



SANTIAGO HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

29 CHRISTAMON WEST  IRVINE, CALIFORNIA
92620

(949) 936-6000

ALAN E. SCHLICHTING, PRINCIPAL

August 25, 2010

Dear Santiago Hills Students and Families,

Welcome to the 2010-2011 school year! Our elementary school family welcomes you and your child. We are proud of our commitment to high academic and behavioral expectations for our children. We know your child will have a positive experience at Santiago Hills. We, along with the entire IUSD district, take pride in providing the "highest quality educational experience we can envision". We have two major initiatives this year to support continued progress towards academic and behavioral expectations:

- During the year we will be unrolling our new Language Arts/ Reading program called Response to Instruction (RtI). Students will be rotating between classrooms in small groups to receive targeted group instruction. Many schools in the district have been implementing the program with very positive results!
- During the past four years we have developed a positive and powerful behavior education program focusing on our three guidewords: Ready, Respectful and Responsible. We hope to build on this foundation by communicating very specific behavioral expectations and common language throughout all classrooms, hallways, lunch-area and school playgrounds resulting in clear, cohesive behavior standards.

We are using our "Principal's Thursday Email" to communicate school news along with enhancements to our instructional program and our school-wide behavioral program. If you are new to Santiago Hills you will be given information at "Back to School Night" on how to become part of our community email. The email is also posted on our website at www.iusd.org/sh/. To provide information to parents we will be sending home a "parent packet" on the first day of school. The "Parent Handbook", supply lists, school calendar and all bell schedules are available on-line at <http://www.iusd.org/sh/>.

We would also like to welcome a few new staff members:

- Welcome to the following new staff:
 - 5th Grade Teacher Jennifer DiBias who is moving to Santiago Hills from Turtle Rock
 - Upper Grade SAI-SDC teacher Janise Therrell who is coming from Westpark and Vista Verde
 - Valerie Lee returns as a shared contract with Liz Teach and will also be providing enrichment opportunities for upper grade students on Fridays
- We welcome three certificated members who will function as instructional aides for the school year:
 - Meg Kelly (former student teacher of Jan Bates)
 - Kim Pellet (former student teacher of Suzanne Barker)
 - and Ellen Meyer (retired teacher from Orange unified)
- Beth Andrews will be adding an additional day at the district office and Heather Manchester will be on site three days per week.
- Becky Farabi will move to fulltime as she takes on two additional days of support as an intervention teacher.

Bell Schedules

Regular Schedule: (M,T,Th,F)

Kindergarten: 8:10-11:30 or 10:10-1:30
Primary Grades (1, 2, 3): 8:10-2:30
Upper Grades (4, 5, 6): 8:10-2:39

Wednesdays and Minimum day:

Kindergarten: 8:10-11:30 or 10:10-1:30
Primary Grades (1, 2, 3): 8:10-1:30
Upper Grades (4, 5, 6): 8:10-1:39

A bell will sound at 7:55 letting families know that the playground is open each morning.

Another major school initiative this year is the implementation of a schedule that supports uninterrupted instruction in the core classes of language arts and math and includes an intervention/extension period for each grade level. This new schedule will ensure time for remediation or enrichment for every child according to his/her need. We are hopeful that by working together across each grade level and using all support personnel to this end we can better differentiate instruction for all of our students.

We are a learning community here. We will continue to research and implement best practices as we partner with parents to serve the children and support each child's optimum academic growth.

Thank you for your partnership. We look forward to another year of growth and Santiago Hills Elementary School Tiger PRIDE.

Alan Schlichting, Principal

Calendar: September 2010

Thursday, September 1st

Class Lists

Class lists will be posted at 4:00 pm on Wednesday, September 1st on the Front Office windows and online at <http://iusd.org/ElemClassList>. As with each year, there is the potential for enrollment changes that would direct us to reform classes within the first few weeks of the school year. If this does occur, you will be formally notified.

Thursday, Sept. 2nd

School Begins

Students will return to school on Thursday, Sept. 2nd, at 8:10 a.m. Thursday September 2nd and Friday September 3rd will be minimum day dismissals at 1:30 p.m. each day for 1st-3rd graders and 1:39 p.m. for 4th-6th graders. **All kindergarteners will attend from 8:10-11:30 a.m. both these days.** Staggered day for kindergarteners will begin on Tuesday, Sept. 7th.

∫ PTA Welcome Coffee: For all families will be held at the lunch tables following the children's return to class! Please plan to join us!

∫ Kindergarten "Parent Orientation" 8:45 - 9:45 with Mrs. Phelps in room A2

∫ Parent packet: Students will receive a packet of information from the district. Please complete and return all forms to your child's teacher.

Monday, September 6th - No School Labor Day

September 7-10

PTA Week

During the week of September 7-10 we will be sharing important information about the "OUTSTANDING" Santiago Hills - Parent/Teacher Association.

September 16th Minimum Day

Back to School Night