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Welcome to January!

Quick Dates for this month:

Date	Event	Time
1/4	Classes start	
1/5	Middle School Aquarium Field Trip	
1/6	First basketball practice	1-2:30
1/14	Town Hall Meeting	7-9pm
1/18	Beautification Day	10-3pm
1/27	Follywood Film Submission Deadline [details]	3pm

This month at AFE

Town Hall

January 14, 2016, 7-9pm

Town Hall meetings are a chance to connect with other AFE families and also how we approve funds for activities and classes. We will follow last year's successful format where we start the meeting with snacks and time to socialize, engage in some community envisioning activities, and then make some decisions together about how to spend our

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Communication

fund-raised money. Kids will play in Palazzo and outside (on the big field) as parents meet in room 2.

If you have an idea for a spring activity you would like to see the parent club help fund, please fill out a Class/Activity/Materials proposal form. The forms are in the RC on the book checkout

counter. **Completed proposals are due by January 4th, 2016.** At the town hall meeting we will choose, as a community, what activities and materials to fund for the spring. **Tea, cookies, and childcare provided.**

AFE Appreciation/Beautification Day

January 18, 2016, 10am-3pm

On Monday **January 18th** (Martin Luther King Day) 10 am-3 pm come to AFE to help beautify and organize our classrooms, our resource center and our outside area.

AFE Yearbook Help Needed

It is time to start getting ready for the yearbook. Taking photos, making pages, choosing a theme, etc. I would like to have a meeting sometime in January. If you are interested in helping in any way please let me know via zannaboo@ymail.com.

You do not have to have taken the photography class, nor do you have to take the design class (starting in Feb) in order to work on the yearbook. Younger kids can help out, too.

Mark your calendars

The RC will be closed on the following dates:

January 18 — Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

January 25 — Staff Development Day

at AFE:

- [Staff directory](#)
- [Calendar](#)
- [Class information](#)
- [Online Bulletin Board](#)

Parent Club

Support AFE! Visit [the Parent Club box](#) at the bottom of this page.



February 8 — Lincoln's Birthday Holiday
February 15 — President's Day Holiday
April 4–8 — Spring Break Holiday
May 30 — Memorial Day Holiday
June 9 — Last Student Day

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To [view more photos of AFE activities](#) click this link!

AFE Community News

☀️ Follywood Film Festival 2016 ☀️ NEEDS YOU!

(Parents, please share this information with your students.)

Save the date: Follywood is March 5th 2016!

Follywood is one of AFE's most highly anticipated annual events. This event captures the spirit of AFE's sense of community and creativity and we need YOU to make it the most epic event ever!

[CLICK HERE to sign up to be a PRESENTER!](#) Any AFE student who is not going to submit a film can get involved in Follywood in another great way - be a presenter at Follywood! It's fun and easy and you don't need to do much more than show up a little early for a prep meeting on the night of the event. You can sign up with a friend or have the stage all to yourself. The script writers will provide everything you need to say so it's easy to introduce a film and present a golden trophy to the winner of that film's category. Sign up by clicking the hot button and send us your name and say you want to be a presenter. Or put your name and contact info on the Follywood Presenter sign-up sheet in the RC. Sign up today!



Do you have a short video or want to make one to share with the AFE community? We'd LOVE to see it! Follywood is all about showcasing the creative productions of our eclectic community! Films need to be submitted by 1/27/16. The film must be in one of the following formats: .mov .m4v .mp4 There will be a box in the RC near the teacher boxes where you can leave a flash drive (please tape your name on the flash



drive) or you can send it to me via Google docs or Dropbox ([CLICK HERE](#) to get my email address).

Films should be 1-2 minutes in length, 3 minutes maximum. So, pick your topic and get filming! You can make a movie about anything! In the past we have seen “how to” cooking instruction, documentaries, sketch comedy, stop motion, music videos, experiments, animation, battle scenes, etc.

[Here is a link to a montage of films](#) that were submitted in the past so you can see a variety of ideas.

We need the films and presenters as soon as possible for event planning, so sign up today to present, or start filming. Let’s make this the best Follywood yet!

-Otto, Director of Follywood 2016

***Hanna, Homeschooler* Fundraiser**

Hi parents, I am donating 30% of sales of my book through AFE to the Parent Club. I'm taking orders until January 15. To get on the list, [click here](#). To read more about the book, [click here](#). Thanks, Suki



News from the RC

Happy New Year to all of you! We have, thanks to your donations, some funds to buy books at Logos and Bookshop SC. Please email me your wishes for any materials you’d like to see on the shelves at dledbetter@sccs.net. (And remember to make a movie for Follywood!)

Love, Dorothee & Mollie (who is always here Tuesday afternoons, if you want to say hi!)

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Please make sure that all foods brought on the AFE campus and to all AFE events are peanut and peanut oil free. This includes lunches, snacks, food projects, bake sale items and all potluck dishes. Thanks so much for your cooperation. We strive to make all of our AFE events accessible to everyone.

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Enrichment Classes

K-2 Enrichment

Kindergarten-Second Grade

Thérèse Johannesson

Contact Thérèse at tjohannesson@sccs.net.

Maker Monday Parent Co-op: We had awesome activities for December, including

studying Snow, Color, making Kinetic Sand, Kazoo, Slingshots, and ornaments as well as keeping up with our journal writing. Thanks to Ryan, Hiranya and Candi for so much prep and planning. We'll be cooking and creating and getting ready for our Follywood movie entry this month!

Thursday Movers and Shakers w/Therese: We closed our year with Caroling for the AFE High School class and the staff in the RC and the staff of the BSS Main Building, singing our multi-cultural Winter songs, as well as our amazing stick choreography of the Russian Dance from the Nutcracker. We'll be singing in Spanish and welcoming the new year with bells this January as well as using our bodies to make music with Body Percussion.

In the Garden: We cleared our old tomato, pepper and Spanish Musica beans and planted more Fava Beans to enrich the other beds. We're looking forward to observing the changes when we come back after vacation. We'll be letting our beds "rest" for the month and continue observing, enriching and weeding as necessary.

California History

Grades 3-5

Wednesdays 10:00–12:30

Nancy Aylsworth

This month we began talking about the Westward migration of the 1800's. We looked at a map of the 3 main trails west and discussed the reasons folks may have headed west. We took a field trip to Wilder Ranch for a docent tour where we learned about the history of the land in its many incarnations. Students climbed in or on the Western Red Cedar out front that was given to Mr. Wilder by a friend in Washington State over 100 yrs ago! We got a very informative tour of some of the old farm and house buildings, and made delicious butter to eat with our bread. We sewed journals and then made ink out various plants the pioneers may have used. We tried raw and cooked ink with a variety of berries, but the best ink seemed to be the one made from walnut husks and shells.

Our last class of the year was a pioneer celebration with a feast prepared (and eaten) by the children! Call Nancy Aylsworth for more information at 429-3898 x334.

Marine Science

Grades 6-8

Tuesdays from 10-12:30

Mark Thomas

Marine Science continues to explore the ocean far & wide. January 5th we are off to the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Please square away all of your field trip forms with Dorothee before you go, even those folks driving separately from class. January will be our month to probe deeper into the issues driving climate change.

Any questions, drop me a line or give me a call, 566-0631.

Science Fiction Literature

Grades 6-8, fall or spring semester

Tuesdays, 10:00–12:30pm in Room 2

Peter Deutsch

In addition to our in class work and short story readings students just finished or are finishing reading a novel at home. They will share their novel analysis and review on 1/12/16. Small teams are in the middle of a simulation of designing and developing an ideal society and the challenges of a real utopia. We will finish that project and share each teams work.

The all middle school field trip (both classes) to the Monterey Bay Aquarium on 1/5/16 and will return to AFE later on that afternoon.

Our final class will be on **1/19/16** and students will share their sci-fi art project that day. We will also celebrate the semester of working together with a potluck lunch with both classes. **No class on 1/26/16** and then the following week the groups (sci-fi, marine science) switch for the new semester.

We are looking at the common questions and issues that are addressed in this genre (What might the future be like? How might technology and science discoveries affect us? What if....?). In class we will: read short stories, view science fiction films and shows, discuss and analyze the materials, work in teams to design alien worlds and fictional stories, and share this work through art, performance and writing. Active learning, games and some PE will be a regular part of the class. We will also have a short break for snacks in the middle of the class time. Questions? Contact Peter at 429-3898 x330 or pdeutsch@sccs.net

Topics in Ecology, Part 2

High School

Thursdays, 1-3pm AFE Room 2

Joanne Brown

Up to 5 high school credits in life science upon completion

Topics in Ecology students gave a warm welcome to author John Moir. He shared how he has combined his love of nature and love of writing to become an environmental writer. In his talk on "The Sixth Extinction," John went over some of the factors contributing to the increased extinction of species on our planet. He then went on to talk about some possible solutions to this problem, including becoming independent of fossil fuels as quickly as possible and living sustainably (encouraging less



consumption). John's talk was followed by a lively Q&A session. He was really impressed by the depth of student questions and comments. After his talk students reflected on how individuals can use their unique talents and interests to create positive environmental change.

Our field trip to Neary Lagoon included water testing and bird watching. Good to know that Neary Lagoon has a neutral pH, but rather low dissolved oxygen, and high turbidity, (you can't see very far down the water column). Congratulations to those students who counted 13 species of birds during our fast-paced bird watching session. The night crowned black heron was a treat!

[Here are photos from our trip to Neary Lagoon.](#)

The final class for the month of December featured an ecological info buffet including sky islands, redwood research, and local bees.



What, you may wonder, are sky islands? Sky islands are isolated mountain ranges located in desert regions. These ranges have unique populations of plants and animals that have evolved on the mountain tops and are unable to migrate across the surrounding desert regions. We focused on the sky island complex of southern Arizona and northern Mexico. [Go to this website to learn more about sky islands.](#)

We watched the amazing National Geographic video, Climbing Redwood Giants, which features the incredible work of Steve Sillett and other ecologists who study life in the redwood canopy.

Summer Thomas, Santa Cruz High senior and daughter of our own Mark Thomas, shared her research on local bees, their habits and preferred habitats, and some of the environmental challenges that they face.

Our final month will feature wildlife tracking, habitat restoration, and student presentations on possible careers in ecology and conservation. Contact Joanne Brown jvbrown@sccs.net 429-3898 ext. 237.

Leadership & Communication

High School

Grades 9–12. Thursdays, 10am to noon, Room 2

Jasmin Gerer

In December students learned about logos, ethos, and pathos in persuasive speaking, how to craft a resumé, and how to best present themselves in a job interview. Thank you to our guest speaker, Tish Denevan, from the Seaside Company, who shared her 20 year experience and stories from the over 10,000 interviews she's conducted.

This month students will be presenting their persuasive speeches, learning about communication in relationships, and preparing for final presentations of their Leadership

Projects and Communication Challenges to parents the evening of **Friday Jan 22nd**. For questions contact Jasmin Gerer at 429-3898 x332 or by email at jgerer@sccs.net.

New Spring Semester Classes

Dramatic Literature

High School

Grades 9–12. Thursdays, 10am to 12:15, Room 2

Starting Feb. 4

Jasmin Gerer

It's the Spring semester and we are continuing our AFE tradition of studying and seeing plays performed at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland the first week in May. The repertoire we'll be studying this year includes Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, Dickens's *Great Expectations*, an Amazon folktale adapted by Marisela Traviño Orta titled *River Bride*, and the music and libretto of Gilbert and Sullivan's opera *Yeomen of the Guard*.

Our class meets **Thursday mornings 10:00 - 12:15 Feb. 4th through May 12th**. 3-5 hours each week of reading, research, written analysis are integral to preparing us for the performances and earning five English credits. The Ashland trip departs **Monday May 2nd** and returns **Thursday May 5th**. If you are interested in joining but did not attend the November planning meeting, please contact Jasmin Gerer for more information at jgerer@sccs.net or by leaving a message at 429-3898 ext 332.

Real Stories

A Journey in Creative Nonfiction

Open to AFE High School Students

Up to 5 credits

Thursdays 1-3pm beginning Spring Semester

FIRST CLASS FEBRUARY 4th

Instructor Joanne Brown

Tell all the truth but tell it slant.

--Emily Dickinson--

What is creative nonfiction?

Telling a true story in a creative way

Turning real life into art

Engaging your reader in a true story

Combining creativity with research

This course will focus on the variety of ways that well known authors structure their creative nonfiction writing. You'll have lots of opportunities to focus on your own writing style using the personal essay, the braided essay, and personal reportage. Topics will include memoir, nature writing, travel writing, historical nonfiction, interview skills, and more. Class time will be a workshop format, with ample opportunity to share your writing in a safe and supportive environment. You will be expected to attend and participate in class, turn in weekly writing assignments, and complete at least one 3-5 page piece of writing to share with the class during workshop time. You'll read and discuss nonfiction pieces from multiple sources. Since this is an interactive class, it's essential that everyone complete the weekly reading/writing assignments. Make a commitment to participate fully before joining our class. I look forward to sharing your stories!

Still not sure what Creative Nonfiction is? [Check out this link for a rundown.](#)

There is a class sign-up sheet in the resource center. For more information, contact Joanne Brown jvbrown@sccs.net 429-3898 ext. 237.

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AFE Community Classes

Coming Soon: Design

10 - 12 weeks starting in Feb

exact Time TBA

Are you interested in learning about layout skills, photo enhancement, color, and typography? I haven't decided if this will be a series of stand alone workshops or a continuous class—let me know what you prefer. Email Zan at zannaboo@ymail.com if you have input on the format (or time), or to sign up.

AFE Basketball

Basketball Season is about to begin! Once again AFE will field a co-ed team. All 6-12th graders are welcome to join whether this is your first go or you are already a pro. It is great exercise & a lot of fun! We will have 2 practices each week from January to March with games on Friday mornings. Sign up at the RC or drop Mark an email. To get things going our first practices will be at AFE **Wednesday 1/6 from 1-2:30 & Friday 1/8 from 11-12:30**. From then on we will try to schedule practices in accord with the availability of players and their parents. I look forward to seeing the new team! Any questions, talk to Mark, 566-0631

Defying Physics

Designing and Constructing Catapults, Bridges, and Towers

Grades 6-8

Mondays 9:30-11:20

Middle School Engineering class is going to continue next semester. We are taking a winter break and restarting on **January 25th at 9:30** with an emphasis on designing and planning our projects. [Here are a couple pictures from our bridge exhibition.](#) The group with the strongest bridge was able to support 26 lbs. with just popsicle sticks and toothpicks! There is room in the class so consider joining us for the second half. Let me know if you have any questions: dustend@gmail.com



AFE Theater

AFE 3 - 6th graders will perform *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* this month! Based on Chinese folktales, *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* is an adventure story of a young girl who leaves her home to bring fortune to her family. Along the way she meets many incredible beings—advice-giving goldfish, dragons, a Green Tiger, and the Old Man of the Moon! Come see this talented group bring this wonderful story to life!



- January 23 at 7pm
- January 24 at 2pm

Advance tickets (\$6 youth, \$8 adult) available in the Resource Center. Performs at the Broadway Playhouse.

Hats off to our Middle School actors who enchanted audiences with their 4 sold out performances of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*! [Click here to see photos.](#)

Our K-2 actors will be starting *Two Left Feet* in February. Email Zan at zannaboo@ymail.com for more info or to sign up.

An Introduction to Money

Time: Wednesdays, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Instructor: Elizabeth Andrews

New students welcome! [Email Elizabeth](#)

Price: Free. Students should bring a scientific calculator to class.

Course Description: In this mixture of personal finance and economics, we will explore how money moves through our lives, businesses, and societies, through hands-on activities, real-world simulations, and class discussions. Because the class is designed to be a challenging and engaging application of mathematics to social science, it is open to

middle school and high school students who are already proficient with prealgebra skills including exponents, the use of variables in equations, and calculations with negative numbers and percents. Optional homework will consist of videos and/or podcasts reinforcing the topics discussed in class. Topics will build on each other, so it would be best if students can plan to attend regularly. Feel free to email me with questions: elizandrews24@gmail.com.

Sustainable Design

The course explores whether society could fulfill our needs in ways which regenerate the environment we depend on. We will focus on water systems, but will also explore topics such as solar energy, sustainable architecture, restorative food systems and alternative social institutions. Fridays, 9:15

For more information, [email me](#) or call 831-334-2750. Thanks! Barak Wouk

Clay Studio

CLAY STUDIO for ALL AGES, **Tuesdays from 1-3pm!!** If you like to get your hands dirty then this is the place for you! AFE's open clay studio meets once a week for 2 hours. You can come every week, you can come for half the class, you can bring your parent, or NOT, unless of course you are under 9 years old then they have to tag along.

The class is unstructured which allows you to work on whatever project you like once you have the basics down, which most of you do. For newbies to clay I will get you up to speed and you will be making cool sculptures or cups or bowls in no time at all. The class is mostly hand building, we have a slab roller and lots of texture tools and we do have wheels that you can try, and try, and try until you are throwing like an animal. Of course wheel work brings the hands dirty up another level, sometimes to head to toe messy.

The cost is \$35 per student per semester, which pays for clay, glazes and firings. However, no one will be turned away. Any questions, you can call me at 818-8660. Ciao, Kathleen [[Click for photos](#)]



Family Art Studio

Palazzo Art Studio

Fridays noon - 3pm

Feel like exercising your artistic muscles and getting those creative juices flowing? Then come join us in the Palazzo Art Studio on Friday afternoons from noon until 3. Family Art Studio is set up as a non-structured time for all members of the AFE community to come

together and pool our creative juices. Each week I will have something set up to draw from life, whether it be a still life, a model, an interior scene or some interesting or unusual object. If drawing from life is not your cup of tea, there will also be plenty of space and supplies available to work on anything that may interest you. All the supplies in the Palazzo studio will be available to work with: watercolor, colored pencils, shrinky plastic, zentangles, collage, paints, pastels, and more. Whether you're a student, parent, or teacher, whether you're a seasoned artist or "can't draw a stick figure", you're all encouraged to participate! Come for 3 hours or 30 minutes, whatever works for you. I hope to see you there!

If you have any questions or if you would like to donate supplies to the art studio, contact Karylann Love at karylannlove@gmail.com

Games Group

Come over to Classroom 2 every **Friday from noon to three** (or whatever part of those three hours work for you) for good times with friends old and new, and AFE's very large collection of award-winning and classic games for all ages! Bring your own games and/or snacks to share as well! The youngest among us can often be found sitting in the middle of the room playing with Lego or blocks, or outside playing tag, in addition to the games, and parents can usually be found socializing, knitting, etc. while playing games, so truly something for everyone! There is also a group of young artists who like to come and sketch and show each other their artwork in addition to playing games.

Puzzles Group

Fridays 12-3, Room 2

All-ages puzzles group, focusing mainly on mechanical puzzles like the Rubik's Cube. I will be teaching people how to solve puzzles and understand the solution patterns. People can drop in any time during the 3 hours. Please bring your own puzzles! Erik Ledbetter

JSA

JSA (Junior State of America) is a student-run organization focused on politics and current events, and AFE students can participate! Our chapter meets **every Wednesday at 1:00pm** in Room 2, with a variety of activities such as debates, thought talks, and crisis scenarios. JSA is predominantly a high school club, but interested eighth graders are welcome to attend!

Photography

Mondays 11:30 - 12:45

Grades: 7 - 12

AFE Room 2

Instructor: Zan LaHara zannaboo@ymail.com

The class will consist of 10 - 11 demo/lecture/practice sessions where we will cover standard photographic concepts such as exposure, composition, lighting, processing, and output for various media including print. Special consideration will be given to event photography to help students gain experience and confidence taking photos for the AFE yearbook. But shooting for and sharing pictures with the yearbook is not a requirement.

AFE Guitar/Ukelele Group

Thursdays, 1:30-2:30 Palazzo

This is a parent led class. We had a lovely end of the year party with lots of chocolate. We are continuing with our repertoire, including originals! Very exciting. We are thinking of taking this group to the next level and starting a performing ensemble in the second semester. If you are interested in joining us please contact Therese at tjohannesson@sccs.net.

AFE Madrigal Singers

We performed for the Friday Women's Shakespeare group on December 18. This generous group has asked us to sing for them in the past and have given generous contributions to our Ashland Trip. We had a great time. In the coming year, several members of this group will begin to share their favorite acapella pieces with us. We'll continue our early music repertoire as well. If you are an experienced Choral singer with an affinity for early music and would like to join our group, please contact Therese at tjohannesson@sccs.net. [Click for photos](#).



AFE High School Acapella Group

Are you a moderately experienced High School singer that would like to branch out into more challenging music, like covers that the group "Pentatonix" does? If you are interested in joining us please contact Therese at tjohannesson@sccs.net.

Water the Weeds Improv

There will be 3 10-week sessions, one in each season. Questions? Call me, Joya, 831-426-2935. [Email Joya](mailto:Joya@scs.net).

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Around Town

Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose

Monthly Homeschool Discount Days

Jan 6th, Feb 3rd, March 2nd, April 6th, May 4th, June 1st

If there are fewer than 10 individuals in your homeschool family, Homeschool Discount Days are your opportunity to visit the Museum and take advantage of discounted admission (\$7 vs \$13 for adults and children) normally reserved for groups of 10 or more. To receive discounted admission, you must enroll as a homeschool family with Children's Discovery Museum a minimum of 2 weeks in advance. Offer restricted to California residents.

Enrolled homeschool families are eligible for discounted admission on all Homeschool Discount Days; no reservations are required. [More details here.](#)

Cabrillo Youth Chorus

CYC resumes in late January with auditions scheduled for January 19 & 20 and regular rehearsals beginning again the following week (Jan. 26 & 27).

The dates for the 2016 Spring Placement Auditions are set for Tuesday, January 19th and Wednesday, January 20th from 3:30-5:30 pm in the VAPA building at Cabrillo. As in the Fall, these will be drop-in auditions, held from 3:30-5:30 both afternoons.

Once the dates/times for Spring 2016 are finalized, they will be posted on the [CYC website](#). Click on the 'Upcoming Events' link on the right-side navigation menu, and you'll be able to see when and where the choirs will be performing in the coming months. You'll also be able to find out about Summer Voice Camp!

- The parent liaison is [Eileen Demers](#).
- [CYC Registration](#)
- [CYC Facebook page](#)
- [Video Ad](#)

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AFE Parent Club

What's the Parent Club?

The AFE Parent Club financially supports the AFE community. In the past, we have provided funds to enable or enhance programs, activities, and events. We also help

with supplies and resources. Some of the things that have been supported by the AFE Parent Club in the past few years include: Theater for all ages, sports teams for grades 6-12, Clay Studio, Games Group, Economics class for high schoolers, Orff music for elementary students, family poetry workshops, field trips, staffing for the resource center. We also have donated supplies for Family Art Night; resources—books, games, audio CDs, DVDs—for the resource center; classroom supplies for teacher-led classes; art supplies for the Palazzo Studio; and lots more.

The Parent Club relies on donations and fundraising in order to offer support for all these things. Without fundraising, these programs, classes, activities, and resources will no longer be available at AFE. Please take the time to see how you can help by reading and following the Everyday Fundraising Checklist below that will help you help the Parent Club with as little hassle as possible.

Thank you for supporting the AFE Parent Club. We are a 501(c)3 nonprofit!



—The Parent Club Board

AFE's Everyday Fundraiser Checklist

Our ongoing fundraisers are all ways to make money for AFE doing the things you already do! We believe that if everyone at AFE participated in, and encouraged their friends and family to participate in these easy programs it will go a long way towards our fundraising needs.

- **eScrip and eScrip Online Shopping Mall:**
 - Register online so that a portion of your purchases is donated to AFE. *See details below.*
- **Staff of Life Scrip:**
 - Use Staff of Life Scrip whenever you shop there. *See details below.*
- **New Leaf eCard:**
 - Pre-purchase a New Leaf eCard. *See details below.*
 - Ask your friends and family to purchase Staff Scrip or eCards from AFE.
- **Whole Foods Gift Cards:**
 - Buy \$100 gift cards to pay for groceries

More information about these and other fundraisers is available on the [AFE Website's Fundraising page](#).

Escrip

Escrip is an easy way to donate to AFE. Follow these instructions to get registered:

- **eScrip:**
 - Register your credit, debit, and grocery cards so that a portion of your purchases is donated to AFE. Go to www.escrip.com to register your cards. The AFE Parent Club's group # is 500007112.
 - Ask your friends and family to register their cards for AFE.
- **eScrip Online Shopping Mall:**
 - [Sign up and go through the eScrip online portal whenever you shop online](#) and up to 16% of purchases will be donated to AFE. You can also sign up for Auto Earn so you don't have to go through the Mall every time.
 - Ask your friends and family to use the [Online Shopping Mall portal for AFE](#).

Staff of Life Scrip

Please contact Melisa Schwarm to buy Staff of Life Scrip: Use the contact info on the roster for Otto or [send email](#). I am happy to answer any questions and explain how you can contribute to AFE fundraising just by using scrip to buy anything from Staff. There is NO cost to you, the donation to AFE comes from Staff of Life when you use scrip for your purchases!

New Leaf eCards

Leaf Community Markets offers natural and organic foods and a convenient way to raise money for our school. Use your eCard when paying for groceries and feel good knowing you and New Leaf are supporting the education of our children. There are 3 New Leaf stores where your cards will work:

- 41st. Ave., Capitola
- Pacific Ave., downtown Santa Cruz
- Fair Ave., on the Westside

There are 3 NL locations your card will NOT work:

- Felton
- Halfmoon Bay



- Boulder Creek

This is how it works...

Purchase a New Leaf Gift Card (eCard) from me (with a check made out to the AFE parent club or cash) and a percentage of that amount goes directly back to AFE:

- 4% on \$50
- 5% on \$100,\$250,and \$500

You may also order \$150, \$200, or even \$1,000. The amount must be in increments of \$100's or \$50's.

I will place the order, deliver your card to the RC, and maintain the last 6 digits of your card number. When you use your card, select gift card as your method of payment. Once your card is empty *don't throw it away*. Your card may be refilled with those 6 digits.

Orders will be placed once a month. Please email or call when you are ready to order or refill your card. Payment must be received ASAP. You can put a check or cash in the New Leaf envelope at Molly's desk in the resource center. Please make checks out to AFE PARENT CLUB.

This month's deadlines are: [Contact Victoria]

Thank you very much for participating, we can use every bit of support right now.

Victoria Harder, vlharder@yahoo.com

Whole Foods Gift Cards

The Parent Club sells Whole Foods gift cards for \$100 each. The value on the card is \$100 so there is no additional cost to the buyer for supporting AFE. Use the card to pay for any of your purchases at any of their stores. Please keep the card and load more money onto it with a check or on-line transfer, up to \$400 at a time.

AFE gets 3% of the money our community members pay for gift cards and loading them. If you shop at Whole Foods this is a great way that you can contribute to AFE. [Contact Melisa](#).

Newsletter submissions

Parents, staff, and students are encouraged to submit content for our newsletter. The submission deadline is 1 week before the first day of each month. We especially

need content for **AFE News, Homeschool Highlights, Homeschoolers Abroad,** and **Student Showcase**. If you would like to write a short piece on any homeschooling-related topic, please do! [Email Suki](#).

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