

Monday Blue Newsletter



Ocean Shore School Laura Shain, Principal Pacifica, California December 7, 2009

Quote of the week: *"No one has ever become poor by giving."* (Anne Frank, 1929 - 1945)

Important Dates

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| December 8 | - Band Parent Meeting 7 PM
- Tobacco Use Prevention Presentation 8 th grade 2 PM
- PTO Executive Board Meeting 7 PM |
| December 10 | - Winter Bazaar 2:30 – 6 PM |
| December 15 | - Superintendent Search Forum at Ocean Shore Library 7 PM |
| December 16 | - Superintendent Search Forum at District Office 2 PM |
| December 17 | - Winter Band Concert 7 PM |
| January 28 | - Ocean Shore 6 th – 8 th Grade Program Presentation 7 PM |

News and Information

Each day this past week brought a new and unique challenge to our school, most crucially the loss of heat due to a slow leak in the gas line on the roof. This may have been caused by water build-up from the heavy rains we experienced earlier in the year. Our roofing is still under warranty and will be undergoing repairs this year. While some classrooms enjoyed their southern exposure and solar warming, many were chilly. The spirit of winter was in the air as so many were bundled in scarves and warm coats. Our maintenance department worked quickly to arrange for repairs and PG&E came out for a final test before we were able to turn the heating system back on. Again I would like to thank everyone for being patient during this cold week.

Each day there is so much activity in all the classrooms. As I walked around this week I saw students preparing for their trip to Sutter's Fort, learning to count by 5's and tell time, embarking on their first editing lesson within writer's workshop, practicing the use of proper nouns, building tubes for a marble run during a balance and motion science lab, reading with buddies from Shelley's class, preparing for the holiday bazaar, working with water pressure, reading in literature groups, and participating in many other learning experiences. It is incredible to see how engaged our students are and to see the variety of approaches that are used during the lessons prepared by our teachers.

Please come by this week and join us for the Holiday Bazaar. As you know proceeds will benefit our local community and the PTO family emergency fund. Please come browse the baskets in the main hallway for the silent auction, and shop the crafts made by the students on Thursday in the Multi-Purpose Room to help support our efforts to teach community service and responsibility to our students.

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.

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 to 9 PM on Mondays through Fridays, and from 9 AM to 9 PM on Saturdays and Sundays.

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.

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 the school office for more information.

The **Diversity Leadership Group** would like to encourage you to take time to explore at least one new culture with your child or children. What is another name for St. Nicholas? What is a menorah? What is a karamu? Do you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or Three Kings Day? Maybe you celebrate St. Lucia Day or Ramadan or Diwali. Chances are someone you know may observe one, more, or even none of these events. December offers great opportunities for learning about our multicultural world. Enjoy the wonderful world around us.

This is an update on the dispersal of funds from the **Winter Bazaar**. As noted in the PTO newsletter, money raised from the Bazaar traditionally is first disbursed to the Tribune Holiday Fund. Any balance beyond the first \$4,000 is then deposited in the PTO Family Emergency Fund. This year there has been an increased need for assistance from this fund. Out of concern for our Ocean Shore families in need, the staff would like to have the first \$1,000 raised go directly to the PTO Emergency Fund. If there is any concern regarding this change please contact Principal Laura Shain or myself. Thank you for your continued support of our outreach efforts and see you at the Bazaar!

Superintendent Search Update: There will be three opportunities to give input pertaining to the PSD Superintendent search. RJ Gatti Associates, the firm hired to conduct the search, will hold public forums on the following dates: **December 15 at 7:00 PM at the Ocean Shore Library and Cabrillo MPR; and December 16 at 2:00 PM at the District Office.** This is your chance to discuss your vision for our school district and its leadership for the coming years. Please make every effort to attend and participate in one of these forums.