



CORNELL CHRONICLE
Cornell Elementary School
Albany Unified School District
920 Talbot Avenue, Albany, CA 94706
Main: (510) 558-3700
Absence Recorder Line: (510) 558-3701

November 7, 2014

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

October 6-Nov. 21	Alameda County Community Food Bank Drive
November 10-25:	Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences, Wednesday Schedule
November 11:	Tuesday, Veteran's Day NO SCHOOL
November 12:	Community Time on play yard 8:30 a.m.
November 14:	Movie Night 6:30 ("The Lego Movie")
November 20:	PTA Meeting 6:00pm, 5:45 PIZZA!
November 21:	International Potluck 5:30-8:30 pm.
November 26-28:	Thanksgiving Break
December 6:	Craft Fair
December 12:	Movie Night
December 17:	Cornell Caroling
December 19:	Minimum Day



NO SCHOOL TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11 In honor of Veteran's Day, there is no school. We hope you enjoy the day off and we'll see everyone back on Wednesday, November 12th.

CORNELL TRANSLATION PARENTS NEEDED Are you a parent that is interested in provided a translation service for Cornell on an occasional basis? We are in need of a consistent parent that could translate accurate written communications. In general these would be fairly short notifications to parents with 2-5 day turnaround. The languages needed are Mandarin, Korean, Spanish, and Japanese. If you are interested and willing please email Mrs. Duncan at hduncan@ausdk12.org

AUSD "SPOTLIGHTS" CORNELL ELEMENTARY AT BOARD MEETING BEING HELD RIGHT HERE AT CORNELL, THURSDAY NOV. 13TH 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. This will be a special board meeting for our very own school as we are creating a presentation to 'spotlight' our wonderful school. Come out and see it. 5th grade students have been making there way around campus the past few weeks taking shots of classrooms in action and have prepared a presentation to share. We're letting them share because they can do it best! We look forward to seeing you.

HALLOWEEN was a wet and wonderful day on campus. There are some wacky and darling photos on the website. Be sure to check them out.

TRICK-OR-TREAT FOR UNICEF boxes have been arriving all week. So far we have collected \$375!! Thank you for caring. Thank you for sharing! (Boxes are still being returned) Cut off Wednesday, November 12th.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES START MONDAY 11/10 THRU TUESDAY 11/25 These will be shortened days (Wednesday schedule) so please plan now for the schedule change. **Reminder:** There will be no enrichment classes during conference weeks.

NO change Kindergarten
8:30-1:45 1st-3rd grades
8:30-1:40 4th-5th grades

We will return to our regular schedule on Monday, Dec. 1st, after the Thanksgiving Holiday.

SAFETY FIRST Safety is our most important priority at Cornell, and in that spirit, I have been reviewing the safety policies and practices at school. I want to thank staff, Leadership Team, Site Council, and the PTA Board for their feedback as I've been working to learn the about routines, procedures, culture, and climate of the school, and to assess its needs in this important area. I've taken in a lot of input about the safety of our children on campus, and it is clear some procedures need to be revisited as we begin the rest of the year. Over the next few weeks, we will be making a few adjustments to improve campus safety. In many cases, these amount to renewed enforcement of existing policies. Please review the list below for changes and areas of renewed emphasis. Never hesitate to ask questions by stopping by, emailing, or calling. Along with me, office staff and teachers would be happy to talk more about these safety enhancements. We all need to work together to keep our campus safe!

- **Toys are not allowed from home:** We do not allow children to bring toys or personal play equipment from home. We've noticed an increase in this recently. Please help us by reminding your children about this as they often want to bring these and your help will support this.

- **Visitors on campus:** For the safety of students and school staff, we ask that, apart from pick-up and drop-off at normal times, all visitors, including parent volunteers, check in with office to sign in and out. When you sign in, we will give you a visitor's sticker. We are finding that many visitors and volunteers are not signing in. Staff will be starting to ask everyone to sign in and we ask for your cooperation as we tighten up on this important procedure. Please know that we absolutely love having you all here and want you all to come and volunteer OFTEN!! We just need you to sign in. Of course, during drop-off and pick-up, sign-in is not necessary.

- **Access to campus:** For the safety of students and school staff, we will be reinstating the practice of locking the exterior gates between the hours of 9:40am-1:40pm daily. The exception is on Wednesday when the gate will be locked at 8:35 am. I understand this is a past practice that has fallen away. We've had several concerning incidents recently with students running out of the schoolyard after a ball or for some other reason. It is important to remember that our school community includes children with a variety of special needs, some of which put them at heightened risk for wandering from campus and also for injury if they do wander. We also need to be more careful in our management of access into campus, to prevent people with no business at Cornell from entering. Thank you for partnering with us as we work to make our campus more secure during the largest block of our instructional time. The garden gate and Cornell gate (double) will be open/closed daily. We are planning to keep the gate near handball gate closed for now. The front doors will remain open all the time as our main access point to campus.

Supervision on campus:

- ✓ Is provided after 8:15am daily. Please make that children do not arrive unattended prior to 8:15. On occasions when they arrive with you prior to that time, please be seated at the tables outside the MPR and wait until 8:15 to use the play yards. Please talk with your children about this if they walk on their own so they are also aware of this renewed expectation.
- ✓ If your child is an early bird, they need to leave campus immediately after dismissal. Learning is still in session for late birds and 4th/5th graders until 2:05/3:05pm. Staying on campus to play while waiting for later dismissal times is not allowed. Thank you for leaving campus right after you pick up early bird students.

ALBANY ELEMENTARY GIVING CAMPAIGN ENDING SOON Wow! Our Albany Education Giving Campaign (AEGC) is so close to completion and here is where we stand....in order for our schools to offer all the in-class programs planned for this school year, we needed to raise \$75,000 from Albany elementary families, and we have raised \$66,400 – just \$8,600 to go! Did you intend to donate and haven't had the time to take it to your school office? The AEGC can now take online donations with your VISA, MasterCard, AmEx, and Discover cards. Please go to <https://99pledges.com/fund/20142015AEGC>. The funds raised are split between the three schools, based on school population, and each school then decides which programs to offer. Thank you so much to everyone for their support of these programs--with enormous gratitude, The 2014 AEGC Committee.

ALAMEDA COUNTY FOOD DRIVE ENDS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST Our two barrels (in front of the office) are not even half-way full. We know the families of Cornell are busy giving and helping all of the time. If you shop for food you can contribute. Items needed: Canned fruit & vegetables, canned meats and fish, peanut butter, pasta, beans, rice, canned soup & tomato sauce (low-salt), low-sugar cereal and oatmeal. No "expired" food please. If all of us brought two items.....our barrels would overflow!

PTA MOVIE NIGHT NEXT FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH "Everything is awesome" when you join us for a viewing of the **Lego Movie**! Cartoons start at 6:15 pm. and the movie will begin at 6:30 pm. in the MPR. Contribute to our suggested donation of \$4 per person for entry and be entered into a raffle to win the movie at the end of the night! Dinner (pizza, sandwiches, salads, wraps) and the usual movie treats (popcorn, candy, pickles and juice boxes) will be on sale. See you all there!

UC BERKELEY SCHOOL OF OPTOMETRY PEDIATRIC EXPERTS WILL BE COMING to the Albany Elementary schools to provide free vision screenings for our students. All **kindergartners, second grade students, and referrals from other grades** will be examined on November 13th. All 5th graders and new students to Cornell will be examined on November 25th. Don't miss the day! If you have any questions regarding your child's vision, please contact Dr. Sarah Fisher, OD, and PhD at UC Berkeley School of Optometry at sfisher@berkeley.edu.

OUR INTERNATIONAL POTLUCK IS COMING! FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST 5:30 TO 8:30 PM. This event is a tradition at Cornell in which families dine together at school sharing dishes that represent their culture and family traditions. There will be live music and plenty of delicious food from cultures around the globe. This is a free event and fun for the entire family. We need helping hands for this event to clear tables and for clean-up. Creativity is welcomed in planning the decorations, to help with the sound, ambience and general flow of guests. Feel free to contact the Coordinator, Joanna Manqueros (Tonio's mom) at (510) 708-3828 or jmanqueros@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6th CORNELL'S HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR We still need your help to make it a success. We are looking for some donated items. We need glass jars less than 20oz with no lids, washed with labels and glue removed. We also need small figurines 1.5" tall and no more than 1.5" wide. Can be new or used Lego figures, FIMO and any other holiday themed figurines that would be cute inside a little snow globe. If you love to bake we will need baked goods to sell. Please drop all your donations in the box at the office. Any questions please contact petrasarahmartin@gmail.com Thank You.

THE ALBANY MUSIC FUND NEEDS YOU to become involved in our efforts to continue bringing music to our children. Our board meetings are open to all. We will be meeting tomorrow, Saturday, November 8th at 9:30am in the Albany High School choir room, Room 22 in the Art Building. If you get there and the room is dark, come down to the Multi Use Room at the end of the hall, where we go when we have more than fit around our little table!

GIRLS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE WORKSHOPS-REGISTRATION IS OPEN If you enjoyed the recent Girls Leadership Institute's Parent Education evening and would like to register for a GLI parent-daughter workshop with your elementary school daughter, registration is now open for AUSD families. These workshops allow parents and daughters to laugh and learn about themselves in a safe environment. Every family establishes best practices in emotional intelligence, healthy communication, and productive conflict resolution skills. Workshops are on Mondays starting 1/26/2015 and run through 2/23/2015 (there is no class on 2/16/15 President's Day). Time and location vary by grade levels.

To register for the Kindergarten & 1st grade workshop, please visit:
<http://www.girlsleadershipinstitute.org/cornellelementary>

To register for the 2nd & 3rd grade workshop, please visit:
<http://www.girlsleadershipinstitute.org/cornellelementary>

To register for the 4th & 5th grade workshop, please visit:
<http://www.girlsleadershipinstitute.org/MarinElementary>

LOST & FOUND WILL BE DONATED TO AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY FRIDAY, NOV. 21ST

Won't you come to school and take a look at the Lost & Found items located in the 2nd hallway off the main hallway here at school? There are so many nice (and expensive) items; we hate to donate your child's clothing.

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.

Pinkie attached and on our website. Copies are always available in our office and posted in our bulletin board in front of the school. Please visit our website at cornell.ausdk12.org for more important news, dates, and events.