



September 20, 2013

Lakeview Families,

You may have heard that the Skywalker toy on our playground has been closed this week. We have had multiple injuries on this toy since school started. Some of them were severe enough to require stitches. Last year, the yellow handles broke twice. Over the summer they were replaced with a higher grade, thicker, heavier plastic. This, I believe, is why the injuries are more severe this year than they were last year.

After brainstorming different ideas with our facilities and risk management departments, we have decided on what I hope will be a great solution. There are small, rubber stoppers at the end of each bar on the toy. As they are placed now, they are directly over, or depending on the height of the child, in front of the head. Our plan is to move those stoppers further inside the bars on the toy. They will be close enough for children to reach out and grab the handles (we tested this with students of all sizes) but far enough away that the heavy handles will stop at least a foot before they could potentially hit a child's head.

We are hopeful that this will be an easy solution to our problem. We anticipate it will be fixed by mid-week next week and will let the students know as soon as it is open again. Your students have been very patient through this process.

We are happy to announce that a proposal for a new toy to replace the one taken out last year has been submitted to the district for approval. We have discovered that it is quite a complicated and detailed process. As such, the timeline is dependent on a lot of factors but we are optimistic about the students coming back to a complete installation after winter break. My thanks to the wonderful parent committee who has taken this on: Kjerstin Ferullo, Anne Jensen, Jonathan Milstein, Bella Acharya, Jesse Brown, Kari Oliver, and Megan Gardner. The work of these parents is astounding and I am very grateful to be able to work with them on this project.

Our Walk to School Week was very successful! I was thrilled with the number of students who walked! Thanks for supporting your children in this important activity. It was so fun to watch crowds of our students walk onto our campus with parents and siblings. They were able to meet our Pedestrian Bee, Kirkland police officers, and receive prizes each day for walking. Thanks to Molly Rhoten, Jennifer Bosworth, Carmen Andonian, Agustina Reisman, Jennifer Benner, Gia Parsons, Frank Rossi, Sonia Savelli, and all the other parents who jumped in to help (I'm sure I missed someone and if it was you, I'm sorry! Public thank yous are risky!) Thanks also to Menchies and Met Market for donating prizes. We are lucky to live in a generous community.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Rebekah



Important Upcoming Dates

October 8th	Picture Day
October 10th	Scholastic Book fair
October 14th, 15th, and 17th	Goal setting conferences - noon dismissal.
October 18th	No School - Leap Day
October 23rd	Jog a Thon

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**Drop off and Pick Up
Please...**

... pick your students up and drop them off next to the curb. Requiring them to walk across a line of cars is very dangerous.

... stay in your car in the drop off line. Leaving your car unattended causes significant problems.

...pull in behind the line of cars. Do not pass the line of cars and park in front of them.

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Students will receive information packets about the **jog a thon** on October 3rd. This is the PTSA's biggest fundraiser of the year. The district doesn't fund any new playground equipment. Thus, our new equipment will be paid for solely with PTSA funds. Thank you for your support of this important event for our students!

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Sign up information for goal setting conferences will be sent home next week. Look for that early next week.