

Lion's Den Newsletter

February 2015

NORDSTROM ELEMENTARY 1425 E. DUNNE AVENUE 408-201-6440

Principal's Message

Perseverance: A Must-Have for Children

Many children have set out to accomplish something – sports, music, good grades, - only to realize that the path is uphill and the prize is not free. Certainly, you've experienced seeing exciting faces as your children share dreams of accomplishing some new endeavor, then later see frustration and hear those distressed words, "I can't." This is the time when being a parent counts.

Children need to feel success. The actual accomplishment of a task is not as important as the work they do to accomplish it. You may need to help your child adjust their goal, or give an explanation of why he or she can't fly to the moon tomorrow. Either way it's important for you to find a way to help your child experience the satisfaction of persevering to the end.

As we are about half-way through the year, consider working on the following 3 "Bs" that will help your child develop perseverance.

- **Be interested.** There's a reason children say, "Daddy, watch this!" Children never really outgrow the need to know that you care about what they do. Show that you want them to be successful.
- **Be a teacher.** Parents are teachers too. Kids have classrooms at school, but the laboratory for learning is the home. You don't need advanced degrees in math or reading to teach your children. Simply watch for, and take advantage of teachable moments, a chance to encourage, lift, explain or share one of your life's experiences.
- **Believe.** Your children can do anything. Do you show your children that you believe it? Give them the gift of truly believing in them and then brace yourself for them to do things that may astound you.

Principal's Coffee Meeting

On Friday 2-27 we will have another Principal's coffee meeting. This meeting will focus on the new Common Core math. We will look at the new standards, the upcoming SBAC assessments, the lessons from Engage New York and strategies to help your child at home. Please join us if you can.

No-Extra-Cost-to-You Fundraising for Nordstrom

Did you know that shopping at Target stores and using a Target REDcard (either debit or credit) will earn money for Nordstrom? Target helps their local schools by donating 1% of your purchases at Target stores or Target.com when you use the Target REDcard as part of the "Take Charge of Education" program from Target. In addition, when you use your REDcard you get 5% off of your purchase. It's a win-win partnership. So please consider opening an account or registering your current REDcard to our Nordstrom School by going online at www.target.com .

February Events

2-6 HSC meeting 8:00 AM
6th grade panoramic picture
Lion's Den
Spirit Day - "Famous Day"
2-9 thru 2-13 6th graders' Science Camp
2-9 ELAC 6:00 PM
2-16 thru 2-20 President's Week break
2-24 SSC 2:15 PM **note change

March Events

3-6 Lion's Den
Spirit Day - "Be a Book"
HSC meeting 8:00 AM
3-9 ELAC 2:15 PM
3-12 Theater performance 6:00 PM
3-13 Theater performance 6:00 PM
3-17 GATE Night 6:00 PM
3-23 SSC 2:15 PM

Thank you to all the families that donated to the Christmas Basket Project. Our barrels were overflowing with food. Our students, staff and families, overwhelmingly displayed Nordstrom's core value of generosity this season.

Clothing for Health Office

The Health Office is in need of gently worn clothing.

Sweat pants with elastic or draw string, size 5-8 years (S,M,L).

Girls and Boys underwear, size 5-8 years (S,M,L)

Girls and Boys socks, size 5-8 years.

Boys and Girls tennis shoes, size 4-8 years.

If you are interested in donating any of these items, please drop them off at the office. Thank you.