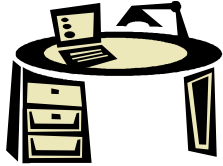




Matsuyama Log

Newsletter of the Mighty Pines 

Matsuyama Elementary School • 7680 Windbridge Drive, Sacramento, CA 95831 • 916.433.5535



From the Principal's Desk...

WOW! It is already February and with that comes Open Enrollment, kindergarten registration, and budgeting for the 2013-2014 school year! Yes, time does fly when you are having fun and I am having so much fun that time seems to be on warp speed! I cannot express enough how much I love being a part of the Matsuyama community.

THE KENDAMA, THE LATEST CRAZE AT MATSUYAMA

Many of you may have noticed students playing with a toy that is not battery operated! This new craze is called a Kendama. The Kendama is an extremely addictive wooden skill toy that comes from Japan. It strengthens hand eye coordination, balance, and reflex. It can be played by young and old alike. There are endless trick possibilities for both the beginner and the seasoned master. The Kendama is made up of the "Ken" (handle) and the "Tama" (ball), which is connected by a string. The Kendama tricks are done by variations of juggling the ball in the 3 cups, spiking the ball with the Ken spike, and balancing both in new creative ways. Mastering the Kendama takes practice, focus, patience, and creativity. The good news is that this is a great toy for developing skills our children need, but they also present challenges for staff. I am reluctant to ban them as most of our students are using them appropriately, and we are seeing students develop persistence, perseverance and focus. Therefore, we will allow them on campus with the following expectations:

- They are not played with in the classroom
- They are not traded
- Nobody can "win" another student's kendama in a trick challenge
- There may be no betting, dares, or other such challenges made

- They are not swung around inappropriately
- Failure to follow the aforementioned rules will result in the kendama being taken from the student violating the rules and will not be returned until the end of the school year.

OPEN ENROLLMENT

Open Enrollment is an opportunity for families that live within SCUSD boundaries to apply for spots in schools beyond their neighborhood school or to apply for enrollment in specialty programs and schools. Some schools do not participate in the Open Enrollment process and spaces are often limited. If you are interested in investigating this option you will find more information on the district website, www.scusd.edu under the Enrollment Center.

The Open Enrollment dates for incoming K-6th graders begin at 8am Tuesday, February 19 and end at 5pm Friday, March 8, 2013. Parents will be able to access the 24 hour on-line application at: www.scusd.edu. If you wish to apply in-person, you may do so at the Enrollment Center located at 5601 47th Avenue. The in-person application period will be held on:

- Wednesday, March 6, 2013 9am - 3pm
- Thursday, March 7, 2013 12pm - 5pm
- Friday, March 8, 2013 9am - 11am

(con't on page 2)

2013 World of Talent Show

Come see the World of Talent Show on Friday February 22nd at 6pm!

It promises to be great fun! The performers are working hard practicing their acts and the show is mostly run by the students of Matsuyama. Open rehearsal will be held on Friday Feb 15th at 3pm.

Now accepting donations of bottled water and snacks to sell at the snack bar Please put in a note what you can donate for snacks and drinks to sell at the talent show snack bar in the gold box marked World of Talent show in the office today!

See you all there!
At the World Of Talent show!
Worldoftalent2013@yahoo.com

Dates to Remember



- 2/11 Lincoln Holiday (school closed)
- 2/18 President's Day Holiday (school closed)
- 2/22 World of Talent Show 6pm
- 2/26 General PTA Meeting 6pm
- 2/6 thru 2/26 Cookie Dough Fundraiser
- 2/25 thru 3/1 Minimum Days/Teacher Conferences
- 3/1 Cherry Blossom Festival 4-6pm

From the Principal's Desk... (con't from page 1)

PARENT REQUESTS

Many parents have already approached me about teacher requests for next school year! As of today I have not made grade level assignments for the 2013-2014 school year. I allow staff to request grade level changes and include them in the assignment process. This is usually done at the end of April. Teachers will be notified of any grade level changes at that time. In May teachers get together and make class placements, keeping in mind ethnic and gender balance, GATE cluster placements, social behavior, and learning and teaching styles. At the end of this year all teachers will have completed GATE training making each of them eligible to teach the GATE cluster class, and capable of teaching all classes at a high academic level while providing scaffolded support for struggling learners. If you wish to make a request it must be based on personal observations of the classroom, your child's learning style in relation to the teacher's teaching style and other educational characteristics. Requests must be made in writing. I do not promise to honor requests, but will take them into consideration with input from teachers. My belief is that the Matsuyama staff is diverse enough in their teaching styles to effectively meet the needs of our diverse student population.

PARKING AND TRAFFIC

I have received phone calls from neighbors concerning the traffic and parking during drop-off and pick-up as well as evening events. The main concerns are blocking of driveways, speeding and illegal U-turns. Parked cars may not block access to any driveways. Neighbors have stated they will have cars towed if this practice does not stop. Parking enforcement and police officers have been in the area and have been ticketing for parking and moving violations. Please, please, heed our cries. Speeding, illegal U-turns, double parking, jaywalking, and dangerous turns put all of our children at risk. Please follow the directions of the crossing guard, parent traffic volunteers, and the law. I cannot think of anything that could be more important than the safety of our children.

CONFERENCES

Second trimester parent/teacher conferences will be held on Monday February 25-Thursday, February 28th. Unfortunately with increased class sizes it will be impossible to conference with every parent in that short amount of time. Your child's teacher will notify you if a conference is required. Should you desire a conference please let the teacher know so they can plan accordingly. School will be on a minimum day schedule from 2/25-3/1. Students in grades 1-6 will be dismissed at 12:30. The kindergarten schedule will remain the same. Please be sure to make transportation and childcare arrangements prior to that week.



Family Dance a Big Success!!

Thank you to all of the parent volunteers who helped make our family dance a big success. We had over 200 volunteer hours logged to make this night so fabulous. We raised approximately \$4800.00 for books for our classrooms. Thank you to the families who donated to our bake sale/dessert silent auction and special thank you to: Rege Farina: The DJ extraordinaire! He made the night, by running things so smoothly to provide the perfect atmosphere. Rege makes every event he touches bigger and better. Tiffanie Yee and Kristen

Crawford: Thanks for being the brains behind the decorations, for adding all of those great touches. Sheryl Fong, Jen Lightstone and Allison Fong: Thanks for helping to make the raffle prize list extraordinary! John Yee and Tiffanie Yee: Thanks for making the photo booth so great! We appreciated your patience with all of the kids, for being professional, organized and for your amazing talents. Thank you Mary Kwong, Maria Rodriguez, and Nancy Fong for all of the support and time to make everything go smoothly. What amazing leaders we have for our PTA and what benevolent role models you are. Thank you Ms. Montgomery for your leadership, support and fixing that blown fuse in record speed. Thank you for everyone who manned the tables and help with the decorations: Thank you to Kristen, Steve, Maria K., Edna, Heidi, Mary, Audrey, Maria R, Mary, PohLing, Nancy, Deb, Liz, Dori, Tomi, Jan, Christine, Chrystle, Fawn, Mike, Gordon, Bill, Susie, Karen A Stephanie, Allison, Joanne, Irene, Cherissa, Jen, Naomi, Allison F, Bruce, Ron, Lorena, Ms. Magee, Ms. Kossow, Ms. Messick, Ms. Gravitz and Ms. Porto. Thank you for all who stepped in and helped, I apologize if I missed someone through the chaos and to be so long winded....it is unavoidable when we have so many amazing parents, we have and a strong force working together.

Karen Landeck



Box Top Heroes!!

Which classes are the Box Tops Heroes this month?

Hoeft	Zahniser	Lee
Gisler	Messick	Gravitz
	Mullen	

All together, you've help to collect: 3,705 Box Tops for the past 2 months!

That's worth: \$370.50

Congrats to the winning classes!



February 1st begins a new contest!
Don't hesitate. Turn in your Box Tops!

Rules:

- 1) Place Box Tops into labeled baggies, envelopes, or sheets with your room number/teacher's name
- 2) Please, no expired ones will be accepted
- 3) Turn in to the box in the front office
- 4) Deadline for contest is April 15th

ALL Kindergarten through 6th grades are competing to win the prize!

The class (yes, one overall winner) with the highest number of Box Tops collected will win an ice cream sundae party!

Note: Kinder & 6th grade classes have submitted the most in the past!

Don't Forget: continue to collect and turn in Labels for Education, too!



Cookie Dough Fundraiser

Help support our school by participating in our Cookie Dough Fundraiser!!

Sale Starts: **Wednesday February 6th, 2013.**

Each student will receive a fundraising packet which includes a letter and an order form.

Sale Ends: **Tuesday February 26th, 2013.**

Please **return** your order form and any money collected from items sold.

Delivery Date: **Tuesday March 12th, 2013 1-5pm**

PTA Reflections Contest

Congratulations to those Matsuyama students whose art entries advanced to Third District PTA for judging:

Literature

Jonah R - Matsuyama PTA
Elizabeth R - Matsuyama PTA

Music Comp

Elizabeth R - Matsuyama PTA

The judging has been completed and one piece from Matsuyama was given an Award of Excellence and will advance onto State PTA. A big congrats to:

Elizabeth R

Intermediate Literature, The Magical Violin

Third District PTA will host an awards ceremony in March. All of the entries to Council represented a great deal of talent and beauty.



Anthology of Poetry

Congratulations to the following students who all wrote short poems that were selected for the Anthology of Poetry by Young Americans publication. Way to go Mighty Pines!!

Leandra R	Robert L	Nicki F
Noah R	Irvin W	Anaise S
David G	Melissa H	Camryn T
Jessica T	Nina C	Cameron W
Elizabeth R	Lucas M	Jasyn W
Brianna F	Marius S	Gina K
Lauren L	Liam G	
Adrianna M	Leyna K	
Cameron C	Rachel W	

Lunchroom Reminders

Please be sure to pay your child's lunch balance timely. There are quite a few negative balances and it's important to keep your child's account current.

Families can now pay for student meals online, which will streamline lunchtime cafeteria service, reduce long lines and eliminate risks associated with the handling of cash. Through the mySchoolBucks.com online payment system, parents can electronically deposit lunch money directly into SCUSD's cafeteria fund bank account. The service uses a "super-secure" data center with a 128-bit encryption for confidentiality. Families will be able to prepay for as many meals as they wish using a credit or debit card. A \$2 fee will apply. A link to this program is available at www.scusd.edu.

Matsuyama Spirit Wear

We're partnering with Lands' End for the 2012-13 school year. Show your school spirit and order your Matsuyama gear today! Matsuyama Elementary School uniform shopping is easy with Lands' End:

Online: Go to landsend.com/school and create or sign in to your account. Include your student and school information in My Account. Start shopping with your personalized product checklist.

Phone: Call 1-800-469-2222 and reference your student's school name, location, grade level and gender. Our team of consultants is available 24/7 for assistance.

In-Store: Visit your local Lands' End at Sears store. Our associates can help you with sizing information and you can place your Preferred School order online via the store kiosk.

You can also visit the school office to purchase spiritwear.



Like Matsuyama on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/MatsuyamaElementarySchool?ref=hl>

Thank you to our sponsor and raffle donors to the Matsuyama Boogie for Books fundraiser.

Sponsors

City Councilmember Darrell Fong
Bel Air Markets
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Collected Works
Crocker Art Museum
Day with the Principal
Discovery Museum
Disneyland Corporation
Dr. Khari Nelson
El Faro
Elks Lodge #6 Cookbooks donated by Allison Fong
Fairytale Town Family Entrance Pass
Happy Corner Chinese Restaurant
Hollywood Nails
Images Salon and Spa
Massage Envy
Matsuyama PTA
Mixed Bag
New Blue Ray Player donated by Mrs. Brunson
New Car Stereo donated from SCUSD, Board Member
Darrell Woo, Area 6
Neumann Enterprises 4 hour Limousine Service donated
by Ms. Porto
Noodles and Company
Oto's Marketplace
Riverside Clubhouse
Rocknasium the climbing Gym
Sacramento Zoo
Sacramento Children's Museum
Salon Bravissimo from Emily Maker
San Francisco Zoo
Scott's Seafood
Step 1 Sacramento Dance Academy
Time to Capture Photography donated by Tiffanie Yee

Parents and guardians - We need you!

Submit a nomination or nominate yourself for one or more of the following PTA Board, committee positions. Now taking PTA Board Member nominations and recruiting to fill for committee and lead persons. Nomination forms coming home soon in your child(s) backpack or pick one up at the front office. Deadline to submit is February 19, 2013.

Send questions to the Nomination Committee: MatsuyamaPTA@gmail.com

PTA Elected Positions:

President

Executive Vice President

2nd Vice-President, Hospitality

3rd Vice-President, Assemblies

4th Vice-President, Fundraising

Treasurer

Assistant Treasurer/Financial Treasurer

Secretary

Parliamentarian



Below are other volunteer opportunities. We need chairpersons and committee members:

Book Exchange: Book distribution sponsored by the PTA now since the Federal Government no longer provides funding for RIF. PTA provides funding for the students to receive a grade level book of their choice twice a year.

Box Tops: Collect box tops and submit for reimbursement. Ongoing.

Cherry Blossom Festival: Consists of several volunteers to coordinate food, decorations, booths, entertainment and volunteers. Event is usually held in March.

Clothes Closet: Organize donated and second-hand school uniforms. Ongoing.

Cookie Dough Sale: Liaison to company, coordinates assembly, manages sales, distribute merchandise and collect money. Sales are usually in March.

Coupon Book Fundraiser: Liaison to sales representative coordinates assembly, manage sales, distribute merchandise and collect money. Sales are in September.

Family Dance: Themed dance to raise funds for one or many causes. Encourages family dance fun, fitness through "group" dancing.

Gift Cards: Liaison to company, manage sales, distribute merchandise and collect money. Sales are usually in December and May.

Gift Wrap Sale: Liaison to sales representative coordinates assembly, manage sales, distribute merchandise and collect money. Sales are in October/November.

Harvest Festival: Consists of several volunteers to coordinate food, decorations, booths, entertainment and volunteers. Event is usually held in October.

Mixed Bags: Liaison to company, coordinates, manages sales, distributes merchandise, and collects money. Sales are usually in September/October.

Newsletter: Format newsletters, collect articles, print, collate and distribute. 5 newsletters a year.

Reflections: Coordinate an arts recognition and achievement program for students. Submissions are in January.

Spirit Merchandise: (Matsuyama logo clothing) help with sales, purchasing, distribution. Ongoing.

Talent Show: School wide talent show encourages individual or groups to come together to showcase their talents in a fun and supportive environment.

Walk to School Day: Coordinates Walk to School Day which may include flyers, principal's ed connect call, setting up walking busses, photographers, walking signage, food distribution, etc... Event occurs in the fall.

Yearbook: Liaison to publisher, oversees layouts, ensure all classes and clubs are represented, collect money. Ongoing.

3rd Annual Steinberg Seussical Story Hour

Saturday, March 9 | 11 a.m.

Join us for stories and crafts to celebrate our favorite Seuss books as well as a few books by Theodor Seuss Geisel Award-winning authors Tedd Arnold and Mo Willems.

Our special guest readers include:
Senate pro Tem Darrell Steinberg,
Assemblymember Dr. Richard Pan,
former Councilmember Robbie Waters,
& Sacramento Public Library Director Rivkah Sass.

**This program is proudly sponsored by the
Pocket-Greenhaven Friends of the Library.**



Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library | 7335 Gloria Drive, Sacramento 95831