

ACACIAWOOD SCHOOL NEWS

Vol. I, Issue 3

December 19, 2002

WINTER BREAK DISMISSAL

Friday, December 20, 2002 marks the beginning of this year's winter break. Please note that on this day we have a minimum day schedule with a **1:00pm dismissal** for all grades.

CONCESSIONS

Providing concessions at the bi-annual trainings hosted by Living Stream Ministry is a major fund raiser for AWS with all proceeds going to AWS. All parents are needed in order to carry out the various tasks e.g. order supplies, serve food, act as cashiers, stock the food area, ice cold drinks, prepare hot water, etc. If you are able to help during the period of December 23 to December 28, 2002, please contact John Pester (john@lsm.org). Parents can also help by getting food donated for the concessions. Items needed include hamburger patties, hotdogs, paper goods, canned soda drinks, bottled water, chips, and whole fruit.

WINTER UNIFORM MODIFICATION

Due to the colder weather students may wear a white or navy blue turtleneck shirt under their AWS polo shirts. If the turtleneck shirt is long sleeve, a uniform sweater, jacket or sweatshirt must be worn over the polo.

NEW DISMISSAL TIME

Beginning January 6, 2003 Daily regular school day dismissal will be at 3:10pm starting in January. We will be increasing the passing period for junior and senior high from 3 minutes to 5 minutes.

FINALS WEEK SCHEDULE

Finals for the first semester will be held for all junior and senior high school on January 15-17, 2003.

Elementary grades will also follow the same dismissal times.

Jan. 13-14	Regular School Schedule	3:10pm dismissal
Jan. 15	1 st and 6 th period finals	1:10pm dismissal
Jan. 16	4 th and 5 th period finals	1:10pm dismissal
Jan. 17	2 nd and 3 rd period finals	3:10pm dismissal

ALL- SCHOOL OUTING

We will end finals week with an all-school outing! All the AWS students along with any parents who are interested in joining us may attend. One proposal for the activity is miniature golf at *Camelot Golfland* located on La Palma at the Kraemer exit on the 91 freeway. We will leave the school after finals and be back by the 3:10pm dismissal time.

ATTENTION AWS COMMUNITY!!

The **National History Day projects groups** are now formed and in the research phase. If you have any expertise in the following areas, or know anyone who does, please contact Miss Williamson or Mrs. Yang. Thank you for your help!

TOPICS
Chinese Railroad Workers of the Transcontinental Railroad
Berlin Wall
Juan and Eva Peron
Post WWII Reconstruction
Hungarian Uprising 1956
Cuban Missile Crisis
Miranda Rights/5 th amendment
Emancipation Proclamation and Lincoln
Benedict Arnold and Treason
Tian an men Square Massacre
Japanese Internment
Jackie Robinson and the Civil Rights Movement
Freedom Riders of the Civil Rights Movement
Women's Suffrage: 19 th amendment
Children with disabilities: education rights

MIKES, CAMERAS, INTERVIEW!

As part of our project in *Adolescent Memories of World War II* funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, all junior and senior high students received direct training in oral history by librarians Stephanie George and Sharon Owen from the Center for Oral and Public History at Cal State Fullerton. On Monday December 9 and Tuesday December 10, the training took place, first with the junior high students receiving a three-hour training, then the 11th-12th and the 9th-10th grades. The librarians defined, demonstrated, and explained oral history for our students. After the training, students were equipped to begin their own oral history projects with former Japanese American internees, Holocaust survivors, and participants in home front activities during World War II. Not only will our students benefit from this training, but also the academic community at large and the general public will benefit from AcaciaWood's collection of these valuable, priceless voices from the past. From our oral history collection, we will build a digital archive as a permanent facility for preserving the histories.

DIRECTOR OF CENTER FOR ORAL AND PUBLIC HISTORY COMES TO ACACIAWOOD

On Friday, December 13, as part of the provision for our NEH grant project entitled *Adolescent Memories of World War II*, Dr. Art Hansen presented an inspiring and captivating lecture and video on Japanese American internment in World War II. As President of the Oral History Association nationwide and Senior Historian of the Japanese American National Museum, and as a prolific writer and researcher for many years on the

topic of Japanese internment, Dr. Hansen is one of the most qualified scholars in the United States to speak about this injustice to American citizens. His talk was full of factual information and delivered with much conviction and compassion. Afterwards many were inspired to visit one of the closest former camps, Manzanar. We are grateful to the NEH for allowing this enrichment opportunity.

ISRAELI CONSULATE SPEAKER ADDRESSES STUDENTS

On December 12th, Mr. Leib Friedman, from the Speaker's Bureau of the Los Angeles Israeli Consulate joined us for lunch and a 45-minute talk. He spoke to the students about his experiences during his early twenties when he befriended many Jews in Europe after WWII who had survived the holocaust. Shortly after the war, he also worked with the Jewish underground army (Haganah) in Southern California to support operations leading to the restoration of the nation of Israel. Those memories still seemed quite fresh during his captivating talk as evidenced by his tone of voice and occasional teary moment. From his youth, Mr. Friedman realized his uniqueness, having been born to Jewish parents who migrated from Russia to the United States and who were staunch Zionists. Mr. Friedman's mother lived and labored in Palestine for 16 years until 1921 and his father served in the Jewish Legion fighting against the Turks and Germans in the Negev during WWI. Mr. Friedman is a member of several Jewish organizations and has done volunteer work in Israel. It was a special privilege having such a qualified person speak on Jews and Israel at Acaciawood School.

CLIP ART WINNERS

The following student's were recognized as winners in the O.C. Youth Expo's "Clip Art Contest". The theme this year is "Once Upon a Vine." The winners will have their art displayed in the "Once Upon a Vine" brochure/book. They will also receive a ribbon and a copy of the book.

5/6th grade: Naomi Lin, Yung-en Perng, and Sarah Rossier
3rd grade: Crystal Allison
2nd grade: Jenny Liang

GO GOLDEN EAGLES!

Partial basketball schedule for January: Complete schedule posted on school website.

- Jan. 7 Home 4:00pm (TVT)
- Jan. 8 Away 6:00pm (Orangewood)
- Jan. 14 Away 6:00pm (Pioneer Baptist)
- Jan. 17 Home 4:00pm (Liberty Christian)

(Home games will be played at Sa-rang)

SPECIAL EVENT~FEBRUARY 3, 2003

SCIENCE FAIR-MUSIC PROGRAM-AWARDS ASSEMBLY

All the Acaciawood families are invited to come and celebrate the accomplishments of our students at the mid-year awards assembly on Monday, Feb. 3rd at 7 p.m. Please encourage friends of the Acaciawood community and new prospective student families to also attend. The 5th-8th grade students will

display their science fair projects. Winners will be announced at the evening awards assembly. The elementary students will present the story of America by entertaining you with a historical sketch of American history through song. Refreshments will be served following the program. Don't miss this special event!

NATIONAL SURVEY

We're not guaranteeing this will catapult your child to the head of the class, but a 2002 national student life survey by Harris Interactive has concluded that high-achieving "A" students have two things in common with each other that students who get "C" and "D" grades don't do:

1. They eat breakfast four or more times a week.

2. They read books for pleasure--not just for homework.

"In a practical sense, when each day includes a nutritious breakfast for the best start and a book for a happy end, kids realize improved grades and enhanced creativity skills," Debby Demory-Luce, a registered dietician with the Children's Research Center at Baylor College of Medicine, said in a news release announcing these findings.

The point is that children need certain nutrients to start the day, especially fiber, vitamin C, folate, iron, and calcium. An easy way to get all this is from a bowl of cold cereal and a glass of orange juice, a meal even the busiest of parents can find time to assemble.

The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition reports the scientific facts: Breakfast replenishes glucose in our bodies and that improves brain function. Researchers with Minnesota's Department of Children and Family Learning found that kids who ate breakfast also had higher reading scores.

Reading books for pleasure--and not just those assigned by the teacher--is also a proven way to boost reading scores. And those who read better are more likely to excel in other subject areas. According to the National Assessment of Education Progress 2000 report, those who said they read 11 or more pages of a book each day scored higher on reading assessment tests than students who read less.

Excerpts from "'A' Students Do This Four Times A Week"

By -Cathryn Conroy

EVENT CALENDAR

December 2002

- **20 Minimum day; 1:00pm dismissal**

January 2003

- 6 School resumes
- 6 Start 3:10 dismissal
- 10 Minimum day; 1:10pm dismissal
- 10 Volleyball Awards Ceremony 5:30pm
- 15-17 Finals
- 15 -16 1:00pm dismissal
- 17 All-school outing; 3:10 dismissal
- **20 Teacher in service; no school**
- 24 Minimum day; 1:10pm dismissal
- 31 PE resumes; 3:10pm dismissal