

# Monday Blue Newsletter



Ocean Shore School   Laura Shain, Principal   Pacifica, California   November 2, 2009

Quote of the Week: *“Somewhere, sometime, the leader within each of us may get the call to step forward.”* (James M. Kouzes and Barry Z. Posner)

## Important Dates

- November 12        - Book Fair opens
- November 13        - Elna Flynn Dinner
- November 16        - Conferences / Minimum Day
- November 17        - Conferences / Minimum Day
- November 18        - Conferences / Minimum Day
- November 19        - Conferences / Minimum Day
- November 20        - Conferences / Minimum Day
- November 23 - 27   - No School (teacher work furlough / holiday)

## News and Information

We have had a tremendous outpouring of enthusiasm for positions on our new Student Council for our fourth through eighth grade students. The positions will be appointed based on student applications and with the goal of forming a diverse group that well represents our student population. Our goal for a Student Council is to provide our students with a voice and representation from a range of student leaders, and to provide those leaders with experience in leadership, governance, and advocacy. The group itself will help form the roles of the Student Council and make decisions about the positions.

Students on the Council will learn how to connect with the student population here at Ocean Shore. One of their roles will be to gather and share information. They will also work towards furthering the sense of community through activities and spirit events. The students' responsibilities and involvement will be progressive as they rise through the grades from fourth through eighth. Our sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students are ready for a higher level of engagement with our community. Representatives from this group will participate in our School Site Council meetings, will address our PTO Board periodically, and will interact with guests to our school as appropriate. Our students will also be curricular leaders as they will coordinate some thought-provoking writing activities.

We are also restarting a peer medication program that will engage students in conflict management strategies and help our students learn to solve problems through discussion.

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The **Diversity Leadership Group** invites you to *join* us in our meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. We will be discussing issues, such as “Celebrate Diversity Day” and National Holidays and how our school will embrace and celebrate them. Please contact us by e-mailing [diversityleadershipgroup@yahoo.com](mailto:diversityleadershipgroup@yahoo.com) with any questions or topics. Our next meeting is scheduled for November 3 at 7:00 PM.

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Just a reminder that the deadline is fast approaching for families wishing to purchase a brick to add to the **school brick garden**. For a minimum donation of \$50 you can have your own little piece of ground, and leave your family's legacy at our wonderful school for generations to come. Profits from the sale of bricks help our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students with their graduation costs. Please put your form and check in the Vardigans’ family folder. Extra forms (red-brick colored) are on the table in the parent hallway. If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Vardigans at 650-359-7440, or [sjvardigans@aol.com](mailto:sjvardigans@aol.com).

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Our **Fall Clusters** were a fantastically enriching experience for our students on Friday. Thank you to everyone who made this day so successful. The clusters offered a wide array of hands-on learning experiences, with mixed-age groups. The day was quite impressive. Underdog was a great parade leader and while Ocean Shore students may not understand the concept of a parade line, they did enjoy sharing their costumes with so many family members on the sidelines.

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"First Friday" **Aluminum Can and Plastic Bottle Drive**: Please bring your empty aluminum cans and plastic beverage bottles to the turnaround on Friday, November 6 before or after school. This recycling program is run by the 7th 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 each month.

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**H1N1 Flu** reminder: If students have the flu they should not return to school until at least 24 hours after the fever has subsided without the aide of medication. Students home sick with the flu should not be out in public as the flu is contagious. Please know that our district is following the county health regulations regarding our response to the H1N1 flu and are in close communication as recommendations are amended.

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**Kindergarten siblings** for the next school year (2010 - 2011) need to be registered with Patricia in the front office to reserve a spot for next year’s kindergarten. If you do not register your child prior to the January deadline, you will lose your sibling status and have to go on the waitlist. Please contact Patricia as soon as possible to register kindergarten siblings.

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FROM THE OFFICE: **Kindergarten sibling enrollment** is underway! If you have a child who will be 5 years of age on or before December 2, 2010, your child is eligible to attend school in the fall 2010. Applications are available in the office. The deadline for returning them to the office is January 8, 2010.