

SAGE PAGE UPDATE

Sage Hills Elementary * 3033 Swainson Ave * 801-610-8723

APRIL:

- 4 SCC @ 4:00 pm
- 9-13 Spring Break **NO SCHOOL**
- 16 PTA Meeting @ 10am
- 16 CRT TESTING Begins
Grades 3-6
- 19 Spring Pictures
- 23 Kindergarten -- Bean
Museum here
- 27 4th grade field trip

MAY:

- 2 SCC @ 4:00pm
- 7-11 Staff Appreciation Week
- 11 PTA Annual Mtg. & Voting
6:00 pm
- 11 Choir Concert 6:30 pm
Art Show 6:00-7:30 pm
- 22 CRT Testing Ends
- 25 Field Day
Grades 1-3 9:30-11:00
Grades 4-6 12:30-2:00
- 28 Memorial Day **NO SCHOOL**
- 29 Kindergarten Field Day
- 31 Last Day of School



Principal's Message

Parents,

Students and teachers have been working all year to teach, practice, and review skills and concepts. We are approaching State Core testing and are confident that students will be able to recall all of the information they have been practicing.

We have included dates when teachers will be testing. It is extremely important for students to be in attendance. All testing will be done in our computer lab, so all teachers have assigned dates and times. Please check with your child's teacher, if you desire specific times.

We need your help in preparing your children for testing. Please help them get to bed early, eat a good breakfast, and come to school happy. Help your child not stress over the tests. Remind your child that he/she is very capable and they know the information and have been practicing all year.

In Debbie Thompson's article, "Why Standardized Testing is Important" she mentioned, "the use of standardized achievement tests can yield useful information and produce at least four important benefits:

- First, standardized achievement tests can improve diagnosis of students' and teachers' strengths and weaknesses.
- Secondly, standardized tests can improve prediction and selection for gifted programs, college, scholarships, or employment.
- Thirdly, the most controversial and least known benefit of standardized testing is that these tests can actually improve achievement.
- Fourthly, a parent attitude determines a great deal about how a child might do on test day. Since testing is usually one of those things in life we have to do, let us approach it as a valuable tool that can encourage a student to do their best and help us, as teachers become better teachers."

We appreciate your help with your child's education. We look forward to seeing our students excel!

~Mrs. Holbrook



We're gonna have
a rootin' tootin'
good time at our
Sage Hills' Singers

Spring Concert! Come enjoy a
night of music & art on Friday
May 11th. Artwork will be
displayed from 6 until 7:30. The
choir will perform at 6:30.

At 6pm on May 11th will be
the PTA General Meeting.
We will review this year
and vote on next year's
Executive Board.

Sage Hills Elementary
New Website

<http://sagehills.alpineschools.org>

Cookie Dough Fundraiser

The cookie dough will be
delivered on May 2nd. Students
and parents will be responsible
to get the cookie dough home
from school that day.

Funds for this fundraiser will go
towards technology, PE
equipment, and field trips.



PTA Notes

March was an eventful month. Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped out with Battle of the Books. Thank you to Mrs. Allen for all of her hard work. The children did a wonderful job. Way to go 6th graders for moving onto district.

Thank you to Shiree Dome for putting on the wonderful read-a-thon event for Dr. Seuss night. Thanks also to Shiree for stepping up for the position of President Elect; Shiree will become Sage Hills next PTA President in June.

Thank you to Sherilynn Reed for helping Tawnya Mayo with Choir and stepping into the role of Secretary for the remainder of this year.

Thank you to Kirsten Strack for stepping into the treasurer position for the remainder of this year.

We will be voting on the executive board for next year at the May arts night. (If you are interested in being on the board, please contact sagehillspta@gmail.com.)

You will want to come to the May Arts Night and enjoy the Sage Hills' Singers, the yearly student arts display, and get information for next year's Reflections contest.

We are Expanding Hogwarts for next year. It will be bigger and better than last year!

If you would like to be on the Hogwarts committee, please contact Kris Anderson, krisanderson161@gmail.com or fill out a request form in the office. Also, if you prefer not standing in line at Gringots bank, be sure to pre-order your meal deals and galleons before the event. Diagon Alley will be bigger, better and stocked with all the wizarding necessities. Mr. Olivander will be there to make sure that the wand chooses the wizard. There will be amazing photo ops and we are working on getting wonderful authors, astronomy, quidditch, and science events lined up for a spectacular night. ****If you are interested in being on the Hogwarts committee please fill out a form in the office. ****

Enjoy Spring Break!

Kris Anderson, Sage Hills PTA President

It's not too early to start on next year's Reflections Contest....

Reflection's is a program that allows students to explore and develop their artistic talents.

There are six different categories that students can choose to participate in. These categories are: Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Musical Composition, Photography, and Visual Arts. Students can enter in multiple categories. All entries are judged and then the top entries in each category move on to District/Regional competition. There is a theme for every school year, last year the theme was "Diversity means." This next year's theme is "The Magic of a Moment.." Watch for more information about Reflections at the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year.



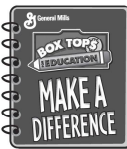
Thank You to all the volunteers that helped with Battle of the Books.
I really appreciate all the help!

The *Avengers* from Mrs. Botelho's class took 1st place and the *Nerds* from Miss Hill's class took 2nd place. They all had fun competing at the district, but they didn't place.

The Way We Read is the Way We Need from Mr. Schmidt's class took 1st place and *Sage Hills Reading Dominators* from Mrs. Cardenas' class took 2nd place in the 3rd-4th grade division.

We are so proud of all the students who worked hard and read their books. We hope they all had fun reading new genres of books.

Also, summer library will be held on Tuesdays from 10:00 to noon. Look forward to that :)



Thank you for your support of BoxTops this year!!! From October to February we were able to collect \$589.30 making our total for the year \$1629.20. Go Thunderhawks! We look forward to using the money to get new books and supplies! Remember that we collect BoxTops all year round, so please check for any that may be expiring 5/31/12 and send them to the school ASAP.

We've had lots of donations of soda pop tops—all of which will be donated to Primary Children's Hospital. Thank you! Reminder to send in Campbell's Labels – ONLY the UPC is required, but please make sure to have the entire barcode attached. Also please don't forget to send in the Cream O' Weber milk lids-both the gallon lids and the single serving lids get cash for the school. We also collect Tyson 1-2-3 labels, please send them in to the school! Even though we will no longer be collecting Capri Sun drink packages, we want to remind you that they can be recycled rather than put in the trash. If you have any questions, please call Joni Luke 801-404-6124

If you would like to receive updates via e-mail please visit our blog at sagehills.blogspot.com and **FOLLOW BY EMAIL** in the right hand corner.



Lost and Found

Are you missing hats, gloves, jackets, coats, lunchboxes, or backpack?
We may have it in the Lost and Found.

Please come and check. All items will be donated to Goodwill on June 8th.

Read It and Win!

March winner:

Jaycie Kelly

in Mrs. Long's class

Please fill out and have your child turn into the office. We will be giving the winning student a \$5.00 Wal-Mart gift card.

When is the General PTA Meeting?

Child's Name: _____

Teacher's Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

School Community Council is seeking nominations for upcoming elections from:
Jacobs Ranch, Fox Hollow, Harbor Bay, and Pelican Bay

If you are interested, please send in your name and telephone number by April 30th.

Name: _____ Telephone Number: _____



Are You Moving this summer?

In order to facilitate how many teachers we will have next fall, we need to know if you are moving this summer. Please fill out the information below and return to the school **ONLY** if you are moving:

_____ YES we are definitely moving Where: _____

_____ We MAY be moving Where: _____

Children's Names	Grade	Current Teacher
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Parent Name _____

Telephone Number _____

How to Improve a Child's Standardized Test Scores

Standardized testing has become a fact of life for most [school](#) aged children and is also a common source of stress. These tests can determine eligibility for advanced classes, graduation and admittance into [college](#). Given the possible implications, parents should do everything possible to help their children do well on standardized tests. Here are some simple steps on how to prepare your child and improve test scores.

1. Encourage children to read. Vocabulary and reading comprehension is a vital part of understanding test questions and providing intelligent answers. The easiest way to improve a child's vocabulary is to encourage regular reading.
2. Work on basic math skills. For many children, math is a complicated and frustrating subject. Find ways to work math into everyday life. For example, ask the child to help in the kitchen by measuring out ingredients for a recipe.
3. Practice taking sample tests. To minimize test frustration, work on practice tests at home. Try making a test that asks about their favorite foods or places that they would like to go on vacation.

Tips & Warnings

- Choosing a book that has been made into a popular movie is a great way to get a child interested in reading.
- Use a home computer to make a form that asks the child to darken answer bubbles to spell out their name. This is good practice for upcoming tests.
- Make sure that children get a good night's sleep prior to tests. Also, breakfast is extremely important on the morning before tests.
- Don't increase the child's stress by telling them that the test is very important.
- Never punish a child for scoring poorly on a standardized test.

Read more: [How to Improve a Child's Standardized Test Scores | eHow.com](http://www.ehow.com/how_4550003_improve-childs-standardized-test-scores.html#ixzz1HFGm4SBG)
http://www.ehow.com/how_4550003_improve-childs-standardized-test-scores.html#ixzz1HFGm4SBG

How to Ease Test Stress

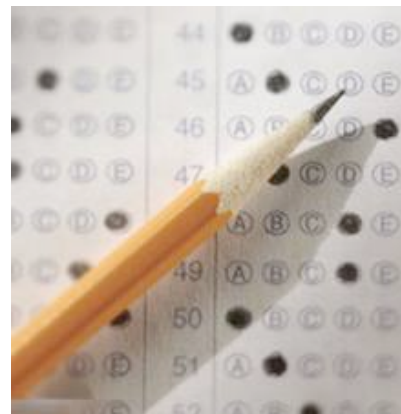
As a general rule, kids don't like tests and it can cause a lot of stress for them. To help out, follow these simple steps to easing test stress.

1. To ensure him that he is doing his best, test him on the chapter, words or notes that are to be on the exam. If there is something he doesn't know the answer to, give him some tips to remember it and go back to it later.
2. Reports have shown that listening to music can help children concentrate. Play some quiet background tunes while she studies.
3. Make sure he gets a good night sleep, at least eight hours.
4. Give him a big breakfast. His brain will function better and he'll be able to concentrate more on a full stomach. Make sure he avoids sugars so he doesn't crash by afternoon.
5. Practice deep breathing and simple meditation techniques with your child. Let her

Tips & Warnings

- No matter what your child gets on their test, let them know you are proud that they studied so hard.

Read more: [How to Ease Test Stress | eHow.com](http://www.ehow.com/how_2296843_ease-test-stress.html#ixzz1HFGtWx8T)
http://www.ehow.com/how_2296843_ease-test-stress.html#ixzz1HFGtWx8T



How to Help a Child Get Ready for a Standardized Test

How to Help a Child Ace Tests

As a parent, you can teach your child good study skills and test strategies to help him ace tests. When your child is well prepared, he'll feel less anxiety and enjoy [school](#) once again.

1. Studying for the Test

1. Collaborate with your child to set up a study schedule. Include brief breaks for relaxing. Post the schedule in your child's room and in another well-trafficked location such as the kitchen.
2. Encourage your child to use 3-ring binders for note taking. Binders allow your child to rearrange the order of notes easily.
3. Take notes while reading the textbook. Teach your child to chunk notes into sections.
4. Create flashcards to assist in memorizing facts from each study section. It may help to color-code the cards to represent each section or chapter.
5. Teach your child how to use mnemonic strategies to memorize large amounts of information.
6. Take practice tests together. Review test-taking strategies as you take the tests.

2. Discussing Test Strategies

1. Arrive early with all supplies, including a watch, pencils, pens and a calculator if needed.
2. Write down important information that might include details such as name, dates, definitions and formulas.
3. Read the directions thoroughly before answering any questions. Ask for clarification if something is confusing.
4. Move on to the next question if he comes to a problem that he cannot answer. He can come back to these problems later if time allows.

Tips & Warnings

- Color-coding can be a helpful visual aide. Encourage your child to use different colors to separate information into smaller chunks.
- Avoid studying for long periods of time. Try to study in shorter increments of an hour or less.

A standardized test is a test that students need to go through every year. It is a test administered and scored in a consistent manner. At times, students show low results on standardized tests mainly due to the lack of preparation. Here is how parents can help their children prepare for a standardized test.

1. Motivate your child to study for the standardized test. Give encouragement to do better each time. Continue to motivate, no matter what the results maybe, by giving your child praises.
2. Make time for study time. Make it a habit to check up on your child's studies regularly. Devote your time to teach your child.
3. Gather all the study materials that can help with your child's studies.
4. Find out your child's weakness and create a game plan to help your child improve on those.
5. Offer help and explain the subjects to your child by giving practice samples. Do them in a series and repeat them until your child understands the whole concept.
6. Teach good study habits and techniques. It is important that your child really learns how to get to the answer to ensure that he gets the answers right no matter what the scenarios are.
7. Make sure that your child gets enough sleep so that your child is well rested and more alert when studying. Limit the hours of TV watching or playing videos. Feed your child healthy food, particularly those that are rich in protein.

Tips & Warnings

- The night before the test, have your child sleep early.
- Wake up early on the day of the test.
- Feed your child a full meal before the test.
- Give your child a big hug and kiss before he goes off to take the test.
- Do not use harsh words if your child is not getting the answers right when reviewing.
- Do not teach your child to cheat.
- Make sure your child is not late for the test.

Read more: [How to Help a Child Get Ready for a Standardized Test | eHow.com](http://www.ehow.com/how_2118577_help-child-ready-standardized-test.html#ixzz1HFHEhIbO)
http://www.ehow.com/how_2118577_help-child-ready-standardized-test.html#ixzz1HFHEhIbO

Testing Schedule			
April 23-25	Shirley/Holbrook	May 9	Cardenas Wilbur Roberts Bates Jacobson
April 26	Jacobson Stansfield	May 10	Cardenas Wilbur Stansfield Bates Jacobson Anderson
April 27	Jacobson Roberts Stansfield	May 11	Schmidt Bates Dibb Stansfield Anderson
April 30	Perkins Botelho Hill Bates	May 14	Fleming Wadsworth Anderson Dibb Schmidt
May 1	Perkins Botelho Roberts Hill	May 15	Fleming Wadsworth Botelho Stansfield Bates Hill
May 2	Perkins Dibb Schmidt Anderson	May 16	Cardenas Wilbur Botelho Stansfield Bates Perkins
May 3	Perkins Botelho Bates Schmidt Anderson	May 17	Cardenas Wilbur Perkins Jacobson Roberts Hill
May 4	Hill Botelho Bates Schmidt Dibb	May 18	Jacobson Stansfield
May 7	Fleming Wadsworth Dibb Anderson	May 21-22	Make Up Days - Holbrook
May 8	Fleming Wadsworth Roberts Dibb Schmidt Hill		