

# Lion's Den Newsletter

May 2015

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

## Principal's Message

### Eight Ways to Help Your Child Love the Library

Whether you're a kid or an adult, libraries have always been an ideal place to savor a quiet moment with a good book. Today's public libraries offer so much more. Increasingly, the stereotype of the library as a place where librarians frown and insist that patrons "shush!" is being replaced with images of libraries as places for fun and family-friendly programs. Here are 8 ways to help your child develop a zest for learning and a lifelong love of reading.

1. **Get your child a library card.** Show your child the joy of checking out books, videos or magazines from his local library. Teach your child to take care of the books and other items he checks out and to make sure the items get returned on time.
2. **Visit often.** Make the library a routine place that you visit with your kids, like the park or a favorite pizza place. Become regulars and get to know your way around your library. Though it may be difficult to squeeze in visits to the library, by doing so, you're letting your child know that reading is important.
3. **Teach your child how to find books and media at the library.** Most libraries have moved to all-digital systems. Some arrange books or videos similar to bookstores, with certain subgenres organized and shelved together. Since most libraries generally evolve to meet the needs of their patrons, in many places kids can also learn to use the interlibrary lending system for libraries within a network and other book-finding procedures, giving them more options for how they use their local library.
4. **Get a calendar of activities.** Make it a habit to check your library's event calendar each month. Some libraries host events off-site, such as a composting or gardening workshop at a local park.
5. **Consider your child's interests.** It's important to help your child choose the right book, especially if he/she is a reluctant reader. Start with a favorite pastime, hobby or interest and see what books and media would complement it.
6. **Like the movie? Love the book.** If there's a film your child loved, suggest that he/she might also enjoy the related audio book about the film. For example, if your child loved the film Tuck Everlasting so much that he/she was sorry to see the story end, check the library for the film's audiobook. Then, check for other books by the same author.
7. **Explore magazines.** Kids who struggle with reading may be reluctant to pick up a chapter book. They may however love magazines, especially those about their favorite topics, such as sports or animals. Libraries often have a fantastic selection of magazines.
8. **Be a role model.** Show your child how much you enjoy the library. Check out books for yourself and read them at home or while waiting for your child at soccer practice. Children follow the example of their parents and caregivers. Supporting and using public libraries as a source for lifelong learning can be one of the greatest gifts that parents give their children.

**May Events:**

- 5-6 Kinder Information Night - 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
- 5-8 Nordstrom Spring Auction - 5:00 p.m.
- 5-12 Spring Music Concert - 6:00 p.m.
- 5-18 SSC - 2:15 p.m.
- 5-18 - 5-22 Book Fair Week - RC
- 5-20 Open House - 6:30p.m. - 8:00p.m.
- 5-25 No School - Memorial Day

**June Events:**

- 6-4 Last Day - "Minimum Day Schedule"

**SBAC Testing continues through May 8**

Our year-end assessment of common core standards, 'SBAC' testing is more than half-way done. All Nordstrom students in 3rd - 6th grades are taking the 'SBAC' Summative Assessments. These are similar to the prior CST tests that we used to take each spring. The student's results will be calculated and you will receive scores for your children, although we have not been informed of how the results will be sent since this is the first year for reportable results.

On the nights before a test, make sure your child gets to bed early and gets a good night's sleep. On testing mornings, have them eat a nutritious breakfast and send a healthy snack to school for the brunch recess. These will help your child perform their best and allow him/her to demonstrate their academic strengths. Thank you for supporting your child every day at school.

We would like to welcome our new staff members:

- Joyce Specht - Custodian
- Tracey Nguyen - Librarian
- DD Musgrave - Instructional Aid

**Back to School Clothing Drive**

We cordially invite you to be part of the 'Fit Out For Fall' – Back to school Clothing Drive. Cecelia's Closet & Food Pantry is collecting new or gently used clothing in all sizes, including adult size, pants, shorts, shirts, tops, sweaters, etc. and NEW underwear and socks.

**Collection Date:** May 4th - 31st.

**Collection Location:** The collection barrel will be located in the Nordstrom MPR.

