



LIVE OAK ELEMENTARY'S PTA PRESENTS



Leopard Beat



Live Oak Elementary, 27715 Saddleridge Way, Castaic, Ca 91384 Ph# 661-257-4540 Principal: Cynthia Seamands

34th District, Santa Clarita Valley Council

February 2009

Founders Day Celebration

Live Oak Celebrates THE BIG EASY, & you are invited to attend the MARDI GRAS PARTY!

When: Friday, the 20th of February, 2009

Time: 6:30pm...Dessert

7:15pm...Show

Where: Live Oak MPR

So bring your sweet tooth to this Complimentary event & most importantly, Come and support your children!



See's Candy Sales

The Valentine Day See's Candy sale ran through January 23rd. Thank you to all my helpers and especially to all the parents who participated. Remember 100% of the profit goes directly back to the many programs supported by your Live Oak PTA. Delivery is scheduled for the week of February 9th, 2009. Orders will be delivered to your child's classroom to be sent home at the end of the day. Our Easter See's Candy sale is set to start February 16th, 2009 and will run through February 27th, 2009. Keep an eye open for the flyer in your child's backpack and as always thank you for your participation.

Happy New Year Leopards!

Tara Manly



Jump Rope for Heart

Jump Rope for Heart is coming, mark your calendars for Monday, February 9! Join us as we promote this community service by raising funds to support lifesaving heart and stroke research and educational programs while teaching physical fitness. Help us make this a successful event by supporting this fundraiser. Extra flyers are available in the front office.



CALLING ALL LIVE OAK PARENTS!!!

It is that time of year again when the PTA will be selecting and electing new officers for the 2009-2010 Live Oak PTA board. Even though we will be losing some dedicated parents whose children are moving on to the middle school, the PTA looks forward to adding new board members and infusing their fresh ideas and enthusiasm to find ways to enhance our children's education.

Every year parents step up to the challenges our educational system presents and every year our teachers and parents find ways to enhance our student's learning. PTA is a great way to help out! Organizing and fundraising for assemblies, field trips; planning and holding activities such as the Fall Festival, Father-Daughter Dance and Mother-Son Luau; hosting 2 Scholastic Book Fairs during the year; and hosting Restaurant Night and Family Nights.

You can count on meeting and making new friends, as well as, encouraging your friends and neighbors to volunteer for the PTA Executive Board as a group. Working together as a team for the good of Live Oak can be a lot of fun!

Over the next few weeks the PTA Nominating Committee will be looking for Live Oak parents to fill the 2009-2010 E-board positions. We welcome your input, questions and inquiries as to how you can be of service to your school or as a volunteer to fill a position.

We are counting on you!!!

Contact: Janette Reid - Nomination Committee

702-9626

13reid@sbcglobal.net

PTA Association Meeting

1st Wednesday of the month

3:15 p.m. in the MPR





5th Grade Headlines



 * **The Live Oak PTA** *
 * **would like to** *
 * **thank** *
 * **Jose, Marisol,** *
 * **Samantha & David** *
 * **Corona & Family** *
 * **at Valencia** *
 * **Fulfillment for** *
 * **graciously** *
 * **donating the** *
 * **entire costs for** *
 * **this year of** *
 * **publishing our** *
 * **newsletter for all** *
 * **of the families** *
 * **here at Live Oak** *
 * **Elementary!** *
 * **Their kind** *
 * **generosity is want** *
 * **this community is** *
 * **all about!** *

The Fifth Grade is looking forward to their chance to decorate the front office during the month of February. The grade level will display the best of our Famous African American portraits. The kids will have the opportunity to read about individuals that have made a positive impact on American society. For many of the students this will be their first time working with charcoal and pastels. The kids are also excited to go on their two future field trips. The first trip will be to the Grif-

fith Park Observatory in March, and then the Reagan Library in April.

In the class rooms the students are completing their Mystery Book Reports, and gearing up to deliver their second trimester speeches. At the January 15th board meeting John "Trey" Christopher was honored as Live Oak's outstanding student. A few points that stand out about his attitude and effort at school are that he is super determined to do his best, and that he has also

helped to create the school's peer tutoring program that runs during the student's lunch times on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Hopefully you will make time to come see our art work on display in the front office for the month of February, and remind your child or children that the opportunity to receive free help in school is available to them at their lunch time on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

4th Grader Fun & Fieldtrips



Fourth graders had a unique field trip; they visited the 17th

California mission, San Fernando Rey de España. On Tuesday, January 20, students in the fourth grade traveled to the San Fernando Valley to tour the mission grounds. The knowledgeable docents guided them through the church, workshops, kitchen, library, cemetery and many other buildings of the mission.

"I liked visiting the library and seeing the books that

were more than a hundred years old", said Razmig Semerdjian. "The beautiful altar in the church covered with gold was my favorite part of the field trip", said Emily Peña. Tatum Gist added, "My favorite thing about the San Fernando mission was the cemetery and learning that there were thousands of native Indians buried there."

Other students also enjoyed visiting the gift shop and eating lunch in the park across the street from the San Fernando Mission. Some classrooms also had

the chance to conduct a scavenger hunt throughout their visit to the mission which was fun and educational.

The Wildlife Guys visited our classrooms for the first time. Fourth grade students enjoyed the lesson on how animals get and transfer energy. A Madagascar hissing cockroach, a North American porcupine, a python snake, a black throat monitor and a cute rabbit visited all the classrooms on Wednesday, January 21.



TEACHER / STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK

We're gearin' up to start preparations for this year's Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week. The festivities will be held the week of May 11, with the staff luncheon being served on May 13. If you are interested in helping out with all the fun, contact Allison Banry at 294-0806 and alliban@gmail.com or Denise Wade at 257-3338 and denisemwade@yahoo.com. Thank ya kindly.



3rd Grade Up & Coming

The third grade students have completed our science unit on animals. Having unusual live animals visit our classrooms made this unit all the more exciting! Now, we're studying the history of the Santa Clarita Valley. With this unit students will have the opportunity to visit one of the historical sites in Santa Clarita, create a scrapbook about their visit, and share it in class. The scrapbooks will be on display at Open House.

Our field trip to the Placerita Nature Center will be in March. This is one of the historical locations that we study in the history of Santa Clarita. Our third grade students usually really enjoy this trip. We hope some of you parents can join us!



Kinder-Days!

This month we are continuing to work diligently on standards. Please continue to work on letters, words, sentences and numbers at home. We are encouraging parent volunteers to come into our classrooms to help practice our standards with students. During this time students will focus on specific areas such as reading sight words, practicing counting and writing letters. This time can make a world of a difference. Please contact your child's teacher to schedule a convenient time. Thank you so much for your ongoing parent support!

We are looking forward to having a wonderful 100th day of school in Febru-

ary. This is a very special day in kindergarten because the REAL Zero the Hero comes to life. Look for more information in your child's homework folder.

We also wanted to thank all of our parents for sending in requested donations. We appreciate your support in helping out with everything! Your time is greatly valued!

The Kindergarten Team



Castaic Education Foundation Corner

FIFTH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT AT ROBINSON RANCH

Attention, golfers. Our fifth annual golf tournament will be held at the pristine Robinson Ranch this year. Players receive a round of golf, cart and range balls, as well as breakfast, lunch and raffle prizes. Hurry! This tournament fills up fast.

- When: 7:30 a.m. April 3, 2009
- Where: Robinson Ranch, Sand Canyon
- Cost: \$200 a player; \$700 a foursome
- Contact: Diane Fiero, (661) 373-4574

SWEETHEARTS FOR EDUCATION WINE TASTING

Please join us for our Sweethearts for Education Wine Tasting event, which will be held at Salt Creek Grille. Heavy hors d'oeuvres will also be served. A limited number of tickets are available at \$45 per person.

- When: 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, February 12, 2009
- Where: Salt Creek Grille, Town Center Drive, Valencia
- Contact: Marcela Kocen, (661) 702-9551

Lost & Found

Parents, please check the MPR for your child's lost or missing clothing. There are quite a few articles of clothing, lunch bags and bicycle helmets in the boxes. Anything that remains unclaimed will be donated at the end of the school year.

Reflections:

Sorry, the following name was omitted from the Reflections winners in the Dec. 2008 Newsletter.

Visual arts K-2 honorable mention:

Maleeha Zaman



Grand Reader Program



GRAND READER PROGRAM

The Grand Reader Program is an effort to encourage recreational reading, with learning as a by-product!

Each month, January – May, students will be invited to participate in a CUSD Grand Reader Program, located at the Castaic Public Library. Students receive *Grand Reader Bucks* each time they attend. Earn extra *bucks* for Book Reviews. There will be a Shopping Spree in June! *More info available at school offices.*



EXPLORE w/TECHNOLOGY & SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY NIGHTS PROGRAM

CUSD Educational Services, Teachers and Support Staff will offer Explore with Technology Challenges for students K-8, February - June! This program is designed to offer a creative, inquiry-based approach to learning through the use of technology. Grade-level appropriate student challenges, will incorporate California Content Standard lessons in all areas of curriculum, and are intended to encourage the use of technology. Top Tech Challengers will be invited to a "Geo-Explore" field trip in June! *More info available at school offices.*

Bring your GRAND READER!

Castaic Public Library (6:00 – 7:30 p.m.)

Sign up for Tech Nights!

Go to: www.castaic.k12.ca.us (for challenges)

FEBRUARY SCHEDULE

- K-1 Monday, February 2, 2009
- 2-3 Monday, February 9, 2009
- 4-5 **Tuesday**, February 17, 2009
- 6-8 Monday, February 23, 2009

FEBRUARY SCHEDULE

- K-5 Tuesday, February 17, 2009
- 6-8 Tuesday, February 10, 2009



We Are On The Web
www.liveoakpta.com

**Please apply my donation check made out to
"CASTAIC UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
for the following program(s):**

Grand Reader Program \$ _____

Explore Tech Program \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Donated by: _____

Email address: _____

Student's Name: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____