

Monday Blue Newsletter



Ocean Shore School Laura Shain, Principal Pacifica, California January 19, 2010

Quote of the week: *“For me, an area of moral clarity is: you're in front of someone who's suffering and you have the tools at your disposal to alleviate that suffering or even eradicate it, and you act.”* (Dr. Paul Farmer. 1959 -)

Important Dates

- January 19 - EAT Meeting 6:30 PM in Office Conference Room
- January 20 - It's Its \$2 Fundraiser for Alice's class (see below)
- January 22 - Kindergarten Lottery at Vallemar MPR 3 PM
- Student Council Officers meeting 12:15
- January 25 - Talent Show practice 3 PM
- 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

Our community celebrated the achievements of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Friday. Our Student Council Presidents, Anders Chippendale and Jordan McGahan spoke briefly about Dr. King on the public address system as an introduction to an excerpt of his “I Have A Dream” speech. This was followed by a spirited singing of “This Little Light Of Mine” led by Jonathan and four students from his 4/5 classroom also through the public address system. Students and staff, dressed in their finest, lined the hallways and joined the singing. Coming together in this way to honor the memory and accomplishments inspired by Martin Luther King was a truly meaningful experience for us all.

We have several efforts underway to help the survivors and citizens in Haiti after the devastating earthquake last week. We are collecting funds and supplies to send to Haiti through parent Michelle Lacourciere, Director of the Sirona Cares Foundation. Michelle is arranging a massive shipment of humanitarian aide that will be shipped out on a Coast Guard ship. Please bring supplies (clothing, shoes, medical supplies, sheets and towels, and plastic storage boxes) to the OSS Parent Room. Teri Voorhes is helping deliver these supplies as they arrive. Please check out sironacares.org for more information. And next week we will host a bake sale organized by the Dickson family to raise funds for the relief effort. Last week our Student Council Members learned about the current situation in Haiti and made posters to advertise the collection of supplies. Anthropologist, doctor, and humanitarian Paul Farmer has been working in Haiti for over 20 years through the Partners in Health non-profit corporation. To see images from Port-au-Prince and read about the ways to support this Caribbean country, check out the pih.org website. He is the subject of Tracy Kidder's amazing book [Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, A Man Who Would Cure the World.](#)

NEW! Coastside Children's Chorus! 8-12 year olds are invited to join Spindrift School of Performing Arts' new choral music program held on Fridays, 3:40-4:30 PM. Instruction started January 15, but feel free to join in on the Winter Session, Friday, January 22 through March 26 (\$120 for 10 sessions). Call SSPA for more information and to register, 738-8648 or www.SpindriftSchool.org

Environmental Action Team (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.

The Pacifica School District still has immediate openings in the **Mid-Year Kindergarten Program** held at Linda Mar Educational Center. This morning program is a perfect introduction to kindergarten for children who have reached 5 years of age. For more information, contact Student Services at 650-738-6606.

The San Mateo County Health System is now offering free **H1N1 flu vaccination** walk-in clinics throughout the County. These clinics are open to everyone older than six months of age. To accommodate vaccinating as many residents as possible, there are multiple locations covering all four regions of the County.

Parents Supporting Parents is brought to the community by Pacifica Parks, Beaches and Recreation and the Partnership for a Safe and Healthy Pacifica. 2010 is the fourth year Jenna Gilman, MFT, has facilitated a monthly free discussion group for parents and caregivers of children attending middle and high schools in Pacifica. Jenna prepares for a specific topic each month and allows for the needs of parents to emerge naturally – she honors and addresses each one. The overarching goal of these discussions is to help parents foster healthy, on-going two-way communication which helps to build a positive relationship. Parents are able to make connections and form support networks they previously may not have had when they learn others are having similar experiences, challenges and successes. No parent in Pacifica has to go it alone raising their teen(s). For more information, please contact Jenna Gilman, MFT, 650-557-0304; or Nancy Eagan, the Partnership, 650-550-7943.

The Mandatory January General Meeting is quickly approaching! The date is **January 27** from 7 - 9 PM in the Multi-Purpose Room. This is a mandatory meeting and at least one representative from each Ocean Shore family must attend. Limited childcare will be available. Please check the parent hall bulletin board for sign-ups starting this week (limit 30 spots, first come first served, no infants – please do not add names beyond the 30 spots on the list). Please send an email to kshiokari@sbcglobal.net if you cannot attend.

Mark Friday, April 30 for **OSS Giants Night!** The Giants will be playing the Colorado Rockies at 7:15. We have 50 tickets reserved in our favorite Section 317. Tickets are \$13.00 each, and guarantees a beautiful view of AT&T Park and the bay, as well as the company of fun fans. If you would like to reserve seats, make out a check to OSSPTO and walk up to D-66 or leave in Connie Tse's faculty mailbox in the office. Go Giants!

The upcoming **Rob Schneider Music Foundation Night of 1/2 Dozen Stars** still has reservations available. If you want to make yours, you will need to do so before January 30. You can make your reservation by going to www.robschneidermusicfoundation.org. If you cannot make it to the event, but would like to make a donation to the foundation, you can go to the website and make a tax-deductible donation in any amount. Rob Schneider will be assisting our own Tom Stafford as Master of Ceremonies throughout the evening and during the auction. Hope to see you there to help support our invaluable music program.

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.