

Irvine Home School News

February 2010 Newsletter



***He drew a circle that shut me out--
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.
But love and I had the wit to win;
We drew a circle that took him in!***

~Edwin Markham

This month gives us a chance to think sweet thoughts about others. The custom of sending Valentines is one that I'm glad we've held on to. The world seems a little better for it—a day when being a little mushy is okay. Many of us have warm smiley memories of a Valentine's Day when we got a loving message from someone special.

When I think of the true spirit of Valentine's Day, I'm reminded of one of my favorite selections from Robert Fulghum's book, *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*:

What I'm talking about here is something I think of as the gummy lump. Once it was a shoebox, decorated

and given to me by the oldest child. Then it became a repository of other relics of childhood given to me by the younger children. The shoebox became my treasure chest in time....

Anyhow, this shoebox isn't looking too very good now. It's a little shriveled and kind of moldy where the jelly beans and gumdrops have run together. It's still sticky in places, and most of it is more beige than red and white. If you lift the lid, however, you will begin to know what makes me keep it. On folded and faded and fragile pieces of large-lined school paper, there are words: "Hi daddi" and "Hoppy valintime" and "I lov you".... Glued to the bottom of the box are twenty-three X's and O's made out of macaroni. I've counted them more than once....

The treasures of King Tut are nothing in the face of this.

Have you got something around the house like a gummy lump? Evidence of love in its most uncomplicated and most trustworthy state? You may live a long, long time. You may receive gifts of great value and beauty. You may experience much love. But you will never believe in it quite as much as you believe in the gummy lump. It makes your world go round and the ride worth the trouble.

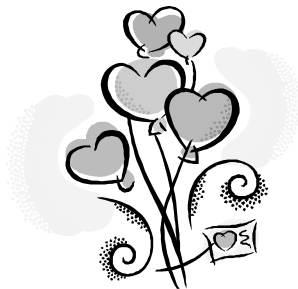
XOXO,
Peggy



Upcoming February Events



| | | | |
|-----------------|--------|--------------------|---------|
| Semester Break | Feb. 1 | Washington Holiday | Feb. 15 |
| Lincoln Holiday | Feb. 8 | AP5 Samples Due | Feb. 19 |



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| | | |
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administrative

California Standards Tests (CST)

Grade 7 CST Writing Test

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Test</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Tuesday, March 2 (N-20) | 9:00-10:30 | CST Writing Test |

Grade 2

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Test</u> |
|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Monday, April 26 (N-19) | 9:00-10:00 | CST Language Arts (1) |
| | 10:15-11:15 | CST Language Arts (2) |
| Tuesday, April 27 (N-19) | 9:00-10:00 | CST Language Arts (3) |
| | 10:15-11:15 | Math (1) |
| Tuesday, May 4 (N-19) | 9:00-10:00 | Math (2) |
| | 10:15-11:15 | Math (3) |

Grade 3

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Test</u> |
|----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Wednesday, April 28 (N-19) | 9:00-10:00 | CST Language Arts (1) |
| | 10:15-11:15 | CST Language Arts (2) |
| Monday, May 3 (N-19) | 9:00-10:00 | CST Language Arts (3) |
| | 10:15-11:15 | Math (1) |
| Wednesday, May 5 (N-19) | 9:00-10:00 | Math (2) |
| | 10:15-11:15 | Math (3) |

Grade 4-6

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Test</u> |
|---------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Thursday, April 29 (N-19) | 9:00-10:30 | CST Language Arts (1) |
| | 10:45-12:15 | CST Language Arts (2) |
| Thursday, May 6 (N-19) | 9:00-10:30 | CST Math (1) |
| | 10:45-12:15 | CST Math (2) |

Grade 5 CST Science Test

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Test</u> |
|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Tuesday, April 27 (N-20) | 9:00-10:15 | CST Science (1) |
| | 10:30-11:15 | CST Science (2) |

Grade 7-8

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Test</u> |
|----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Monday, April 26 (N-20) | 9:30-11:00 | CST Language Arts (1) |
| | 11:15-12:45 | CST Language Arts (2) |
| Wednesday, April 28 (N-20) | 9:30-11:00 | CST Math (1) |
| | 11:15-12:45 | CST Math (2) |

Grade 8

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Test</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Monday, May 3 (N-20) | 9:30-10:30 | CST History (1) |
| | 10:45-11:45 | CST History (2) |
| Wednesday, May 5 (N-20) | 9:30-10:30 | CST Science (1) |
| | 10:45-11:45 | CST Science (2) |

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

- No workshops on testing days.
- Students should arrive 5 minutes before each of their test sessions so that they will feel calm and ready when it is time to begin. The tests will be administered according to the above schedule. DO NOT BE LATE!
- Students should bring a snack to eat during their break between tests.
- Students should bring a book or magazine to read in the event that they finish a test before the end of the test session. No toys, games, or doodling will be allowed in the testing room.
- Any missed tests need to be made up. See your teacher for makeup dates and times.

administrative

CST Writing Test Writing Assessment for 7th Graders Tuesday, March 2 9:00-10:30



Each year the state requires 7th graders to complete a Writing Assessment as part of their standardized testing. Students are required to write an essay that addresses a previously undisclosed prompt. It is very important that all 7th graders complete this part of their standardized tests.



Book Club

You can now order your Scholastic books online. It's very easy and the school will still get the bonus points so we can stock our library. Just go to <http://pcool.scholastic.com/parentordering/login.jsp>
Enter username: **irvinehomeschool** and password: **books**
Then choose the scholastic catalog from which you'd like to order.
Or you can order books the way we've always done. You can turn in your order form and check to the office.
Please have your orders placed by Friday, February 19.

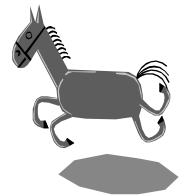
Student travel

Rollin', rollin', rollin',

keep them doggies rollin'...

Rawhide Ranch

Round 'em up, ride 'em in, get 'em up,
get 'em dressed, comb their hair,
brush their teeth... Rawhide!



For centuries, the horse has been a central figure in urban life. Horses played a key role in the settlement of the West. Consider the Overland Stagecoach and the Pony Express. Consider the American draft horse and its role in the growth of American cities. A social studies unit on the horse and its influence on human civilizations, and American society in particular, would be a great way to prepare for the trip to Rawhide Ranch.



Date: April 14-16, 2010
Location: Rawhide Ranch, Bonsall, CA
Grades: 4th-8th
Cost: \$185.00 per student

The full cost is due by Friday, February 5, 2010.

calendar

Schedule for Workshop Days

Attendance Period 5 (AP5) samples are due on or before February 19.

Monday
Junior High (7-8)

| | | |
|----------|-------------|----------------|
| Period 1 | 10:00-11:30 | Humanities |
| | 11:30-12:00 | Lunch |
| Period 2 | 12:00-1:15 | Social Studies |
| Period 3 | 1:30-3:00 | Science |

Tuesday
Grades K-1

| | |
|-------------|------------------|
| 9:30-10:45 | K-1 Club/Writing |
| 11:00-12:00 | Science |
| 12:00-12:20 | Lunch |
| 12:20-1:00 | Art/P.E. |

Wednesday
Grades 2-3

| | |
|-------------|----------|
| 9:00-10:20 | Writing |
| 10:45-12:00 | Science |
| 12:00-12:20 | Lunch |
| 12:20-1:00 | Art/P.E. |

Thursday
Grades 4-6

| | |
|-------------|---------|
| 8:30-10:00 | Science |
| 10:15-12:00 | Writing |
| 12:00-12:30 | Lunch |
| 12:30-1:30 | Art/PE |



February 2010

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------|
| | 1 Student/Teacher Holiday | 2 K-1 Workshop | 3 2-3 Workshop | 4 4-6 Workshop 7-8 Workshop | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 Lincoln Holiday | 9 K-1 Workshop | 10 2-3 Workshop | 11 4-6 Workshop 7-8 Workshop | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 Washington Holiday | 16 K-1 Workshop | 17 2-3 Workshop | 18 4-6 Workshop 7-8 Workshop | 19 AP5 Samples due | 20 |
| 21 | 22 7-8 Workshop | 23 K-1 Workshop | 24 2-3 Workshop | 25 4-6 Workshop | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | | | | | | |