



Principal's Message

Mr. Freitas will be back in the office Monday morning. If you would like to meet with him, please stop by the office or call/email to set up an appointment. He will be with us for the remainder of the year and to welcome the new Principal in July. Mr. Freitas can be contacted at cfreitas@cusd.claremont.edu.

Intent to Return

A last reminder: **the neon pink "Intent to Return" postcards are due by this Friday, May 15th**! If you did not receive one or have misplaced it – no worries! Please take a brief moment to contact the office by email, phone or in person, and let us know whether your child will be returning to Sycamore in the fall (or if in 6th grade, going to El Roble). This allows us to make more accurate projections for enrollment and staffing, which are as important as ever this year.

Science Fair

It's that time already -- Science Fair projects are due next week! Please check with your child's teacher to determine the actual date the project should be turned in. Project evaluation will begin on Tuesday, running through Thursday, May 21st. Plan to stop by Wednesday evening to see the fruits of your student's labor, along with those of many others, between 6:30 and 8:30pm. Projects should be picked up beginning Thursday after school. Please make sure that your student's project is taken home no later than Friday afternoon.

David Tanenbaum and Rusty Lansford will coordinate the evaluators, and Betsy Laybourn will oversee the "operations" side of the Science Fair. As in the past, many volunteers will be needed to support this endeavor. If you are available to help on Tuesday morning with project check-in and registration, please contact Betsy at betsyagnew@yahoo.com or 626-6339. Thanks in advance to all volunteers, as well as to all the family members who have been plugging away on a project with their student!

Open House

Mark your calendar, invite relatives and tell a friend that Sycamore's Open House will be held on Wednesday, May 20, from 7:00-8:00 pm. Stop by the Science Fair early or late (it will remain open from 6:30-8:30), but be sure to view all the classrooms where student projects, essays, artwork, and independent activities will be on display. Remember, Open House is a time for reflection, display and pride for students, teachers and parents alike. Students showcase their classroom culture and individual efforts; parents and guests meander through the school, awed by the multi-dimensional learning activities in which our students engage; and teachers can knowingly scan their classroom to see the fruits of their year-long efforts.

Playground /Recess Guidelines

Just a friendly reminder: Sycamore is still a "Toy-Free" campus. Please keep all toys, balls, cards, etc. at home. In addition, please help remind your student that all snacks should be consumed at the snack tables during recess or in the courtyard at lunch. No food or drink should be on the playground. This helps to ensure the safety of the students as well as keeping our campus clean. Thanks!

Parent Input for 2009-10

We will soon begin to consider next year's enrollment and class configurations. As is our annual practice, parents are offered the opportunity to share thoughts and comments regarding the learning environment that most benefits their child specifically. A more detailed letter and response form is attached. **Please return this form to the office no later than Friday, May 29, 2009.**

Garden Gear

Our initial Sycamore "Garden Gear" order has been placed with the supplier – what an overwhelming response! We received over 100 separate orders, which will benefit the school greatly. Products should be arriving in the next 2 weeks, so keep your eyes peeled for a flashy green t-shirt or sweatshirt, or an eye-catching tote or decal displaying Sycamore pride! Orders will be delivered directly to classrooms, labeled with the student's name.

If you missed out on the first order, don't fret! A second run will be available, with orders delivered by the last day of school. An order form is attached. To ensure orders are processed and to reconcile the year's budget, the firm deadline for receipt of all orders is **Thursday morning, May 28th**. Amazing job and big thanks to Jon Henderson (father to Jack, rm. 11), who developed the design; sought out the vendor; printed, collected and compiled the order forms; and otherwise coordinated the project. It's proving to be a fabulous endeavor for all!



Drumline Performance

The Sycamore Drumline class, offered during After-School Enrichment this year, will showcase their hard work and musical talent at lunch next Wednesday, May 20th at 12:00. Stop by and see a fantastic display of rhythmic precision, led by former Beach Boy and class teacher, Bobby Figueroa. This is a class we hope to offer continuously, so you'll want to check it out! Special thanks to Bobby and Parent-Coordinator Barbara Witt for providing such an awesome opportunity!

Courtyard Picnic

Probably most revered by sixth grade families, because it brings to a close a 7-year run at Sycamore, the end of the year Courtyard Picnic will be on Wednesday, May 27th. This annual event is just what it is advertised to be: an end of the year picnic where families can mingle and talk about the year gone by and their exciting summer plans still to come.

As has become the expectation, the picnic will be as sustainable as possible. Parents are asked to bring their own dinner, plates and utensils and carry away their own trash. Drinks will be provided. Additionally, families whose last names begin with the letters M- Z are asked to bring a dessert to be shared with 10 other families.

SCRIP Reminder

Support Sycamore by buying Scrip...

Aruffo's, Claremont Juice Company, Eddie's NY Pizzeria, Some Crust, Mrs. Nelson's, Sprouts, Staters, Video Paradiso/Rhino Records, Tutti Mangia, Vitamin City!!! Scrip is on sale M, W, F, 8am to 8:30 and M, F, 2:30-3:30.

Other ways to support Sycamore: 1) register your VONS card for Sycamore at escrip.com, and 2) shop RED with a Target Red card, and Target will donate up to 1% of your purchases to Sycamore (you need to enroll in Take Charge of Education @ https://sites.target.com/site/en/corporate/page.jsp?contentId=PRD03-005174&ref=sr_shorturl_tcoe).

SCRIP will be available in the office through July 1st, with sales resuming on August 20th.

Governance Council Updates

Join us at Pizza 'n' Such in the Village for Pizza Night, next Monday, May 18th from 5pm - Closing. A portion of the night's proceeds go to Sycamore. This month and next, Sycamore 6th graders will be lending a hand in bussing tables. Don't miss it! (And watch for June "Pizza Night" dates in a future bulletin.)

The next Governance Council meeting has been **RESCHEDULED to Tuesday, May 19th at 7pm**. Please join us for our last formal meeting of the school year!

CALENDAR

Monday, 5/18	7:30am 5 - Close	Ways & Means Committee Pizza Night	Staff Room Pizza 'n' Such
Tuesday, 5/19	Morning	Science Fair Evaluations begin	MPR
Tuesday, 5/19	7pm	Governance Council	Room 4
Wednesday, 5/20	12:00-12:30 6:30-8:30pm 7pm-8pm	Drumline Performance Science Fair Open House	Courtyard MPR Classrooms
Thursday, 5/21	7pm	CUSD Board Meeting	District Office