



Primary School FAQs



Q: May a child's birthday be celebrated in class?

A: Yes. Items such as cupcakes, cookies, donut holes, etc. may be sent to school with your child or brought into the classroom at 10:00a. The kids eat their regular snack first and then receive the treat, so please keep them small/mini size. Summer birthdays should be celebrated at the half birthday mark during school year. Please coordinate with your teacher in advance.

Q: How do we get involved with the CCPA (Carden Conejo Parents Association)?

A: Simply by volunteering to be on one of our many committees or by volunteering to become a Room Parent. Just contact the appropriate committee chairperson, any of the CCPA Board Members, or your Room Parent. We can use your help all year long!

Q: What forms of communication does the CCPA use?

A: Emails from Room Parents & Room Parent Coordinator (RPC); CCPA website; CCPA General Meetings (check calendar); flyers sent home via backpack; CCPA Facebook page

Q: May we buy presents for teachers/staff during the holidays or any other time?

A: Yes. Gifting is a personal choice. A binder entitled "Teacher's Favorite Things" is located in the office, which has personal gift ideas for your teacher.

Also, the CCPA hosts an off-site Teacher Appreciation luncheon in the spring when Carden families have the opportunity to thank and recognize staff members for their daily dedication to our children. At this time, parents can go in together for one single gift, which is coordinated by the Room Parents.

Q: How do we recognize a teacher's/staff member's birthday?

A: Each child will bring in a handmade birthday card and one or two flowers (depending on class size). There is a vase in each classroom to display the flowers. Summer birthdays are celebrated with a "half birthday" during the year. This is coordinated by the Room Parents.

Q: What types of fundraising should we expect during the year?

A: Our main fundraiser is the Jog-a-Thon/Jr. Jog-a-thon event, which occurs in November. The Jr. Jog-a-thon is the Primary School's portion of the event. The Pre-School, Pre-K and Junior-K children collect pledges in a flat dollar amount for participating in various play yard activities. This fundraiser is the main source of monies raised to support our children's enrichment experiences, as well as scholastic and infrastructure purchases. Later in the year, we hold our Scholastic Book Fair. The funds raised in this event are also used to enrich the students' experiences at Carden. This is an opportunity for families to purchase books for personal use, as well as purchase for their child's classroom library.

Q: Are there any coordinated social events?

A: There is Family Movie Night in October, Family Bowling Night in January, and Family Picnic in June. There are also organized Restaurant Nights throughout the year. These are all fantastic events to socialize with other Carden Families while the kids have fun!

Q: What is “Play Program”?

A: It is after school care offered to all students each day until 5:30p. If your child is going to be staying at Play Program, please provide a note on the child’s backpack that day letting the teacher know what time you will be picking them up. *Teachers will bring your child to the curb to be picked up at 1:00p; if your child is leaving any earlier, or staying any later than that, you must go to the front office to check them out.* Primary School children staying at Play Program are provided with supervised naptime from 1:00p-2:00p.

Q: May families attend assemblies, class parties and class plays?

A: Primary School families are welcome and encouraged to attend all assemblies, class plays, and class parties. There are six Primary School assemblies throughout the year and they start at 9:45a, with a class party that directly follows. All class plays will be on Thursdays at 9:00a.

Q: What are the rules regarding personal filming at the Primary School assemblies and class plays?

A: In an effort to not distract our children or block anybody else’s performance experience, the CCPA has secured a professional videography vendor with competitive pricing to film all of the Primary School (Pre-School, Pre-K, Junior K) assemblies and class plays throughout the year. These events will be HD quality with multiple camera coverage. We invite you to meet our videography vendor at the Back To School Coffee on Thursday, September 3rd after drop off, where you can pre-order digital copies of these events at a special low rate just for Carden families! The order form is also included in this folder for your convenience. *Going forward, in consideration of all families and performers, personal videotaping will be strongly discouraged and limited to a specific standing section on the side of the auditorium. Please note that this is not a fundraiser. Carden Conejo School and the CCPA do not profit from offering this program.*

Q: Does the CCPA participate in Community Service programs?

A: The Primary School participates in many different programs which are age-appropriate and engaging to the children: a “Christmas Chores” program that benefits Casa Pacifica, Hunger Awareness Week food drive, Pajama Day and Crazy Hair Day where money is collected for local children’s foundations.

Q: Is there an emergency preparedness program?

A: Each fall, the school completes a full inventory and replenishment of general earthquake supplies. There is a large bin in each classroom, and staff room, equipped with numerous emergency supplies including first aid, safety supplies, and water. In addition, each family is responsible for assembling an “individual emergency kit” for their child that will be kept in their classroom (please follow the directions for this kit which were included in the back-to-school packet mailed to each Carden family).