



Argonne Elementary Parent Teacher Organization  
 680 18th Ave. San Francisco, CA 94121  
[www.argonnesf.com](http://www.argonnesf.com)

## ARGONNE NEWS

Tuesday, September 13, 2011

### PRINCIPAL'S LETTER

Thank you to Tina Esaghpour and her committee for Sunday's day of planting for our edible garden. Thank you to our fantastic parents, guardians, and friends of Argonne who donated food, drinks, supplies, and their labor. It was a wonderful community building activity for our PTO and our neighbors. Many residents stopped by and thanked us for beautifying the street.

We are very excited about our upcoming AIM I and II concerts for our first through 5th grade students at Davies Symphony Hall. This is the 24th years the San Francisco Symphony has partnered with SFUSD to provide concerts for students in our district.

Our school tours will begin on Thursday, October 6th. We will have tours each Thursday morning through the second week of January 2012. Thank you to the PTO who will be organizing the tours.

Reminder—Field Day is Friday, September 23rd.

I am arranging a training date in October for SchoolLoop for our parents and guardians. The training will be a separate meeting date from our PTO meeting and will be facilitated by our IT Department.

My Principal's Chat will be held on Friday, September 30th from 8:45 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Hope you can join me for coffee.

Karen Bell Francois  
 Principal

### ARGONNE NEWEST SCHOOL GARDEN IN SAN FRANCISCO

On Sunday, Sept. 11 over 50 students, parents, staff, family members and neighbors came together to plant San Francisco's newest school garden. We had families representing every grade level and several staff involved in digging, moving soil, planting and watering. With the expertise of landscape designer Mike Gonzales and garden educator Markos Major, kids and adults joined together to plant California natives along Cabrillo Ave, dismantled and prepped the future site of our edibles garden, and added new plants around tree basins and to the K and main school yards. Special thanks to Whole Foods (Haight Street store) and Arizmendi for donating water, fruit and pastries for our volunteers. And to Sloat Garden Center for awarding Argonne 'school garden of the month.' Argonne is now the official demonstration site for San Francisco's Grey2Green program. It would take the space of our newsletter to list all the incredible adults and kids who rolled up their sleeves and helped to create our school garden, but we want to mention some key leaders who made the day possible: Principal Karen Francois; parents Alexandra Minnis, Andy May, Bonnie McFarland, Ed Barber, Erik Moreno, Jason Gillam, John Chan, Neil Hrushowy, Sahrui Keiser, Sanjay Joshi, Tina Eshaghpour, and Tracey Limon; and teachers Jacob Strohm and Lisa Franks. Please be sure to check out the amazing array of plants that will be inviting birds, bees and butterflies to our school.



### GIVING LETTER CAMPAIGN

2011-12 Giving Letter Campaign

We hope you received the 2011-12 Giving Letter in the mail and are contemplating how your family can best support Argonne with a meaningful gift (which hopefully includes an "8" or two!). We are ramping up our efforts the next three weeks to get 100% participation from all families. Here's what you need to know:

- Your family's gift funds the reading specialists, the learning support specialists, the 4th/5th grade teacher position (reducing class sizes), Art in Action, classroom enrichment, dance and chorus. You are making these programs happen!

- You can return your gift to school (labeled "Giving Letter") or mail it in the envelope enclosed with the letter.

- All classes with 100% participation will get a pizza party!  
 - If we have 100% participation as a school (as we did last year), we will have an ice cream social for the entire school--yeah!!

- Your gift is 100% tax deductible!!  
 - Please contact Jennifer Carlin with any questions at 415-572-9101 or [jmaudecarlin@gmail.com](mailto:jmaudecarlin@gmail.com)

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR		
DATE	DAY	EVENT
Sept 15	Thurs	ELAC/Multi-cultural Community/CASP meeting
Sept 20	Tues	Paxti's Pizza Night
Sept 23	Fri	Field Day; Speedway Meadows

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES CALENDAR		
DATE	DAY	EVENT
Sept 23	Fri	Field Day; Speedway Meadow 9am-1pm.
Oct 1-2	Sat-Sun	Parking Fundraiser: 9am-9pm
ongoing	Mon-Fri	Student Drop Off; 17th Ave. Gate
ongoing	Mon-Fri	Argonne Library; drop-ins welcome

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### ELAC MEETING THURSDAY SEPT 15

Our next ELAC/Multi-cultural Community/Chinese after School Program (CASP) meeting will be on 9/15/2011 Thursday from 6-7:30pm in the School Library. Child care and light refreshment is provided. Tentative agenda items include:

- Presentation on Argonne Standardize Test Scores
- Russian Program Introduction & update
- Introducing the SFUSD "Lau" Plan intended for English Language Learner (ELL) students
- CASP Program update

### OTHER EASY GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

**ESCRIP:** Click here to sign up for Escript where a percentage of your purchases is donated back to Argonne. <http://www.escrip.com/>

**FRESH AND EASY:** Do you shop there? Shop for Schools Program by Saving Receipts. Argonne is already signed up for the program running until Dec 31, 2011. [http://www.freshandeasy.com/Content/pdfs/ShopForSchools/SFS\\_step\\_by\\_step\\_instructions.pdf](http://www.freshandeasy.com/Content/pdfs/ShopForSchools/SFS_step_by_step_instructions.pdf)

**PRINTER CARTRIDGES:** Bring your used cartridges to the office for recycling.

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION:** Cut the logo off and bring them to the office.

### LIBRARY CORNER

**ARGONNE BIRTHDAY BOOKCLUB:** Are you looking for a great way to celebrate your child's birthday, encourage your child's love of reading, and support our school library all at the same time? Then don't miss out on the new Argonne Birthday Book Club! Sign-up flyers and information sheets are available in the school office and under "files" on the school Yahoo group page. Stop by our table at Back To School Night for more information! If you have questions, feel free to contact Lisa Wolf ([lwolfsf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lwolfsf@sbcglobal.net)) or Donna Campbell ([campbelld@sfusd.edu](mailto:campbelld@sfusd.edu)).

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



**SEPTEMBER 23RD - FIELD DAY - GOLDEN GATE PARK:** Field Day is fast approaching, and we need parent volunteers to help run the event. There are many opportunities - games, face painting, arts and crafts, clean up, set up, and more! Sign up for a shift that is only two hours long, and enjoy the rest of the day with the kids. Contact Mike Loudermilk at [loudy20002000@yahoo.com](mailto:loudy20002000@yahoo.com) with how you would like to volunteer, or go to: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/field466>

**OCTOBER 1-2ND - PARKING FUNDRAISER (HARDLY STRICTLY BLUEGRASS):** If you are able to volunteer for the Hardly Strictly Bluegrass parking fundraiser, please do so now. There are just a few spots left to fill. This is one of our top fundraisers every year, and we need your support. To sign up, go to: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/hardly1>

### ON-GOING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**MORNING DROP-OFF:** Four or more adults are needed every morning to help our students exit quickly and safely from their rides on Seventeenth Avenue. Contact Safety Committee Chairperson Gerald Crump ([gcfuel@gmail.com](mailto:gcfuel@gmail.com)) or go to: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/daily24>

**ARGONNE LIBRARY:** Contact our Librarian, Ms. Campbell by dropping by or email [campbelld@sfusd.edu](mailto:campbelld@sfusd.edu), if you are interested in assisting with our beautiful library.

**GARDEN WATERING:** Contact Tina at [greenargonne@gmail.com](mailto:greenargonne@gmail.com) if you can water in the morning.

### GREENARGONNE PAID OPPORTUNITY

The Green Argonne Committee needs a general contractor to lead a team of parent volunteers in building an edibles garden on the school's property. The school applied for a grant to build an outdoor classroom to enrich the science and writing programs and has some funding to pay a modest fee. Experience in directing small- to medium-sized landscaping projects is required. If you, or someone you know, would like to help with this project, please reply to Neil Hrushowy at [nhrushowy@gmail.com](mailto:nhrushowy@gmail.com).

### WEEKLY NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Do you have an announcement or news item for the entire Argonne community? Please email your blurb (remember, less is more) to Cassandra Belair at [ArgonneES\\_News@yahoo.com](mailto:ArgonneES_News@yahoo.com), Subject: "Newsletter", please place text in the email, not as an attachment. Deadline, Friday 10pm.