

SCHOOL NEWS JAMES MADISON

San Leandro Unified School District



Gerhard Grotke
Principal
14751 Juniper Street
San Leandro, CA 94579
(510) 895-7944

Attendance Line
If your child will be
absent from school,
please call the
ATTENDANCE
LINE
895 – 7940

**Thanksgiving Break is
Nov. 21-25**

Annual Spaghetti Night is set for Friday, Dec. 9.
Each December the fifth grade students host their spaghetti dinner night to raise funds for Outdoor Education. This is a great event and I encourage you to bring your friends and family. There will be prize baskets, great food and a song or two from the Madison School Choir. Spaghetti, Salad, Bread and Desserts \$25 family of 4...\$8 for individuals.

November PTO Fall Fundraiser

Nov. 7-18th

Thursday, November 17

SSC Meeting 6pm Library
Papa Murphy's

Friday, November 18

Coffee and Conversation @ 8:15

Saturday, December 3

Holiday Art and Crafts Sale

Monday, Dec. 5-9

Parent Conferences K-5

K dismissal @ 11:40am

1-5 dismissal @ 12:50pm

Tuesday, Dec. 6

PTO Meeting 7:00pm

Friday, Dec. 9

5th Grade Spaghetti Feed

Monday, Dec. 12

Parent Conferences K-5

Tuesday, Dec. 13

4th-5th parent conferences only

12:50pm dismissal

Thursday, Dec. 15

Papa Murphy's Night

Monday, Dec. 26-Jan. 6

Winter Break

November 2016

Principal's Message

Helping our students understand....

Over my career as an educator I have had the opportunity to help the children I teach and serve understand the complex and challenging world we live in. When I started my career in 1986, I remember supporting and comforting children after the Space Shuttle Challenger explosion. In 1989, I remember helping students understand the Loma Prieta Earthquake. In 1991, the Oakland hills fire, in 2001 the World Trade Center tragedy and now we are hearing students echo and express concerns over the recent presidential election results. Much of what children say and feel at school are the emotions of family members and the sensationalism of the media. It is important as parents that we monitor what goes into the minds of our children: movies, video games and yes, even the news, can easily be misunderstood by a young mind.

Ways to help your child....

Listen, to what they are saying. There is so much misinformation flowing into the minds of our children that just listening to their concerns can allow you to separate facts from propaganda.

Remind, them that we live in a country where the highest law in the land declares that all people are created equal. Our government was designed to have checks and balances to insure no one can misuse power.

Reassure, our children that they are loved and that there is no power on earth stronger than love!

Giving Thanks...

James Madison has much to be thankful for...great families, awesome teachers, staff, and the best students any Principal could want. I am thankful to be able to work for such a great community and appreciate all the support for our students.

As we push into 2017, I look forward to helping each child develop the positive attitudes, enhanced skills, and depth of knowledge needed to be successful not only at James Madison Elementary School, but we also want success in middle school, high school, college and beyond. Thank you for working with us to provide a rich and rewarding education for every student.

This year our slogan is... "Madison Works!" for students, staff, and community! Please join my next coffee chat on November 18th as we discuss how we define and measure success for students. Report Card conference week will be December 5th - 12th/13th.