

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Toluca Lake Elementary

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February 25, 2010

Dear Toluca Lake Parents and Families,

As the second semester unfolds, it brings many important events that will directly impact your child's academic future. Various parent groups have already started to discuss the results of a variety of data about our school. These groups, such as the ELAC/CEAC, School Site Council, PTA, and voluntary "Coffee with the Principal" parents have come up with excellent suggestions. Subjects such as the budget, School Report Card and Improving Attendance are just a few of the topics we review. As a result of these meetings, many parents wanted to be sure that **all parents** were aware of the **importance of attendance** and of our **school goal** of each child coming to school **96%** of the year. This means that a student should only be absent for **seven days** out of the entire school year. We have attached to this letter a Parent reminder about the importance of attendance. There are some wonderful suggestions as to how to support your child in getting to school every day, on time.

We always send home the dates and times for parent meetings in your child's **Thursday Parent Folder**. If you haven't yet made it a habit to open your child's backpack and look for this important folder please make it a top priority. You have the power to improve your child's learning by taking an active interest in the activities of his/her school. Many parents have come on campus to visit our wonderful **Parent Center**, use the computers available to you and learn about what the community has to offer. Please remember that we are here for you so "**Take Advantage of Us**"!

Now, on to the exciting events that will take place in the month of March: First of all, we wanted to let you know that March is **National Nutrition Month**. Toluca Lake Elementary is a participant in the Network for a Healthy California, a program sponsored by LAUSD. Our students receive instruction in the healthy foods they need to choose to eat. In addition, we have found through scientific research, that children who eat breakfast show improved cognitive function, attention, and memory. **Please be sure that your child eats breakfast before coming to school or at school when he/she arrives in the morning**. We do offer second chance breakfast for those students who have not been able to eat in the morning, but that still means that they are sitting in the classroom for two hours, hungry.

Starting on **March 1st** through the week to the **5th**, we will have "Spirit Week". Each day our students will have a different theme to dress

On **March 18th** at 6:30 p.m., we will have our monthly PTA meeting. Our PTA has been working very hard to support the school in a variety of activities. If you are a working parent and can not come to the morning meetings, this is the meeting for you. Please come to learn about some of the activities they have planned for your child.

On **March 22nd** we will begin Parent Conferences. The conferences will continue until March 26th. Dismissal will be at **1:09** every day of the week. Get ready to mark your calendars for this important event. Conferencing with the teacher is the best way to support your child's learning. Please be sure to attend at the time scheduled for your conference. If you show up at a different time, the teacher will not be able to conference with you as they will be busy with another parent.

REMINDERS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Please read our Marquis **Sign** at the front of the school for important dates, school closings and other school activities.

All students should wear their **Toluca Lake Tee** on **Fridays**. The students are very excited to show their school spirit. These Tee shirts are also very good to wear when your child is on a school sponsored field trip.

Our gates open at 7:15 in the morning, the time we are able to provide supervision for your child. Please **do not drop off** your child at the front gate before that time. There have been a number of students waiting at the front gate, unsupervised, and we are all very concerned about their safety. If you have any difficulty with the time of the gate opening, please contact the school so that we can discuss a way of solving the problem.

All gates close at **7:50** every morning. We still have a few stragglers. If you know that your child is late, please do not drop them off at the Valet drop off after 7:50 when the program is closing. The student must go to the main office for a late slip.

Spring Break – March 29th - April 2nd

Emergency Preparedness Drill – April – 20th

Open House and the Scholastic Book Fair – April 27th

Once again, **Thank You** for all your support.

Sincerely,

The Administrative Team and Staff of
Toluca Lake Elementary School

