



December 5, 2014

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

December 1-12th	Sleep Train's annual Secret Santa Toy Drive for Foster Kids
December 6	Craft Fair-Multipurpose Room, 10:00am to 2:00pm
December 9	AUSD-Albany Unified School District Board Meeting-7:00pm-City Hall
December 12	Movie Night: Frozen Sing-a-long!
December 17	Cornell Caroling -6:30pm-Meet in Multipurpose Room
December 17	Restaurant Fundraiser
December 19	REGULAR school day
Dec. 22-Jan. 4	Winter Break-No School
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

CORNELL CRAFT FAIR We hope to see everyone at this fun annual event. It's in our MPR from 10am-2pm, Saturday, December 6th. It's all set up and will be loads of fun. Bring the kids to make some fun crafts. We look forward to filling the room with holiday cheer.

LET'S CELEBRATE ATTENDANCE In the first trimester we had 270 students with good attendance. Cornell's past tradition is to honor good attendance with pencils by trimester. Pencils will be passed out by teachers this coming week in class. Good attendance is no more than 1 absence and no unexcused days coming late to school. Excused tardies, for example for doctor/dentist appointments are not considered in this. Let's celebrate positive attendance and also challenge ourselves as a school to see this number grow over the year. I look forward to celebrating students with perfect attendance at the end of the year with an invitation to pizza lunch. Perfect attendance includes no absences or tardies throughout the year.

OUR INTERNATIONAL POTLUCK WAS A BOOMING SUCCESS Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who made this year's International Potluck a very fun party. A special thanks to our coordinator, Joanna Manqueros, for all her hard work in pulling this event together. The combination of volunteer student greeters, hard working parents, and the fabulous music made for a special night. Thanks to our

Custodian Pete for tolerating all of our spills, questions and table set up challenges. For those of you who missed this fun family event, mark your calendars early for Fall, 2015!

FABULOUS STAFF THANKSGIVING SALAD CELEBRATION There were **SO many** delicious food items to choose from. Thank you for your thoughtfulness. Our teachers were just finishing Parent-Teacher Conferences and everybody enjoyed feeling pampered with treats. We as an entire staff are so very grateful for the families here at Cornell. For Christi Solomon and all of you, we take our hats!

COACH'S CORNER-FROM MIESJE CHILD (Cornell Common Core Coach) This week I want to share the first shift in the teaching of math as we implement the California Common Core State Standards. Shift 1 calls for more instructional time spent on fewer concepts than the previous standards. Now children will have more time to learn, practice, and understand each concept as it is applied to a variety of applications. This will make it easier for you to know what the focus is for your children at each grade level. Last year, Albany teachers selected essential math standards for reporting and this work is reflected on the report card you just received during fall conferences. You can use the math concepts on the report card or in the standards themselves to ask your children what they are learning in that area. Children can give you sample problems, explain how they would solve it, and come up with a story problem that would be realistic for the given problem. For more information, see the California PTA website, <http://www.capta.org/sections/programs/e-standards.cfm>, or the California Department of Education, <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc/>.

MOVIE NIGHT: DISNEY'S "FROZEN" SING-ALONG Join us next Friday, 12/12, for the PTA movie night fundraiser. The feature film: Disney's Frozen, the Sing Along (complete with bouncing snowflake!). 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 TO SUPPORT FOSTER CHILDREN THROUGH SLEEP TRAIN'S ANNUAL SECRET SANTA TOY DRIVE The holidays can be difficult for foster kids, especially for those who arrive in a new home during this time. In an effort to help California foster kids keep the joy of the holidays in their hearts, Cornell is supporting Sleep Train's annual Secret Santa Toy Drive for Foster Kids. With the help of nonprofit foster organization partners, the Sleep Train Foster Kids program takes in donations and disperses them to those children most in need throughout California. We will be collecting new, unwrapped gifts, and we need your help! Donations of new toys can be dropped off outside of the office by December 12th, and they will then be taken to Sleep Train by our staff.

PARENT DELIVERIES TO SCHOOL COME TO THE OFFICE The office staff would like to remind you when bringing a snack, lunch, musical instruments or something else to your student during school hours. You must come into the office and deliver the item for your child. 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.

AFTER SCHOOL RECORDER CLASSES START JANUARY 14, 2015 these classes introduce children to music by teaching them to play the recorder (a small flute). Students will learn to read music and play together in a small group. The recorder is a great first instrument. 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 Carlslake jdjac@got.net (510) 530 3202 Louise has taught after-school classes at Cornell school for many years. She studied music and music education in England and Holland and is an active recording and performing artist. She taught at Mills College for 16 years, and is currently an instrumental instructor at UC Berkeley.

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. 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, or call Mary Flaherty at [510-559-9552](tel:510-559-9552) or Nick Keefe at [415-637-7168](tel:415-637-7168).

6th ANNUAL ALBANY MIDDLE SCHOOL ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7th from Noon to 3pm
This year why not skip Black Friday and mark your calendars for some wonderful holiday shopping by local artisans and students at the AMS Arts & Crafts Fair? This fantastic event will have a great selection of local artists and students with a wide variety of gift options for everyone's list. This event is open to the public so bring your friends and family down to shop for local art and handmade treasures while you enjoy music and delicious baked goods. Please join other Albany families in support of the AMS Art Programs and shop locally! Albany Middle School is located at 1259 Brighton in Albany.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM Today your child will bring home an electronic tag (some were distributed 12/3 at school). This will help us track the number of times your child walks to school every Wednesday. Only one tag will be given to each child for the entire school year. The tag does not have a name attached to it, only their classroom number & teacher. Your child is not identified by the tag. If you do not want your child to participate, please return the tag to your child's teacher. Call Iremar Bodell (510) 504-9192 with any questions.

LOOKING FOR PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT? The Albany Unified School District is hiring for the following positions: Substitute Café Asst., Substitute Clerical, Substitute Special Education Para-educators, 3-6 hour Special Education Para-educators and Substitute Custodians. Please visit www.ausdk12.org and click on Employment Opportunities for job announcements and applications. If you have questions please contact Marina at 510-558-3754.

THE OFFICE STAFF HAS A HOLIDAY WISH-LIST We are in need of blue 1"-wide Painter's Tape, ½" Scotch-Brand tape; AA (Double A) Batteries, lots of No. 2 Ticonderoga pencils, boys' pants (used are fine!) size 1st grade thru 5th (!) and 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 for more important news, dates, and events.