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## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**JAN 12, 7 PM**  
**SCHOOL**  
**BOARD MTG**

**JAN 19**  
**HOLIDAY**  
**NO SCHOOL**

**JAN 20**  
**TEACHER**  
**TRAINING,**  
**NO SCHOOL**

**JAN 22, 12 PM**  
**PTA MEETING**  
**INFO ON PILGRIM**  
**HAVEN**  
**EXPANSION**  
**PROJECT**

**JAN 29, 7 PM**  
**09-10 KINDER**  
**PARENT**  
**INFORMATION**  
**EVENING**

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Happy New Year and welcome back to school! The first portion of this school year moved along at a rapid pace and we hope, after the two week vacation, you are well rested and ready for all the activities and events that are in store during the second half of the school year.

# Spellathon 2009



Busy bees earn while they learn!



The Santa Rita Spellathon is here!



Your child should have received their packet of information this week. Help them get a head start on pledge collections by starting today! Our goal is \$105 per student, which will raise \$55,000 for Santa Rita. Let's make this the best year ever for the Spellathon! Thank you for your support!



Important dates:	
Week of Jan. 12 <sup>th</sup>	Spelling tests are given.
Jan. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Pledge Sheets due.
Jan 30 <sup>th</sup>	Pledge collection begins.
Feb. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Deadline to turn in donations.
Mar. 13 <sup>th</sup>	Winners announced & prizes awarded!



## PILGRIM HAVEN EXPANSION & RE-DEVELOPMENT

Pilgrim Haven Retirement Community (located behind Santa Rita on Pine Lane) has plans for expansion and re-development that is scheduled to last 3 ½ - 4 years. As a Santa Rita parent you should know more about the details of the project and what it means to you and your child. Below are some facts taken directly from the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) published in August 2008 by City of Los Altos. The status of the project is that the City is still reviewing Pilgrim Haven's request. The final EIR is due in January and will be followed by the Planning Commission and the City Council review. The final decision will be made some time in 2009. It is important that we let the City and the Pilgrim Haven Management know about our concerns. The president of Pilgrim Haven will attend the Santa Rita PTA meeting on Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at noon to take parent questions.

If you'd like to read the EIR, a copy is available in the SR office (copies cannot be made in the office.), or you can go to City Hall or download from City of Los Altos web site at <http://www.ci.los-altos.ca.us/news-highlights/Pilgrim%20Haven%20Draft%20EIR.html>

Some of the major points from the Environmental Impact Report are:

**Project Scale is Massive.** It will result in "approximately 189,335 square feet of new facilities in two buildings" (Page 25) – a square footage increase equivalent to 63 new 3,000 square foot homes on the north side of Pine Lane. The new construction will include a 52,037 square foot underground parking garage (Page 25), a building that is "three stories tall" (Page 60) directly over looking **Santa Rita School**, and "six driveways from Pine Lane [to] provide access to the project site." (Page 26). The construction is scheduled to take a minimum of 42 months (Page 27).

**Construction Will Have "Significant and Unavoidable" Negative Impacts.** Because of the very long duration of this project - the City admits in its EIR that "*significant unavoidable short-term noise, air quality, and traffic impacts would occur due to the length of project construction.*" (Page 61). Some of these "significant and unavoidable" problems include:

\* "Construction of the proposed project would temporarily affect local and regional air quality. . . . *The adjacent residences and elementary school would also be exposed to the [3.5 years] construction air quality impacts.*" (Page 98).

\* "Air quality impacts resulting from project construction would substantially affect nearby sensitive receptors" (e.g., school children, residents). (Page 6).

\*Demolition of the current buildings (1) "could release lead particles and/or asbestos fibers to the air, which could expose construction workers and/or sensitive receptors (*i.e.*, children and residents) downwind of the demolition to potential health risks" and (2) "could expose construction workers and sensitive receptors, *including the existing adjacent elementary school*, [to] lead-based paint and /or ACMs." (Pages 14 and 133).

❖ \* "The use of heavy-duty, diesel-powered equipment would generate exhaust that could be considered as toxic air pollution." (Page 99).

\* "*Construction of the proposed project has the potential to create a significant hazard to the environment, construction workers, and/or the public, due to the presence of pesticide contaminated soil on a portion of the Spagnoli property.*" (Pages 13 and 133).

\* "Noise levels in the project area would increase during construction. . . . The residential uses along Pine Lane, Los Altos Avenue, Torwood Lane and Spagnoli Court would also be exposed to high levels of construction noise, as would the adjacent elementary school." (Page 92). Because the "construction noise would exceed the City's noise standards, the [3 ½ years] noise level increase during construction of the proposed project is substantial and unavoidable." (Page 95).

There will be number of opportunities to learn more about this project in the month of January. For more information join the yahoo group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NOPE-LosAltos/> or contact Rob Zokaei at [Rob.Zokaei@FlexarGroup.com](mailto:Rob.Zokaei@FlexarGroup.com)

## KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION NIGHT

JANUARY 29, 2009 AT 7:00 P.M.

An informational meeting for parents of next year's kindergarten students will be held at Santa Rita on Thursday, January 29, 2009. This year's orientation will be hosted for Santa Rita parents and will be presented by Santa Rita teachers and principal. Please spread the word to your friends and neighbors.

### CHARACTER COUNTS- FAIRNESS

Santa Rita students will be focusing on the character counts trait of Fairness for the month of January, please help us at home by coming up with activities to help reinforce this trait.

The trait includes

=Playing by the rules

=Taking turns and sharing

=Being open minded, listening to others

=Don't take advantage of others

=Don't blame others carelessly

Talk to your child about what it would look like if there were no rules,

How does it feel?

How does it feel when people don't follow the rules?

What are the rewards of following the rules?

Talk to your child about taking turns and sharing, how it feels when someone isn't taking their turn and cuts in line.



### WALK/BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY FRIDAY, JANUARY 9TH

Start the new year out right! Come out and walk or bike to school this Friday – rain or shine! Catch the “walking school bus” nearest your house and join in on the fun!

#### North to South Bus Line

\*8:05am – El Camino and Los Altos Ave.

\*8:15am – Loucks and Los Altos Ave.

\*8:20am – West Portola and Los Altos Ave.

#### South to North Bus Line

\*8:15am – Yerba Santa and Los Altos Ave.

\*8:20am – Pine Lane and Los Altos Ave.

\*There will be orange vested parents at each bus stop and walking along with the buses to help keep everyone safe.

### REGISTER NOW FOR WINTER ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

This winter we are offering our students a wonderful selection of enrichment programs to enhance their school experience. Our enrichment programs are brought to us by trusted established sources. These organizations, considered the leaders in their industries, are conveniently bringing their programs right to our campus.

We urge you to take advantage of these great opportunities that can help your children build confidence, gain valuable skills, nurture creativity, make new friends, and have fun.

All of the enrichment programs being offered this winter semester begin soon – some as early as next week! Check out the individual program flyers for exact details and registration information on our school's website:

[www.santaritaschool.org](http://www.santaritaschool.org). Click on *Enrichment Programs* under *Announcements* on the Home page.

Courses being offered this semester:

- Young Rembrandts Drawing Class
- *New!* Young Rembrandt Drawing Class for Kindergarten
- Hope Musical Theater Workshops
- Chorus
- *New!* Creative Writing – Scriptwriting
- Lego Robotics
- Pre-Public Speaking
- Chess
- F4 Math

**HOLIDAY  
TOY, PAJAMA & BOOK DRIVE  
THANK YOU, THANK YOU,  
THANK YOU!!!!**

Thank you for generously donating to our successful Toy, Pajama and Book Drive! The donation boxes in the school office were overflowing with beautiful gifts that were distributed to needy families in our area by the Community Services Agency in Mountain View. It was so wonderful to see the Santa Rita tradition of giving continue and to know that many needy families would be able to share in the festivities of the season because of your generosity. Thank you for making this another successful season of giving! A big Thank You also to Imelda Marianne and Mirtes Frediani for delivering the donations to the Community Services Agency in Mountain View and the Daisy Troop for decorating the collection boxes!

Happy New Year to all, Health & Welfare Committee

**FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT  
FRIDAY, JANUARY 30<sup>TH</sup>  
SAVE THE DATE!**

Mark your calendars for Santa Rita's Night at the Movies!

Date: Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup>

Time: 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Where: Santa Rita Multi

Share a great movie with friends and family.  
We'll provide plenty of popcorn!



**SCIENCE ROOM OPEN AT  
LUNCH**

The Science Room is now open at lunchtime on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. In addition to some fun science books there are also science games to play.

**LIVING CLASSROOM PROGRAM  
ENRICHING CURRICULUM AT SANTA  
RITA SCHOOL**

LASD's new Living Classroom Program, launched in September, has made major strides in bringing engaging and stimulating garden-based science, math and social studies lessons to students through docent-led lessons directly tied to core curriculum including the new FOSS science kits. The lessons are provided for teachers as a direct service, and are all correlated to State Standards.

Over 500 students have benefited from 40 different Living Classroom lessons in grades K-6 at Oak, Springer, Loyola and Santa Rita Schools through the end of December. By the end of the school year, the Program expects to reach over 900 students altogether, many who will have benefited from multiple lessons.

**Docents Needed:** In order to meet the needs of the classroom teachers, additional volunteer docents are needed. Living Classroom docents receive full training and learn by observing and assisting with lessons initially. Most lessons are taught in small groups, with two or more docents, which allows for greater student participation and interaction. Docents can focus on a particular type of lesson, ie. life science, or a grade level, and should be available to assist with two lessons a month. "I would just like to emphasize how fortunate we are to live in a community where the administrators of the public schools realize how important hands on learning is to students of all ages," said Gail Pinkner, Loyola Parent and Living Classroom Volunteer Docent.

Special docent enrichment activities, learning new concepts and how to effectively teach them, and the excitement of the students during the lessons are some of the perks of the job! A mid-year prospective Docent informational meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 28th at 8:45 a.m. at Santa Rita in the multi-purpose room. For more information and to rsvp for the meeting, contact Courtney Cadwell, Living Classroom Program Director at [ccadwell@losaltos.k12.ca.us](mailto:ccadwell@losaltos.k12.ca.us) or 947-1103.

**Special Benefits—Environmental Stewardship and Better Nutrition:** The Living Classroom Program aims to achieve higher academic

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**LIVING CLASSROOM PROGRAM  
ENRICHING CURRICULUM AT SANTA  
RITA SCHOOL (CONTINUED)**

achievement through a deeper understanding of relevant concepts through improved observational skills and problem solving abilities and by applying concepts learned to real life. However, the Program offers several other important benefits including students gaining an appreciation for the natural world by encouraging environmental stewardship; making informed choices about nutrition through exposure to fresh fruits and vegetables, and enabling social development through small group interactions.

**Lessons Taught at Santa Rita:** In the last three months at Santa Rita, Living Classroom lessons have been taught in Third Grade on the Native American "Three Sisters Garden" and two fourth grade classes piloted brand new lessons in the areas of sustainability and decomposition, using the outdoor garden as part of the learning. Students learned about plants that attract beneficial insects among other concepts of creating a sustainable system and these plants are now in their classroom gardens. Many additional lessons will be given in 2009 in science, math and social studies.

**Living Classroom Gardens at Santa Rita:** New Living Classroom gardens have sprouted up at Santa Rita School. Mini-gardens outside classrooms have been planted corresponding to 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade academic themes including a mission garden, habitat/pollinator, native American, Ancient Civilization, and Colonial gardens. The area around the flagpole has been planted with a

mix of California Native Plants which were of importance to Native American Indians and/or are beneficial "pollinator" plants--plants that attract pollinators like hummingbirds and butterflies and create a beautiful habitat area.

In addition, three planter boxes have been planted or seeded with additional native plants, including horsetail which was not only important to Native Americans, but also dates back to the age of the dinosaur! Two "Mission" gardens have been planted as well, featuring primarily edibles that were grown in 18th century Spanish Missions in California. The 3rd grade planter boxes have been planted as well with native bulbs and wildflowers along with winter cover crops of fava beans, clover and lupine to build nitrogen back into the soil naturally. In the Spring, these planter boxes will be planted with a "3 Sisters" Native American Indian crop of beans, corn and squash.

Special thanks to Santa Rita parents Caroline Chan, Janie Truscott and Adriana Aginsky for their help in installing the new educational mini-gardens this past Fall.

**For more information, contact Courtney  
Cadwell at [ccadwell@losaltos.k12.ca.us](mailto:ccadwell@losaltos.k12.ca.us) or 947-  
1103.**

The Los Altos Art Docents offer watercolor lessons for first through 6th grades. Our lessons meet or exceed California State Standards and they are technique based, building upon each other from year to year. We incorporate composition and the art elements in all of our lessons.



In the first grade "Fantasy Animals" lesson, students practice color mixing (using primary and secondary colors) and beginning brush strokes. Our second grade "Butterflies & Blooms" lesson supports the science curriculum. Students create a 3-D butterfly and fuzzy caterpillar in a beautiful wet-on-wet flower garden. Third graders create a dramatic ocean scene in their "Experimental Watercolor" lesson using graded wash, resist and salt techniques.

Georgia O'Keeffe's famous abstract seashell paintings are the inspiration for fourth graders to first create enlarged contour drawings and then incorporate watercolor techniques to add depth, and make their seashells appear rounded and textured. Using trees as their inspiration, fifth graders use sophisticated brush strokes to paint shaded tree trunks in a forest choosing either summer or fall colors as well as a conifer in a wet-on-dry wash of snow.



Henri Matisse's style of design, pattern, and color are introduced to sixth graders and inspires them to create their own still life paintings of textured fruits and vegetables, using contour drawing skills and more advanced watercolor techniques.

**LOOK**  
until you  
**SEE**

*Exciting Art Opportunities!*

**Cantor Arts Center**

328 Lomita Drive (at Museum Way)  
Stanford, CA 94305-5060  
650-723-4177  
<http://museum.stanford.edu>

**Dürer to Picasso:**

Through February 15. 100 works from the Renaissance to WWII; displays art acquired since the museum's reopening in 1999.

**KidStudio 2009 Classes**

Triton Museum of Art  
1505 Warburton Avenue  
Santa Clara, California 95050

(408) 247-3754  
<http://www.tritonmuseum.org/program.htm>

KidStudio is the Triton Museum of Art's on-site education program for children, providing gallery exploration and art instruction taught by professional artists/art educators. Triton art educators encourage creativity by allowing students to explore freely while developing art skills that expand their understanding of the artistic process.

**Winter 2009 Session: Painting**

Experiment with vibrant color and composition as you learn different painting styles. Learn new ways to work with paint and develop new techniques that will bring your paintings to life!

**Painting (ages 6-8):** Tuesdays, 3:30-5:00 p.m.,  
January 13-February 24

**Painting (ages 9-12):** Thursdays, 3:30- 5:00 p.m.,  
January 15-February 26

**Fees:** TMA Member \$75; Santa Clara Resident \$85; Non-Member, Non-Resident \$95

**The Tech  
Museum of Innovation**

201 South Market Street  
San Jose, CA 95113  
(408) 294-TECH  
<http://www.thetech.org>

**Leonardo:** 500 Years into the Future will be at The Tech through January 25, 2009. Have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see how this genius of the Renaissance has influenced and inspired much of the technology we use today. Advance Tickets Required.

January 8, 2008

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### **Board Meeting Information:**

The following items were discussed at the meeting on December 8:

- Pilgrim Haven Presentation – Karen Janney and Sandy Sloan presented an overview of the proposed Pilgrim Haven Modernization Project.
- Curriculum and Instruction Update – presented the committee's recommendation for a future 6<sup>th</sup> grade program and Egan's Single Plan for Student Achievement.
- Single Plan for Student Achievement – Board approval of each school's Single Plan for Student Achievement.
- 2008-09 1<sup>st</sup> Interim Financial Report – presented the 1<sup>st</sup> Interim Financial Report for review and acceptance, and presented a "first look" at possible program cuts for 2009-10.
- Parcel Tax – continued discussion on a proposed parcel tax election for June 2009.
- BP/AR 5116.1, Intradistrict Agreements – continued discussion and approval of BP/AR 5116.1, Intradistrict Agreements.
- BP/AR 3400, Management of District Assets/Accounts – presented changes to BP/AR 3400, Management of District Assets/Accounts for discussion.
- LASD/City Committee – reported on the subcommittee meeting.

Proposed agenda items for the January 12 meeting include:

- Parcel Tax
- Mandarin Immersion Program Update
- Mathematics Steering Committee Update
- Financial Update
- Audited Financial Report
- Second Reading of BP/AR 3400, Management of District Assets/Accounts

The minutes of the December 8 meeting and the agenda for the January 12 meeting will be available on the district's website ([www.losaltos.k12.ca.us](http://www.losaltos.k12.ca.us)) on January 9.

### **In this edition of the School and Community News:**

- Los Altos Recreation Department Teen Trip
- Los Altos Special Education PTA Quarterly Meeting
- Los Altos Water Polo Club - Winter Water Polo
- Los Altos/Los Altos Hills Little League Registration
- Mountain View Babe Ruth Baseball
- KIDPOWER Parent Education Workshop
- Upcoming Events at Hidden Villa
- Free Movie Night for Kids - Date Night Out For Parents
- Girls Leadership Institute Workshops for 4/5/6th Grade Girls/Parents
- "Understanding Girls, Communication and Conflict Insight into the Hidden Culture of Girls"
- College for LD/ADHD and ASD Students
- January Programs for Children at Los Altos Library

### **Los Altos Recreation Department Teen Trip**

Want to go skiing or snowboarding? The Los Altos Recreation Department will be taking students in 7th to 12th grade on a Teen Trip to Northstar at Tahoe on Saturday, January 31. We will provide transportation, light meal, all day lift tickets, and supervision for \$119 for residents and \$131 for others. Sign up early, as space is limited. Bring your gear and friends and let's hit the slopes! For information, please contact Tamara Oskoui at [tamara.oskoui@ci.los-altos.ca.us](mailto:tamara.oskoui@ci.los-altos.ca.us).

### **Los Altos Special Education PTA Quarterly Meeting**

Please join us Tuesday, January 13 from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in the Covington School Library for our winter quarterly SEPTA meeting. SEPTA provides an opportunity for us to share ideas, support each other, learn and be a collaborative part of our schools across the district. The topics for this meeting will be posted on the LASEPTA website prior to the meeting. All are welcome. For information, contact [info@losaltosSEPTA.org](mailto:info@losaltosSEPTA.org), or visit our website at [www.losaltossepta.org](http://www.losaltossepta.org) for updates.

### **Los Altos Water Polo Club – Winter Water Polo!**

Winter water polo at Los Altos High School is open to all 5th through 8th grade boys and girls. Practice begins January 6 at 5:30 p.m. The practice schedule will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. at Los Altos High School. All levels of experience are welcome. Please contact Bailey at [bgsamuels@gmail.com](mailto:bgsamuels@gmail.com) or Ed at [ernstpolo@yahoo.com](mailto:ernstpolo@yahoo.com) with any questions.

### **Los Altos/Los Altos Hills Little League Registration**

Registration is on-going for the 2009 Little League season. The link to online registration can be found at [www.losaltoslittleleague.com](http://www.losaltoslittleleague.com). Walk in registration will be held on January 10 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., and January 17 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at Los Altos High School. If you are new to Los Altos Little League and are planning on attending the walk-in registration, please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate. If you are unsure whether you are in the boundary for the League, see the website for a boundary map. Please note that online registration closes for all divisions (except T-Ball) on January 31. Player Evaluations for A/AA/AAA and Majors will be held on January 10 and 17. Please check the website for locations and times, [www.losaltoslittleleague.com](http://www.losaltoslittleleague.com).

### **Mountain View Babe Ruth Baseball**

Happy and Healthy New Years wishes from the 2009 Board of Directors at Mountain View Babe Ruth Baseball. A new Spring Baseball season is about to begin and our league is busy planning on a fantastic 2009 baseball experience for kids ages 13-15. Baseball games for non- high school players (development league) start in March. Please see our website [www.mvbr.org](http://www.mvbr.org) for more details on our program. Early Bird registration discount expires on January 9. Walk-up registration at Big McKelvey Field in Mountain View is January 17 and February 14, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. For questions contact Bill Gibbs (director of player development) 650-619-0170.

### **KIDPOWER Parent Education Workshop: Teach the Kids in Your Life to Be Safe!**

Thursday, January 15 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Creekside Center Children's Center Preschool, Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Ave, Los Altos. Mark your calendars for this very special event! Through this parent education program, you will have the opportunity to learn the KIDPOWER approach on how to discuss and practice self-protection and personal safety skills with your children. These skills include using your awareness, acting with confidence, moving away from trouble, checking and thinking first, being persistent in getting help, stranger safety, what to do in emergencies, dealing with hurtful words, and setting clear boundaries with strangers, people we know and trust, bullies and peers. **Adults only please.** Please bring your neighbors and friends! This parent education event is FREE and sponsored by the Family Resource Center at the Children's Center Preschool. No reservations necessary. For more information contact: Jenny Morgan at [jennifermorgan@laumc.org](mailto:jennifermorgan@laumc.org) or (650) 941-5411 x119. Visit our website at: [www.childrenscenterpreschool.org](http://www.childrenscenterpreschool.org).

### **Upcoming Events at Hidden Villa**

Toddlers on the Farm Series (Ages 1.5 to 3.5 and parents/caregivers).

Bury your hands in sheep's wool, throw corn to the chickens, and more. Be prepared to get dirty! Offered rain or shine. Space is limited – register early! This class is a SERIES. Class meets on 1/8, 1/15 and 1/22 from 3:00 - 4:00 pm. \$30/pp.

Seasonal Baking Creations (Ages 8 and up)

Come learn about the making of breads and sweets with farm fresh seasonal ingredients. Finish with some tasty samples and your own creations to take home! Sunday, January 11, 2:00 - 5:00 pm. \$30/pp.

How Does Your Garden Grow? (Ages 3-5 and parent/caregiver)

In this exciting new three month series, you and your child will watch your very own garden grow and celebrate the end of the program by feasting on your own harvest. Come learn how to prepare garden beds, plant and care for vegetable seeds and seedlings and see the natural cycles of gardening at work! Series ends with harvesting and an opportunity to explore the connection between seed and table. This class is a SERIES. Classes meet Fridays on 1/16, 1/30, 2/13, 2/27, 3/13 and 3/27 in the Garden Greenhouse. \$60/pp.

Partial and full scholarships are available, please call for details. For further information contact Mary Powell ([communityprograms@hiddenvilla.org](mailto:communityprograms@hiddenvilla.org)) or (650) 949-9704.

### **Free Movie Night for Kids - Date Night Out For Parents**

Come join us for a fun evening watching "Present Time: The Lost Prophet" on Friday, January 16, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Drop off your kids ages 5-11. Pizza, popcorn, and drinks provided. First Baptist Church Of Los Altos, 625 Magdalena Ave., Los Altos. For more information call 650-948-5698, or visit our website [www.fbcla.org](http://www.fbcla.org) and click on Children's Ministries.

### **Girls Leadership Institute Workshops for 4/5/6th Grade Girls/Parents**

Save the dates: two workshops are available, Wednesdays March 11, 18, 25, and April 1 at Oak School OR Wednesdays April 29, May 13, 20 and 27 at Almond School. Both workshops are from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Registration is required. To sign up for this Series at Oak starting in March, please contact Lisa Schaffer at [lisaschaffer@gmail.com](mailto:lisaschaffer@gmail.com). To sign up for this Series at Almond starting in April, please contact Julia Martino at [juliamartino@sbcglobal.net](mailto:juliamartino@sbcglobal.net). Space is limited to the first 15 girls and their parents per Workshop Series who sign up. You will need to provide a check in the amount of \$150 (per parent/daughter pair) to reserve your place. For additional information visit [www.santarita.losaltos.k12.ca.us](http://www.santarita.losaltos.k12.ca.us)

### **"Understanding Girls, Communication and Conflict Insight into the Hidden Culture of Girls"**

The Los Altos and Mountain View public school PTAs are pleased to present best-selling author and expert on girls' development Rachel Simmons on Thursday, January 8, 2009 at Egan Junior High School Gymnasium (100 W. Portola Avenue, Los Altos). This event is open to all Los Altos and Mountain View public school teachers, administrators and parents with their daughters (ages 10 to 17), at no charge. Social hour will begin at 6:00 p.m. and the lecture will run from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. For information on the event, visit the Santa Rita website [santarita.losaltos.k12.ca.us](http://santarita.losaltos.k12.ca.us). For questions, contact Maureen Griffin at [Maureen@cisco.com](mailto:Maureen@cisco.com) or Sharon Greenstein at [sbgreenstein@earthlink.net](mailto:sbgreenstein@earthlink.net).

This event is sponsored by: Los Altos-Mountain View PTA Council, Mountain View High School PTSA, Egan and Blach Junior High PTAs, Graham Middle School PTA, Santa Rita, Loyola, Oak, Springer, Almond, Gardner Bullis, Bubb and Bullis Charter Elementary School PTAs

### **College for LD/ADHD and ASD Students**

Jan Johnston-Tyler is a neurodiversity counselor at EvoLibri, working with teens and adults in the Palo Alto area. She will be talking about the importance of career counseling and post-secondary planning for neurodiverse teens – students with issues such as ASDs, AD/HD, pervasive mood disorders, and learning differences. Jan brings a combination of masters-level training in counseling psychology and career development, pragmatic solutions, humor, and 'been there, done that' as the mom to a neurodiverse teen. Hospitality begins at 6:45 p.m. and the meeting will run from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 28, at Oak Elementary School Multi, 1501 Oak Avenue, Los Altos. This parent education event is sponsored by the SELPA 1 CAC ([www.selpa1cac.org](http://www.selpa1cac.org)). All our events are free and open to anyone who feels they might benefit. No registration is necessary.

### **January Programs For Children At Los Altos Library**

Saturday, January 10, 2009 at 2:00 p.m., Afternoon Family Movie at Los Altos Library. All ages welcome!

Tuesday, January 13, 2009 at 3:30 p.m., Special Afterschool Program with Professor Smart. K and up, a school-age program!

Wednesday, January 21, 2009 at 3:30 p.m., Picturing America Program. Design a stained glass window in the style of Louis Comfort Tiffany. K and up, a school-age program!

Thursday, January 22, 2009 at 7:00 p.m., Celebrate Chinese New Year at Family Storytime Red Panda Acrobats. All ages welcome!

Wednesday, January 28, 2009 at 3:30 p.m., Jazzercise with Jerome. Fitness is fun for families. All ages welcome! For further information [www.santaclaracountylib.org](http://www.santaclaracountylib.org), or Children Services 650-948-7683.

**SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM:** The Los Altos School District participates in the National Lunch Program. To apply for free or reduced-price cold lunch, households must complete an application and return it to the school. Applications are available in the school office and may be submitted at any time during the school year. The information households provide on the application will be used to determine meal eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by program officials. Your child may also purchase a cold bag lunch everyday for \$4.75/day. Lunches include a variety of sandwiches, fruit, salad, cookies and milk. Please send your check for \$71.25 for lunches from February 2-27 (15 days total for February) **payable to the LOS ALTOS SCHOOL DISTRICT (LASD), 201 Covington Road, Los Altos, CA 94024 by January 26, to have your child participate for the month of February. Please include your child's name and school on your check.**

In the operation of child feeding programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age or handicap. If you feel you have been discriminated against, write immediately to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250.