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Addison eAdvisor

October 5, 2009

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Principal Moment...

On Monday morning we will be participating in a **district-wide emergency drill**. Although not a full-scale event, children will be asked to assume the "duck and cover" position before evacuating the classrooms onto the field. Teachers will be distributing the yellow emergency tags to each child, staff will review their assigned roles, and reports will be transmitted to the district which will then grant approval to return to a normal school day. This is part of an increasingly cohesive, deliberate plan to be prepared for any emergency, natural or man-made. During the rest of the year, many of our staff and faculty will attend disaster triage, search and rescue trainings, and we will be updating our CPR certification, scheduling monthly fire drills, and training with the Palo Alto Police Department. Should you have any questions about this preparation, please feel free to contact me via e-mail, note or phone call.



As a child do you remember biking to school: The pride, caution and fear that accompanied such an independent activity? Or perhaps the pleasure of walking with your best friend, or the comfort of holding your parent's hand? Rediscover those memories this week as we participate in **Walk Your Child to School week**. Although we hope this is a focus every day, our special interest is in this Wednesday when we hope that all who can walk, bike, carpool or scooter to school, will do so.

Designed to be a neighborhood school, Addison is not sited

Calendar

EVERY WEDNESDAY:
1:15 pm Dismissal,
Grades K-5

Month of October

Kinder dismissal
12:00 noon M,T,Th,F

October 5 to 9

Walk & Bike to School Week

Wednesday, October 7

Kinders: first late Wednesday
1:15 pm dismissal

Thursday, October 8

PTA meeting
8:30 to 10:30 am

Tuesday, October 13

3rd Grade Bike Rodeo
Don't forget equipment
including helmet!

Wednesday, October 14

Birthday book club
1:15 to 1:45 pm

Saturday, October 24

6:30 pm Addison Auction
Lucie Stern Community Center

Tuesday, October 27

No Homework Night

Friday, October 30

Halloween Breakfast & Parade
7:45 am to 9:15 am

Quick Links

[Parent Education](#)
[Sports Opportunities for Kids](#)
[Community Kiosk](#)
[Palo Alto Council of PTAs](#)
[Palo Alto Unified](#)
[PTA en Espanol](#)

PTA Information

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Want to publish an article or event in our newsletter? Send a short write-up to advisor@addison.addison.pausd.org before noon on Wednesday for publication the following Monday.

Principal: John Lents
PTA co-Presidents:
Jeanese Snyder and Dara Knoblock
Editor of the Week: Kathy Miller

Visit [Addison's Website](#)

Special Thanks To

Michael Hall
Alain Pinel Realtors
mhall@apr.com
650-465-1651

or suited to the mass of traffic that surrounds us on any weekday. While we are fortunate not to have had an accident immediately adjacent to the school in several years, there have been traffic related incidents involving our children in surrounding neighborhoods. Please help us minimize any further risk to our children and community by creating extra time to walk, scooter, bike or carpool. Your efforts can only enrich the community we have worked so hard to create.

Also on Wednesday, we welcome the **Kinders as they begin staying late every Wednesday**, eating lunch with the rest of the school, playing on the field, and being dismissed at 1:15 with all other grade levels. This is a major benchmark in their kinder year, and we work hard as a student body to care for and mentor these younger members, helping them learn the rules and relationships that characterize our field. It's such a delight to see their pride, their emerging confidence and their desire to be part of us, our Addison community. Thank you for entrusting them to us.

And finally, please note that once the 8:15 tardy bell rings, I expect class instruction to begin and any **student messages or forgotten supplies to be delivered to the office, not to the classrooms**. Our curriculum is demanding, and instructional time increasingly limited. Needless interruptions to the classroom routine require a resetting of focus, instruction and purpose that shave significant time from our lessons. Thank you for respecting our students desire to learn, and our teachers' efforts to create a productive, focused environment.

John R. Lents, Principal

PTA Co-President's Corner

We hope you had a barn-raising time at the Hoedown and lassoed some great books at the Book Fair. Many thanks to all the volunteers who made the Hoedown and Book Fair a success!

Another all-school event rolls into town this week...**Palo Alto Walks & Rolls for Safer Streets, Healthier Bodies and a Greener Planet.** For this entire week (October 5-9), Addison will join children around the world who are choosing alternatives to solo driving to school by walking, biking, skating, riding the bus, and carpooling to celebrate International Walk to School Day. On the morning of Wednesday, October 7, volunteers will be handing out stickers at drop off to all those participating in this event.

Lastly, our next **PTA Board Meeting** is scheduled for **Thursday, October 8** at 8:30am in AKC-2. Please join us.

Dara Knoblock and Jeanese Snyder
PTA Co-Presidents

Auction Update

Ahoy There!

As many of you know last Friday was our deadline for donations and we have a very fine catalog in the works for this year's auction. We are very excited and can't wait to start the bidding!

Our team is now entering into the the **marketing phase**. This is where we **could really use some volunteers**:

- We need folks willing to help us create wonderful **display boards** to use the night of the auction to help all of you understand what the auction items are all about. We hand make these boards and if you like any form of scrapbooking....let me tell you, this is for you!
- If you have no interested in playing with glitter and glue, then no worries. We also need folks willing to help us make the **auction descriptions** enticing and/or "juicy". This is about reviewing the current description and either shortening or lengthening it and making it sound like tons of fun! We also need keen eyes on the look out for grammatical errors before we publish the catalog.

The auction team is now meeting every Thursday. Let us know if you are interested in helping out with either of the above areas.

Tickets are steadily coming in, so keep 'em coming and don't forget that the Children's Activities are first come first serve. Again, pirate attire is not required, but putting on an eye patch can free the soul, so we really recommend you try it. Once you go pirate, you may never go back!

Questions? Do not hesitate to reach out to either Marina or Corina!

Thanks!

Corrie Sid & Marina Zago

Addison Walks & Rolls -- For Safer Streets, Healthy Bodies and a Greener Planet

On October 7, 2009, Addison School students along with children around the globe will choose alternatives to solo driving to school by walking, biking, skating, riding the bus, and carpooling to celebrate International Walk to School Day.

The City of Palo Alto, PAUSD, and the Palo Alto Council of PTAs have formed a Safe Routes to School partnership focused on reducing risk for students on their school commutes and encouraging more families to use alternatives to driving to school more often. The Walk & Roll event emphasizes the benefits of using alternatives other than solo driving as often as possible.

Walking & Biking Is a Healthy Habit

The healthy lifetime habit of getting regular exercise is more fun when we do it together. It builds community, bringing friends and family together before and after school. Also, students who get light exercise on their way to school arrive better prepared to learn.

"Safety in Numbers" Works

Parents are more likely to allow children to walk and bicycle when they are in safe company. Drivers are more alert to pedestrians and bicyclists when they are present in numbers. Children who regularly practice safe street skills in elementary school will have the skills they need when they begin traveling independently in middle school. Most importantly, fewer cars on school routes mean less risk for everyone.

A Greener Planet

We all want to reduce the environmental impacts of automobiles. Many of us can't do it every day. If we do it when we can, even once or twice a week, we can break the habit of picking up car keys every time we go anywhere and experience our community in a new way. Each reduced car trip helps our planet.

Join the fun! Walk & Roll to school with your Addison friends on October 7th.

Contact Ruby Fong with any questions.

Birthday Book Club

Wednesday, October 14 is the next Birthday Book Club. If your student has a birthday in October (or July, August, or September and missed last month's Birthday Book Club), please join us in the Addison Library from: 1:15-1:45pm.

During monthly Birthday Book Club celebrations, birthday students select a new book or an old favorite from the Addison library collection that has ***already been purchased by the library***. This book is then dedicated to the student using a specially designed Birthday Book Club book plate. Students check out their birthday book and return it to the library when they are finished reading it so it can be enjoyed by others for years to come. Every child is welcome to participate during his/her birthday month. Parents are welcome to come with their children to help them select their book.

Looking forward to seeing you/your children in the Addison Library on **Wednesday, October 14**.

Kathy Hopple and Jeanese Snyder
Birthday Book Club Coordinators

After School Programs

- Kung Fu began Wednesday, September 30 and continues every Wednesday through December in the MP room at 1:20-2pm. The class is open to 1st through 3rd graders and costs \$20 per class (\$200 total). Right now we have about 8 kids signed up and we'd love to have more! Master Ben welcomes first timers, so come try it out!
- Peninsula Youth Theatre (PYT) will begin Monday, October 5th at 2:50-4:20pm in room 17, then they will move to the MP room as they get closer to their production. The classes will run through December. The classes are open to 4th and 5th graders. Right now we have fewer than a dozen kids signed up and we'd love to have more! Registration can be done online at <http://www.pyt.net.org>.

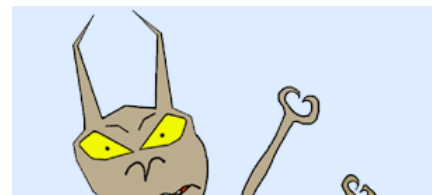
The following After School Programs are scheduled to begin the first week in October if they have sufficient enrollment:

- LEGO Robotics class is now open to 3rd - 5th grades, registration is online at <http://www.roboticslearning.com> and class begins October 6th in Room 11 2:50-4:50pm (with 3rd grade students supervised until class begins at 2:50pm)
- Spanish for Kinders is scheduled to start on Wednesday, October 7th at 1:20-2:05pm in room 1. For more information and to register, contact Natalia de la Chica at 650.224.2256 or check the website <http://www.livingspanish.org>.

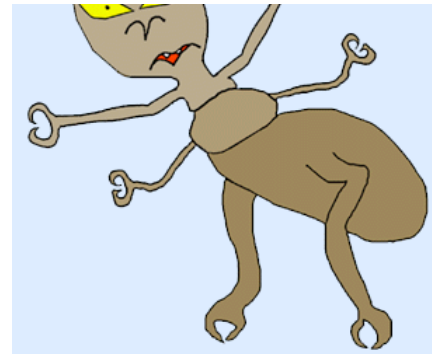
October Lice Report

Heads Up! Lice combs are coming home!

Look inside your child's Monday envelope on October 5th for a lice comb and instructions on how to check your child for



lice. We want you to start your own at home lice checking routine. Please note, these aren't just lice combs, they are also your little reminders to check your child for lice. Please refrain from stuffing the combs into the back of the brush drawer or somewhere else out of sight. Keep it up front and center, where you and/or your child will see it all the time. Let it serve as your reminder to keep a daily eye out for lice and to do a thorough check at least once a month. Often lice are present for a full month or more before they are detected so don't wait for news from your child of an itchy scalp to prompt you take a look. A monthly screening routine can catch lice before they get out of hand or their offspring migrate to include the whole family, friends and classmates. Choose a day each month that you are likely to remember and will have time to do a check such as the first Sunday night of each month. Mark your calendar and start your lice checking routine.



How to check for head lice

- Seat your child in a brightly lit room or outdoors in direct sunlight in an area where you can easily examine the head from different angles.
- Identification of pediculosis (head lice infestation) is usually made by finding nits close to the scalp. The nits are most commonly found near the base of the neck, the crown of the head, and behind the ears. The adult lice may be difficult to see because they move quickly, however, seeing a live louse also confirms a case of pediculosis. Nits may be difficult to differentiate visually from hair debris (such as dandruff, skin flakes, hair casts, or hair spray), but debris is easily removed from the hair shaft using the thumb and forefinger whereas nits are not.
- Part the hair and look at your child's scalp. Nits will look like small white or yellow-brown specks on the hair shaft close to the shaft. They will be firmly attached to the hair. Newly laid eggs are almost transparent, so it is helpful to examine the hair from different angles of light. To tell the difference between eggs and dandruff, try to dislodge them from the hair shaft. If they are not easily removed, they are probably eggs.
- Comb through your child's hair in small sections using a fine-tooth comb. After each comb-through, wipe the comb on a wet paper towel. Examine the scalp, comb, and paper towel carefully. You may need to use a magnifying glass.

If you think you have found an active infestation, there are many online resources that can help you through the process of lice removal. Also, please consider your direct community who may have been exposed. Notify the Addison Office, friends or others who have been in close contact with your child.

Here are a few online resources:

How to check for lice: http://www.aap.org/publiced/BR_Lice.htm

Frequently asked questions: <http://www.headlice.org/fag/index.htm>

A short video about what to do if you detect lice: <http://www.headlice.org/video>

[/alloutvd.wmv](#)

Questions or concerns? Feel free to contact me, Addison Lice Coordinator, Kit Gibbs

Palo Alto PAUSD Announcements

Dine Out For Packard

Note: one of our PAUSD schools is the Children's Hospital School, located at LPCH for student patients in grades K-12. Thurs. Oct. 8. Support your Children's Hospital by joining the first-ever Dine Out for Packard day, benefiting the patients and families of Lucile Packard Children's Hospital. Participating restaurants throughout Palo Alto will donate a percentage of total sales to the Children's Fund, which helps the Hospital meet its greatest needs each year. Info including list of participating restaurants: <http://www.dineoutforpackard.org>.

Community Announcements

Google and the Power of Doodles

Thurs. Oct. 8, 7:30pm, Boardroom, 25 Churchill
The Palo Alto PTA Council's ArtSpeak! program begins its '09-'10 season with this talk by Dennis Hwang, International Webmaster and Logo Designer, Google. Dennis Hwang is known for his creative reinventions of the Google logo, developed for all kinds of special and offbeat occasions. He'll tell how he got started doing his designs, show some examples, and talk about the challenges juggling this creative pursuit with his full-time job (he's the international webmaster at Google, overseeing all content development). He's also a driving force behind Doodle 4 Google-a nationwide competition for K-12 students to reinvent the Google logo. He'll talk about this exciting program and why Google believes so strongly in it. Info: <http://artspeak.paloaltopta.org>

Electrostatics and Electromagnetism

Sun. Oct. 11, 18, 25, Nov. 1, 1-3pm, 4 sessions, MOAH 351 Homer, Palo Alto
At this Museum of American Heritage Workshop, the students learn about static electricity, going back to the days of the Greek scientists and tribo-electricity (creating electricity by rubbing, e.g., cat's fur on amber), and progressing to Michael Faraday's monumental discoveries. Then, students discover magnetism and induction. Content includes the history of magnetism and explores modern theories and applications that underlie electric power generation and magnetic material physics. Class projects include the construction of an electromagnetically charged (no battery required) flashlight. Ages 10 and up; Fee: \$65 members/\$75 non-members. Instructor: Jim Wall
Info or to register: 321-1004 or www.moah.org/education

CAC Meet the School Board Candidates: Barb Mitchell and Dana Tom

Mon. Oct. 12, 7:30-9pm, Conference Room A, 25 Churchill Ave.
Barb Mitchell and Dana Tom are two incumbents running unchallenged for Palo Alto School Board this year. They graciously offered their time to meet with parents of children with special needs and teachers working with children with special needs. Take the opportunity to meet them and let them hear your concerns and issues or just come and share your story. This is an informal Parent Meeting sponsored by Community Advisory Committee for Special Education.

Parenting children with special needs:

Finding the balance between the joy and the sorrow

Mon. Nov. 16, 7:30-9pm, Boardroom, 25 Churchill
Parent Education Seminar sponsored by Community Advisory Committee for Special Education. When you have a child with special needs, it is normal to be traumatized and have a range of difficult feelings which can impact all of the relationships within a family. Dr. Susan Markowitz reminds us through her presentation to recognize the complexity of family dynamics and to work on each relationship within the family in order to strive toward finding a balance between joy and sorrow. She defines achieving balance as a movement toward what is missing in your repertoire within any of the relationships in your family. Dr. Markowitz is a licensed psychologist with a practice in Menlo Park. She has been working with families with special needs children for many years.

Afterschool French Classes at Barron Park School

Have you ever dreamed of speaking French? Do you have French roots and wish to keep the language in your family? Did you just arrive from France and do not want to lose French? Come to EFBA's (French Education Bay Area) after school program. \$20/hour.

French Speakers: K - 2nd Grade: Monday 3:10-4:40pm, 3rd - 5th Grade: Monday 3:10-4:40pm

Non-French Speakers: K - 2nd Grade: Tuesday 3:10-4:40pm, 3rd - 5th Grade: Thursday 3:10-4:40pm

Info: efba.us or Judith Rapoport, judith.rapoport@gmail.com

Important Reminder about Bike Helmets

If your student bikes, please remind him or her to wear a helmet, properly adjusted and fastened. It's the law for those under 18, and may save them from serious injury. If you ride with your children, please model this safe practice.

Volunteer Docents Needed

O'Keeffe, Rivera, Thiebaud, Lawrence - Interested? Volunteer docents needed to give presentations about the lives and work of Master Artists to PAUSD elementary students. Training provided by Arts Coordinator, Sharon Ferguson, at Art Education, 25 Churchill, Portable C. Art History background preferred. For more information contact Emily at Art Education 329-3939, emarshall@pausd.org.

Library Home Connection Seeks Volunteers

Library Home Connection is a service of the Palo Alto City Library that provides a visit and delivery of materials to people who cannot get to the library because of an extended illness or long-term disability. The Palo Alto Library is seeking individuals who could use this service, and individuals who would like to volunteer. This could even be a great family activity--sharing the joy of reading with those folks in our community in need of a little hands-on help. Info: Anita Delaney, Volunteer and Connection Coordinator, 617-3100 ext. 3215, anita.delaney@cityofpaloalto.org.
International Fair to Benefit Palo Alto's Sister-City Projects

Addison Elementary School, 650 Addison Ave, Palo Alto, CA 94301

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Weekly Newsletter Sponsored by Addison PTA

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