

# August/September Newsletter

Language Academy of Sacramento

## Welcome to the 25/26 school year!

### Attendance



Unless your child is sick, please make sure they attend school on time, every day. Every minute of child's time at school is important. Children who are absent for even one day, or who arrive later than their classmates, miss valuable instruction time and can easily fall behind in school. When a student is absent from school, it results in a loss of funding for our school. The state of California does not reimburse school offices for days students are absent. Satisfactory school progress is dependent upon regular attendance. Please plan vacation trips and absences for personal reasons during school breaks so that the education process is not disrupted. If a student does not attend his/her assigned class or activity and has not obtained teacher approval to be elsewhere, then the absence shall be presumed unexcused. Students will receive consequences for unexcused absences, which may include parent conference or referral to the student attendance review team. All students (AM TK and 1st-8th) must be in class by 8.05am, Kindergarten students should be in class by 8.35am, and PM TK by 11.35am. If your child is not IN his/her classroom by the time the tardy bell rings, they must go to the office for a tardy slip. All absences must be reported to the office either via phone (916.277.7137), in person to front office staff, email to [Ms. Melani Vazquez Cuellar](#) or [Bibiana Alcalá](#), a written note, or via the Absence Notification Form on the [LAS website](#). Please try to schedule all appointments outside of your child's regular school day. If your child has an appointment during the school day, please bring them to school before or after the appointment so that they miss the least amount of instructional time. We are certain that you will make an effort to ensure that happens.

If your student will be absent for an extended period (3–10 days), please contact [Laura Lomeli](#) at least two weeks in advance to request Independent Study.

Thank you!

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**Back to School Night**

Back to School Night is **Wednesday, September 10th\*** (Details TBA)

\*Jaguar Academy (formerly known as ASES) will not be in session on this day



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## Beginning of the year packets

Your child will go home with a BOY (Beginning of the Year) packet on the first day of school. Please complete it and return to your child's teacher by this **Friday, August 29th**.



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## Dress Code Policy

The LAS Governing Board believes that the development of dress codes and grooming attitudes and behavior patterns is part of the educational experience. LAS is a community where respect is a foundational core value: self-respect, respect for others in the community, and respect for the common learning space we share. The LAS Dress Code exists as a community agreement of the balance between these three pillars of respect. Therefore, wearing clothing, hairstyle, makeup, or jewelry which are distracting or interfere with the study habits of students in class or school, or pose a health or safety risk to the students, are defined as not respectful and hence, not acceptable.

At LAS, we strongly encourage all students to wear school uniforms from Monday to Thursday. The uniform consists of a forest green (dark green) shirt or blouse, a LAS logo shirt (any color) and appropriate pants, jeans, shorts, or skirts. Jeans, without excessive holes, are also acceptable. Each Friday, students are allowed to wear appropriate free-dress.



### Students' attire must adhere to the following guidelines:

- Students must wear clothing including both a shirt with pants or skirts, or the equivalent (dresses or shorts). Examples of unacceptable pants include those with excessive holes or pajama bottoms.
- When the body is standing straight, students must wear clothing that covers the chest, back, torso, stomach, and lower extremities from armpit to armpit to mid-thigh.
- Tops/tank tops must have a strap.
- Clothing must cover all undergarments/underwear and may not be see-through.
- Shoes must be worn at all times. Flip-flops are prohibited.
- Hats, hoods, and head covers must be removed while indoors. Exceptions to this rule may be made for medical or religious reasons.

- Attire and/or grooming depicting or advocating violence, weapons, criminal activity, gang-related activity, use of tobacco, alcohol or drugs, pornography, foul language, hate speech, or clothing that could be considered dangerous or that could be used as a weapon are prohibited.
- Students in grades Transitional Kindergarten-8th will participate in Physical Education classes and will be expected to dress appropriately for their grade level. In 5th-8th grades, students will be expected to wear physical education uniforms during classes.
- Special dress days, such as Student Council Spirit Days, will be announced by school personnel. The dress code may vary on these days and will be announced ahead of time.

**If students are identified as wearing inappropriate attire or footwear, they will be given the opportunity to change into appropriate clothing, if available at the site, or request that a parent bring a change of clothing or footwear. ALL school certificated and classified PERSONNEL shall be responsible for reporting violations of this dress code. Continued violations of the dress code will be referred to administration for disciplinary action, which may include suspension.**

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## Electronic Devices

Students are not allowed to use personal electronic devices including but not limited to cellular/smart phones, iPods, iPads, cameras, laptop computers, and smart watches during core day (8am-2:30pm) or after-school programs or at school wide functions. If a student is in the possession of such devices, these electronic devices should remain off during the entire time the student is on campus. If a student uses an electronic device while on campus, without authorization from a LAS staff member, the device will be removed from his/her possession and the student's parent/guardian will need to personally pick up the confiscated electronic device at a designated time.



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## Expanded Learning Program

If you need to contact our Expanded Learning Program (ELP), feel free to contact them directly at 916.277.7006 or at [elp@lasac.info](mailto:elp@lasac.info). They are available from noon-6pm.

As a reminder, ELP covers Jaguar Academy (formerly known as ASES), Enrichment, and Jaguar Camp.



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## Food allergies

Peanut/tree nut allergies claim more lives each year than any other food allergy. There are students at the Language Academy of Sacramento who have been diagnosed with a serious peanut and/or tree nut allergy that can be life threatening. A child with a serious nut allergy can suffer a severe reaction by ingesting trace amounts or simply touching peanut/tree nut containing foods. LAS staff have been trained to use epinephrine injectors and has some available to use in case of emergency. There are no cures for food allergies, so strictly avoiding the allergy-causing food is the safest plan.



Please help us by voluntarily adhering to the following food allergy safety guidelines:

- Avoid any food items to be eaten as snacks at school with ingredient labels indicating they contain peanuts or peanut butter
- Avoid food items with ingredient labels indicating they were manufactured in a factory that processes nuts
- Parties are a special time for children, but can be difficult for the food-allergic child. In an effort to promote awareness and healthy eating habits, we encourage that you send fresh fruits and vegetables for class celebrations
- If your child eats food with peanuts or peanut butter prior to coming to school, please make sure they wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water before coming to school

This is a learning process for all of us, and we trust you understand the necessity and seriousness of these guidelines. We are sure that together we can ensure the safety of our students!

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## No School

School will not be in session on the following dates:

- Monday, September 1st - Labor Day
- Wednesday, September 17th - Staff Work Day



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## Pick up / Drop off

**Ensuring the safety of our children is a shared responsibility.** To keep pickup and drop-off safe and smooth, especially during the rainy season, we need everyone's cooperation in our small parking lot. You are required to follow the LAS parking rules and traffic procedures below:

**First day of school:**



The first day of school is a very exciting day for students and parents. Everyone is eager to be back on campus, find their classrooms and see their friends. **Please allow additional time to find parking on or off campus.** School staff will be available to help guide students to their classrooms.

### Drop-Off and Pick-Up Do's

- Remain patient and calm.
- Pull up to the crosswalk to prevent unsafe traffic jams.
- Ensure your child has all their materials ready to exit the vehicle promptly to avoid delays.
- Make sure your child stays within the designated areas and does not cross the orange barriers. We have two-lanes open to ensure a quicker process.
- Keep moving towards the crosswalk area in the drop-off and pick-up zone to maintain smooth traffic flow.
- Pay attention and refrain from using cell phones or electronic devices in traffic lanes.
- Follow the direction of school staff to ensure a safe and efficient process.
- Park in the designated visitor and parent parking lot at the front of the school along 49th Street.

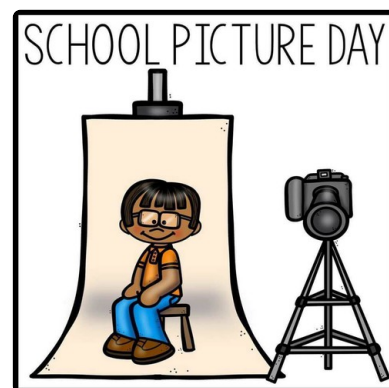
### Drop-Off and Pick-Up Don'ts

- Do not pick up or drop off your student in the staff parking lot. Violators will be towed at the owner's expense.
- Do not park or leave your car unattended along red curbs or behind other cars.
- Do not stop in the middle of the drop-off/pick-up lane or parking lot to drop off or pick up.
- Do not block the crosswalk with your vehicle.
- Do not honk or use inappropriate language with staff or other parents at any time. If you have a concern, please contact the school administration.
- Do not make U-turns in front of the school. It is unsafe, illegal and has caused accidents.
- Do not double-park in the parking lot or roadway.
- Do not park in UC Davis lots. Any violations of this rule will result in the issuance of a parking ticket.
- Do not park in the reserved kitchen parking spaces during designated times. Kitchen staff rely on these spots to serve our students punctually.
- Do not park in Handicap parking spaces unless you have a valid CA issued disabled person(DP) placard or disabled veteran (DV) plates. Violation fines range from \$250-\$1000.

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## Picture Day

Fall Picture Day will be on Thursday, September 25th. All students will have their picture taken on this day. Order forms will be sent out as we get closer to the date.



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## School Meals

As a reminder, all students have access to breakfast from 7:45am to 8:00am (until 8.30 for KG) and lunch at the corresponding grade level time. If your child does not bring lunch to school, please ensure that they are taking advantage of the free school lunch.

[Menu](#)

In addition, please ensure that your child brings a water bottle to school. Hydration is especially important in the hot weather.



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## School Facilities

Please remind your student(s) about the importance of respecting and caring for their school environment. Any damage to school property will result in consequences, including financial responsibility for repairs or replacement.



As outlined in **Education Code 48900**, damage to school or private property is a suspendable offense and may lead to further disciplinary action, including transfer or expulsion.

**Education Code 48900 (f):** Causing or attempting to cause damage to school property or private property.

During a suspension, students are not permitted on campus or allowed to attend any school-related activities. Violation of this rule may also result in legal consequences (PC 626.2).

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## Uniform Sales

The office will resume the sale of uniforms on September 9th. If your child is in 5-8th grade and is still in need of a PE uniform before the 9th, please contact their PE teacher directly.



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## Visitors

Upon dropping off your children at school, if you plan to stay on campus beyond the first 15 minutes of your child's school day, we ask that you check in to the office and obtain a visitors badge.

At the start of the 2025/26 school year, school leadership will hold a School Visitor & Volunteer Orientation Meeting. During this meeting, a detailed process for visiting and volunteering at LAS will be shared.





## About Us

### Mission

The LAS mission is to create a learning environment where students: Utilize bilingualism and biliteracy (Spanish and English) to achieve academic excellence and apply skills in real-world situations and diverse settings. (BILITERACY) Develop and exhibit positive selfesteem, pride, confidence, and respect for themselves and others. (CONFIDENCE AND LIFE SKILLS) Demonstrate leadership skills in order to build bridges between communities and apply critical thinking skills to solve problems, promote social justice, and create change in society. (LEADERSHIP AND CRITICAL THINKING)

### Vision

Our vision is to provide an exceptional Spanish-English bilingual education for all students.

**Website:** [lasac.info](http://lasac.info)

**Location:** [2850 49th Street, Sacramento, CA, USA](#)

**Phone:** [\(916\)277-7137](tel:916277-7137)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/groups/169150456311/](https://facebook.com/groups/169150456311/)



**Laura Lomeli**

Laura is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters