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Out of the office until mid January

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ADOBE BLUFFS ESS WELCOME BACK 2009

Mark Your Calendars

- **Aug. 20**—First Day of School.
- **Aug. 20**— And Thursdays there after - Minimum Day. Dismissal at 12:25.
- **Sept. 7**— **School and ESS CLOSED** for Labor Day.
- Kindergarten will be on half day schedule from August 20—Sept. 9. Dismissal time for K's in ESS will be 11:30.

Don't Forget!

ESS is a "Cell Free" Zone. Please finish your cell phone calls BEFORE entering the building. We can assist you more efficiently when you are not carrying on another conversation at the same time!

Welcome To Adobe Bluffs ESS

Adobe Bluffs ESS would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new and returning students! We had a great summer filled with lots of new and exciting events.

THANK YOU!!

I would like to say a very heartfelt "THANK YOU" to our Adobe Bluffs ESS staff for doing such a great job! It wouldn't have happened without you!



A Few Reminders:

When picking up your child, please be patient. It may take a few extra minutes for him/her to arrive to the ESS building. Also, be prepared to give your child a few extra minutes to clean up before he/she goes home.

Absences: If your child will **NOT** be attending ESS, **PLEASE** let us know! It saves us a lot of time and wear and tear on our nerves if we know your child is safe. You may call us at 858-538-2672 or email us to let us know if your child will be absent. Feel free to leave a message on our answering machine if we are not available.

Illness: If your child is too ill to attend school, then

he/she is too ill to attend ESS. If your child becomes ill while at ESS, you will be required to pick him/her up within a half hour of notification. Please make sure you keep your emergency telephone numbers up to date.

Parent Information:

We work hard to keep you up to date on all that goes on in ESS. We post our monthly newsletters on line as well as provide hard copies in the center. Newsletters keep you informed on all upcoming activities and issues of interest. Other notices of interest are also posted. We put parent reminders on our white board located on our front door as well as on our web site. We provide the Family Magazine for you as another source of information on activities within the San Diego community. We work on keeping you informed of daily occurrences that may involve your child specifically. We do all of this so you can be as informed as possible. We hope it helps!

Medications—With the start of the new year, if you want your child to use chap stick, sunscreen or cough drops, or if he/she needs prescription medication, you **MUST** complete a **new** Authorization Medication form. Don't forget to check the expiration dates on medications you have on hand with us. Thanks.

Meet Our Staff!

We have had some changes in our staff over the summer. We have said good bye to some as they moved on to finish credentials and college. We would like to introduce you to our current staff at Adobe Bluffs ESS for the 2009-2010 school year. They are:

Jan Reynoso—Supervisor

Vanessa Montero—Lead Assistant, who will be on a leave of absence until mid January as she completes her student teaching.

Jane Igolnikov—Morning ESS Aide

Jamie Havertz—Kindergarten Aide

Monica Nothdurft—Kindergarten High School Asst.

Melissa Mitchell—Grade 1& 2

Kyle Montiel—High School Asst. 1&2

Brian Mann—Grade 3/4/5 Aide

Jessica Yengo—Grade 3/4/5 Aide



HOMEWORK TIME

Because we believe strongly in supporting academics at Adobe Bluffs ESS, we provide an hour for homework time four days a week for our first through fifth graders. It is our intent to provide children with a quiet environment in which to complete most, if not all, of their homework so they may go home and enjoy the evening with their family. We will be more than happy to assist any child if they request help. We leave all correcting for completion and accuracy to the parents in order for them to monitor their child's progress. If a child finishes early, or doesn't have any homework, he/she may read a book (one of ours or one from home) or write a story.



We have been asked by the Kindergarten teachers not to do homework with the Kindergarteners. They feel very strongly that the parents should be the ones working with the Kindergartners and establishing good study habits for home. So during the hour of homework time provided for the older children, our Kindergartners will be doing quiet learning activities, and story time.

Frequently Asked Questions About ESS

What is ESS? Extended Student Services (better known as ESS) is an extension of your child's learning day. The ESS program is offered at each elementary school site within the Poway Unified School District. Currently the ESS programs service approximately 3,300 children District wide. The ESS program is a year round program that is dedicated to providing a nurturing, safe, learning environment for children.

How does the school district fund ESS? The program is not funded in any way by the school District. We are funded solely by the fees paid by the parents. Everything from salaries, to paper clips, furniture and snacks is funded from parent fees. This is why it is imperative that your fees are paid on time in order for us to be able to run a quality program. All ESS employees are Poway Unified District employees and have been screened by the District.

Can't my child stay in and read or finish their homework at recess time? While we value the importance of reading and homework time,

we know that the children's academic needs must be balanced with their physical and emotional needs as well. Recess time is an important time for children to socialize with their peers and enjoy the fresh air. It also helps to "get the wiggles out"

Can you give my child his/her medicine today?

In order to administer any medication, an "Authorization to Administer Medication" form must be completed and on file in ESS. Parents may authorize the administration of sunscreen, chap stick, and cough drops ONLY! Any other medication needed, whether it is over the counter or prescription must be authorized by a physician and parent together. All medication must be brought in to ESS in the original container with your child's name on it. We will keep the medication and administer as needed. Any medication (this includes chap stick) in the possession of children will be taken and returned to parents.

What happens if I pick up my child after 6:00 PM? A late fee of \$1.00 per minute, per child will be assessed. Our staff will stay until every child is picked up. Please be prepared to pay any late pick up fees with a check within five days. Our staff have their own commitments to attend to after work and greatly appreciate it when children are picked up by 6:00 PM.

Can I turn in my payment at the center and save myself a stamp? We do not accept payments at our site for anything other than new enrollments. You will be sent an invoice with a return envelope enclosed for you to use to mail your payments. You may also opt for email statements. Thank you for your cooperation.

Why can't I call and chat with my child about how the day is going? While we certainly understand you wanting to keep in touch with your child during the day, we do ask that you hold those questions until you pick your child up.

is being used for your daily update, we cannot receive calls from or make calls to other parents in emergency situations.

We also ask that you not call to have your child ready for pick up. It is difficult for us to stop what we are doing to call your child and then have many children just sitting here and waiting for the parents to arrive. As soon as you arrive, we will be happy to call your child.

Where can I put my child's extra "stuff"? We are often asked to house football gear, soccer gear, overnight bags, car seats, softball equipment, etc. for children. All children have a cubby. Any items that won't fit into the cubby, can be put it on top of the cubby. Parents often want to place things into our office. Please remember that the office is a business office and used as such. It is not the storage locker. Thank you for understanding. Don't forget to look around on top of the cubbies each night to make sure your child didn't forget any "stuff". Thank you!