

Monday Blue Newsletter



Ocean Shore School

Pacifica, California

January 31, 2011

Quote of the Week: *“Education is a better safeguard of liberty than a standing army.”* (Edward Everett 1794 - 1865)

Important Dates

- February 1 - 5th grade families: 6th – 8th grade Program Presentation 7 pm OSS Library
- February 2 - School-wide Yearbook photo 8:40 am
- Pacifica School District board meeting 7 pm District Office
- February 3 - Walk/Bike/Carpool to School Day
- Band parent meeting 7 pm
- February 7 - Saving Pacifica Schools presentation 7 pm
- February 8 - PTO Executive Board meeting 7 pm
- February 9 - 6th – 8th grade classroom tour for current 5th grade families and visitors
- Mural painting project 2 pm
- Pacifica School District 21st Century Education presentation 7 pm IBL
- February 10 - Minimum day for select conferences
- Diversity Leadership Group meeting 7 pm
- February 11 - Jump for Heart jump rope event 1:30 pm

News and Information

Thank you for supporting our latest fundraisers. Our World Party extravaganza was a wonderful event for our families. The activities, performances, decorations, and food offerings represented a creative diversity and a partnerships within our school between the fundraising committee, the Diversity Leadership group, and others from our staff and families. Our Mural Raffle raised funds to support the start of refinishing our outdoor ocean mural. We drew the name of our own supportive custodian, Mike Matteucci as the basket winner, and Mike asked that we go to the second name drawn as his goal was to simply support the cause. (Thank you, Mike!) A young student from the PTO general meeting audience drew the names for us, from a stirred pot, and we pulled two names. We are so pleased to congratulate Lu Marla Dea’s family for winning the basket; and want to thank Lu Marla for her extra support in helping us sell tickets!

Our PTO general meeting was well attended and we heard from Kathy Shiokari, our PTO president, and from Debbie Kimball, our PTO treasurer. They shared school and district news and reported on the current state of our finances. Jennifer Mitchell and Melissa Rivera, from the fundraising committee, spoke of our upcoming fundraisers, and Christa Green, from the social committee, spoke of possible upcoming events. Christina Rimmer, from the EAT committee, spoke of the upcoming ‘Carpool, Bike, or Walk’ to school day, reduced trash and waste free lunches on Tuesdays with the February 28 kick-off to composting and renewed recycling efforts with Recology, Sodexo, and our school and district. My principal’s report included information about our playground structure, roofing issues, lunch schedule, 6th – 8th grade program presentation, peer mediation program, tech crew, and our student council projects. To recap for those unable to attend, we need a new playground structure as ours has deteriorated from the weather and elements over time. There is a section that

is boarded off now, and the district is seeking bids for a temporary repair and a permanent replacement. We expect this to be underway in the spring. Our roofing contractor made some additional repairs during January that have held up to the water tests. Our lunch schedule has settled into a workable model now that we have our kindergarten and first grade students eating twenty minutes earlier alone in the MPR. This helps with the second and third grade lunch as they now also have a more peaceful atmosphere inside. Our peer mediation program is underway with support from Dena Cuyjet and Deanne Spasic, of the Diversity Leadership Group, and coordination by our school counselor, Rachel Gladstone. Our tech crew have been working with David Bradley and Scott Kinzey to learn the lights and sound equipment to support assemblies and presentations. Our Student Council officers are kicking off the collection of pennies for the Pennies for Peace program that supports schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan, with the guidance of Celeste Languille. We appreciate all the hard work from our staff, PTO, students, and community to provide such an enriching educational program for our students.

*Laura Shain
Principal*

The yearbook is now on sale! There are price discounts on both hard over and soft cover books if you purchase before January 31, 2011. Hard cover books go from the current \$39. To \$45, and soft cover from \$33. To \$40. There are opportunities for memory squares for messages to the graduating class. Please put checks made out to the OSS PTO in the Cittadini/Babb parent folder. Contact Denise Cittadini at 650-619-3243 or denisearn@hotmail.com. Thanks!

Walk/Bike/Carpool to School Day - February's Walk/Bike/Carpool to School Day is scheduled for Thursday, February 3. Help reduce your carbon footprint - you will save one pound of carbon emission for every mile you don't drive!

21st Century Education Workshop - Join Pacifica School Volunteers, Pacifica Education Foundation and Pacifica School District professional learning facilitator, Steve Kesel, for a free, interactive workshop for parents exploring the new model of education for the 21st Century. Parents and guardians will learn what is meant by 21st Century Education, understand how Pacifica classrooms are changing to meet the demands our children will face, explore ways to help our children succeed in our evolving world and discover online resources. The workshop will be held in the library of Ingrid B. Lacy (IBL) Middle School, Wednesday, February 9 at 7 pm. Space is limited. Please call 650.355.9432 or email psv@pacificasd.org to register.

Jump for Heart packets will go out on Monday. We are raising funds to support the American Heart Association and promote heart health. We will have a school-wide jump rope event on February 11, the day the donations are due.

Our **Student Council** is collecting pennies for the "Pennies for Peace" project to support schools in Afghanistan. This international service learning program can be seen at penniesforpeace.org. Please send your extra pennies to the classrooms for our penny collection. Classroom rewards will be earned for collecting pennies and there will be a contest for most pennies collected. Details will be provided in next week's newsletter, but the pennies can begin coming in now.

Aluminum Can and Plastic Bottle Drive This Friday. Please bring your empty aluminum cans and plastic beverage bottles to the turnaround before school this Friday, February 4. This recycling program is run by the 8th grade class and supported by the Environmental Action Team (EAT.). Please save your cans and bottles for future drives to be held the first Friday of the month.

www.oceanshoreschool.org