



# Tom Matsumoto School

4121 Mackin Woods Lane  
Mr. James Sherman-Principal

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Ms. Tonya Bailey-Assistant Principal

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August 2011

Dear Tom Matsumoto Elementary School Families:

Welcome to the 2011-2012 school year! Ms. Bailey and I along with the entire Matsumoto staff are looking forward to the year ahead. We have been planning for the year, and we are excited about what we have in store. I will continue to work closely with our staff, supporting them as they engage your wonderful children in a rigorous, stimulating curriculum. I would like to keep the monthly "Principal Tea" going, and I may even add coffee to the menu for those who prefer it. This is a great forum for discussion of programs or perhaps the funding situation. Most of all, it is a time for all of us to get to know each other better.

Luckily this year, we have not had to lose any teachers due to layoffs, and I am very happy about that. Our Library will also continue on its current schedule of 4 days a week. We continue to be hopeful that funding for California public schools will improve. In the meantime, our fundraising efforts take on an even greater importance.

**The first day of school is Wednesday, August 17.** We will post classes on the windows of classrooms 14 and 15 in the south wing after 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 16.

Our bell schedule will remain the same:

## Regular Days

A.M. Kindergarten begins at 8:05 a.m. and ends at 11:25 a.m.

P.M. Kindergarten begins at 11:40 a.m. and ends at 3:00 p.m.

Grades 1-6 begin at 8:05 a.m. and end at 2:10 p.m.

## Minimum Days

Every Thursday is a minimum day for grades 1-6, unless otherwise stated.

Grades 1-5 begin at 8:05 a.m. and end at 12:35 p.m.

**The Kindergarten schedule does not change on minimum days**

**\*\*\*Important note: Students are not to be on campus prior to 7:50 a.m.**

## Visiting Campus?

We require visitors and parents to obtain a school visitor's pass if they plan to come onto our campus. This applies to before school as well as during the school day. This procedure ensures student safety and is strictly enforced. You must come to the office at the front of the school to obtain the pass. Remember, too, that pets are not allowed on campus at any time. They need to remain with you on the sidewalk and not be brought on campus when dropping off children.

## Newsletter

Again this year, we will be posting our newsletter online and will not be sending home paper copies. Parents can contact us if they are unable to access the web to view the newsletter, and we will print one off for them. We want to continue to be as green as we can be at Matsumoto. In the past 2 years, we have substantially reduced the amount of paper going to teachers and to parents. We want to continue this trend while searching for other ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Thank you for your help!

Please check the school website at  
<http://www.esd.k12.ca.us/Matsumoto/matsumoto.html>  
for updates throughout the year.

## Lunches

Each year, we have many parents delivering lunches for their children. While I understand the need to provide them with freshly cooked food each day, we want our children to plan ahead and be responsible when it comes to their lunches. I also understand that some children have special dietary needs, however containers are able to keep food warm and fresh for hours now, and so there is no need to rush over to school to bring a lunch for your child. I feel we have good choices for school lunches, but if they don't fit your child's needs, please make their lunch and have them bring it with them in the morning. Help us develop a habit of self-reliance and responsibility.

## Important Dates

**School Office reopens - Wednesday, August 10. Hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. until school begins on Wednesday, August 17. The hours are then from 7:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.**

**Kindergarten Parent Orientation - Monday, August 15, 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the Forum**  
**Kindergarten Students Meet the Teacher - Tuesday, August 16, 10:00-11:00 a.m.**

**Classes posted on Tuesday, August 16 after 4 p.m. by Rooms 14 and 15**

**First Day of School - Wednesday, August 17**

**Back to School Night - Thursday, September 1**

Our program here at Matsumoto is challenging, and our expectations are high. Yet, our wonderful students and their families always exceed our expectations. All of us are so excited to be part of a school that delivers such a high-quality educational experience for your children. We are looking forward to what is to come!

Sincerely,

  
James Sherman, Principal