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# COUGAR CLIPS NEWSLETTER

Volume 18, Issue 18

March 8, 2017

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Dear Parents,

Today's children and teens are more connected with each other, and to the world, through digital technology than any previous generation before them. While today's children may be more digitally savvy than their parents, their lack of maturity and life experience can quickly get them into trouble with these new social venues. Over the past few years, Carmel Creek School and Solana Beach School District have decided to educate our students on Digital Citizenship, and how our students can create a positive digital footprint online. We feel this is extremely important as each student at Carmel Creek has access to and uses a mobile device during their instructional day at school. We also feel it is imperative that parents talk with their children about social media and monitor their online social media use to help them navigate this new online social world. How parents talk with their children will vary slightly by age depending on the topic being discussed. These tips will help you start that journey with your family.

1. Learn about these technologies first hand. There is simply no better way than to have a profile yourself. It will allow you to "friend" your child and monitor them online.
2. Let them know that their use of technology is something you want and need to know about.
3. Agree with your child when they can join a social networking site (i.e., Instagram) and create their profile with them.
4. Teach your child never to share any personal details. This includes their password, real name, address and their school.
5. Explain that friends should be people they know. People they meet online may not be who they say they are. Talk to them about the risks involved with chatting to people they don't know and sharing information with them.
6. Set rules about what they should and shouldn't post.
7. Keep computers and mobile technology in the public part of your home, such as the family room or kitchen so you can check on what your child is doing online and how much time they are spending there.
8. Emphasize that everything that is sent over the Internet or cell phone can be shared with the entire world, so it is important that they use good judgment in sending messages and pictures and set privacy settings on social media sites appropriately.
9. Set time limits for Internet and cell phone use.
10. Check your child's chat logs, emails, and social networking profiles for inappropriate content, friends, messages and images periodically. Be transparent and let your child what you are doing.

We also want to remind parents that while we do not discourage students from bringing any personal portable devices (e.g. cell phones, smartwatches, tablets, etc.), except for assistive technology to support medical conditions, may not be used during school hours. They should be turned off and remain in the student's backpack, unless their class has arranged to have a special technology day or if the teacher has given permission for a student to bring his/her Kindle device to read in the class. If students need to call a parent during school hours, they may ask to use a school phone. The school phone should not be used to schedule after-school play dates as these types of arrangements should be scheduled outside of the school day. These devices may only be used once students have left the campus. If a personal item, including a mobile device, is lost, broken or stolen, the District will not be responsible for replacing the item.

Technology and the world of social media is a part of our lives and our children's lives. Let's all work together to do our part so that our children can grow up to be safe and competent digital users. For more information go to <https://www.common sense media.org>.

Lisa Ryder, Principal



## Important Dates:

### March 8<sup>th</sup>

New Family Welcome 8:30am

### March 9<sup>th</sup>

PTA Executive Meeting - 8:45am

Heritage Day Festival 4-6pm

Governing Board Meeting 6:30pm-District Office

### March 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Minimum Days – Dismissal at 12:02pm

### March 15<sup>th</sup>

Play it Safe (you must be registered)

### March 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>

Staff Appreciation Week

### March 29<sup>th</sup>

First Grade Field Trip to Old Town

### April 4<sup>th</sup>

Third Grade Field Trip to Mission Trails

### April 5<sup>th</sup>

Minimum Day – Dismissal at 12:02pm

### April 6<sup>th</sup>

PTA Executive Meeting (8:45)

### April 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>

Spring Break – No School



## Volunteer Opportunities:

Please volunteer some of your precious time to help run events and programs for our precious students.

For this and other volunteer opportunities that you can sign up for click on the following link:

Program and Event Chair 2016/17 positions: [Click here](#)

## YEARBOOK

Yearbook on sale for \$30

Don't forget to order this special keepsake

You can get it online by [clicking here](#)

## Staff Appreciation Week March 20-24

Please sign up by grade level

[K and 1st](#)

[2nd](#)

[3rd](#)



## Heritage Day Festival

Food, Crafts & Music

March 9<sup>th</sup> 4:00-6:00pm

Please sign up [here](#)

## STRONG SUPPORT — MAKES FOR A — STRONG SCHOOL

Please Donate to the Unified Annual Fund Drive

For more information go to: [www.solanabeachkids.org](http://www.solanabeachkids.org)

