____

Teacher/Room number _____

Please return this sheet to school no later than October 16th.

The school will contact you to share more information.