



**December 12, 2014**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

December 1-15	Sleep Train's annual Secret Santa Toy Drive for Foster Kids
December 12	Movie Night: Frozen Sing-a-long!
December 13	Barnes & Noble Fundraiser for Cornell Library-El Cerrito Plaza
December 13	All Elementary School Choir Performance-3:00pm. Albany High School
December 17	Cornell Caroling -6:30pm-Meet in Multipurpose Room
December 17	Restaurant Fundraiser- Chiptole-9901 San Pablo Ave. in El Cerrito
December 19	REGULAR school day
Dec. 22-Jan. 4	Winter Break-No School-Classes resume Monday, January 5 <sup>th</sup>
January 14	Community Time/Walk & Roll to School
January 14	Restaurant Fundraiser
January 19	Martin Luther King Jr. Day-No School
January 23	Movie Night

**Coach's Corner** For this week's Common Core shift, we return to Language Arts. While we have always taught students to learn about the world through reading, our Common Core State Standards makes this the emphasis in all subject areas. For children to become lifelong learners, they must be able to make sense of the world through text. In classrooms, students will be reading shorter, high-level texts about the topics they are studying. They will be getting smarter in science and social studies *through their own reading* as well as through our engaging, hands-on activities. How parents can support children learning through reading is first by noticing topics your children are interested in. Then, help them find not just one, but a series of texts on that topic. Sources include our school library, classroom libraries and a family trip to the Albany Library. When finding text online, be sure to look for text that is close to your child's reading level. Whenever you find time, discuss with your child the ideas they are learning through their reading. Miesje Child, Cornell Common Core Coach

**TONIGHT IS MOVIE NIGHT! DISNEY'S "FROZEN" SING-ALONG** Doors open at 6pm, cartoons at 6:15 and Frozen starts at 6:30. \$4/person suggested donation enters you into a raffle to win the movie at the end of the night! Dinner (wraps, sandwiches, pizza, etc.) and snacks (popcorn, candy, juice boxes, etc.) will be available for purchase. Warm up your vocal cords and join us!

**TOY DRIVE EXTENDED THROUGH MONDAY, DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>** Support Sleep Train's annual Secret Santa Toy Drive for Foster Kids. Please bring new, unwrapped gifts to the tubs outside the office as you come in the Talbot Avenue doors.

**THANKS TO ALL WHO GAVE TO AEGC!** The Albany Elementary Giving Campaign (AEGC) closed on a successful note. We raised over \$70K and met our goal of being able to fund all planned enrichment programs for the current year! All three PTAs are deeply grateful to everyone who donated. Because of what you gave, our kids will have in-class specialists to instruct our students in the visual and performing arts, poetry, and puberty education, depending on their school and grade. These programs do so much to expand our children's horizons, open up new ways of learning, and keep kids motivated and engaged at school, and we can only continue them with your support. Please know that your generosity will have a very meaningful impact on all our kids' experience at school this year. On behalf of the AEGC Committee, thank you!

**TOMORROW, HEAD OVER TO THE ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL GYM FOR THE ALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WINTER CHOIR CONCERT** Concert begins at 3:00pm The combined choirs will be accompanied by the Albany High School Jazz Combo. (Performers-meet in the AHS Gym at 2:00pm for rehearsal.

**SUPPORT OUR LIBRARY SATURDAY, BY SHOPPING AT THE EL CERRITO PLAZA BARNES AND NOBLE TOMORROW, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>** Every year, the Albany Education Foundation holds a shopping day to benefit school libraries. Barnes and Noble donates a % of what you spend to AEF, and all proceeds are used to purchase the requested books. Each librarian has provided a "Wish List" of books they would like to have. While you do your own shopping, consider purchase of a book to donate to our library. If you can't make it to the store on Saturday, you may shop until Dec 17th and provide the AEF code # to the cashier. On line shoppers may go to [BN.COM/bookfairs](http://BN.COM/bookfairs) to order between Dec 13th and 17th. At checkout, enter the AEF code # which is 11518107

**PARENTS: LATE ARRIVALS TO SCHOOL & DELIVERIES MUST COME TO THE OFFICE** when bringing a snack, lunch, musical instruments or a tardy student you must come into the office. We will call your child's teacher and have them send your child to the office. This includes Kindergarten parents. Please do not go directly to classrooms to make personal deliveries. This creates a disruption to the learning for the whole classroom that we wish to avoid. Thank you!

**OPERA ASSEMBLY AT CORNELL** Wednesday Dec. 3rd, students in grades 3-5 enjoyed a performance of the Puccini-Opera "La Bohème" by members of the San Francisco Opera Guild, including a cast of 12 students from the 5th grade choir class here at Cornell. Thank you to the PTA for funding assemblies at Cornell, to our choir teacher Samantha Maas-Baldwin for volunteering her time to rehearse with the kids, and to the participating students who came so well prepared. If they are inspired to see the long version, "La Bohème" will still play at the SF Opera until this Sunday!

**THANK YOU CORNELL CRAFT FAIR VOLUNTEERS!** Thank You to all the volunteers who made this year's Craft Fair a huge success. Thank you for your flexibility and your support, we could not have done this without the many parent and middle school volunteers. Thank you to everyone that donated to our bake sale they were delicious.

**HOLIDAY CARD FOR OUR CROSSING GUARD CORINNE** The holidays are fast approaching, and we would like to take time to thank Ms. Corinne, our Crossing Guard. As you drop/pick up your children from school please take the time to go to the Office, and sign the card for Ms. Corinne. You are also welcome

to make a donation. Elisabeth Lamoureux (3rd Grade parent) will deliver the card to Ms. Corinne on the last day of school. Thanks so much!

**CORNELL CAROLING HOLIDAY FUN! WED. DECEMBER 17<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm CORNELL SCHOOL MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM** Join other Cornell families in this festive holiday tradition! Meet at 6:30pm in the Multi-Purpose Room. We will sing holiday favorites around downtown Albany and return to Cornell for treats and socializing.

**MONTHLY RESTAURANT FUNDRAISER: CHIPOTLE!** Join us next Wednesday, December 17th at Chipotle Mexican Grill located at 9901 San Pablo Ave in El Cerrito (across the street from Peet's Coffee). **50% (that's right 50%!)** of all proceeds between the 5pm and 8pm will be donated to the PTA. Just bring in the flyer that will be coming home in your child's Friday folder, or tell the cashier you're supporting the cause to make sure that 50% of the proceeds get allocated to Cornell. See you there!

**THERE IS STILL TIME TO ORDER PRINTS & DIGITAL FILES OF YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL PORTRAIT FROM HOT SHOT!** Online print orders will be received within just a few days of order placement, digital orders may be downloaded immediately! The proof/order form you received in the fall contains your unique password to access your student's online gallery of proofs and class pictures. Do not delay your order any longer - orders processed after Jan 15<sup>th</sup> will be assessed a late fee. Contact **HotShot Portraits** if you need password information or any questions answered: [custsvc@hotshotportraits.com](mailto:custsvc@hotshotportraits.com) or 415-457-7000 Thank you!

**AFTER SCHOOL RECORDER CLASSES START JANUARY 14, 2015** Students will learn to read music and play together in a small group. Students can transfer their skills to a band instrument or continue to play the larger sizes of recorder. Classes are held at Cornell School Wednesday afternoons between 2:00 & 4:00 for 30 minutes for 10 week sessions. First class will be Wednesday January 14th thru April 8th, (no class 1/28 or 3/4). Fee: \$120 for 10 week session, plus \$18 for the recorder. Scholarships are available. For more information contact Louise Carslake [jdjac@got.net](mailto:jdjac@got.net) (510) 530 3202

**GLUE STICK AND MARKER RECYCLING PROGRAM** Please bring in any and all empty glue sticks and used-up/dried-up markers to the Cornell Office by December 17th. There is a box in the office on the floor behind the door under the information table. The free glue stick recycling program is ending at the end of the year, so let's turn in as many as we can while we have the chance. Questions? Contact Sandra Lewis at [wanetick@earthlink.net](mailto:wanetick@earthlink.net). Go green for the holidays!

**WRITER COACH PROGRAM AT ALBANY MIDDLE SCHOOL** Become a writer coach! Parents, get a look inside the middle school while helping a great cause. The WriterCoach Connection works with AMS 8th-graders on writing assignments. Find out more at: [www.writercoachconnection.org](http://www.writercoachconnection.org). And.... come meet the AMS WriterCoach Site Coordinators at the AMS Crafts Fair this Sun., Dec. 7, 12-3pm., in the gym (1259 Brighton Ave). Or e-mail questions to [AMScoaching@gmail.com](mailto:AMScoaching@gmail.com), or call Mary Flaherty at [510-559-9552](tel:510-559-9552) or Nick Keefe at [415-637-7168](tel:415-637-7168).

**THE OFFICE STAFF HAS A HOLIDAY WISH-LIST** No. 2 Ticonderoga pencils, sandwich-size Zip-Lock baggies, boys' pants (size 8-12/used) boy's socks (new please). Thank you all!

**SUBMIT TO THE E-PINKIE?** Want to submit an article to our E-Pinkie? You can find an easy link on our webpage. Look down on the left under LINKS and you'll see it there. Go the [LINK](#) and enter your article by Wednesday noon. Directions are on the website.

Your e-Pinkie is attached and on our website. Copies are always available in our office and posted on our bulletin board in front of the school. Please visit our website at [cornell.ausdk12.org](http://cornell.ausdk12.org) for more important news, dates, and events.