



Lafayette School Mentoring Project



Winter 2010 Newsletter

Fundraising Update

This year's fundraising efforts have been a huge success thanks to the generosity of our tutors, supporters, local foundations, and their family and friends!

Since August we have raised \$ 15,882.

Things are heating up and we are closer than ever to reaching our goal of \$40,000, the amount needed to maintain operations for the next coming school year!



Writing with your Student

Take a minute to think about how much writing you do in a day. How many emails, Facebook updates, blogs, and work related tasks do you do? Now consider how important it is for your student to become a confident and competent writer in order to be successful as an adult. It may seem like a daunting responsibility, but teaching writing can actually be quite fun for you and your student! Here are some simple suggestions for writing with your student, no matter his/her age or ability:

- 1) Write a book: student writes a rough draft, edit together, final copy in book format with illustrations
- 2) Write a silly story together: alternate sentences
- 3) Write a letter and send (to the President for example): teach proper letter format
- 4) Write a poem or song: acrostic, haiku, or any other
- 5) Write an email together to a famous person

Motivate students to write by displaying their work on the bulletin board and/or submitting it for the next newsletter!

Family Literacy Night

"Reading for Life"

Thursday, March 18 5:30-8:00pm

LSMP is partnering with Lafayette Elementary to host the first-ever Family Literacy Night. The evening's theme will be "Reading for Life". Dinner will be served and families will have the chance to visit four different stations that will demonstrate reading in our everyday lives. Each station will include translation services in Spanish and Arabic and a chance for hands-on exploration.

To make this event a success, we need volunteers that can help serve food, provide translation services, and assist at each station. To sign up speak with Jessica or Catalina.



Upcoming Events

MARCH 6, 2010

Field Trip: CAL Kids Days

CAL v Stanford Women's Basketball

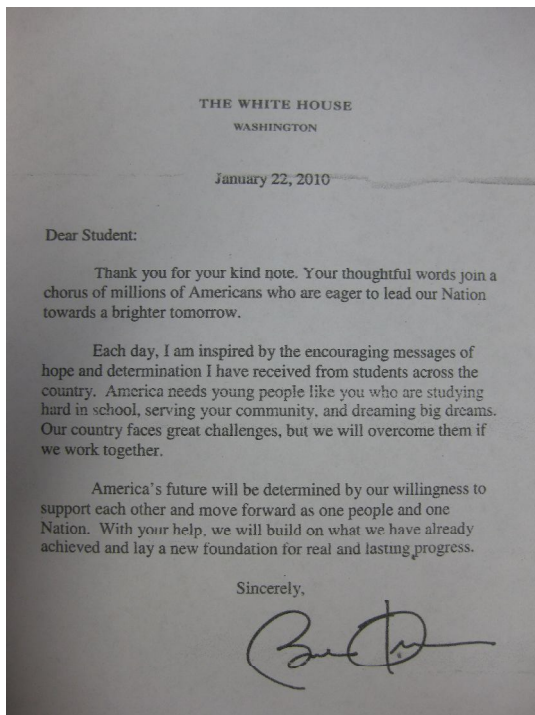
MARCH 18, 2010

Family Literacy Night

"Reading for Life"

A Letter from Barack Obama:

Congratulations to fifth grader Willie Thomas for receiving a response to a letter he wrote the president!



Lawrence Hall of Science



Willie (gr 5), Redman (gr 3), and Marquis (gr 1) petting a hissing cockroach.

Nate watches as Anthony (gr 2), Wesley (gr 2) and Emhani (gr 3) play a game.

We had a fantastic field trip to the Lawrence Hall of Science. Our students enjoyed petting the animals, playing on the giant whale at the entrance, and exploring the exhibit on Race. With 17 students and 8 tutors it was our most popular trip yet!

Middle Harbor Shoreline Park



Atteyah and Elizabeth (gr 1) working on their painting of the bay.

Students and tutors took in the views of the bay at Middle Harbor Shoreline Park in West Oakland and worked on a canvas landscape painting with a naturalist from East Bay Regional Parks.

Student Work

Oakland Holiday Parade



Redman (gr. 3), Enoch (gr. 3), Marquis (gr.1), and his younger brother posing in front of the parade route.

My Trip to Six Flags

My mom takes me to Six Flags with my cousins. We get on the water rides and we ride on the water slides and we go hecka fast! The big rides goes up and down. I had fun.

By Corey Butler (Gr. 1)

Pablo Picasso

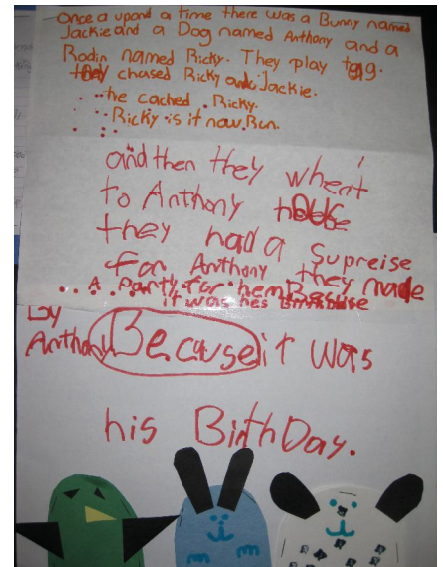
Pablo Picasso was a great artist. In the blue period he used a lot of blue in his work because his friend died. Then he used a lot of red when he fell in love. That was the red period. Then he started the use cubes in his work and that period was called cubism.

By LaBradford Seymore (Gr. 3)

My Winter Vacation

On vacation I didn't do anything. I didn't watch TV. I didn't go outside. I didn't go anywhere. The vacation was fun with me just sitting around. That's all I wanted to do.

By Tavion Harlan (Gr. 2)



Story and finger puppets
by Anthony Rodriguez (Gr. 2)



Arshae (gr. 3), Enecia (gr. 4), and Enoch (gr.3)
exploring at the Lawrence Hall of Science