



Upcoming Events

Nov 6	PTA Board Meeting, Classroom #33, 11:30 – 1:00 pm
Nov 9 – 13	Families Forward Food Drive
Nov 11	Veteran's Day Observance – NO SCHOOL
Nov 16	Kindergarten Parent Night, Multi-Purpose Room, 6:00 – 7:30 pm
Nov 18	Wacky Tacky Day sponsored by Student Council
Nov 19	Book Fair at University Town Center
Nov 20	PTA General Meeting, 11:30 – 1:00 pm, Classroom #33
Nov 23-25	Lost and Found items displayed in front of school
Nov 24	School Site Council, Conference Room, 2:45 pm
Nov 26-27	Thanksgiving Holiday – NO SCHOOL
Dec 4	PTA Meeting, Classroom #33, 11:30 – 1:00 pm
Dec 7	Astounding Inventions on Display in MPR from 8:00 – 2:30
Dec 10	Report Cards go home
Dec 11	Principal's Coffee, Multi-Purpose Room, 8:30 am
Dec 18	Early dismissal, 1:20 pm

Fall Pledge Drive – Thank You!!

The PTA is very grateful for your generous donations during our fall pledge drive which totaled \$57,291 as of November 1. We hit our goal!! We post how the money is used on the PTA Bulletin board in the MPR. With your help and generosity Turtle Rock Elementary continues its excellent job educating and tending to the well-being of our children. Your donation is tax deductible and your cancelled check can serve as proof to the IRS of your donation. If you prefer, we would be happy to generate a printed receipt for your records. Please e-mail our treasurer, Mr. Dalal, at ceo@innovationmain.com with your request. (Please include your full name and your child's name and the amount of your donation, if possible). Thank you again for your support of the Turtle Rock PTA.

Chick Fil-A Spirit Night

Thanks to all the parents and students who came out to support the 6th grade outdoor education program. It was wonderful seeing so many of our families enjoying the evening together.

Reflections Winners

Congratulations to the winners of the Turtle Rock Reflections contest. The top three entries in each category and grade division (K-2, 3-5, 6) have been notified and will advance to the next level. Their artwork will be on display at the Irvine Civic Center from Monday, November 9th through Thursday, November 12th. All other entries are displayed in the Turtle Rock

multi-purpose room. The winners have been notified. To view the winning entries, please go to the Reflections Winners attachment. In the next week or so, all students who entered the Reflections contest will receive a medal for their participation.

Families Forward Food Drive

We will be collecting food for Families Forward the week of November 9-13. The food will be picked up the morning of Friday, November 13. A list of the recommended items is in today's conduit. Be sure and look out for the Girl and Boy Scout Helpers at school in the morning to donate items. This is a perfect way for Turtle Rock Families to show their ROCKS spirit towards families in our community. We appreciate your contributions!

Kindergarten Parent Night, Nov. 16

All three kindergarten teachers will go over best practices for helping your child at home with reading, writing and homework. Come learn some easy strategies to ensure a great start in school. This informative evening is for parents only. Multi-purpose room, 6:00 – 7:30 pm.

H1N1 Information

Resources and information about H1N1 are available on the IUSD Web site. Go to <http://www.iusd.k12.ca.us/> and click on the "H1N1 Flu Information" link. The link has helpful answers to many questions.

TR Book Fair & Family Fun Night

Thursday, November 19, 4:00 – 8:00 pm

Bring the family and celebrate reading at the TR Book Fair & Family Fun Night from 4-8 pm on

Thursday, Nov 19, at Whale of a Tale bookstore & participating restaurants in University Center on Campus Drive. We will include a coupon flyer in the TR conduit the week before and also pass them out at the event. Bring the coupon flyer to the bookstore and participating restaurants and they will donate 20% of your purchase to the Turtle Rock PTA so they can continue to deliver excellent programs. Buy books for own your children; they make wonderful birthday or holiday presents. Buy books that your child's teacher has put on his/her "Wish List" and donate them to your child's classroom. Don't miss the fun, which includes "The Frog Prince" puppet show (4-5 pm), Story Time with book readings by teachers (5-7 pm), and a Sing-Along with Mr. Diorio (7-8 pm). Meet other TR families and enjoy a relaxing night out. This will be a "No Homework" night!

Walk to School Day Success!

Irvine Public Schools Foundation would like to thank all those who walked to school on Friday, October 23rd in support of a cleaner environment and a healthy lifestyle! More than 10,000 IUSD students at 25 schools made a healthy choice to walk or bike to school. Thanks to AT&T, IUSD, PTA Council, the City of Irvine, the Irvine Chamber---AND YOU---for support of this event. Our goal for the rest of the year will be to find ways for our students, families and staff to incorporate healthy choices and healthy activities in daily life, and sustain these efforts for a lifetime.

Clothes for Children in Afghanistan ONE MORE WEEK TO DONATE!

Please bring any gently-used winter clothing (jackets, hats, gloves, sweatshirts, sweaters and jeans) to send to children in need in Afghanistan. The drop-off bins will remain outside of school for another week, until Friday, November 13. The clothes will be sent to members of the U.S. Marine Corp, who will distribute them to children in rural, mountain villages in eastern Afghanistan, where winters are harsh and decades of war have taken their toll on struggling families.

Student Council Spirit Days

The Student Council is sponsoring a number of spirit days throughout the year. The next one is Wacky Tacky Day on Wednesday, November 18. Holiday Dress-up Day is Tuesday, December 17 (be sure to wear your sweaters). Show your school spirit! Students love it when teachers participate, too!

Yearbook Cover Art Contest!

It's time for our 2nd annual yearbook cover art contest. We will be accepting entries now through December 4th. Student council will be judging the artwork and will choose one design for the front cover and one for the back cover of the 2009-2010 Turtle Rock Yearbook! A

collection box will be in the yearbook mailbox in the front office. Look for a flyer coming home soon. Questions? Contact the yearbook chair Carolyn Boudreau at boudfam@cox.net.

2009 IPSF Annual Campaign

This yearly campaign is currently underway. Please return the envelope that came in your mail recently, or visit the IPSF website, www.ipsf.net/donations. You can make a gift of any amount online through the secure server. Or, consider giving just a dollar a day and join the IPSF 365 Club. IPSF will send you a window decal or a license plate frame so you can show your neighbors that you are committed to education in Irvine! Working together, we can preserve excellence in education for all our kids! Thank you!

SHOP at Turtle Rock PTA Web Site! turtlerockpta.org

Please remember that you can do lots of great shopping through the Turtle Rock PTA Web site! Books, Christmas presents, and more are available through vendors such as Amazon, Sally Foster, Buycostumes.com, and others. Each sale through the PTA site generates commission for the PTA. Thank you for your support!

Update Emergency Contacts

Last week's incident at school is a good reminder for parents to update all of their emergency contact information. Parents can do this themselves by going to MyIUSD.org. All information can be changed by parents except the home address.

Astounding Inventions - Last Week to Apply

If you would like a chance to let your child's imagination run wild, then please consider the Astounding Inventions program. Complete the attached form if you are interested.

Lost and Found Items

Find that jacket that mysteriously disappeared or the lunch box that suddenly grew legs! Lost and found items will be on display in front of the school on November 23rd, 24th and 25th. Any items remaining will be donated to children in Afghanistan.

Sign-Up for School Rewards Programs!

Please sign-up for the rewards programs at Ralphs or Albertsons. Registration is required each year for both stores. If you need directions on how to register, please contact the school office. If you are already participating in the Food 4 Less Community Rewards Program, you do not need to re-register. For more information on Food 4 Less go to Food4Less.com. Whenever you shop at Office Depot, mention your child attends Turtle Rock or give them the school's ID number 70009057. They will donate 5% of the qualifying purchases back to Turtle Rock.

Minimum Day – 1:20 Dismissal Dates

Please note the CORRECT dates for 1:20 dismissal.

Friday, Dec 18

Friday, Feb 12

Monday, Mar 29 (Parent Conferences)

Grades 4 – 6 only

Tuesday, Mar 30 (Parent Conferences) Gr.1-6

Thursday, Apr 1 (Parent Conferences) Gr.1-6

Friday, Apr 2 (Parent Conferences) Gr.1-6

Friday, Apr 23 (Teacher of the Year Award)

Thursday, May 27

Monday, June 21

Tuesday, June 22

Please remember students are dismissed at 1:20 EVERY WEDNESDAY.

Box Tops for Education

Please collect your Box Tops for Education from the various products that you use at home. There is a collection box up in the office next to the sign-in forms for volunteers. A Turtle Rock graduate glues them down and then our school gets 10 cents for each clipping. Each teacher collects them in his/her classroom on a regular basis, too. This is for the entire school year. Please bring in as many as you can.

Absences from School

Your child's attendance at school is vital for his or her continued learning. When children are late or tardy, they miss critical information which is taught in the classroom. The State of California requires students be in school unless they are sick or have made other arrangements with the school (such as an Independent Study Contract) for being absent. Unexcused absences or tardies start the SARB (Student Attendance Review Board) process. The state requires us to begin this procedure after a student has three unexcused absences, three unexcused tardies (30 minutes late or more) or ten tardies (less than 30 minutes). The first SARB letter explains the process and warns parents of the consequences of students missing school. If unexcused absences or tardies continue, parents are required to meet with Irvine Unified School District officials. When no improvement in attendance is achieved, the final part of this program is meeting with an official from the Irvine Police Department.

Independent Study Contracts

If your student will be absent from school for at least 5 days and you can give the office and his/her teacher **at least** 5 days advance notice, you should get a contract for your student. The teacher will provide class work for your student to do while away and the absences will be considered excused. One qualification: the work must be completed to the teacher's satisfaction and turned in on the first day the student returns to class or it will be voided and the absences will be considered unexcused.