



January 8, 2009



Springbrook School

I hope you enjoyed your Winter Break and have begun getting back into a regular routine. It is so much more difficult to get children up in the morning and out of the house when it's cold outside.

Congratulations to **Cindy Carter-Jackson!** She was selected by our staff as our **Teacher of the Year**. Each year our staff selects a teacher who exemplifies the traits of a strong and effective teacher. Mrs. Carter-Jackson is our Speech and Language Specialist and has been at Springbrook for 15 years. Mrs. Carter-Jackson cares compassionately for children and works to help them develop the necessary communication skills to be successful both academically and socially. Her vast technical background and intuitive insight into children allows her to successfully support children and teachers. We are fortunate to have Mrs. Carter-Jackson working with children and families here at Springbrook.

January's Building Blocks for Success are **Alertness** and **Action**. Alertness focuses on being aware of how your actions impact those around you and what you can learn from being alert and paying attention to important things. Action emphasizes taking initiative and even some risk involved by stepping out beyond your comfort zone. **Responsibility** is the Irvine Core value for this month; being alert and taking appropriate action at the right time are two great ways of taking responsibility.

On Friday, January 9th, the upper grade students will have the opportunity to listen to a brief concert sponsored by **'Meet the Musicians'**. The 'Meet the Musicians' program features musicians from the Philharmonic Society of Orange County. Each year we have different music groups perform and teach the students about their specific section of the orchestra. This year we will be entertained by Southern California Brass, members of the Brass Section of the orchestra.

On Tuesday, February 3rd, we will host a **Title 1 Informational Parent Meeting**. Since Springbrook receives Title 1 funds from the Federal Government, we hold a brief informational meeting where we review how we qualify for the funds, which students are eligible to receive services from those funds, and what services are provided by Springbrook. This meeting will be held before school at 7:45 in the MPR. If your son or daughter qualifies for Title 1 support, you will receive a reminder for this meeting the last week of January.

Since Irvine Unified School District has such a close working relationship with the City of Irvine and its constituents. I wanted our community to be aware of opportunities for eligible families to access **affordable quality health care** for their children. The City of Irvine's partnership with the **Children's Health Initiative of Orange County** allows families to connect with insurance agencies. Each program has specific requirements, availability and eligibility criteria. Information is available online through the city's webpage at the following link:

[http://www.cityofirvine.org/depts/cs/irvine_childrens_health_program\(i_chp\)/default.asp](http://www.cityofirvine.org/depts/cs/irvine_childrens_health_program(i_chp)/default.asp)

A computer in our front office is available to help provide accessibility.





Our **School Site Council** will meet before school on January 15, in the library at 7:30. Our School Site Council reviews our school plan and provides input on our continuous improvement process. These meetings are open to the school community and you are welcome to attend if you are interested. Please contact me and let me know if you are interested in attending so that we can have additional copies of any handouts available.

We are currently accepting registration cards for the 2008-09 school year for the **Kindergarten Montessori Program** and the **Montessori Elementary Program**. Registration cards are available in the front office and will be accepted until the fourth Friday of February. This year's deadline is February 27th. On Wednesday, January 28th at 6:30pm our Montessori staff will present an overview of the program and enrollment procedures for the night. An information night for the Kindergarten Montessori program will be held the following evening on Thursday, January 29th at 6:30pm.

In October, we participated in the **Cans for Cash** drive through the district and city. Springbrook recycled over a hundred pound of aluminum and raised over \$150 for our school. We have containers available to recycle empty water bottles on an ongoing basis. Thank you for your efforts to show our students how they can care for our resources and raise funds for Springbrook simultaneously.

Cultural Awareness Week will be held this year the first week of February. This year we will celebrate and learn about cultures and traditions from India. Over the past years we had the opportunity to learn about living in Mexico, Italy, Viet Nam, and Japan. This is always a great opportunity to learn and appreciate the different qualities our students bring to our school each day. If you have not volunteered to help your child's class this week; be sure to contact your Room Mom or the Cultural Awareness coordinator Vickie Franklin at NFDelianedis@yahoo.com or (949) 559-5950.

With the BCS Championship this week and the Super Bowl later this month, our **Spirit Dress-Up Theme** for January focuses on celebrating our favorite teams. You may wear the jersey or colors of your favorite team each Friday. If Springbrook is your favorite team, you can always wear Springbrook Spiritwear or colors. I look forward to seeing you all tomorrow morning for the Pledge of Allegiance at the picnic tables.

Bob Curley

Winter Calendar Update

- January 12 – 6th grade DARE graduation (1:00PM in the MPR)
- January 13 – 6th grade Outdoor Ed fundraiser at Ruby's
- January 15 – School Site Council meeting (7:30AM in the Library)
- January 19 – No School; Martin Luther King holiday

