

The SMASHing Friday Letter



smash@smmusd.org

October 14, 2016

SCHOOL PICTURES BY LIFETOUCH

All students present last Friday, 10/07, had their photo taken.

If you would like to purchase their photos go to: mylifetouch.com and use code PZ056616Y0 and follow the prompts.

If it asks for the student's teacher, please note that our students are listed by Core, not teacher.

Photo retakes are scheduled for Thursday, November 3

Dear SMASHing Families,

Next Thursday, October 20th (10:20-11:20am), is California's Great Shakeout. We will have a full-scale earthquake drill, complete with mock panicked parents at the reunion gate and mock-injured students that our search and rescue teams find and for which our first aid team practices providing care. Please note: During drills as well as true emergencies, the school gates are locked until the drill/emergency is complete.

We have a detailed plan to keep all of our students, staff, and visiting adults safe in the event of an emergency. We have monthly fire drills, twice yearly "lock down" and earthquake "drop and cover" drills. In the case of an actual earthquake, all children will duck and cover in the classroom and then assemble on the field with their teachers until the emergency is declared over or until released to an adult. In the case of a true emergency, you or someone on your child's emergency card should pick up the children at the "reunion gate" on the Fifth Street side of campus just North of the trash bins. We cannot release your child to an adult who is not listed on your emergency card. Records will be kept on all children released to adults. In case of campus damage near the Fifth Street gate, alternative staging areas may be designated to provide safe shelter to our students so be prepared to 1) Look for "SMASH Reunion Gate" signs hanging on the perimeter fence to designate another pick up area, 2) Receive an email blast if we have Internet function or phone message that gives you more detailed information.

What can you do? 1) Talk to your child about your family plan for an emergency. 2) Keep the office emergency cards updated with approved people who can pick up your child. 3) It is also recommended that you tune your radio to KWFB (AM980) or KRSF (FM 103.1) for news reports that may have additional information during an actual emergency. 4) If your child requires medication, please contact Nurse Sandy to be sure we have an adequate supply.

In case of a true emergency, we have adequate food, water, and shelter to keep our students safe for an extended period of time. Our faculty and staff will take good care of our students until you are able to come to campus. Please remember to remain calm for your child and other children. It will be important that you follow the emergency procedures, especially remaining at the reunion gate until your child is brought to you and signed out with your name and destination. Thank you for reading this and thinking through the above preparations as we work together to keep our children safe.

Jessica

DATES TO REMEMBER

Find the year-long calendar of events at www.smash.smmusd.org "calendar"

OCTOBER

Wed, Oct 19 - 6:00pm - PTSA mtg - CANCELLED (Presidential debate conflict) new date TBD

Thur, Oct 20 - 10:20am - The California Great ShakeOut

Sun, Oct 23 - 7:00pm - SMASH Comedy Night Benefit with Jake Johannsen and Friends

Fri, Oct 28 - 1:30-3:00pm - Halloween carnival - See costume rules in next week's Friday Letter

Mon, Oct 31 - NO HALLOWEEN COSTUMES AT SCHOOL (costumes can be worn Friday, Oct 28)

NOVEMBER

Wed, Nov 2 - 3:15pm - Site Council mtg

Thu, Nov 3 - 9:00am - school photo retakes - bring unwanted photos back in its envelope (keep the class photo)

Fri, Nov 4 - **NOT A PUPIL FREE DAY FOR SMASH** - (SMASH pupil free day is Monday, Jan 9, 2017)

M-W, Nov 7, 8, 9 - Core 3 to Catalina

Tue, Nov 8 - Election Day

Fri, Nov 11 - **VETERANS DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED**

Mon, Nov 14 - 9:00-10:30am - SMASH school tour

Wed, Nov 16 - 8:30am - PTSA Executive Board mtg

Wed, Nov 16 - SMASH Restaurant Night at Curious Palate

Wed, Nov 23 - **Early dismissal - 1:30pm**

Thu-Fri, Nov 23 & 25 - **THANKSGIVING - SCHOOL CLOSED**

Wed, Nov 30-Fri, Dec 2 - Core 4 to Hess-Kramer

Winter Break and 1 pupil-free day: Monday, Dec. 26 to Monday, Jan. 9. Return to school on Tuesday, Jan. 10.

SMASH FAMILY MINDFULNESS With former Core 1 teacher Candis Berens

For ALL SMASH students and parents - Drop in - No sign ups required

Family Classes 8:00-8:25am (meditation, games, reflections)

Parent Discussion Groups 8:30-9:15am

October 17 - From Meltdowns to Rigidity - Managing Emotions - In Library

October 24 - The Harmony of Integration - Sensory Regulation - In Library

4TH ANNUAL SMASH COMEDY NIGHT BENEFIT with JAKE JOHANSEN & FRIENDS

LET'S SELL THIS OUT!! SPONSOR a SMASH STAFF MEMBER!

SUNDAY, OCT. 23, 7PM, MAGICOPOLIS

Support SMASH by helping us sell out this show. Encourage your friends and family to attend or consider sponsoring a member of the SMASH staff to show your appreciation for the wonderful work they do with our kids. Coordinate with them directly or contact me to facilitate.

THE LINE-UP: Kira Soltanovich, Tommy Johnagin, Al Jackson, Drew Lynch, Sara Schaefer - this stellar group of entertainers has credits including Comedy Central specials; film and TV writing; awards and TV show hosts; appearances on all of the late night comedy shows; and has won the hearts of America on America's Got Talent.

Thank you to those in our community who donated raffle items - we have some fun prizes this year including (2) 90-minute massages from Marina Massage, a facial from Tranquility Spa, personal training in a private boxing gym, free music lessons from Green Brooms Music Academy, tickets to the Pantages, restaurant gift cards to The Curious Palate, The Lobster, West 4th & Jane, Mercado, Ashland Hill, Art's Table and Margot's.

We do not have a restaurant "Give Back" on event night, but I encourage you to make plans to dine at with one of our raffle partners: The Curious Palate, West 4th & Jane, Mercado, The Lobster, Ashland Hill, Art's Table and Margo's on Montana.

Tickets and more info on Eventbrite at <http://bit.ly/SMASHCN2016>. Or search Eventbrite for Smash Comedy Night 2016. Tickets are \$40 plus a \$3.19 service charge for event management.

Adults only please - ages 21 and up.

Thank you for supporting this event!

Nina Furukawa, SMASH Comedy Night Benefit Chair

nina@smdp.com 310-922-2060

CORE 1 NEWS

As we continue to share information about the “developmental continuum,” this week we bring you: The 7 Year Old. Again, the following is adapted from Yardsticks by Chip Wood.

Common Developmental Characteristics of Primary School Children: Seven-Year-Olds

In contrast to brash, noisy sixes, seven-year-olds are generally quiet, sensitive, and serious. Their intense moods often change quickly. Sevens tend to work hard at everything they do and need private time to manage their new thoughts and feeling.

Social (Age 7)

- May be mood, shy, sulky, touchy; sometimes depressed
- Prefer playing and working alone or with one friend
- May change friendships quickly and feel “nobody likes me”
- Rely on adults for help and reassurance
- Need the security of rules, routines, and physical boundaries

Physical (Age 7)

- Often keep their eyes focused on a small, close area
- Copying from board is very hard
- With head on arm or desk, grasp pencil point tightly and write very small
- Can do quiet work for longer periods
- Can get sick from worrying about tests, assignments, etc.

Cognitive (Age 7)

- Better understanding of ideas such as time, space, and quantity
- Learn new words and meanings quickly; enjoy writing stories
- Open to learning math
- Good at classifying, such as sorting buttons, pictures, leaves, and shapes
- Listen well and speak precisely
- Enjoy hands-on exploration of how things work
- Bothered by mistakes and try hard to make their work perfect
- Like to work slowly and finish what they start
- Enjoy repeating tasks and reviewing learning

Thank you, Parent Volunteers

Thank you, parents, for chaperoning our field trip to the Natural History Museum and Butterfly Pavilion this week. Your participation helped keep our children safe and engaged. We also appreciate your help preparing food, setting up tables, and washing dishes and picnic blankets for Birthday Bash.

Core 1 Wish List Core 1 is in need of the following items to keep ourselves healthy: adhesive bandages, hand sanitizer and facial tissues. If you are able to contribute any, please give them to your child’s workshop teacher.

Thank you! Have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,

Christian (ccarter@smmusd.org)

Graciela (gbarba-castro@smmusd.org/graciela.smash@gmail.com)

Chrysta (cpowell@smmusd.org)

Nadja, Alex & Juana

CORE 2 NEWS

Super Flex!

We have exciting news! Rebecca joined us this week for our first weekly social skills class. It's all about social thinking and designed to help children with problem solving, stressful triggers with an interactive, positive approach. The focus for the first week was to introduce "Super Flex and his Team of Unthinkables." In future sessions, Rebecca will lead discussions, encourage reflective writing, and help them develop a shared language, all-the-while integrating mindfulness.

Outdoor Learning

In addition to Choice Choices, the children are engaging in Outdoor Learning every other week. Our first trip happened on Monday. We went to the park by the beach. Outdoor Learning provides the students with opportunities to build new relationships, strengthen their social skills, and it gives us an opportunity to observe them in a social context. We use this newfound knowledge to provide lessons around social development.

Upcoming Field Trip

Our next field trip will be on November 2. We will be going back to the Natural History Museum to visit the Spider Pavilion and the Nature Lab. As of now, our plan is to take the metro to NHM. We will need another 8 chaperones for the trip. Join us to visit the arachnids!

Mindfulness

Core 2 is learning about using their senses to come back to the present moment. This past week they used sight by naming in great detail surprise items that were brought in by the mindfulness teacher. They got to see how using their sense of sight to describe what is in the environment is what will help them get their "lid" back on when they feel it flipping or it has already flipped. This week we will be using touch to come back to the moment. The kids are getting to see in real time that they can't help but be present when they are using their senses.

Warmly

Ash

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, October 28 Halloween Carnival 1:30pm Big Yard

Monday, October 31 Halloween – Please limit the candy ;)

Have a fabulous weekend!

Alejandra, Alex, and Sarah

Alejandra: asantini@smmusd.org Sarah: sdaunis@smmusd.org

Alex: arroyo@smmusd.org

Please check our Core 2 Website. It is updated frequently.

CORE 3 NEWS

Upcoming Dates

Wednesday, October 26 - walking Field Trip - Santa Monica Pier Aquarium (we welcome a few more chaperones).

Catalina Paperwork

We are still missing Catalina paperwork from a few students. There were three different district and CIMI forms to fill out. Please turn in the paperwork ASAP or email Erin for additional copies.

6th Grade Math

This week the sixth graders completed their second unit, Comparing Bits and Pieces. They will get their unit assessments back on Monday. Please ask to have a look at it and help your child review any problems that they missed. Next week we will begin our third unit, Let's Be Rational: Understanding Fraction Operations. Thank you to those parents who have been able to look through the assigned homework with the children. The purpose of the homework is to review and practice what we have been going over in class. Ideally you can look over a few of the story problems as a family.

Social Studies and Science

Social Studies and Science projects are underway! The students have chosen their topics and know their groups for both of their research projects. In the upcoming weeks we will be doing a number of lessons on note-taking. We will focus on different ways of taking notes from the internet, books, documentaries, and lectures. We will also have some lessons on internet research and how to find the information you are looking for on trusted sites.

JAMS Theatre Company

6th, 7th, and 8th grade SMASH students interested in musical theatre are invited to meet with Chad Scheppner in the SMASH Cafeteria at 12:30 to 1:00pm on November 3.

Musical Theatre details in this Friday Letter

Enjoy the weekend

Jayne:jwoldflorian@smmusd.org

Erin:chaendel@smmusd.org

JAMS THEATRE COMPANY

6th, 7th, and 8th grade SMASH students interested in musical theatre are invited to meet with Chad Scheppner in the SMASH Cafeteria at 12:30 to 1:00pm on November 3.

JAMS Theatre is halfway through the Fall Fundamentals class.

There are 3 SMASH students currently participating.

The final presentation for parents/friends will be November 1 at 4:15 or 4:30 in the JAMS cafeteria.

The spring musical will be announced at the student informational meeting _____ TBA

There will be a mandatory Parent Meeting for the Spring Musical Monday, Nov 7 6:30 in the JAMS cafeteria

Auditions for Spring Musical are December 2, 6, 9, 13 after school at JAMS

Overview of Rehearsals for Spring Musical:

Mondays and Wednesdays spring semester

Two solid weeks M-Sat right before the show

Spring Musical Performance Dates

Friday, April 28, 7 p.m.

Saturday, April 29, 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Sunday, April 30, 2 p.m.

This information is also on: jamstheatrecompany.com and JAMS Theatre Company Facebook page.

Amy Beeman-Solano

JAMS Theatre Company

Volunteer Producer & Parent Liaison

jamstheatre@gmail.com

[310.429.0332](tel:310.429.0332)

CORE 4 NEWS

Announcements

HESS KRAMER \$350 donation payment by November! Please let Genie know if you made a paypal payment. Thanks!

Please sign up for conferences. It is hard to schedule conferences outside the times listed on SignUpGenius so please look online for an open slot.

Please sign up for a Parent conference using the Sign-Up Genius Website.

7th Grade - www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0A4CAEAC2BA7F94-7thgrade

8th Grade - www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0A4CAEAC2BA7F94-8thgrade

Core 4 General Info Site:

<https://padlet.com/smashcore4/information>

Math

Core 7: As a group the mathematicians did well on Unit 2 test and so we moved onto the 3rd Unit, Stretching and Shrinking which is a geometry unit incorporating ratios. We have begun looking at coordinates. If your child feels they need a refresher on the x and y coordinates, google it and have them watch a Khan Academy video or find some practice problems with plotting coordinates.

Algebra: We continued to work on translating graphs, interpreting graphs, solving for the mean, median, and mode, and writing absolute value equations.

Core 8: Some students are working on solving equations with multiple steps. Others are solving multi-step inequality problems.

Science: In Astronomy, we started our soda straw rockets inquiry investigation. Students are planning and conducting an experiment with their rocket inspired investigable question. They will create their own procedures, data tables, graphs. They will also analyze their data.

PLTW: The 7th graders continued to work with the Inventor program (our 3D modeling software) by completing a pegboard toy. They learned how to assemble their parts using the constraint function. The 8th graders guided the 7th graders with their completing their pegboard.

English: We took the Essay Test on *Witch of Blackbird Pond*. With this test, I want everyone to be very successful so we looked at what makes a good essay and how to give clear examples and cite their source with parenthetical citation. We also are continuing planning out our historical fiction story.

History: We spent some time in our textbooks practicing reading, understanding, summarizing and writing notes on Chapters 3 and 4. We also worked on staying focused and using our time wisely. On Friday, Oct 21st, PBS will be airing their 90 minute documentary on Hamilton the Musical. I would love help in figuring out how to get a copy to show in class but in case with no modern VCR technology, some students can record it or watch it live at home. The musical focuses on American History right at the end of the Revolutionary War and the beginning of Independence as a nation. We are still studying the beginning of the American Colonies and will move towards the War for Independence in mid-November.

Art with Julianna: We practiced drawing in 3D as we will make plans and build with wood a design of a mini-public library (you know, the ones you see when you are walking around your neighborhood). We would love any parent volunteers. Art happens every Monday from 1:15-3:00 switching between Values and Justices. Email Genie if you are interested in volunteering.

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Musical Theatre details in this Friday Letter

CHICKENPOX NOTICE

School: SMASH

Date: 10/11/16

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of Core 4

This letter is to inform you of the presence of CHICKENPOX in your child's classroom. (S)he may have been exposed. Your cooperation is needed to prevent the spread of this communicable disease. The incubation period is 14-21 days. Please observe your child closely. Notify your school nurse and primary health provider immediately if you notice any symptoms of CHICKENPOX.

The first sign of uncomplicated CHICKENPOX is usually a **rash of itchy, pimple-like blisters**, which later break and develop scabs. New crops of blisters appear for several days. Symptoms may appear before the rash breaks out: moderate fever, headache, not feeling well, or sore throat. The virus is communicable from a few days before symptoms appear until all scabs are dry (crusty).

If your child should get CHICKENPOX, (s)he will be excluded from school until all lesions are **DRY/CRUSTED** (usually a minimum of five (5) days, or until fully recovered. During this time the child should be kept isolated and not allowed to come in contact with others, especially **AT RISK INDIVIDUALS** (see **Medical Warnings** below).

MEDICAL WARNINGS

CHICKENPOX can be dangerous and a physician should be consulted **IMMEDIATELY** if any of the following **AT RISK INDIVIDUALS** are exposed in your home or elsewhere:

- Anyone who cannot fight off infections or whose immune system is considered to be weak or ineffective
- Adults who have not had CHICKENPOX, especially if pregnant
- Persons on certain drugs for the treatment of leukemia, asthma, or organ transplant

REYES SYNDROME ALERT

Research has shown an association between the development of Reye's Syndrome and the use of aspirin for treating the symptoms of flu-like illnesses, CHICKENPOX, and colds. Medical personnel recommend aspirin and combination products containing aspirin NOT be given to children 18 years of age and under during these illnesses. Acetaminophen may be used.

Contact your physician **IMMEDIATELY** or take your child to the local emergency room if any of these symptoms occur:

- Continuous vomiting
- Personality change with slurred speech
- Inability to identify others
- Convulsions

unconsciousness

If your child has not had the recommended 2 doses of the Varicella vaccine, they may be at risk for getting chicken pox. Talk to your pediatrician for more information on vaccines.

Sincerely,

Sandra Cano, RN, MN
School Nurse

310-396-2640 Ext 64-105



SHARE YOUR CLIMATE STORY

AN OPEN CALL FOR PRESENTATION SUBMISSIONS

Pecha Kucha Style

YOU GET 20 SLIDES.
- 20 SECONDS EACH -
TO TELL YOUR STORY

Tell Us

What climate action
you have taken

What climate action
we should take

Focus On

TOPICS:
Energy, Water,
Transportation,
Materials,
Community Building

Submissions

Make a video of your
presentation & submit
for consideration by
OCTOBER 15

SUBMIT YOUR PECHA KUCHA SANTA MONICA'S CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

Pecha Kucha was devised in Tokyo in 2003 as an event for young designers to meet, network, and show their work in public. Pecha Kucha is a simple presentation format where you show 20 images, each for 20 seconds for a total of 6 min and 40 sec. The images advance automatically and you talk along to the images. You are invited to submit your own Pecha Kucha, not all submissions will be selected to be presented at the Summit!

Email your video presentation
or upload to YouTube and send the link to
gina.garcia@sustainableworks.org



SustainableWorks
Environmental Education and Action



Questions?

Contact Gina Garcia
310-458-8716
gina.garcia@sustainableworks.org

For more info: communityclimateactionsummit.eventbrite.com

Join Girl Scouts

Let's get together & form new troops!

What : Parents and girls are invited to a meeting to form new troops in your community!

When : Tuesday, October 18, 2016 6pm

Where : Reed Park-Auditorium West
1133 7th St. (cross street Wilshire)
Santa Monica, CA 90403

Questions : Contact Erica Henderson at
ehenderson@girlscoutsla.org or 626-677-2253

What do Girl Scouts do?

- Engage in leadership programs & opportunities
- Make new friends in an all-girl setting
- Explore new skills & subjects
- Participate in community service
- Practice good values & respect for others

Can't make it to the event?

Please email the following information to: ehenderson@girlscoutsla.org

1. Parent/guardian name
2. Girl's name, school, and grade
3. Your contact information (email and phone)
4. Would you consider being a troop leader or co-leader?

Without volunteer troop leaders, we are unable to form new troops.

Please strongly consider volunteering—step-by-step training is provided.





Join Girl Scouts

Let's get together & form new troops!

What : Parents and girls are invited to a meeting to form new troops in your community!

When : Thursday, October 20, 2016 5 p.m.

Where : Memorial Park-Craft Room
1401 Olympic Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 9040

Questions : Contact Erica Henderson at ehenderson@girlscoutsla.org or 626-677-2253

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This material was not prepared by the school district. Any programs and/or events described herein are not necessarily endorsed and will not be supervised by the school district.