

# The Graystone eLINK



6982 Shearwater Drive  
San Jose, CA 95120  
408-535-6317

Please visit our School Website:  
<http://www.sjUSD.org/graystone>

**For the Week Ending : September 23rd, 2011**

## OCTOBER

Oct. 4th - Home &  
School Club Mtg. 9am  
in Cafeteria

Oct. 19th - Picture Day  
Kinder, 1st & 2nd.

Oct. 20th - Picture Day  
3rd, 4th & 5th

Oct. 28th - PUMPKIN  
BUST 5pm till 8pm

## NOVEMBER

Nov. 1st - Home &  
School Club Mtg. 9am  
in Cafeteria

Nov. 7th, 8th & 9th  
Conference Days

Nov. 10th & 11th  
No School

## Message from the Principal

Dear Parents,

One of the goals of the San Jose Unified School District is to provide a college going culture for all of our students. Our efforts to inform and encourage students to value higher education are aimed at ensuring that they will have the information and motivation to plan to go to college.

On Friday, September 30th, we will join in with all of the schools in our district as well as many other schools in the San Jose area to celebrate College Day. We encourage staff members, students and parents to wear a college t-shirt or sweatshirt or the colors of their alma mater. Teachers will share their educational journey with their students on this day and may provide other themed activities. We encourage you to talk to your children about your own educational journey and your hopes and dreams for their continuing education.

Last Friday, 18 students in the third, fourth and fifth grade who had been chosen to represent their classes on the Student Council gave speeches for our Student Council officer elections. All of the speeches were outstanding—the best I have ever heard at Graystone. Every one of the students is already a leader at our school. Congratulations to the winners of the Student Council elections: Sela Wein for President, Julia Braverman for Vice President and Zachary Caceres-Bautista for Secretary.

Thanks to all of you who provided donations to the Home and School Club during their membership drive. The teachers and I truly appreciate your generosity. The money that was collected will provide many important programs here at school and help the teachers to support students in their classrooms.

You may have heard that we are using Thinking Maps at school this year. Our staff attended training last year and we are working to teach our students how to use these research based visual teaching tools. Thinking Maps are based on the eight fundamental thought processes. These maps can be used individually or in various combinations to form a common visual language for all grade levels. To view the Thinking Maps see the attachment at the end of this *eLink* or more information regarding Thinking Maps can be found at [www.thinkingmaps.com](http://www.thinkingmaps.com).

Have a wonderful week!

Regards,  
Priscilla Spencer, principal

## San Jose Unified School District Focus for 2011-12

At a meeting of all 2800 employees from the entire school district on the Friday before school began, Superintendent Vincent Matthews revealed the district goals for this school year. These goals are aimed at preparing our students to succeed in a global economy. Dr. Matthews' message shared the view with us that "in order to move everyone forward together, we are embarking upon a mission to meet our twin imperatives: (1) Closing the opportunity gap (the actions in our system that result in the achievement gap) and (2) Ensuring that all students receive a 21st century education. These imperatives are critical to the future success of all of our students."

In the upcoming weeks, community meetings will be held where we will discuss these important imperatives with you. We need your feedback and input. As soon as the dates are announced, we will publish them in the *eLink*.

Dr. Matthews also believes that it is important for all employees to provide input regarding our mission. Therefore, we will be having a meeting of everyone who works at Graystone on October 11th at 1:45. In order to allow our office staff to participate in this important meeting, we will be closing the office early on that day. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience that this might cause.

### HOME & SCHOOL CLUB NEWS..

#### Membership Drive Update

The Home & School Club would like to extend a BIG thanks to all Graystone teachers, students and parents for an extraordinary effort in our membership drive! School wide participation was 98%! Our goal this year of \$128,650 was very high due to state budget cuts. However, we came very close to meeting it. We raised about \$110,560 before matching funds. With matching funds we hope to bring in \$125,863, just \$3,000 short of our goal! Almost all teachers received 100% participation and will be

receiving the additional \$300. Families can still donate and it would be greatly appreciated! If you haven't already contributed, it's not too late. Let's remember and try to "pay it forward", for this year and the future. Your continued support is necessary to keep our programs going. To make up the additional funds that we did not receive through the membership drive, please do what you can to support Scrip, Cash Cards and the Spring Walkathon and Grownup Gathering/ Auction.

Great job Graystone Families!!

Please look for your Magnetic Calendars and License Plate frame if you achieved and made the donation accordingly. They will be sent home soon.

Please join us at the next H&SC meeting on Tuesday, October 4th at 9am in the cafeteria. Again, THANK YOU!!!

The 2011-12 H&SC Board [www.graystonehsc.org](http://www.graystonehsc.org)

### MEDIA CENTER NOTES...

It is always terrific to see our library buzzing with student activity again. All classes are currently going through the library for check out or story time. I have been very impressed with the exciting and interesting fiction and nonfiction topics our students are checking out from the library. We try to meet all their needs and I enjoy making a "shopping list" of books they have requested that we do not currently have in the library. My thanks to all of you who have signed up to help classes with book check out--we could not do it without you!!!

Hicklebees is starting the year of author visits with a presentation by a sister duo: Jacqueline Preiss Weitzman (author of Superhero Joe) and Robin Preiss Glasser (illustrator of Fancy Nancy Stellar Stargazer). This presentation was for our 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders on Thursday, September 22nd. All the children had a great time visiting with this famous author/illustrator duo. We are looking forward to another school year of visiting authors, thanks to Hicklebees.

On September 14th, we had a campfire event that was a huge hit. Everyone enjoyed stories, songs, and s'mores! Thanks to everyone that helped with this successful event.

Anyone with extra time on their hands, please stop by the library - we always have something that needs doing - and the coffee is always on and the chocolate dish full.

Time to "fall" into reading!

Melissa Powell  
Literacy Events Coordinator

## **PUMPKIN BUST**

Friday, October 28th - 5pm to 8:30pm  
Pumpkin Bust is fun filled event that is made possible only by volunteers like you who so graciously give your time to make this event possible for the children!! It's not a fund raiser, it's just a very fun event that all the kids look forward to each and every year. Pumpkin Bust is right around the corner and we are still in need of volunteers to chair and co-chair a few of the key positions needed for this fun-filled event to happen.

The following positions are still in need of chairs and co-chairs: Key Chains and Spooky Karaoke (If we do not get anyone to step up for these two positions, we will be forced not to have them). We also need a co-chair for Bingo.

Please contact Sandi Geringer and Katrina Healy at [pumpkinbust@graystonehsc.org](mailto:pumpkinbust@graystonehsc.org) if you would be interested in chairing or co-chairing a position or with any other Pumpkin Bust related questions. As always thank you for your support at Graystone!

## **NEEDED: USED BOOKS & STUFFED ANIMALS FOR PUMPKIN BUST!**

If you would like to donate either books (for all ages) or stuffed animals, please get ready! We will begin collecting next month from October 3 - 28th. There will be donation bins available in the Doris Dillon Library and in the school office. This is a great opportunity to clean those bookshelves and toy chests for a good cause. Thanks in advance for your support!! If you have any questions, please contact: Janette Chock at [mail@chock.com](mailto:mail@chock.com) or Winter Renwick at [wrenwick@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wrenwick@sbcglobal.net).

## **CORNERSTONE/ROOTS & WINGS: SEPTEMBER BOOK-**

### **Stand Tall Molly Lou Melon**

Notice It! Name It! Celebrate It! ABC Corner

This month your student will hear a book titled Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon in class as part of the Asset Building Champion Parent Program (ABC) program. Please watch for a letter from your classroom parent volunteer(s) for more information about this lesson. The goals of this lesson for our students are to identify caring adults in their lives, develop their personal power and belief that they have control over their lives, and increase self-esteem. Here are some activities that you can do at home to help achieve these goals:

1. Boost Each Other Up: Celebrate each family member's special talents and abilities. Go around the dinner table and have each family member say one thing they like about each of the other members.
2. Wall of Fame - create a special place in your house to display items that family members give them pride. Assign a space for each family member. Post items in this space that they are proud of (special drawings, an assignment they worked hard on, photos, etc.). Make sure there is a space for mom and dad, too!

3. Have your student "expert" explain the concept of "mud thoughts and clear thoughts" to the family. Have the family practice changing "mud thoughts into clear thoughts."

4. Encourage adults at home to have frequent conversations about the caring adults in the lives of youth. Identify who they are at school, in the neighborhood, in the family. Who are the caring adults for the adults?

Jennise Towle and Jodie Oubre

## CASH CARDS

Cash Cards are on sale in the Superdome Mondays and Fridays before and after school, but we have ways to make them available to the many parents who are not able to be on campus during those hours. Order forms come home once per month, or can be picked up at any time in the office or downloaded from our website at

<http://www.graystonehsc.org/support/fundraising/#cashcards>. They can be emailed back to me at [cashcards@graystonehsc.org](mailto:cashcards@graystonehsc.org) or delivered back to school through your child's classroom or the office. Orders can be picked up in the office or delivered home to you through your child's Friday white envelope. You can send in a check, pay on PayPal, or bring your payment if you are coming to pick up, orders going home with your child must be pre-paid. As you can see, we have many options to accommodate all families even if you are unable to visit our Cash Card table during the week.

The beauty of the Cash Card program is that it really does not cost you any money. We are asking you to purchase Cash Cards for your regular monthly expenses that you already make, such as groceries, gas, clothing, school supplies, gifts, etc. If you spend \$100, you get \$100 in cash cards so you are not paying to support this fundraiser. All it costs you is the effort to purchase the cash cards from us once per month. Consider turning in a RECURRING ORDER for what you would be willing to purchase on a monthly basis, and we will contact you to help you complete your purchase each month.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the program or need assistance placing an order. I can be reached at [cashcards@graystonehsc.org](mailto:cashcards@graystonehsc.org) or you can call me at (408) 613-2555.

## RECYCLING

Our next recycling day will be on Friday, October 7th. Please drop off your aluminum cans and glass or plastic containers at the dumpster in the morning before school begins. Students bringing recyclable bottles and cans marked CRV, or cash redemption value, will be awarded one blue slip. Please remember to rinse your containers and separate glass, plastic, and aluminum. We earned over \$230 at September's recycling event so please continue to save your CRV containers so we can purchase more playground and soccer balls.

## GIRL SCOUTS

Did you miss the information day for Girl Scouts, but have a daughter interested in joining? Fill out an interest card at the NorCal Girl Scout web site below and one of the Graystone leaders will get back to you. [https://www.girlscoutsnorcal.org/pages/about/interest\\_card.html](https://www.girlscoutsnorcal.org/pages/about/interest_card.html).

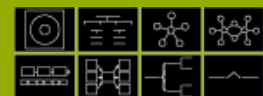
## CUB SCOUTS

Did you miss recruiting night at Graystone? It is not too late for your son to join! Please email Angie Stanton at [angie6845@gmail.com](mailto:angie6845@gmail.com) to get more information. All 1st thru 5th grade boys are welcome!

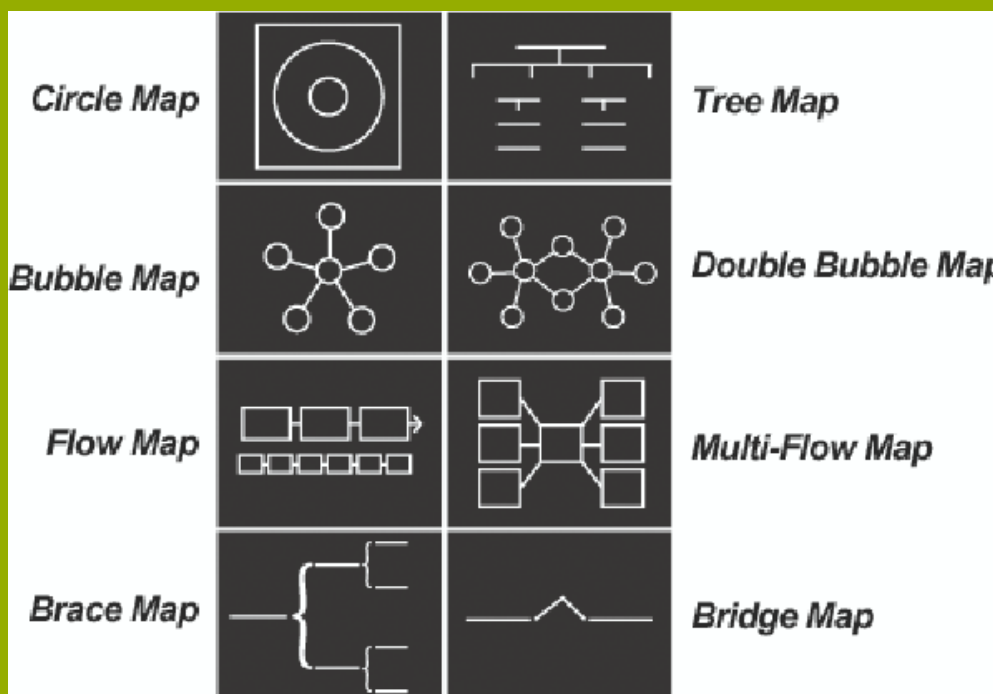
## Graystone's 2011-2012 Student Directory - LAST CHANCE!!!

If you would like to include your family's information in this year's student directory, please turn your form into the office as soon as possible. The final due date for submitting forms is this Monday, September 26th.

If you have any questions, please contact Mai Elardo at [maiantom@earthlink.net](mailto:maiantom@earthlink.net).



Thinking Maps<sup>®</sup>  
INCORPORATED





# Change is coming... GET INVOLVED!

This is your opportunity to provide input on your child's education and the resetting of SJUSD's strategic plan.

Superintendent Dr. Vincent Matthews and the SJUSD Board of Education are seeking your input on what 21st century skills your child and every other student in San Jose Unified should be able to know and do in order to be a productive member of a global society.

October 18, 2011  
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Leland High School  
Media Center  
6677 Camden Avenue  
San José, CA 95120

October 19, 2011  
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Hoover Middle School  
Media Center  
1635 Park Avenue  
San José, CA 95126

October 26, 2011  
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Willow Glen High School  
Media Center  
2001 Cottle Avenue  
San José, CA 95125

Please join us at whichever meeting is most convenient for you. Translation will be provided. For more information please visit our website at [www.sjUSD.org](http://www.sjUSD.org) click on the GET INVOLVED! green arrow.

Superintendent ♦ Vincent C. Matthews, Ed.D.  
San José Unified Board of Education

Rich Garcia, President ♦ Pam Foley ♦ Jorge González ♦ Veronica Lewis ♦ Leslie Reynolds

Preschool for Early Learners  
Sign Up NOW

HANDS ON  
LEARNING

MAKE NEW  
FRIENDS

HAVE FUN

PARTNERSHIP  
WITH PARENTS  
AND SCHOOL



Our preschool programs build the foundation for success in Kindergarten and beyond. Children are encouraged to pursue their personal interests and goals, guided by fully qualified and caring teachers. Growing Readers and Numbers Plus are curriculums that are linked to California Preschool Learning Foundations and Kindergarten Content Standards and promote life long learning and curiosity for your preschool age child. **We are like part of your family.**



**Child  
Development  
Centers**

Continuing Development Inc.

**Graystone CDC**  
6982 Shearwater Drive  
San Jose, CA 95120

**(408) 997-1980**  
*center111@cdicdc.org*

**[www.cdicdc.org](http://www.cdicdc.org)**

LIC. # 434410780

# LET'S MOVE Get Moving. Get Fit!

## San Jose 2011

AMERICA'S MOVE TO RAISE A HEALTHIER GENERATION OF KIDS

Co-organized by Supervisor Dave Cortese - Third District



# 5K

## Walk & Wellness Fair

Saturday, October 15

Walk 8:00 am to 10:00 am

Fair 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

PAL Football Field

680 South 34th Street, San Jose, CA 95116  
408.690.4023 - For more information

# FREE

Health Screenings • Pedometers • Flu Shots • Nutritional Tips

## Kid Zone & Raffle Prizes

San Jose has joined First Lady Michelle Obama's **Let's Move!** initiative.



# LET'S MOVE ¡Ponerse en movimiento! ¡Ponerse en forma!

## San Jose 2011

LA INICIATIVA DE PLANTEAR UNA GENERACION DE NINOS MAS SANOS

Coorganizado por el supervisor Dave Cortese - tercer distrito



# 5K

## Caminata y Feria de Salud

Sábado, 15 de octubre

Caminata 8:00 am to 10:00 am

Feria 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

PAL Football Field

680 South 34th Street, San Jose, CA 95116  
408.690.4023 - Para obtener más información.

# Gratis

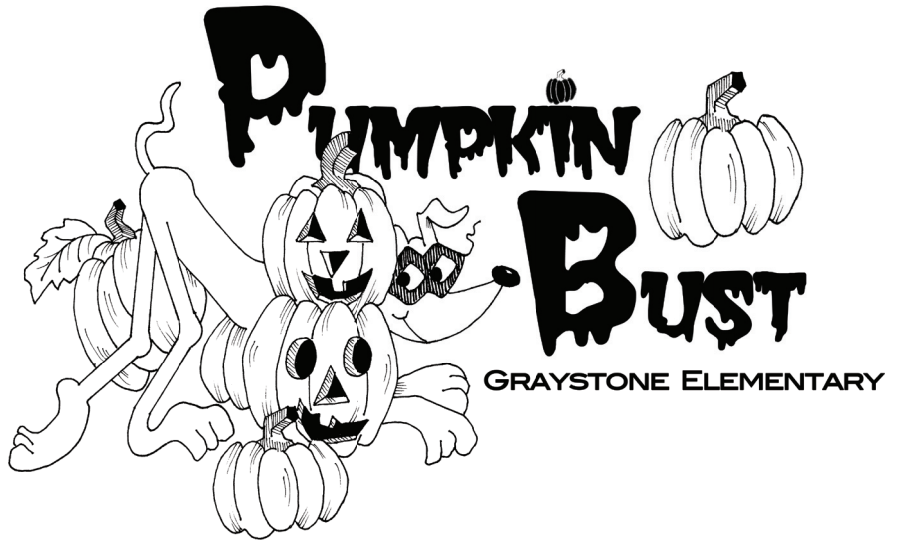
Revisiones Médicas • Podómetros • Vacunas para la gripe  
Consejos de Nutrición

## Zona Infantil y Sorteo de Premios

San Jose se ha unido a la Iniciativa de la Primera Dama Michelle Obama, **Let's Move!**



# T-shirt Sales



## Get a Pumpkin Bust T-shirt!

We're so excited about this year's Pumpkin Bust that we're selling Pumpkin Bust T-shirts. Short sleeve, black t-shirts with the Pumpkin Bust logo printed on the front. Children's and men's crew neck t-shirts, and women's crew and v-neck shirts available. Order yours today! **Orders due by Wednesday, September 28th.**

Youth (S,M,L,XL)	\$12	Women's crew (S,M,L,XL,XXL)	\$12
Men's (S,M,L,XL,XXL)	\$12	Women's v-neck (S,M,L,XL-4XL)	\$18

*(A few sample sizes will be displayed in the office soon.)*

----- Cut and return to your student's teacher with cash or check payable to Graystone Home & School Club by Wednesday, 9/28 -----



Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_

Child Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

YOUTH (\$12)	#
S	
M	
L	
XL	

MEN'S (\$12)	#
S	
M	
L	
XL	
XXL	

Women's (crew \$12)	#
S	
M	
L	
XL	
XXL	

Women's (v-neck \$18)	#
S	
M	
L	
XL	

**Return to your student's teacher with cash or check**

Total Amount Enclosed (make checks payable to Graystone H&SC) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**WATCH THEM GO  
FROM "PLAYING DRESS UP" TO  
"DRESSING UP TO PLAY."**

Come play youth hockey and introduce your girl to a whole new world of adventure.



The San Jose Jr. Sharks  
proudly sponsor  
3 FREE GIRLS GIVE  
HOCKEY A TRY SESSIONS!  
ALL EQUIPMENT IS  
PROVIDED!

**Girls' Hockey Day**  
Sunday., October 2, 2011

7:45, 9:00, AND 10:15 AM  
AT  
SHARKS ICE SAN JOSE -  
EAST RINK  
REGISTER AT  
[WWW.SJJRSHARKS.COM](http://WWW.SJJRSHARKS.COM)