



# GEORGE HALL NEWSLETTER

**\*\*December 6, 2021\*\* Mrs. Chennault, Principal\*\*A Kind & Inclusive School Community\*\***

**New Student information meetings:** Our school will host three informational meetings during the priority enrollment period. The meetings will be hosted

- in-person on Monday, December 13 at 1:45 PM.
- In-person on Wednesday, January 12 at 8:30 AM.
- virtually on Tuesday, January 25 at 6:00 PM.

All sessions will offer Spanish translation. Participants must show COVID vaccine or a negative test to visit campus. No classroom tours. 2022-2023 new student registration and transfer request information was posted on the District website on Wednesday, December 1. 2022-2023 new student registration and transfer forms open at noon on Monday, December 13. [Please click here](#) to view the Information Slide Deck.

**Gifted And Talented Education (GATE) Program:** San Mateo-Foster City School District offers a wide range of options and structures for our gifted and talented students. Teachers at George Hall differentiate instruction to enrich the state's core content curriculum. In addition to the regular programming for students in our school, students in 3rd and 5th grade have the opportunity to take the GATE assessment to qualify for placement in a Special Day GATE program offered at College Park and Bayside. Participation is by invitation, and selection is based on multiple assessments and teacher recommendation. SMFCSD is currently reviewing the assessment protocols and will send a district communication directly to parents closer to Winter Break.

**Student Council:** Student Council is an organization conducted by students and supervised by adults. The purpose of the student council is to give students an opportunity to develop leadership by organizing and carrying out school activities and service projects. In addition to planning events that contribute to school spirit and community welfare, the student council is the voice of the student body. They help share student ideas, interests and concerns with the school wide community. We are very pleased to have 24 candidates in 4th and 5th grade running for Student Council. Students in grades 3-5 will vote next week and officers will be announced Friday before Winter Break.

**Health & Wellness:** Since the school-wide launch of Second Step, (SMFCSD, social/emotional learning curriculum, students have learned and practiced having a growth mindset and goal setting. In awareness of bullying prevention month in October, students completed the Bully Prevention Unit and learned the skills to recognize, report, and refuse bullying behavior. Furthermore, they also contributed bully prevention poster artwork that was displayed in a collage in the school hallway. Currently, students are now on Unit 2 of Second Step, Emotion management. All students are learning to identify their emotions and strategies to manage strong emotions i.e.: anger, sadness, worrisome. We encourage our families to utilize Second Step's website to engage with their child(ren) to help reinforce the lessons taught at school. To access Second Step's website for families on lesson summaries, prompts and resources please contact your child's teacher for more information.

**Emergency Drill:** While high profile crisis events and instances of violent crimes at school are extremely rare, it is essential that all schools be prepared to respond to emergency situations as part of their school safety and crisis planning and preparation. Current state laws already require certain types of drills (for example, fire drills). We will participate in a District wide emergency drill this Tuesday morning. Students will practice "sheltering in place" and then evacuating classrooms. We will prepare students prior to the drill.

**Sensory Room:** We are creating a new Sensory Room to teach children how to regulate their bodies and emotions so that they have the support to thrive cognitively, academically, emotionally, and socially! We

hope to open this room when students come back from break in January of 2022. The team working on this project is seeking donations to help procure sensory equipment and materials for student use in the new sensory room. Donations can be made through [Amazon](#) Please reach out to Devon Zaky, Inclusion TOSA, with any questions about donations (dzaky@smfc.k12.ca.us).

**Gift Card Drive:** The PTA would like to support George Hall families who are in need of extra holiday cheer with food, clothing and gifts. If you would like to help, please bring a gift card (no cash, please) to the George Hall School office by Monday, December 13, 2021. Some examples of gift cards given in the past have been to Safeway, Target and Trader Joe's. Any amount is welcome!

**Nutrition Policy:** In accordance with Federal Guidelines and Board Policy 5030, the district has a very strict "[Food on Campus](#)" protocol. Due to the many food allergies and sensitivities of our students we find that it's best to not include food in class celebrations at school. Thank you for your understanding. There are many other ways to celebrate and share family traditions with classmates, please reach out to your child's teacher if you wish to do so.

**Calendar:**

Minimum Day, Friday December 17, 2021  
Winter Break, December 20,2021 - January 2, 2022  
Staff Work Day-no students, January 3, 2022  
Staff Development Day-no students, January 4, 2022  
School Resumes for ALL STUDENTS, January 5, 2022

