

Monday Blue Newsletter



Ocean Shore School Laura Shain, Principal Pacifica, California January 11, 2010

Quote of the week: *“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.”* (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 1929 - 1968)

Important Dates

- January 12 - Band Parent Meeting 7 PM
- OSS PTO Executive Board Meeting 7 PM
- January 15 - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration
- January 16 - eWaste for OSS/Vallemar at Vallemar School 9 AM – 4 PM
- January 17 - eWaste for OSS/Vallemar at Ocean Shore School 9 AM – 2 PM
- January 18 - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday (no school)
- January 19 - EAT Meeting 6:30 PM in Office Conference Room
- January 27 - PTO General Meeting 7 PM
- January 28 - School Site Council Meeting 3:30 PM
- Ocean Shore 6th – 8th Grade Program Presentation 7 PM

News and Information

We have been working with the district maintenance department this past week on some site building issues. Our school building is relatively new and there are some areas that need repair while the building is still under warranty. On Friday I walked through the school inspecting each room with the maintenance department, county lawyer, and the architect representative for signs of leaks after the winds and rain earlier this year. The inspection concluded with an exciting foray up onto the roof of B wing. We also need to take care of the interior of our building. We are working with our students in the cafeteria, classrooms, and break-out rooms to clean up after themselves. We need to be particularly vigilant about food left out in rooms around the school.

An inspirational approach to early childhood educational programs in the Italian city Reggio Emilia, founded by Loris Malaguzzi in the 1940s, produced a strong child-directed curriculum. An aspect of this approach focuses on the physical environment in schools. The look and feel of the school, from the first step in through the front door, is thought to have a strong impact on student learning and shows how the school considers its students. The aesthetics within the school are an important reflection of the respect toward the students and the learning environment. The environment in Reggio Emilia schools also reflects playfulness, creativity, student autonomy, exploration, and problem solving.

We will keep you informed about our building issues throughout the year. Please join us in helping to keep our environment tidy and attractive as a reflection of our school’s self-respect and in recognition of the impact our surroundings have on our peace of mind and learning capacity.

In celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. we will be listening to part of his "I Have a Dream" speech on Friday, January 15 when school begins. Jonathan will be playing a song with his guitar accompanied by all the students. **In honor of the memory of Dr. King, we encourage all students to dress-up for the occasion.** This will be our 2nd annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. celebration, It was a great success last year!

Alice's class is having a fundraiser on Wednesday, January 20 after school. We will be selling It's Its for \$2 to support our train trip to Sacramento. Please join us for a cool treat! Thank you.

News from the Environmental Action Team (EAT): Curve Garden Stage - A big shout out to Matt Dohrmann (designer extraordinaire), Lance Quevado, Elbert Dang, Scott Cuyjet and Eric Rimmer for all their hard work at the PPP in December. The stage is 90% complete thanks to the hard work from these folks, and the kids have been playing on it regularly!

EAT Meeting - The next EAT meeting is Tuesday, January 19 at 6.30 PM in the Office Conference Room. There's lots to plan for 2010 so come help out and find out about ways to earn hours on the weekends!

PPP - The next PPP is scheduled for February 7. There's lots to participate in, from helping build the butterfly garden, finishing the stage, laying the last flagstones, weeding, planting during the rainy season (the best time!), and as always, a bit of trash pick up. Come help earn hours - children are welcome!

We are able to offer our **Homework Center** as an after school enrichment opportunity. Please see the email message from Heidi regarding signing up for this program. Students are welcome to drop in for the Homework Center on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays at \$6/hour from 2:45 – 3:45. Regular enrollment at \$5/hour is available through the office.

Yearbooks are now on sale! Hard cover books are \$39. and soft cover books are \$33. until January 31st . Reserve your copy today. Please send Tanya Guido photographs that she can use for the 2009 – 2010 yearbook. Also, please consider purchasing 8th grade *Memory Squares* for \$20 each for graduating students.

Every other month, Michelle Lacourciere travels to Haiti for work on a **humanitarian project**. She takes the allotted 100 pounds of luggage filled with children's clothing, shoes, and medicine. She needs more luggage (used duffle bags, suitcases) that can hold 50 lbs. for the January 20, 2010 trip. Please drop off baggage donations to the Parent Room by the end of this week. More will be needed in the future also. Contact Michelle with questions at (650) 359-8150.

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.
