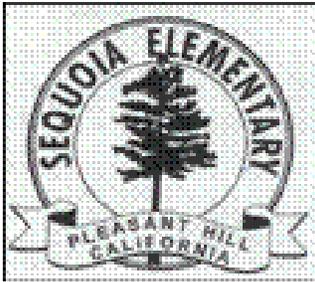


THE SEQUOIA SPIRIT

February, 2013

Volume 2, Issue 6

A Message From The Principal ...



February is an exciting month at Sequoia! Our second graders are heading to Chinatown, the school is getting ready for the Science Fair and all students will have the opportunity to participate in activities that celebrate Black History Month.

We have also begun some new IXL Math challenges. Students are being acknowledged for their time spent on IXL math by winning a special lunch with the principal. In one weekend contest, over 44,000 math problems were answered!

One of the most exciting things at Sequoia is our iPad cart. This cart has been making the rounds to classrooms where students have worked on geometry, spelling, phonics, math facts and more. Students have been very excited to use the iPads and our parent volunteers can attest that this instruction technology enhances the curriculum.

I hope to see all of you on Wednesday, February 13th at 6:30pm for our Science Fair. Our students have been working very hard and I can't wait to see their projects!

Sincerely,
Dr. Franklin, Principal

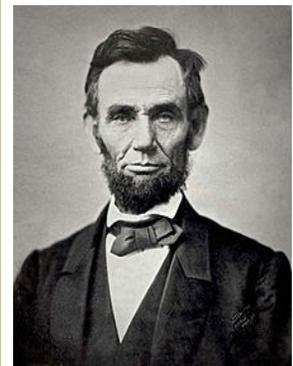
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**Lincoln's
Birthday**

Feb. 11

No School



**President's
Day**

No School

Feb 18

Black History Month

Congratulations Mrs. Attiga

Pleasant Hill's Educator of the Year

On January 17, 2013, Sequoia's own Mrs. Attiga was named Pleasant Hill's Educator of the Year! Mrs. Attiga accepted her award at a special ceremony that evening. Pleasant Hill has been awarding this honor to educators for 43 years.



Mrs. Attiga's presence as a teacher is felt much further than Sequoia Elementary School. Her knowledge and use of instructional technology has traveled throughout the district making her classroom a regular place where teachers from all over come to see excellence in action. Mrs. Attiga is a one-of-a-kind teacher. She engages students at levels unmatched by others. She seamlessly integrates 21st century instructional technology into her classroom along side traditional teaching techniques. Mrs. Attiga serves as Sequoia Ele-

mentary School's technology representative to the district in addition to the technology lead at Sequoia. Each month, she meets with a group of parents to discuss technology implementation at Sequoia. Two years ago, Mrs. Attiga piloted SMART Board technology in her classroom. Her handheld tablet allowed her infinite possibilities in informal assessment, teaching in modalities, project-based learning and reciprocal teaching. Having a broad instructional scope is what allows her to be successful in teaching students of diverse backgrounds. Due largely in part to her trailblazing, SMART Board technology is now standard in all classrooms at Sequoia Elementary School. Mrs. Attiga was also involved in the creation and subsequent update of the computer lab, making it one of the most state-of-the-art in the district.

Congratulations!

SCIENCE FAIR

Event Day Schedule

Wednesday, February 13, 2013

1:00 – Volunteers arrive and begin assisting students in setting up projects.

1:25 – Kindergartners set up projects at middle school MUR and return to elementary school by 1:35.

2:30 – Judges arrive and begin judging.

6:30 – Our fair opens.

7:00 – Dr. Franklin announces 1st, 2nd, and honorary mention awards for 3-5th in the elementary MUR.

8:00 – Fair is done and K-2nd graders collect projects and bring them home. 3rd graders, with assistance from volunteers, move their projects to the elementary school MUR for student viewing on Thursday.



See you there!

Monthly Attendance Report



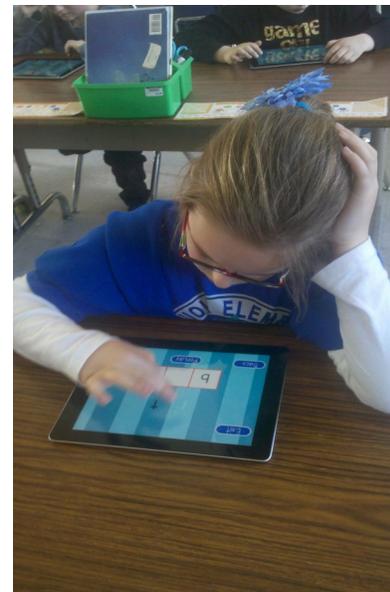
During the 2011-2012 school year, Sequoia Elementary students had an average daily attendance rate of 98%. For this year, our goal is to be at 99%. A 1% increase in attendance district-wide represents one million dollars. We need to do our part. Every month, I will publish attendance rates by grade level. Let's make the commitment to have all children at school everyday, all day.

Grade	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Kinder	98.88%	96.1%	97.5%	97.14%	95.15%
First	99.73%	97.92%	96.27%	98.35%	96.03%
Second	99.73%	98.38%	97.23%	98.19%	95.82%
Third	99.84%	98.32%	97%	97.55%	93.47%
Fourth	99.85%	98.81%	98.63%	98.32%	96.41%
Fifth	99.63%	98.79%	98.16%	98.40%	96.41%

Our current attendance rate for the year is 95.57%

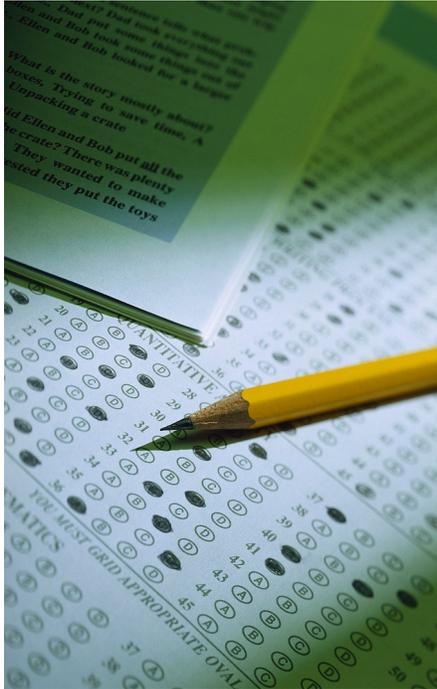
iPads at Sequoia

Our new iPad cart has been a big hit with students and teachers. Our staff has identified dozens of educational apps that students have been using. Stay tuned ... This is just the beginning of our 21st century make-over.



Katie Austin, First Grader

Upcoming State Assessments



Each year, students in grades 2-5 take a series of assessments called the STAR. It is important that all students are present at school for these assessments. Please mark the following dates on your calendar. Don't not make doctor's, dentist or any other appointments on these days during school hours. We will not be honoring any independent study contracts during testing.

4th Grade Writing Assessment

March 5, 2013

California Standardized Test for Grades 2-5

