

Mason Lion Pride

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

2018

Dear Mason Families,

On behalf of the entire staff at Mason Elementary, I would like to extend an enthusiastic welcome to the 2018-2019 school year! I hope you all enjoyed a restful and relaxing summer and that you and your children had a fabulous first few weeks of school!

You would probably not be surprised to know that most of our classroom teachers and staff attended various trainings this summer! I love the message that these professional development trainings send: learning never stops, even when you are grown and no longer in school! On top of that, your child benefits as teachers emerge from these classes with more ideas on how to enhance their instructional practices.

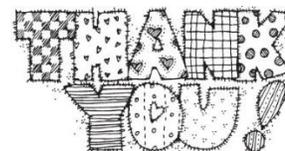
The Mason office has been a busy place greeting families new and old! We have enrolled many new families! Some are new to the area; others will be joining us from neighboring schools. The Mason community is excited to welcome our new families and build strong relationships!

Whether returning to Mason or arriving as a new student or family, please know that our staff is working to build relationships and to establish safe and respectful classrooms and school environment. At Mason, we will do all we can to nurture our students!

In our classrooms, want our students to be able to share their thinking honestly, listen with an open mind and to take risks to stretch their learning. We want classrooms where children are able to make mistakes and learn from that as well. We want classrooms where students collaborate and come to know the power of working cooperatively with others. Our goal of helping the young students of Mason to be the best they can be is our common bond and the heart of our work. We want them to enjoy the benefits of a growth mindset and we are their greatest role models. Together, we can provide our young people with the experiences, the words and the encouragement they need to grow and flourish as students now and in the future! As educators and parents, we have to build those educational environments for students.

Thank You for a Successful Opening! There are many people to thank for our successful school opening. Below is a list of support our dedicated families provided to get us off to a great start. Many of the jobs below will continue throughout the school year. Without the volunteers who dedicate weekly, and sometime daily support, our school would not run as smoothly nor would it provide an enhanced safe and educationally enriching environment. Thank you very much for all you do to make Mason a great school for all of us.

- ◆ First day packet stuffing
- ◆ Parking lot safety help



- ◆ Classroom volunteers
- ◆ Mason PTA Support
- ◆ Library Set-Up
- ◆ Attendance at Back to School Night

A sincere THANK YOU to the many Mason families and caregivers who were able to join our staff for Back to School Night. Knowing the routines and structure of your child's classroom is one of the most important first steps to supporting their growth over the school year. When children realize that their family knows the teacher's expectations and that school and home are on the same page, children are less likely to slide by and not follow through on their responsibilities. If you were unable to attend Back to School night, your teacher most likely provided you with information in written form. Hopefully you've had a chance to look over the information. As we work together in partnership, I encourage you to communicate regularly with your child's teacher and to read all school and classroom newsletters carefully to support student learning. I know I speak for all of the Mason staff when I say we appreciate your participation in your child's education

I'm looking forward to continuing our work together. Thanks for a great start to the school year!

With warm regards,

Jesse Harrison



PRINCIPAL COFFEE

Please join Jesse Harrison, Mason Principal, to learn about our amazing school, ask Mrs. Harrison any questions you might have and meet other Mason families. We hope to see you in the MPR at 7:50am on September 28th and October 26th.

SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL AND SCHOOL GOVERNANCE TEAM:

We are looking for parents and community members to join the Mason SSC/SGT! We are also looking for parent representation on the ELAC (English Language Advisory Committee) and on the DAC (District Advisory Committee). The SCC/SGT/ELAC meet once a month at a Mason Elementary School. If you are interested in learning more about Mason and providing input into our School Achievement Plan, the SSC/SGT/ELAC is the place for you. Please fill out the attached nomination form if you are interested in joining us as we continue to make Mason a great place to be!

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

The Mason staff looks forward to collaborating with you! The intent of the November Parent/Teacher conference is to have open dialogue with your child's teacher and share information and to help set goals for your child. If you have yet to sign up for a conference, please contact your child's teacher.



Please mark your calendar for early dismissal on **November 9th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th**. School will dismiss at 12:15 each day during Parent/Teacher conferences.

MASON ELEMENTARY EVENTS

September

- 9/14 Picture Day
- 9/26 SSC/SGT/ELAC Meeting 2:30pm
- 9/27 ASB Elections
- 9/28 Den Meeting/ Principal Coffee 7:50am

October

- 10/5 Family Learning Day: Math
- 10/5 Pajama Day: \$1 for the ASB
- 10/9 Picture Make-Up Day
- 10/10 Wednesday, Minimum Day 12:15
- 10/17 SSC/SGT/ELAC Meeting 2:30pm
- 10/26 Den Meeting/Principal Coffee 7:50am

NEWSLETTERS FOR THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR WILL BE AVAILABLE ONLINE

This is the only paper version of the Mason newsletter you will be receiving this year. The remaining newsletters for the year will be sent to you every month via email. Paper copies available in the office. This is our contribution towards saving printing costs, reducing waste and ensuring that the families in our community are receiving the newsletter in a timely manner. (If you don't have access to a computer or have any questions about subscribing to the newsletter please call the office at 858-271-0410).



MESSAGE FROM HEALTH ROOM

Physical and Dental exams for all TK and Kindergarten students will be due in October if not already completed. Every Child must have a physical exam by a physician or other individual licensed to perform a physical exam and an oral health exam during their Kindergarten year. Please see the Health Office for forms or questions.

Thank you,
Amanda Gale, RCSN
Shere Shaw, Health Tech

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

Student Arrival: Students should not arrive on campus before 7:30 a.m. Teachers are often in meetings or preparing lessons before school, and there is **no supervision** provided for students until 7:30a.m. Upon arrival, students should report to the playground and line up on their classroom number until the first bell.

Walking: If you live in a walking area, we really encourage you to let your children walk to school. Mrs. Donaldson and the Mason Safety Patrol supervise the safe crossing zones. Each morning they greet the children beginning at 7:30 a.m. At dismissal, they return to cross students from 2:10-2:30 p.m.





Driving Private Cars: Parking is limited and pick-up after school is crowded. Please know that at the beginning of the school year new families are learning the process so things move a little slow. We sincerely appreciate the cooperation and patience of all involved. Please remember:

- When a space in the load/unload area opens up move into it after the cars ahead of you move forward.
- When waiting in the load/unload area, as others leave pull forward to allow waiting cars to pull in.
- When in the load/unload area, **NEVER** leave your car unattended!
- The only area for student drop-off without a parent escort is the load/unload area. If parents park they should **ALWAYS** walk their children to the school **ALWAYS** using a marked crosswalk.

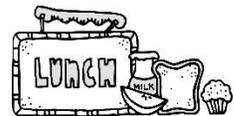
Drive S-L-O-W-L-Y on the roads in in our community when children are present. The speed limit in school zones is 20 mph. We certainly want to see parents following the rules of the community like we ask students to do. Good modeling goes a long way! Thank you so much to those who help by following our requests!

NOTES FROM THE KITCHEN

New menu app, YumYummi. We encourage you to download the new YumYummi menu app so you are aware of what is on your school menus including nutrition and allergen information. This is a great tool for parents, students, school nurses and teachers, too! YumYummi is available in the App Store and Google Play Store as well as online at sdusd.yumyummi.com.

Menus: www.sandiegounified.org/food

Meal Applications: www.sandiegounified.org/food



GUARDIANSHIP AND CUSTODIAL INFORMATION

Each year we update our student information files. A part of this process includes making sure that the school has correct information regarding the guardianship, custody and visitation rights of students.

If a family has legal documents regarding custody and visitation of a child and there are specific custodial arrangements that the school needs to be aware of, we need to have a copy of these arrangements on file. Any changes pertaining to custody and/or visitation rights also need to be on file. We work diligently to comply with all current court documents and parenting plans that are on file in our office. However, it is the responsibility of the parent(s) to provide us with these documents so we can comply with the court plan. Having correct information regarding custody and visitation helps us insure the continued safety of the child. We appreciate your attention and support on this matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to call our Mason office at 858-271-0410.