



Culverdale Elementary School



Koala News



CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL

2 Paseo Westpark ♦ Irvine, CA 92614 ♦ (949) 936-5600 ♦ www.iusd.org/cu

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Allie Nixon, Principal



Happy New Year to the Culverdale family! The start of a new year gives us the opportunity to reflect upon the previous year's accomplishments and look forward to a renewed energy and spirit in the coming year. The Culverdale community as a whole worked hard to make Culverdale a great place for kids during the first semester of the 2007-08 school year.

The PTA provided our students with awesome assemblies, fundraisers, and programs. The teachers did an outstanding job restructuring the language arts program while continuing to do all their other work. Thank you to everyone! We look forward to the new year and the new opportunities it will bring our students.

You'll notice several new looks at Culverdale in 2008. The newsletter has been reformatted to allow more room for student and volunteer recognition as well as more detailed information about programs and happenings around the school. In addition, we will be launching our new web site www.iusd.org/cu next week! It has been reformatted and is a user friendly site. Many thanks to Jo-Ann Agapito, Culverdale Webmaster, and Shane Cline, IUSD Webmaster, for the wonderful new site!

Here's to a fantastic new year!

Allie Nixon, Principal

Culverdale Emergency Preparedness Plan in Full Swing



Thanks to the PTA and School Site Council, Culverdale School is well prepared for an emergency. In December, over \$5,000 in emergency supplies and provisions were purchased by these groups. The emergency bin is stocked and organized.

With the help of a state funded grant, the Irvine Unified School District is in the process of standardizing school emergency plans. Using their recommended guidelines, we developed our plan to provide the safest situation for the children because their safety is our first concern! Generally

speaking, the plan includes a central command post, student supervision and release areas, a first aid area and search and rescue teams. In the coming months, the school district is providing first aid and search and rescue training to twenty-five Culverdale staff members.

In future newsletters, information about our emergency plan will be given. For example, what families should expect when picking up a student in an emergency situation. Also, there will be tips to help your family develop an emergency plan.



National Geographic Geography Bee

Congratulations to Katherine Kang, a 6th grader in Mrs. Smith's class, on her first place finish in Culverdale's annual *National Geographic Geography Bee*. On Tuesday eight students competed for the title of school champion. One student

from every 4th, 5th and 6th grade class participated in the final round of school level competition where Katherine Kang triumphed.

"Next, Katherine will compete for a spot in the state championship this spring in Sacramento," explained Mrs. Freeman, the

school librarian and coordinator of the geography bee.

All of the participants will be recognized at the next Awards Assembly at the end of February. Culverdale wishes Katherine all the best in her bid for a spot in the state championship.



BOTTLES FOR BUCKS NOW AT CULVERDALE

Culverdale is going greener! Plastic water bottles can now be recycled at school thanks to a new recycling can from Taj Darwish and his family. Look for the clearly marked green can at recess and lunch.

In addition to recycling cans, families are encouraged to collect plastic *Bottles for Bucks*. The recycling company is more than happy to support our efforts! They ask that bottles and cans be bagged separately, and they pick up on Monday mornings. Please drop the bags at the recycling bin at the front of the school on Paseo Westpark.

UPCOMING DATES

Picnic with the Principal Cool Koala Winner Luncheon	1/11/08
Families Forward Food Drive begins	1/14/08
School Site Council (SSC) Meeting	1/15/08 2:45pm
English Learner Advisory Council (ELAC) Meeting	1/15/08 6:30pm
See's Valentine Candy Fundraiser begins	1/17/08
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, No School	1/21/08
Culture Day	1/30/08
Parent Conference Week, 1:05 Dismissal All Week	Week of 2/04/08



Koala Pride Award Winners



The Koala Pride program recognizes students for displaying outstanding attitude and excellent values toward fellow students and the entire Culverdale community.

November Achievement Awards:

Meaghan Fitzgerald, Shaun Gold, Alex Omiya, Zedakiah Centers, Ayan Jain, Yuki Kimura, Miranda Ortega, T-An Nguyen, Mizuki Nishida, Ikram Hassan, Zaid Khartabil, Brandon Huang, Ignacio Oliva, Savannah Lorenzo, Diana Nam, Anthony Chu, Aneesh Akbar, Zaina Deaifi, Tomas Soto, Adnan Shihabi, Meejin Choi, Lindsey Smith, Sydney Le, Kalina Velikova, Jamie Chung, Yuka Nakamura, Justin Kim, Jaden Tanaka, Taaj Darwish, Tanya Nguyen, Yume Tateo, Boyul Kim, Jan Bruical, Daisuke Abe, Maggie Pan, Katja Stern, Austin Gomez.

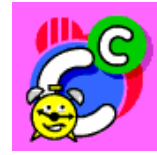
November Attitude Awards:

Tiffany Nguyen, Jasmin Shirazian, Catelynne Zablan, Trinidad Reyes, So-

roto Emoto, Maxim Jones, Julie Ramirez, Corey Lawyer, Katie Distaso, Alex Suarez, Ikram Ali, Nicholas Rangel, Saraj Jin, Sara Hamidi, Brandon Lauford, Rohin Vaidya, Nicholas Wylie, Charles Kim, Julia Hyun, Yuki Kuboto, Sara Grantham, T.J. Shorts, Jiwan Kang, Shin Yamamoto, Kevin Kim, Cheyenne Navarette, Emily Tran and Raza **Khataw**.

December Achievement Awards:

Timothy Kim, Marcus Aberg, Sana Jayaswal, Olivia Kim, Kyle Wiviott, Brendan Paing, Amirsam FALLah, Alyssa Heston, Aoi Kuboto, Joanne Kim, Evan Koenig, Dylan Yonamine, Ken Nakamura, Moe Yamamoto, Lauren Kishek, Jasmine Hsiao, Ye Chan Han, Miriam Kunbargi, Spencer Fertig, Axel Stern, Emily Hong, Sharon Kim, Aaron Suzuki, Daichi Emoto, Ayu Miyamoto, Madison Bradley, Bryce Blaney, Bakhtiar Khataw, Hemang Vaidya, Madison Gersten, Kara



January Value of the Month =
COURAGE

Hoiberg, Breanna Fitzgerald, Miki Ikoma, Jessica Tsai, and Leo Hyodo

December Attitude Awards:

Farhan Safi, Arman Kiai, Penelope McDonald, Connor Fertig, Megan Tsunekawa, Curtis Distaso, Kyle Fitzgerald, Natsuki Nishimura, Ayden Myers, Mackenzie Brang, Brandon Villegas, Jonathon Villafana, Nikki Jazayeri, Shire Fong-Vig, Nancy Perez, Chase Bradley, Kei Yoshikawa, Farhad Abadani, Samuel Giles, Michael Vigil, Hunter Wieckowski, Mai Tanaka, Matthew Chu, Abby Koenig, Ayana Murakami, Mykal Thompson, Hannah Heising and Karly Philips.

Annual Culture Day Theme Announced

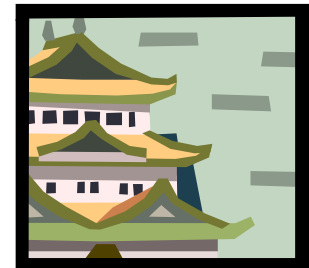
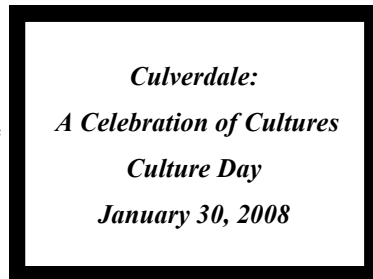
The theme for the 15th Annual Culture Day is *Culverdale: A Celebration of Cultures*. Culture Day will be held on Wednesday, January 30, 2008. We are privileged to have students from many cultures attending our school, and we embrace and celebrate the diversity.

Our school is home to about 250 English Language Learners that speak thirty-six languages. Students will study the culture of a country in class and then share the information with

the school on Culture Day. There will be an assembly with entertainment provided by a variety of cultural groups.

There will also be a multicultural luncheon and parade. Families are invited to attend.

Watch for the lunch invitation and other Culture Day information in the weekly conduits this month.



We are in need of volunteer to make this day great. We are requesting volunteers to help serve lunch, perform talents or share information about their country. If you are interested in volunteering or have ideas and/or talents to contribute, please contact Amy Frueh at afueh@iusd.org. Thank you in advance to our PTA and ELAC for their support of this great day!



Picnic with the Principal

When students turn in ten Cool Koalas, they are automatically entered into the drawing for a *Picnic with the Principal*. The following students will enjoy a

Togo's lunch this Friday, January 11th with Mrs. Nixon: Noosha Jazayeri, Aaminah Akbar, Joseph Earl, Connor Fertig, Matthew Remington, Anna Chalik, Joshua Rodriguez, Nancy Perez, Priscilla Iniguez, Yasuki Ku-

roda, Hiroyuki Saito, Sammy Park, Sophia Hassanzada, Sharon Kim, Ryoya Hoshino, and Efren Garcia. Congratulations to these Cool Koalas!

