

Joseph Sims Elementary School Newsletter

September 2006

Carlos Ramirez, Principal
Princetta Purkins, Vice-Principal



Dates to Remember in September

- Sept. 4 – Labor Day – No School
- Sept. 13 – 1-3 Star Assembly 8:15
- Sept. 13 - K AM @ 11:15 in K2
- Sept. 13 – K PM @ 2:05 in K2
- Sept. 14 – A & C Fundraiser \$\$ due
- Sept 15 – Track Change/Minimum Day
- Sept. 15– Ice Cream Social 5:30 – 8:00
- Sept. 19 – Picture Day A & D
- Sept. 19 – Distribution of Fundraiser B & D to classrooms
- Sept. 21 – Cookie Dough Delivery 2:20 – 6:00 Track B & D in MP

Character Education

- ◆ Sept. 1 – 15 **Be Smart And Make Good Choices**
- ◆ Sept. 16 – Oct. 6 **Be Tolerant and Accept Differences**

Principal's News

Dear Parents, Caregivers, and Community Members,

As we begin our 2006-07 school year, I am happy to report that we are in full academic stride. As I visit and observe classrooms, I am pleased to see all students applying our 100%/100% rule; that is, showing 100% effort, 100% of the time. Bravo Shining Stars!

The California Department of Education released the Academic Index Performance scores for all California schools. Joseph Sims once again demonstrated a steady climb for the 6th year straight! I am happy to announce our A.P.I. score of 881. We are proud of our Shining Star students, teachers, and staff members.

I also want to acknowledge you for your continued support and involvement. Together, we are making a positive difference.

Since I started as your principal, I have been amazed by how many Joseph Sims red bumper stickers I see in and around Elk Grove. I even

saw one on my way to a Tahoe backpacking trip recently! Look for new Joseph Sims stickers this year as we incorporate a new awards assembly process for students in 4th, 5th and 6th grades.

Students will now be honored 3 times a year at our Trimester Honors Assembly. Student's can earn the following awards: Principal's List (4.0 GPA), Honor Roll (3.0 to 3.99 GPA), Citizenship (all '+s' in citizenship), Work and Study Habits (all '+s' in Work and Study Habits), Perfect Attendance (no absences or no more than 3 tardies), and Star Student (kids who especially exemplify the monthly character themes). We are very excited about our new Honor Assemblies and happy to continue to honor our K-2 students with the monthly Star Assemblies.

I would like to close by thanking each and every one of you for your tremendous and on-going support. You are part of our team.

Thank You, Carlos Ramirez, Principal

PTO Fundraiser

"Kathryn Beich Fundraiser Update ~ PTO would like to thank all B & D track families & teachers for their fantastic support of our Fall fundraiser. The orders have all been submitted and the catalog items will be delivered on September 19 while the Otis Spunkmeyer cookie dough will be delivered on September 21. Please remember that an adult must be present to pick up cookie dough on the 21st during the hours of 3:00 and 6:00 p.m. We appreciate your help with this!

Also, we'd like to welcome A & C tracks to their opportunity to sell items through Kathryn Beich. Your sale started August 30 and will conclude on September 14. Please turn your orders in to your

teacher or the office by September 14 so we can process them in a timely fashion. There are lots of great items to buy and Joseph Sims keeps 50% of all catalog sales and 40% of all cookie dough sales. Your delivery dates will be announced soon. Thank you for helping support PTO!"





ICE CREAM SOCIAL

The Eighth Annual Ice Cream Social is on Friday, September 15 from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. Join us for ice cream, DJ music, a huge basket raffle, and bounce houses! Get your tickets early to beat the long lines! Here's a tip: use mini address labels and preprint your name and phone number for the back of the basket raffle tickets! This year could be YOUR lucky year to win a basket!

We still need volunteers for this event! We could use help before and during the Social...look for the "Help Wanted" note to come home soon!



Help Us Collect Box Tops For Our School!!!

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We earn 10 cents for every Box Top you collect. Your child's teacher has an envelope in his/her classroom to collect them in. So, please save those Box Tops. The company has an online shopping mall as well. It doesn't cost you anything additional to shop through their website. Just sign up with them, and do your normal online shopping with their links, and our PTO gets a percentage of your sale. Check out their website -

www.boxtops4education.com There are even some fun ways to get your kids involved in the collecting.

On a side note, we will **no longer** be collecting Campbell Soup Labels. There is an excessive amount of work to submit them, and we have to collect thousands to get anything worthwhile.

Thank you so much for supporting our PTO!

BOOK FAIRE

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school from September 27th to October 6th.

Our theme is "Reading Rainforest, Wild About Books!"

The book fair will be open after school each day until 4:00pm.

There will be three (3) Family Night Events on October 3rd, 4th, and 5th (Tues, Wed, Thurs). Come each night to meet Clifford, the Big Red Dog (6 pm – 7 pm) and enter to win a \$25 Book Fair Gift Certificate! Family Night hours are

5:30PM to 7:30PM.

When you come, ask to see your teacher's Wish List. Perhaps you can donate a book and help build the teacher's classroom library!

Profits from the Scholastic Book Fair benefit our school library.

Thank you for your support!!



School Safety

A major component of our school mission is the safety and welfare of all of our students. We are the largest elementary school in the district, and as a result of that, we have about 900 students coming to school on a daily basis. We need your help to ensure that all students arrive and depart in a safe manner. Parents and other community members, we need you to do the following:

1. Obey all traffic rules in the school zone.
2. Be extra cautious when approaching a crosswalk. Be sure everyone has crossed, including the crossing guard before you enter the crosswalk.

3. Remember that when dropping off students in the front parking lot there are two lanes; 1 for dropping students off using the student helpers, 2, proceeding through the parking lot without stopping.

We know that you are concerned for the safety of your student. Working together, we can ensure that all students are safe coming to school and going home. Our walk to school day will be held on October 4, 2006. We'll be sending out more information on this fun event. We hope you will consider participating.

Nuts and Bolts

Just a reminder that late arrivals and early dismissals, due to medical appointments, are considered excused *if* medical verification is provided.

Homework Club began Sept. 5. All students are required to have a signed permission slip in order to attend. Students must be picked up from homework club by 3:30.

2007-2008 Kinder registration packets are due by October 2, 2006.