Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

It’s hard to believe that 2012 is coming to an end! I sincerely hope that all of our Chaparral families enjoyed their week off together.

Also, I’d like to remind all of our Chaparral families that school begins promptly at 8:05 and encourage you to arrive at least 10-15 minutes early. I stand outside every morning and I’m surprised to see how empty the curb and parking lot are at 7:55. The busiest traffic time has been 8:00-8:05, and those students are not getting to class on time. We have had an office full of tardies. So get that early jump in the morning and help us ensure that our students are ready and prepared at 8:05.

Some Chaparral happenings:

Thank you to all of our families who took the time to meet with your child’s teacher during Parent/Teacher Conferences. It is so important to work together as a team to ensure our students success. Our annual book fair was a huge success! Thank you Mrs. Lin, Mrs. Chin, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Sotolongo, Mrs. Entrup and Mrs. Geary, and all of the other parents that helped out along the way! Also, we are so proud of our Choir students. Mrs. Pettygrove and Mrs. Orrison directed a beautiful performance. Thank you! I am very excited to announce that Chaparral has gone wireless! This is the first step in helping our school move forward in this era of technology. Lastly, grades 3-6 have held their classroom spelling bees and grade level bees! We are excited to hold our first Scripps Spelling Bee on Monday, December 17th, @ 10:30! Good luck to all participants!

It’s definitely the time of year to be thankful for all of the joys in life. I am sincerely thankful that life has landed me here at Chaparral! On behalf of our staff, I’d like to wish everyone happy holidays and we hope that 2013 brings happiness and health to all!

Dr. Olesniewicz

Mark Your Calendar!

12/12 Trimester Primary Awards Assemblies
12/13 4th Grade to Mission San Juan Capistrano; 3rd grade trip to Botanical Gardens (Merrill & Andrade)
12/14 3rd grade trip to Botanical Gardens (Cortese & Muir)
12/17 Chaparral Spelling Bee @ 10:30
12/18 Kinder Holiday Sing @ 8:30am
12/18 1st Grade Holiday Sing @ 6:30pm
12/19 Kinder trip to CHS
12/20 Minimum Day – 1pm dismissal
12/21-1/4 Winter Break – No school
1/7 Return to School

Chaparral Birthday Book Club

Happy Birthday and thank you to the following students who have “left a legacy” (AKA gave a birthday book in their honor) to our Library for many others to enjoy! Suggested lists (updated) can be found on our website under Parent Resources.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Book Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hayley Winslow</td>
<td>1/2/12</td>
<td>Angelina’s Birthday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emma Atienza</td>
<td>1/6/12</td>
<td>Dork Diaries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Morales</td>
<td>1/10/12</td>
<td>Apples and How They Grow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Keira Murray</td>
<td>1/11/12</td>
<td>McKenna, Ready to Fly!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jared Krauss</td>
<td>1/11/12</td>
<td>The Mark of Athena</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexandria Silver</td>
<td>1/15/12</td>
<td>Diary of a Wimpy Kid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexis Rivas</td>
<td>1/16/12</td>
<td>Princess Bedtime Stories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacqueline Cordes</td>
<td>1/16/12</td>
<td>School Rules!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyle Lokker</td>
<td>1/30/12</td>
<td>People Who Help Us: Doctor &amp; Machine Operator</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>And thank you to Charlie &amp; Jack Warren who donated from the book fair: A Perfect Time for Pandas</td>
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</tbody>
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Study Corner
Our very own CUSD Psychologist, Dr. Sheri Frost, has put together a Parent Resource Guide: A Collection of Ideas and Strategies for Helping Our Children Be Successful. The entire document can be found on our website under Parent Resources. Below is a brief synopsis of (Part 1) for Homework Success. We will share Part 2 next month.

Habits and attitudes formed in early childhood set the stage for all future learning. Homework helps your child’s development in many ways.

Benefits to Homework:
- Contributes to school achievement
- Teaches children how to take responsibility
- Provides quality time for parent and child
- Helps children develop important life skills and habits of mind
  - Planning and organizational skills
  - Managing time
  - Making choices
  - Problem-solving

Strategies to make homework go smoothly:
1. Establish a Routine
   Step 1: Set up a location to do homework
   Quiet, distraction free vs in the center of action
   Step 2: Create a “homework center”
   Materials needed for homework: pencils, paper, timer, crayons, etc.
   Step 3: Same time every day; best before dinner
   The longer you wait, the more tired your child becomes; best to start homework soon after s/he gets home to keep the momentum going
   Step 4: Homework overview
   Assignments done in what order; how long should they take; does the child need parent help with any part of it

2. Build in Rewards / Incentives
   Simple - Fun activities when homework is done (playing computer, watching TV, playing outside, etc.)
   Elaborate - Earning points toward a reinforcement; chart systems
   Breaks - Every 10-15 minutes or after each assignment is completed
   Choice - Choice of what assignment to do first, when to have a break, etc.

Part 2 in January

ELD Resources
English Language Development

In the U.S. educational system, teachers and school leaders believe that a strong partnership between the home and school will help children succeed in school. Teachers welcome input from the parents about their children, such as information about what the child likes to do or what they are good at. Teachers also understand that each student is different and learns differently, and that no one knows your child better than you do. You may provide some insight that will help the teacher work more effectively with your child at school.

Many teachers say that they don’t often receive information from parents about problems at home. Many parents say that they don’t know what the school expects from their children or from them. Sharing information is essential and both teachers and parents are responsible for making it happen.

What if…

…I don’t speak English?

Some parents are reluctant to talk with teachers if they cannot speak English well. Please don’t let a language barrier stop you. What you have to say is more important than the language you say it in! Find out if someone at the school can interpret for you. There may be a teacher or parent liaison who speaks Spanish or another language. You can also bring a friend or relative to interpret for you.

There are more tips to be found at: http://www.colorincolorado.org/

Classroom Banners Are Great!
Thank you to the many parents who invested a host of hours, “blood, sweat and tears” on the incredible banners! A special “high-five” to Mrs. Dahlem for making this happen! The banners were a special delight as they announced each classroom for the Halloween Parade and look exceptionally festive hung in the MPR.
Mileage Club Update
Sixth grader and Chaparral record holder, Levi Gardner, has run over 100 miles already! We are so proud of you, Levi! Our Chaparral students have "flying feet!" Mileage Club has collectively logged in over 1,820 miles!! Levi, Brenton Pederson, Alborz Amani, Ethan Caudillo, Malkam Wallace, Leonie Casper, Jacqueline Cordes, Suvi Kaljumagi, Annika Lindholm, Megan Beck, Joshua Sanchez, Nathan Hoon, Jordan Spada and Yasmine Suuck for already "running a marathon!" And Mrs. Thomas's class has logged in the most miles as a class with 170! Congratulations!

Holiday Giving Tree
Once again, Chaparral's PFA is hosting a Holiday Giving Tree for Chaparral families in need. A "Giving Tree" with "ornaments" of gifts of need, is in the front office for the month of December. Simply pick an ornament from the tree, purchase the item, wrap the gift, attach the ornament to the outside of the package (this is an important detail as it is the only indication to the specific family and person!), then return the gift by Wednesday, December 19th. You will truly bless another family plus you'll see the joy our students receive in giving to others. Thank you to Mrs. Walburg for all of her hard work on this!

DECEMBER BUILDING BLOCK OF SUCCESS
(From Inch & Miles, by John Wooden)

ENTHUSIASM

I sing my song with a joyful heart.
In your success, joy plays a part.
Enthusiasm in your smile,
Combined with work, you'll find worthwhile.
The energy and pep you show
Will rub off on those you know.
Don't make excuses, complain, or whine.
Enjoy your work and success you'll find.

For the month of October, students that were recognized for "Friendship" were: Adam Scott, Mollie Chou, Carlo Rufo, Chase Jackson (Kindergarten); Diana Kaufman, Michael Truttman, Jamie Hughes, Alex Krauss, Madison Hefner (1st grade); Seth Andrade, Rick Heo, Yvette Shu, Aidan Nickerson (2nd grade); Aletheia Adijdaja, Isabella Bravo, Andrew O'Leary, Myles Coats, Emily Kolb (3rd grade); Thomas Riordan, Grant Phipps, Nathan Hoji, Alexis Lopez, Sophie Keightly (4th grade); Chris Garner, Adam Mutschler, Cohn Jaques (5th grade); Eric Casas, Jillian Berry, Nathan Hoyle, Grace Dorantes (6th grade). Congratulations!

For the month of November, students that were recognized for "Cooperation" were: Mayo Ou, Ethan Wi, Eleanor Kolb, Rhys Lopez (Kindergarten); Daniel Moore, Preston Keightley, Emeri Carbajal, Jack Baker (1st grade); Garrett Cordova-Caddes, Jessica Reagan, Ian Hoon, Garrett Sinfield (2nd grade); Olivia Stradley, Harrison Thomas, Isaiah Shields, Ryan Hinson (3rd grade); Ines Marquis-Lind, Grace DeLong, Annika Lindholm, Marcel McCormack (4th grade); Shannon Doyle, Mackenzie Davis, Lilly Hamadani (5th grade); Marissa Neiberg, Chloe Bowman, Julia Cianchetti (6th grade). Congratulations!
CEF/Claremont Toyota Prius Raffle

Our school is proud to be supporting the 3rd Annual CEF/Claremont Toyota Prius Raffle. The Raffle will be held on April 21, 2013, and Claremont Toyota has generously donated the new Prius C, Model 1, with an average of 53 MPG. Raffle tickets can be purchased in our office and are $20 each. Our school will retain a percentage of each ticket we sell, so this is a fantastic opportunity to support our school and CEF at the same time. We can earn additional money by selling the first or second highest number of tickets or by selling the winning ticket. CEF must sell at least 1,000 tickets or the grand prize changes into a $10,000 cash prize. You do not need to be present at the raffle to win. To win, though, you have to buy a ticket! And each ticket already has value built in it, as Casa de Salsa included a coupon on the back of each ticket. CEF helps support art, music and technology district-wide. In the past two years, this raffle has helped CEF make a large gift to the district to support these vital programs at our school.

Many of you might have heard your students talk about the 12 most powerful words that we have been discussing at Chaparral. These are words that always give students trouble in the classroom and on standardized tests. These words are higher order thinking skills. They cause all students to have to think at the highest possible level. Students have been spelling these words, defining these words and giving Dr. Olesmiewicz examples whenever they see her on campus! We even have classes chanting the words in a song! Here are Larry Bell’s 12 Powerful Words:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>12 Powerful Words</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Selected by Larry I. Bell</td>
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<tr>
<td>These words can be taught and used in the home, school, and community to empower students with knowledge and confidence.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Word</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Trace</td>
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<td>2. Analyze</td>
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<td>3. Infer</td>
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<td>4. Evaluate</td>
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<td>5. Formulate</td>
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<td>6. Describe</td>
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<td>7. Support</td>
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<td>8. Explain</td>
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<td>9. Summarize</td>
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<td>10. Compare</td>
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<td>11. Contrast</td>
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<td>12. Predict</td>
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