



LAGUNITAS SCHOOL DISTRICT

WEEKLY NOTICE

Lagunitas and San Geronimo Schools ~ January 17, 2017
Serving Forest Knolls, Lagunitas, San Geronimo, and Woodacre, California

Quote of the Week: "I like books that expose me to people unlike me and books that do battle against caricature or simplification. That, to me, is the heroic in fiction." (Zadie Smith, 1975 - present)

Important Dates

January 18	-	<i>Being Adept</i> Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Program 6 pm (see flyer below)
January 25	-	Tours begin for incoming K and above 9 am (pre-register with office)
January 25 – February 1	-	Minimum days for conferences/teacher workdays (2 pm dismissal)
January 25	-	Facilities Committee meeting 2:30 pm
January 26	-	Tours for incoming K and above 9 am (pre-register with office)
	-	Lagunitas School Board meeting 6:30 pm
	-	Drake High School Open House for 8 th grade families
January 27	-	<i>Clothes Off Your Back</i> LEAP fundraiser preview 5 – 9 pm (see details below)
	-	Deadline for Drake High School online registration for 8 th grade students
January 28 – 29	-	<i>Clothes Off Your Back</i> LEAP fundraiser 11 am – 5 pm
January 28	-	Chinese New Year (Year of the Rooster)
January 30	-	No bus service this week (please mark your calendars)
	-	Tours for incoming K and above 9 am (pre-register with office)
January 31	-	Tours for incoming K and above 9 am (pre-register with office)
	-	Middle School parent meeting 6:30 pm
February 2	-	Registration Day at Drake High School for 8 th grade students and one parent (see Drake website after January 27 for scheduled time and more information)
February 3	-	Middle School BINGO Blast fundraiser 5 pm
February 6	-	Kindergarten registration begins
February 7	-	Only Public Hearing on proposed <i>Medical Marijuana Dispensary</i> 6 pm
Lagunitas MPR		

News and Information

In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Monday, I took a new look at the man, his place in history, and what we can learn from him now, almost 49 years after his assassination. Martin Luther King, Jr. was instrumental in the passage of both the Civil Rights Act of 1964 that outlawed discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin; and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that prohibits racial discrimination in voting.

Martin Luther King, Jr. was a leader of movements, an activist among many. He was instrumental in creating lasting social change, and he did not work alone. It's important to consider that society does not wait for a charismatic leader to surface, but rather movements create leaders. Ghandi, whose non-violent approach is often noted as an inspiration for Martin Luther King, Jr. became a powerful leader when there was a cause. One common thread in many of our great leaders, is the reverence for reading, both to stay informed and to learn from diverse perspectives. This we can all emulate. We can march, we can protest, and one of the most radical things we can do is read. This is a necessary ingredient for a successful democracy and a primary focus of our schools.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. studied in order to prepare speeches and make decisions. He traveled and met people. He was a strong student who graduated high school early, though he once received a ‘C’ in public speaking! The *Atlanta Black Star* published a list of King’s eight favorite books. The list starts with an essay by Thoreau that is relevant today.

“An essay written by American transcendentalist Henry David Thoreau, ‘Civil Disobedience’ was published in 1849. In it, Thoreau argues that individuals should not permit the government to overrule their consciences, and that they should avoid allowing the government to force them to promote injustice.”

With Barack Obama’s transition out of the White House this week, much has been written about his accomplishments and personal experiences as President, including an article (see link below) in the New York Times about his favorite books. As a book lover, I am impressed that he spent a precious day of his last weeks in office with five of his favorite authors – one, Dave Eggers, a Marin County local (and founder of the 826 Valencia writing center).

“Mr. Obama says he is hoping to eventually use his presidential center website “to widen the audience for good books” — something he’s already done with regular lists of book recommendations — and then encourage a public “conversation about books.”

“At a time,” he says, “when so much of our politics is trying to manage this clash of cultures brought about by globalization and technology and migration, the role of stories to unify — as opposed to divide, to engage rather than to marginalize — is more important than ever.”

Our annual Book Fair returns in early February. Though we won’t have the Readathon fundraiser this year – please support the *Clothes Off Your Back* fundraiser instead – traditionally we celebrate books and reading during this time. In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Barack Obama, I am going to read two books by authors they recommend: ‘Civil Disobedience’ by Henry David Thoreau; and *Drown* by Junot Diaz. Then, I will work myself through some of the books Obama has recommended during his presidency. See links below.

Laura Shain
Principal


<http://ew.com/books/2017/01/18/barack-obama-book-recommendations/>
<http://atlantablackstar.com/2014/11/20/10-books-inspired-dr-martin-luther-king-jr/>
<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/16/books/obamas-secret-to-surviving-the-white-house-years-books.html>

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Accomplishments:

- Leader in civil rights protests.
- Icon for nonviolent protest and peace.
- Protested racial discrimination.
- Activism can help make justice happen.
- Traveled over 6 million miles.
- Spoke over 2500 times.
- Wrote 5 books and numerous articles.
- Led protests and voter registration drives.
- Directed the March on Washington with 250,000 people who heard his “I have a Dream” speech.
- Arrested approximately 20 times, assaulted 4 times.
- Awarded 5 honorary degrees.
- Named Man of the Year by Time Magazine in 1963.
- Youngest person to receive the Nobel Peace Prize at age 35, then gave the prize money, over \$54,000, to support the civil rights movement.

What do our kids know about Drugs and Alcohol use?
 What do parents need to know?
 How should parents talk to their kids about drugs and alcohol?
 What is role of the community regarding underage use of drugs and alcohol?

If you are interested in answers to these questions then we invite you to an evening with



Wednesday, January 18, 6pm
San Geronimo Valley Community Center
6350 Sir Francis Drake Blvd.

**An Evening Program for Parents and the Community:
 Importance of Starting the Discussion Early**

Being Adept is a school-based, multi-component prevention program for students and their parents. The classroom curriculum is science and research-based as well as holistically focused. Parent evenings with Being Adept professionals ensure that parents receive the training they need to engage in an ongoing, vital dialog with their children.

The San Geronimo Valley Community Center in collaboration with the Lagunitas School District is pleased to be offering Being Adept to 6th, 7th and 8th grade students during the 2016-17 school year.

Contact: Suzanne at 415-488-8888
valleyresourcecenter@sgvcc.org

Clothes Off Your Back LEAP fundraiser

Find some treasures and support our schools through LEAP! Mark your calendars for our preview night **January 27, 5 – 9 pm** at Creative Portraiture in Fairfax, 48 Bolinas Rd. Admission to preview night is \$15. Join us for wine, snacks and shopping...

January 28 - 29 we will be open to all **11am – 5 pm** for shopping and fun (address above).

Thanks to all who have donated! After January 10 save your clothing donations for next year!

Questions? Email Katherine Sanford at kosanford@gmail.com

**Marin County Scholastic Chess
 Championship Tournament**

Saturday, February 4, 2017 9:30am-3:30pm
New location! Mark Day School
39 Trellis Drive, San Rafael

Organized by Lanette and Jeff Gordon
 Marin Scholastic Chess

Open to all children in grades K-8 living in Marin or attending a Marin County school. No tournament experience is required.

Trophies awarded to:
 Top 5 players in Grade Sections K, 1, 2, 3, 4
 Top 3 players in Grades 5-8 section
 Top 3 players in Championship Section USCF Rated 900 and above
 Certificate to all participants

Entry Fee: \$25 Entries must be received by January 31.
 Feb. 1-3 fee is \$40. Same day entry is \$50.
 Sorry, no online registration.

Please make check payable to Jeff Gordon and mail to:
 P.O. Box 468
 Corte Madera, CA 94976
 Questions? Call (415) 924-2362 or email marinchess@comcast.net

This is a grade level tournament so please be sure to enter your grade!
 Tournament information will be sent to your email address a week before the event.

Child's Name _____ School _____ Grade _____
 Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
 Parent's Name _____ Phone# _____ Email: _____



Valentine

Bingo Blast



- *Scrumptious Dinner!*
- *Yummy Homemade Dessert Table*
- *Super Gift Basket Raffle! and other big prizes!*
- *Chili Cook-off!*



PRIZES • Dinner • FUN BINGO !!

The Lagunitas Middle School Fundraiser

Friday Feb. 3rd, 5:00 P.M.
LAGUNITAS MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM

Happy belated Birthday, Alexander McQuilkin, Lagunitas alumnus!

Students in Alex's class today with the Bay Area Children's Theater poetry workshop... reading "Be Glad Your Nose Is On Your Face" by Jack Prelutsky...



Be glad your nose is on your face,
 not pasted on some other place,
 for if it were where it is not,
 you might dislike your nose a lot.

Imagine if your precious nose
 were sandwiched in between your toes,
 that clearly would not be a treat,
 for you'd be forced to smell your feet.

Your nose would be a source of dread
 were it attached atop your head,
 it soon would drive you to despair,
 forever tickled by your hair.

Within your ear, your nose would be
 an absolute catastrophe,
 for when you were obliged to sneeze,
 your brain would rattle from the breeze.

Your nose, instead, through thick and thin,
 remains between your eyes and chin,
 not pasted on some other place--
 be glad your nose is on your face!