

Spencer Loomis
Newsletter
September 11th, 2009
Principal: Grant Seaholm

Spencer Loomis...a partnership where individuals are valued and learning is inspired

Just a Reminder: The SL attendance number is (847)719-3366

MAP Testing

We have successfully completed our first week of Measurement of Academic Progress (MAP) testing. The testing will be completed by Friday, September 25th. All our 2nd-5th grade students will be taking two tests; math and reading. Each test takes approximately one hour to complete. There is no time limit so students can take as much time as they need. Since we began using the MAP data three years ago it has given us very good information to help teachers modify curriculum based on the students' needs and provide appropriate interventions. MAP results will be sent home the beginning of October.

Character Counts

We are looking forward to starting a new year with our Character Counts Program. We have made some minor revisions to the order of the pillars. We are starting this year with the pillar of "Responsibility". The staff will be focusing on the importance of being responsible at school and home. Look for more information in my newsletters and the teacher's weekly newsletters and websites.

Listed below is the rotation for Character Counts pillars for 2009-10:

September	Responsibility
October	Respect
November	Citizenship
December	Caring
January	Caring
February	Trustworthiness
March	Trustworthiness
April	Fairness
May	Fairness

We are also beginning to acknowledge students for demonstrating the pillars of Character Counts with our "Golden Horseshoe Awards". I will be reading students' names during our Friday morning news broadcast.

Messages to Staff

We have had several experiences recently involving parents leaving a voice message or e-mail for a teacher and the parent assumed the teacher received the message. If you leave a voice message or e-mail for your child's teacher regarding after-school arrangements, please do **NOT** assume the teacher received the message. If a teacher is absent they will not get the message, and the substitute teacher can't access the regular teachers' voice mail or e-mail. If you need to make changes to the normal dismissal arrangements that you have established with the school, a note should **always** be sent in with your child regarding any after school arrangements. Please contact the office at 847-719-3300 if you have any questions. Thank you for your help with this important matter.

Pick-up Procedures/End of the Day

Students should be dropped off **no earlier** than **8:20** and no later than 8:30. Pick-up your child no later than 3:00. Your child will proceed to the recess area with the other students and supervisors. Please drop off/Pick-up **ONLY** in the front of the school. Do not drive thru the bus lanes.

Tardiness

We have had excellent attendance the first week of school. The students have been arriving to school on time. Please continue to support our efforts to have all our students arrive at school **no later than 8:30** each day. Your help and support is greatly appreciated!

Wellness Plan

As a part of the "Child Nutrition and Women, Infants, and Children Reauthorization Act of 2004" the school district made some significant changes to our wellness plan several years ago. Those plans will continue this year as we ask you again to bring only healthy snacks to school for your child. **This includes birthday treats.** You did an excellent job of respecting the wellness plan last year and we ask for your continued support with the plan this year.

Art Parent News

Attention all Art Parent Volunteers!

We look forward to seeing **ALL of our Art Parent Volunteers, both experienced and new at the Art Parent Kickoff on Monday, September 21 from 9:30 - 11 in the Art Room.** We have lots of new faces on the Art Parent Committee this year, and we're looking forward to sharing lots of good information with you about the plans for this year. You'll get final classroom assignments, orientation materials, guidelines for working with the teachers who are sharing their classroom time for this program, and get training on the first couple of projects. This is an important meeting, so please RSVP your **REGRETS ONLY** by sending an email to Debbie Pike (debbiepikester@gmail.com).

Friday, September 11th
Monday, September 8-25th
Monday, September 21st
Thursday, September 24th
Friday, September 25th
Monday, October 12th
Monday, October 19th
Tuesday, October 20th
Wednesday, October 21-23rd
Thursday, October 29th

Friday, October 30th
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Important Dates

SL Back to School Picnic 5-8:00
Fall Map Testing
Art Parent Mtg. 9:30-11:00 (Art Room)
Early Release Day
SL PTO Mtg. 9 AM
No School
SL Vision and Hearing
Early Release Day
SL Book Fair
SL Halloween Festivities K-2 4:30-6PM
3-5 7-9PM

No School