Submit to the CY Echo!
The CY Echo is Cal Young’s Art and Literary magazine, featuring stories, poems, and artwork by Cal Young students. Stories and poems can be typed or handwritten, but they must be less than two pages long. Artwork should be black and white.

Make sure your name and grade level is on the back of the paper. There are three submission boxes at Cal Young: in the library, in the office, and in Mr. Cantwell’s classroom.

Submissions will be accepted until spring break, which is March 21. Let’s see your best work!!

Tom Cantwell
Language Arts/Social Studies
From the Principal

Dear Cal Young Families,

Geography Awareness Week just ended with a week filled with a lot of new geographical information, guest speakers and a fun homeroom challenge. This year we were focused on the continent of Asia and many of the countries within that region. Homerooms were competing to see who could use the other homerooms’ clues to guess their countries. The homeroom with the most correct answers won a pizza party! Students will be competing at the end of December in our Geography Bee.

Currently, we are gearing up for our annual Food Box project. Each year at Cal Young, students and staff work together in homerooms to develop several menu plans along with the food to complete each menu. The food and other needed items are collected in homeroom. Later, the items are pulled together in separate boxes for needy families in the Bethel area and some of our Cal Young Families. Just prior to our Winter Break, the boxes are delivered to the families. We are holding a Cal Young family event on Tuesday, December 11 for any interested families to help put together the boxes and prepare them for delivery. Please attend if you can. Pizza and drinks will be provided and having the family together helping with this worthwhile project will make it even more memorable.

TESA testing, now called OAKS (Oregon Assessment of Knowledge and Skills) will be an ongoing activity at Cal Young in the coming months. Please ensure that students are getting plenty of rest each night. Even with a later school starting time, some students arrive quite late and miss valuable instruction. We all appreciate your continued support with all attendance concerns.

A tremendous “thank you” to all of our parent volunteers for their help the last few months with our registration, magazine sale, and parent conference planning. The help that you provide is invaluable and we appreciate your assistance! Coming up on December 7 is our first Activity Night. If you are interested in a fun and entertaining evening of chaperoning, please call us at 687.5400.

All of the Cal Young staff extends a heartfelt thank you for the remarkable children that make up our school. We send our warmest regards for a wonderful holiday season for all of our Cal Young families.

See you at school!

With warmest regards,

Sara Cramer

Register today for eScrip!

1. Log on to www.escrip.com
2. Enter our group number: 8410484
3. Register your credit/debit cards and/or grocery cards
4. Watch as a percentage of your purchases help Cal Young
Cal Young Cougar clothing is on sale in the office now. Most sizes are available and in stock.

Blue Cougar short sleeved T-shirts are $8, blue Cougar, crew neck sweatshirts are $16, CY baseball caps (pink and blue) are $8, blue Cougar knitted beanies are $8.

Show your school spirit and wear our school colors! Sizes are child 14-16, adult xsm., adult sm., adult med., adult lg., adult 1x, adult 2x, and adult 3x.

Get that Cougar Spirit!
The Scholastic Book Fair was a HOT blizzard!

A huge thanks goes out to our Scholastic Book Fair wizards, Kathy Young and Missy Lathon, and to their many parent and student volunteers for putting on a fantastic Scholastic Book Fair. Kathy and Missy join me in thanking the students, parents, and staff who came out to support the fair. Together, you made the fair a great success. This event helps the Library purchase many worthwhile, popular books that students want to read! Yes!

The Cal Young Book Blog: an online place to share about good books!

Want to find a good book to read? Want a place to share about a great book you have read? Sam and CY Students are Reading..., a book blog, is the place to do both! There's a link to it on the Library Homepage (http://schools.4j.lane.edu/calyoung/library/), or go directly to http://blogs.4j.lane.edu/arnold. Once you are at the blog, you can scroll through the entries or search for a specific category or genre. I make entries for almost every book that I read, and recently I have started to gather reviews written by Cal Young students. Students, if you have a favorite book and want a way to tell others about it, this blog is it! You can also add a comment about the books on the blog. I have also started adding news about books, such as the latest from Christopher Paolini about the long-awaited sequel to Eragon and Eldest. If you have a review or news about a book, contact Sam in the Library!

From the Library – The Research Thing

Facts on File Ancient and Medieval History Online for 6th and 7th graders

The Library Homepage has many reliable research resources for our students. Last month, I shared about World Book Online. This month, I’d like to focus on Facts on File Ancient and Medieval History Online, an excellent source for information about ancient and medieval history. It gives us online access to over 100 excellent reference books. Students can search for a general or specific topic related to ancient or medieval history and the results include the relevant articles from these books. These results are not websites; they are articles from books that are delivered over the Internet. This resource includes biographies, events and topics, primary sources, timelines, images and videos, and maps and charts.

Get to this resource by clicking on the Facts on File Ancient and Medieval History Online link that is listed under Magazines/News/Databases/Other Subscriptions on the Library Homepage (http://schools.4j.lane.edu/calyoung/library/). Enter the Username: cal and Password: young. Questions or comments? Contact Sam at arnold@4j.lane.edu.

Sam Arnold-Boyd, Teacher-Librarian
Dear Cal Young Families,

This month, the teachers and staff will present Outstanding Achievement Awards to a handful of deserving students. I hate to blow the surprise for some of the kids but below are the names of top notch 6th graders who work hard and are worthy of recognition. The December winners are (drum roll please . . .)

**Great Attitude:**
Chris D. & Skye H.

**Zest for Learning:**
Tyler S. & Wyatt C.

**Citizenship:**
Madison Z. & Kailey J.

**Beyond the Call of Duty:**
Kailyn H. & Anthony F.

**Most Helpful:**
Cassidy R. & Molly W.

**Proactive Involvement:**
Lisa E. & Isaac B.

**Leadership:**
Joseph K. & McKinley P.

Also, we would like to congratulate the following students on their **Perfect Attendance** for nearly four months of school:

Andres A.  Lisa E.  Marcus L.
Jordan A.  Kendyl F.  Monica L.
Trace A.  Kailyn H.  Jordan L.
Isaac B.  Chris H.  Thomas M.
Mitchell B.  Solan I-M.  Seung Han P.
Chad C.  Kailey J.  Cameron R.
Victoria C.  Alexandra K.  Redwind R.
Marissa C.  Daniel K.  Ryan S.
Christopher C.  Joseph K.  Tyler S.
Sahalie D.  Hai Young K.  Rachel U.
Drew D.

**Way to go 6th graders!**

Mr. Powell
December 7th Grade All Stars winners are:

Kayla is always cooperative, helpful, and hard working.

Joseph automatically goes above and beyond even when faced with physical difficulty.

Jackson is always enthusiastic, positive, and proactive in everything.

7th Grade All Stars
Joseph A.
Kayla D.
Jackson D.

8th Grade Students of the Month
Darby is a positive leader. He’s conscientious about his own work, but will help anyone who struggles in a very helpful and quiet manner. He may not get something right the first time, but he doesn’t give up. His excitement for learning is contagious. Darby has a very quick mind and a gift for getting to the root of the situation fast.

Delaney is a delightful student with an amazing attitude who always does an outstanding job. She is intelligent, kind and a hard worker who is not afraid to take risks. Her search for enlightened discovery is evident in every lesson. She pushes herself until she is satisfied with the results. Delaney is always conscientious about her schoolwork and asks concise questions.

Geography Awareness Week
During the week of November 26 - 30, Cal Young students and staff celebrated Geography Awareness Week. Students participated in the preliminary round of the National Geographic school Geo Bee in their social studies classrooms. The Geo Bee is sponsored by the National Geographic Society. Ten finalists were determined when the 8th graders held their preliminary round on November 19. They are:

Will C., Henry F., Nava R., Blake S., Alexis F., Chris C.,
Tiwanna H., Christian O., Andrew S., and Ben R.

These ten finalists will compete in the Final and Championship Rounds in an all-school assembly on Dec. 6 at 9 a.m. Dr. Susan Hardwick from the University of Oregon’s Geography Department and Dr. Lynn Songer from LCC’s Department of Geography will moderate the bee.

Students prepared for the bee by studying geography and looking at maps at home. The following website has links to sites helpful in learning geography and preparing for the Final and Championship Rounds. Check it out at http://www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee/

Terri Simons, Language Arts/Social Studies Teacher
All 7th grade science students have planted and are learning about the lifecycle and genetics of Wisconsin Fast Plants.

How fast are they?

Ask your 7th grade student.

Scott Baker
Science
Cal Young Complies with Senate Bill 379

In June, Oregon State Senator Vickie Walker sponsored Senate Bill 379, which was passed, requiring all public school districts to provide education and training for all staff, students, and parents related to child abuse prevention and compliance with the State of Oregon's Mandated Reporting law. The following information relates to child abuse reported in Oregon:

1. What constitutes child abuse/neglect?
   - Any assault of a child and any physical injury to a child caused by other than accidental means.
   - Any observable and substantial impairment of a child's mental or psychological ability to function caused by cruelty.
   - Rape of a child including but not limited to sodomy, unlawful sexual penetration and incest.
   - Sexual abuse.
   - Sexual exploitation including using children for pornography and prostitution.
   - Negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child including failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, or medical care.
   - Threatened harm to a child.
   - Child selling.
   - Permitting a person under 18 years of age to enter or remain in a place where methamphetamine is manufactured.

2. What reports of possible child abuse were made to the Department of Human Services (DHS)?
   - In 2006, DHS received 60,746* reports of suspected child abuse and/or neglect — an increase of 116.9% from the 28,008 reports made in 1997.
   - Of the 60,746 reports made, 25,606 were referred for investigation.
   - Of the 25,606 reports investigated, 8,017 (31%) were “founded” — i.e., there was reasonable cause to believe that abuse/neglect occurred. This number of founded complaints is 13.2% of the total number of complaints made in 2006.
   - 94.6% of all perpetrators of child abuse/neglect are family members. Of that number, 43.9% are mothers and 29.5% are fathers. Step-fathers account for 4.5% of incidents; live-in companions account for 5.1% of incidents.

3. What does Oregon's Mandated Reporting law require?
   Staff members are mandated reporters of possible child abuse under the Oregon Mandated Reporting law. The law requires all school employees — as well as other mandated reporters — to report incidents whenever there is a reasonable suspicion that child abuse may have happened. The law does not ask nor require school employees to investigate and determine whether or not child abuse occurred. The Oregon Mandated Reporting Law applies to all school employees 24 hours a day, seven days a week, every day of the year. Failure to comply with the law could result in loss of a professional license and/or termination of employment within the district.
   It is important for parents to understand when school employees call DHS to report incidents of possible child abuse, they are prohibited from informing the child's parents a report was made. Once the report has been made, the matter is in the hands of DHS to decide what are appropriate next steps. DHS decides when and how parents are informed a report was made.

4. How are Cal Young students learning about child abuse prevention?
   The district's approved Health curriculum for middle school students contains lessons related to personal safety. In Health classes and in Homeroom, students will learn their rights to emotionally and physically safe environments at home and at school. They will also learn about resources to which they can turn for help when they sense they are not safe. Some students will develop a personal safety plan they can follow if they sense they are in danger. All Cal Young students have access to the “Got A Problem” form, referenced in the agenda planner on page 15. this can be used to ask for help in any situation that would make a student feel unsafe.

* Most experts believe this number is a significant underestimate of actual incidents of child abuse.

If you have questions about the Health curricula and its coverage of child abuse education and prevention, please contact Sara Cramer, 687.5400.
Fall 2007

Dear families,

The Environmental Protection Agency has identified unnecessary vehicle idling as a contributor to air pollution and increased health risk in our state. One of the worst areas for unnecessary idling is at schools, as parents wait to drop off and pick up their children.

To illustrate this point, consider this: according to Airwatch Northwest, just one vehicle dropping off and picking up one child at one school puts, on average, about three pounds of pollution into the air per month. Multiply that by hundreds of vehicles per day and the risk increases for children to develop asthma and other respiratory diseases. In addition, idling consumes more fuel than turning off and on your engine, so it also costs you money.

We have included a fact sheet with this letter to give you more information on the hazards of idling and to help illustrate just why this issue is so critical.

Our district's school buses do not idle while waiting for students and we have updated or modified most of our bus fleet to lower emissions and save fuel.

We ask that you become an active participant in improving air quality and reducing health risks by minimizing idling when dropping off and picking up your child. This simple but critical change, idling your vehicle no longer than 30 seconds, will drastically improve the air quality in your neighborhoods and the air our children breathe while being dropped off at, and picked up from, school.

I appreciate your consideration of this issue, especially in the light that raising children seems to be getting more hectic with every passing year. Please look for signs and other directions, requests and encouragement at your school this fall on how you can help all our children breathe easier.

Sincerely,

George Russell
Superintendent, Eugene School District 4J
Otoño 2007

Queridas Familias,

La Agencia de Protección al Medio Ambiente ha identificado innecesarios vehículos con el motor prendido sin moverse como contribuyentes a la contaminación del aire y responsables por el aumento de riesgo a la salud en nuestro estado. Una de las peores áreas es en las escuelas donde los padres esperan para recoger y dejar a sus hijos.

Para ilustrar este punto considérese que de acuerdo al Airwatch Northwest, solamente un vehículo recogiendo o dejando un estudiante genera un promedio de tres libras de contaminantes al aire en un mes. Multiplíquese esto por cien vehículos al día y el riesgo aumenta para que los estudiantes padezcan de asma y otras enfermedades respiratorias. Además los vehículos con el motor andando sin caminar consumen más gasolina que si se para el motor, además esto le cuesta más dinero.

Hemos incluído un folleto de información junto a esta carta para hacerle conocer los daños de un motor andando y ayudarle a ilustrar por qué este asunto es tan crítico.

Nuestros autobuses escolares no dejan el motor andando cuando esperan a los estudiantes y hemos modificado y actualizado la mayor parte de nuestros autobuses para bajar las emisiones del motor y ahorrar combustible.

Le pedimos que usted sea participante activo para mejorar la calidad del aire y aminorar los riesgos a la salud reduciendo el tiempo que deja su auto andando cuando deja o recoge a su estudiante. Este simple pero crítico cambio, no dejar su vehículo más de 30 segundos andando, mejorará drásticamente la calidad del aire en su vecindario y el aire que nuestros estudiantes respiran mientras los dejan y recogen de la escuela.

Agradezco su consideración a este asunto, especialmente porque el educar a los niños parece volverse más ajetreado cada año que pasa. Haga favor de buscar señales y otras instrucciones, solicitudes e información en su escuela este otoño de cómo puede ayudar a todos nuestros estudiantes a respirar más fácilmente.

Sinceramente,

[Signature]

George Russell
Superintendente, Distrito Escolar Eugene 4J
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Sinceramente,

George Russell
Superintendente, Distrito Escolar Eugene 4J

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**EPAL Skate World Sign Up Sheet**

***No Transportation Provided***

Thursday, December 6, 2007 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM

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Middle School “Skate with Cops”

Students can have the opportunity to meet their regional school resource officers in an informal setting at this “Skate with Cops” EPAL (Eugene Police Activities League) event. Admission is free with one canned or dry food item for FOOD for Lane County.

Register by turning in this form or calling Cal Young office, 687-5400. Parent or guardian permission is required and participants must provide their own transportation. Space is limited.
Great News!
Cal Young Middle School Can Still Earn 40% Profit!
Order On-Line Anytime!

*(-) Forgot to Order a Magazine?
(-) Is Your Favorite Subscription Expiring?
(+) Need the Perfect Gift for Someone You Know?

You can still order Magazines, CD ROMS and Books through QSP, and Cal Young Middle School will still earn 40% profit! That’s right! Order on-line anytime, and our school will continue to benefit from your support in the QSP Magazine Sale Fundraising Program!

It Could Not be any Easier Than This:

- Go to: [www.qsp.com](http://www.qsp.com)
- Click “Register Now” and enter our school’s account number: 425001038
- You will now be linked directly to the on-line site where anything and everything you purchase will earn our School 40% profit!
- Same Great Selections . . . Same Great Service!

Don’t let publishers pressure you into renewing directly through them! All of those 30-week, 48-week or 6-month subscriptions you may have ordered, may now be renewed through this great website and you will be helping our School — **PLEASE** spread the word!

**DON’T FORGET:**

For any questions about on-line purchases, please call QSP Toll-Free at 1-800-678-2673 [Monday - Friday, 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM CST]. QSP Customer Service Representatives are always happy to assist you!
Calendar and Newsletter
December 2007