

COUGAR COLUMN

Welcome Back

We are an "A" School!

Each year, the State gives each school a grade according to the achievement scores and student growth scores on our end-of-year tests. Our students not only did well but students made good growth! We were one of only a few schools in our district that received an "A" grade! Thank you parents for your wonderful support of our school.

Thank you for Food Donations

Thank you to everyone who donated to our canned food drive during the month of December. We collected over 800 cans and other items! The food was given to the Elks Lodge and they were able to put food baskets together for many families! The Elks express their appreciation to our school families for your generosity and caring!

Please Label Everything

We had a large bag of lost and found items at the holiday break. We have cleaned out the lost and found and are starting fresh. If you will label everything that comes to school (jackets, lunch boxes, hats, etc.), we will try to check more carefully for names on items to get them returned to their owner.

Kite Festival Reading

We have started our kite festival calendar reading as of today. We hope that all students are doing their nightly reading. Some classes are keeping their sheets at home and some are keeping their sheets at school, but the important thing is to do your reading and record it on your kite festival calendar sheets (bright YELLOW). We have been the top-winning school the last three years! (Last year we won \$4,500 for literacy needs at the school!) Our winning is mostly because of the wonderful parent support we have of both nightly reading by all the students and your attendance at the kite festival. LET'S DO IT AGAIN! Mark your calendar now for the kite festival event (where you turn in your chart for credit and prizes). The date of the festival is SAT., **April 18** at SunRiver Golf Course.

Reading guidelines:

- K-1st = 50 min. per week
- 2nd-3rd = 75 min. per week
- 4th-5th = 100 min. per week

GO Santa Clara!



Calendar Items

- Jan. 9 Spell-a-thon*
- Jan. 19 **No School** - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day*
- Jan. 22 STEAM Day (Art focus)*
- Jan. 26 Early Out MONDAY*
- Jan. 28 6:00 pm Dual Immersion Parent Mtg. (information for kindergarten parents — looking ahead if you may want your child in our Chinese Immersion program next year).*

Looking Ahead:

- Feb. 16 No School - President's Day*
- Feb. 20 Mom's and Muffins*
- Feb. 23-27 SEP's and Book Fair*

UpStart Preschool

On page 2 of this newsletter is a brochure about a Free state-funded in-home preschool program. If you have a student who will be in Kindergarten in the next year or two, you may want to check it out.

School Website

Our School website is really looking great! We are now keeping the information updated as well as adding many pictures and videos. Please check it out often and let us know if there is other information you would like to have on the page.

School Website: <http://sces.washk12.org/>



"It's called 'reading'. It's how people install new software into their brains"

UPSTART Utah Preparing Students Today
for A Rewarding Tomorrow

 Waterford Institute®



Free At-home Preschool Program

UPSTART is a state-funded, in-home kindergarten preparedness program that will give your child a fun start in reading, math, and science (with a focus on reading) in just 15 minutes a day, 5 days a week.

FREE

This free computer-based program provides complete lessons for children the **year before entering kindergarten.**

 You may qualify for the use of a **FREE computer** and **Internet.**



Personalized

Our software provides over 450 hours of instruction with an individualized learning path which builds upon your child's strengths, knowledge and skills.

Each parent is partnered with a support team member to help and encourage your child through the year.



Independent and Fun

This easy-to-use program makes it possible for your child to work independently and will capture your child's interest and imagination with engaging books, songs, and activities.



Effective

UPSTART has been proven effective and has been used by more than 5,500 families across Utah.

"The evidence is that UPSTART appears to significantly improve reading readiness for beginning kindergarten students."

— Third party evaluator



Visit

www.utahupstart.org

or Call

1-800-669-4533

for more information or to pre-register.

Reading Skills Taught

- Letter recognition
- Letter sounds
- Initial sounds
- Reading & listening comprehension
- Real words
- Sight words
- Vocabulary



And much more

"I am so confident in my child now and know that he is 100% ready for kindergarten."

— UPSTART participant

