

Monday Blue Newsletter



Ocean Shore School

Pacifica, California

September 14, 2009

Quote of the Week: "Don't interfere with anything in the Constitution. That must be maintained, for it is the only safeguard of our liberties." (Abraham Lincoln, 1809 - 1865)

Important Dates

- September 14 - Field Trip Training – 7 PM.
- September 16 - Back-to-School Night (see times below).
- September 17 - Constitution Day.
 - GATE Testing (4th grade and new students).
- September 18 - Movie Night – Disney's *Earth* 7 PM.
- September 19 - Coastal Clean-Up Day (9 – 11:30 AM; Celebration 12 – 1:30 PM)
- September 21 - Computer and Library Open
- September 23 - PTO General Meeting 7 PM
- September 24 - School Site Council Meeting 3:30 Conference Room
- September 28 - After-School Enrichment begins

News and Information

We celebrate **National Constitution Day** in schools on Thursday, September 17 each year. The Constitution is the primary law of the United States and it describes the three branches of the federal government. It lays out the basic rights of the citizens of the United States and is the landmark legal document. The Bill of Rights was added and contains the first ten amendments. The Bill of Rights limits the powers of the federal government, protects the rights of all citizens, residents, and visitors on United States territory. There are currently 27 amendments to the Constitution. The Center for Civic Education has lesson plans for all age levels. Our youngest students can learn what the constitution is and what it does for them. Intermediate students can learn about the preamble and the meaning of the phrase "We the people." For our older students, the federal system of government can be learned and examining the Bill of Rights is an opportunity to learn about actions that are protected or limited with the freedom of speech.

Please plan on attending your students' classroom Back-to-School Night presentations on Wednesday, September 16 to learn about the plans for the year and the routines for the classroom. We have staggered the times to help families with multiple classrooms to visit. **The evening begins at 5:00 for students in Matt Hayden's classroom. At 5:30 the Kindergarten presentations begin. At 6:00 the First, Second, and Third grade teachers begin their**

presentations. At 7:00 the Sixth and Seventh grade teachers start their presentations. (The 4/5 and 8th grades met last week.)

Library Help Needed: We are getting ready to open our Library on Monday, Sept. 21st. We will need volunteers to staff the library during classroom visits, recess times and lunch times. We also have ongoing work available with book repair and maintenance. We have the following trainings coming up:

- **Library Aide -- Monday, Sept. 14th 8:45 - 10:30 AM**
- **Library Aide -- Wednesday, Sept. 16th 8:45 - 10:30 AM**
- **Book Repair / Maintenance -- Monday, Sept. 28th 8:45 - 10:30 AM**

If you are interested in working in the library, please contact Teri Voorhes, Library Co-Coordinator, at teriryan13@yahoo.com / 650-738-6997. Please know that our library is completely run by our parent volunteers. We appreciate all the help we can get.

FROM THE OFFICE: Regarding medications at school. No medications should be in the personal possession of students - this includes inhalers. Prescription medication must be kept in the office on file with the proper approval from the student's physician. If your child is using over-the-counter medication, this also needs to be kept in the office with a note from the parent. This note should include student's name, reason for medication, parent signature, and exact directions for administering the medication. Thank you for your cooperation.

Coastal Cleanup Day on Saturday, September 19! Ocean Shore students are encouraged to go to the Sharp Park beach for the clean up activities from 9 AM to 11:30. At noon, at the Sharp Park Beach, there will be a celebratory drum circle. Please bring a drum or other instruments.

Homework Center returns on Monday, September 21. Students, please join Dottie, our RSP aide, and Jeffrey, Oceana student, in the library after school on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays for drop-in homework support from 2:45 – 3:45. This wonderful program is available to us again this year with funds from the county.

Environmental Action Team (EAT) Meeting on Tuesday, September 22 from 6:30 – 8:00. Parents, students and staff interested in keeping Ocean Shore green are encouraged to attend the first EAT meeting of the year. This year's plans include helping the kids grow produce for the Pacifica Resource Center, and upgrading the weedy "Curve Garden" to an attractive part of the playground. If you value sustainable practices in your school, join us! Childcare provided during the meeting. Contact Kathy Kellerman, EAT member, for more information.

The After-School Enrichment Program will begin on Monday, September 28. Look for information in the coming weeks. For questions or suggestions, email Heidi Lucey (Barton) at leopictures@hotmail.com. Please include *After-School Enrichment* in the subject line.