

Monday Blue Newsletter



Ocean Shore School Laura Shain, Principal Pacifica, California November 30, 2009

Quote of the week: *“Insight, I believe, refers to the depth of understanding that comes by setting experiences, yours and mine, familiar and exotic, new and old, side by side, learning by letting them speak to one another.”* (Mary Catherine Bateson, 1939 -)

Important Dates

- November 30 - Advance Band schedule change begins (see note below)
- December 1 - Diversity Leadership Committee Meeting 7 PM (Staff Room)
- December 6 - PPP day at Ocean Shore 10 AM
- December 8 - Band Parent Meeting 7 PM (**DATE CORRECTION**)
 - Tobacco Use Prevention Presentation 8th grade 2 PM
 - PTO Executive Board Meeting 7 PM
- December 10 - Winter Bazaar
- December 17 - Winter Band Concert 7 PM

News and Information

We hope everyone was able to take time to enjoy their families and loved ones during the break last week. As we begin December and life gets perhaps too busy, let us all take time to appreciate the many voices and perspectives we share here at Ocean Shore School. The holidays can remind us of the universals of the human spirit and the diversity of our experiences and cultures. As a school that serves many, we keep in mind that our students may celebrate a variety of holidays or none at all this season.

We have come together at Ocean Shore to create a school and community that reflect our individual and collective educational goals for the children. We reach toward this goal by being present, by sharing our thoughts, and by listening with open minds. The commitment that parents make to volunteer hours at the school is serious and carries a great impact. We have created a wild garden, an organically developing kaleidoscope of who we are and where we are going. We are here because we embrace this structure and appreciate the choral aspect of our voices.

Let us be sure to pause and appreciate the hard work and dedication of all of us – teachers, staff, parents, family members, community volunteers – to develop a positive self and group identity for our magnificent students, one that is rich in character, knowledge, creativity, and thinking capacity. Let’s continue to approach one another with kindness, compassion, and humor as the days get shorter and the ‘to do’ lists grow longer. I would like to extend a personal thank you to all of you who are giving to our school community, and to those who have reached out to share opinions and experiences with me as I learn about Ocean Shore’s unique history and dynamic.

Visit us again at oceanshoreschool.org! Please continue to be patient while our **PTO website** undergoes a final transformation that will have it completely upgraded and user-friendly shortly.

Diversity Leadership Group News: December is 'Universal Human Rights' Month. There are exciting and interesting things occurring this month. Please remember to join the Diversity Leadership Group to discuss events and cultures that you would like to see recognized at our school. The next meeting has been scheduled for December 1, 2009 at 7 PM in the staff lounge.

"First Friday" Aluminum Can and Plastic Bottle Drive: Please bring your empty aluminum cans and plastic beverage bottles to the turnaround before or after school on Friday, December 4. 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.

Please join PPP this Sunday, December 6 from 10 AM to 2 PM. We'll be working on building the Curve Garden Stage (now that we have District approval!) and the Butterfly Garden, planting before the winter rains, and a bit of weeding. Sound like fun? Come join us! Contact christinarimmer@yahoo.com for more information.

The Rob Schneider Music Foundation is having a tree lot again this year. All proceeds will benefit the Pacifica School District instrumental music program. Please consider us for your holiday tree needs from November 28 through December 19 at Park Pacifica Stables, 650 Cape Breton Drive. The lot is open from 4 – 9 PM on Mondays through Fridays, and from 9 AM – 9 PM on Saturdays and Sundays.

Please do not park in the staff parking lot before or during school. Parking is available in the lot across from TTT or on the following streets: Oceana Boulevard, Nelson*, Monterey* (*these entrance gates are locked at 9:15 AM). To just drop students off, use the turnaround entrance on Edgemar Avenue. Remember, some of our staff members are scheduled to arrive after 8:25 and others leave briefly and return so please don't assume an empty spot in the staff lot is available.

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.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Ocean Shore Food Drive this year. We collected over 50 boxes that the Pacifica Resource Center was grateful to receive as their shelves were quite empty. The Resource Center Director, Pat Paik, commented on the high quality of the donated food; food that people will be very happy to receive. A special thank you to Tina Lee (Kapp) for organizing the collection and delivery of all those cans, boxes and jars!

Band schedule change: Please be aware that the 7th and 8th grade advance band will begin to meet at 8:25, rather than before the school day starts, after the Thanksgiving holiday break. Please make every effort to arrive at the band classroom on time with instruments ready at 8:25.

Our **Annual Talent Show** will occur on March 5, 2010 at 10:30 AM and 7 PM this year. The first meeting to plan for the event will be on January 4, 2010. We encourage students to start working on their performance routines over the break. The first practice will be on January 11 at 3 PM. Please contact Antoinette Cresci de la Torre for more information.
