



The Paw Print Press

IMPORTANT DATES

May 6, 2015

Friday, May 8

New Family Welcome

5:30pm – 6:00pm

Welcome incoming families to Lakeshore and get ready for the Potluck!

Multicultural Potluck

6pm – 8:00pm

Bring your favorite food to share and a big appetite! Lakeshore's Multicultural Potluck is the event of the season!

Friday, May 15

Kid's Night Out

6:00pm – 9:30pm

Last chance of the year for the kids to have a night to themselves at the school.

NEW DATE!

Important! Your Voice Counts: Complete the School Survey

SFUSD has adopted a new way of rating school quality, and your opinions will be a part of that system! This survey is very important to helping us understand how we can improve the school, so please be sure you fill one out before May 29th! We want to hear every family's voice! Here is the link to the family survey <https://goo.gl/1YCTqS> or use the QR code below:



Support Your Child's Education: Join the SSC

We all want the best education possible for our children and for a commitment of just **two hours per month**, you can make a significant contribution to the school.

The School Site Council (SSC) is a SFUSD-mandated organization tasked with setting the site budget, the Balanced Scorecard, and discussing site-related issues. This organization is independent of the PTA and consists of parents, community members, and staff.

The Lakeshore SSC is looking for 3 members and 1 alternate beginning in the 2015-16 school year. Members can be parents, grandparents, guardians, or other community members. Meetings are once a month, last 1.5 to 2 hours and members serve two year terms.

Interested or know a good candidate? Email ssc@lakeshoreelementary.org.

Multicultural Potluck This Friday

Join us for Lakeshore's annual celebration of our diverse and unique community at Multicultural Potluck Night this Friday! Bring a cultural dish or a family favorite to share and be ready to taste some new and delicious foods as we gather in the Community Room from 6-8 p.m. We will enjoy some performances from Lakeshore's after school Mandarin classes and we will also honor Lakeshore's African American Honor Roll scholars! If you have any questions, or would like to help out, contact Horace Montgomery at horacem@sbcglobal.net.

Lakeshore Students Perform at SFUSD Elementary Music Festival

A HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to the 4th & 5th Grade Music students who performed in this year's SFUSD Elementary Music Festival at Balboa High School during Superhero Saturday! Participants can only be chosen and invited by their Music Teacher (Mrs. Lehman) due to excellent work and effort in Instrumental Music. These student musicians are: Matthew Wong, Alice Liang, Naomi Walsh, Sally Hong, Isabel Cordon, Jolie Jumanan, Lia Quintero, Amelia Bringas, Ivy Li, Bobby Cavano, Miguel Alejandro, Lesley Anna Chua, Katelyn Luo, and Andres Gonzales.

You are Invited...

You are all invited to a few upcoming events – before the year ends and over the summer.

- **New Family Welcome** on May 8th on the K yard from 5:30-6pm followed by our Multicultural Potluck 6-8pm in the Community Room.
- **Summer playdates** on Sunday, June 14th and July 12th from 11am-2pm at Junipero Serra Playground near Merced Library.
- **New Family Orientation** on Thursday August 13th from 6-7:30pm at Lakeshore in community room and classrooms.

Please contact Dara at daradubosky@hotmail.com with any questions you may have about Lakeshore.

Hope to see you all there!

PTA Financial Update

We have raised approximately \$94,000 of the required \$101,500 needed to pay the expenses for this school year (2014-15). While additional funds are being deposited from corporate donors, we expect to end the year between \$6000-\$7000 shy of our financial commitments. The PTA accounts can cover this deficit but it will be a big hit to our reserves. Therefore, we plan to add the deficit amount into the budget for the 2015-16 school year. We do not plan to sacrifice programs to replenish the account so we will be looking for areas to cut costs and new ways of fundraising. The Executive Board will be working through different budget scenarios for approval by the membership in the kick-off PTA meeting in September.

Thank you to everyone who helped us this year. Many donated financially and many, many donated their time to help in classrooms, at school, fundraising, and community events.

California is 49th in per pupil spending, coming in at \$8,482 per student – \$3,342 (28%) below the national average. Our kids deserve better and it's through **your efforts** that we can provide an exceptional, well-rounded education for our students. Thanks to you. Thanks to your friends and family. Thanks to the students. You are Lakeshore.

Notes from the Garden: Huge Changes for the Learning Garden

This year, we have made some significant changes to the Learning Garden, the amazing location below the kinder yard. It all started with the most amazing Cob bench, constructed by hand for use as comfortable and whimsical seating for Lakeshore students during Gardening class. The Greening Committee continued the improvements by sponsoring a new Weather Station complete with instruments, a weather vane, a 100 pound composter, cob picnic tables, rain gage, shed and the compass rose.

As a result, the Learning Garden has become a gem on the Lakeshore campus, providing a thought-provoking teaching area not only for Gardening but the additional seating and tables allows instructors to bring classes to work outside. It's also an oasis for our staff becoming a highly sought-after location for lunch meetings, workday breakout sessions, or an area for a quick rest and meditation.

The weather station is a work in progress with many more enhancements planned. Still, it has created a strong interest to the classes who pass by daily and is reminiscent the central plaza of a small town.

Notable is the simple painted compass rose on the blacktop. It has captured the imagination of many students and has helped provide context for learning direction. Children who are waiting for tools from the shed or just passing through will stop, stand on a point, and declare, "I'm standing North," or "I live in this direction, West!"

The new Seagull team has been immensely helpful, adopting and maintaining the new composter and worm bins, caring for the greenhouse, and excavating the hillside where the tree recently fell over.

Next up: pumpkin patch planting with the kindergartners.

Gardening is more than learning about how things grow – it's the program that makes all aspects of biology, ecology and other sciences a real-world learning experience for our students.

Want to include something in the next edition? Please email newsletter@lakeshoreelementary.org no later than Friday evening with final content and your contact information.

LAKESHORE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

www.lakeshoreelementary.org

