

Monday Blue Newsletter



Ocean Shore School Laura Shain, Principal Pacifica, California February 8, 2010

Quote of the week: *"The life and love we create is the life and love we live."* Leo F. Buscaglia (1924 - 1998) Happy Valentine's Day.

Important Dates

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| February 8 | - Diversity Leadership Group Meeting 7 PM (all welcome) |
| February 10 | - 6 th – 8 th Grade Program Tour 10:45 AM |
| February 11 | - "Step-Up" Day for 5 th – 7 th grade students 11:30 AM |
| February 11, 12 | - Minimum Days for select conferences |
| February 12 | - Valentine Cards made by students available in main hallway AM and PM |
| | - eWaste pick up |
| February 15 – 19 | - School Holiday |

News and Information

As we head into the approaching Valentine's Day holiday, a student asked me if the 8th grade assignment to write a compliment to each classmate on a heart was my idea? It wasn't but it struck me that the student made that assumption and is picking up on my vibe. I strongly believe in the power of sharing positive observations. This student, away from peers, said he thought it was a great idea because while one often thinks about their close friends and why they appreciate them, one doesn't usually take the time to appreciate traits in people they aren't as close to. And no, he wasn't trying to get me to intercede on a discipline issue or to install a snack machine in B wing. Our students will often share a different side to themselves than what they share around large groups of peers, when they are alone, in small groups, or in mixed-age groups. Giving them that opportunity at a school like Ocean Shore is a tremendous gift to our older students. It keeps them in touch with a side of themselves that can get buried during these years.

Our Student Council Officers read through the submissions for the Question of the Week project and rated each response for originality, creative thinking, and thoughtfulness. Three responses tied with the highest ranking and we congratulate the students below for their written answers. They will be awarded certificates by the Student Council Officers and tokens of appreciation (some awesome pencils). Thank you to everyone who submitted a response. A new question will be posted this week. Responses can be turned in to teachers, the office, or emailed to OSS.QOTW@hotmail.com.

QOTW response to: *What would you like to see happen in the world in 2010 and how would the world be changed?*

Audrey Bartlett: **In 2010 I want to see the world go green and white. Green for the Americas, Africa, Asia, Europe and Australia's animals and white for Antarctica's animals.**

Hank Lie: **What I would like to see in the world in 2010 would be to have the buildings in Haiti get rebuilt in better conditions so they will be ready if there is another earthquake.**

Jaden Rivera: **I want to see a rocket go to another planet like Neptune! It will be cool!**

Our students will each make one **Valentine Card** as they learn about the heart condition, **Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy** that has afflicted local Pacificans as well as young sports players. Please come by on February 12 in the morning or at dismissal to gather your students' cards, learn more about this condition, and consider a donation to support research and education efforts. Student-made cards are not for sale – they are to take regardless of whether a donation is made. Contact parent Amy Mayo for information.

Please continue to bring items in for our **Haitian Relief** efforts. Clothing, shoes, medical supplies, and plastic containers are still needed. Bring your donations to Room A25.

From the Office – The **Lost and Found** closet is getting very full. We will soon take items to Goodwill. Please stop by to see if your child has lost outerwear, glasses, food container, etc. The office also has smaller, more expensive items including bike locks. If you know the combinations, they are yours.

Help Your Child Succeed in School - Many parents want to support their children with school but are not always clear about how. **Pacifica School Volunteers is offering a free workshop**, Tuesday, February 23, from 7 – 9 PM in the IBL Library. Dr. Gardiner, School Psychologist, and Janet Nelles, Resource Teacher, will provide an overview of child development, followed by interactive activities with guidance and tips for academic expectations and parent roles and supports for different age (K-8) groups. Reservations are required: Call Pacifica School Volunteers at 355-9432 today to reserve your space. Light refreshments will be provided.

Pacifica Education Foundation's District Donation Day is set for Thursday, February 25. Watch for the official announcement from Superintendent Susan Vickrey. The goal is to raise \$7500 district-wide so that we can hit our overall membership goal of \$50,000, enabling us to launch our 21st Century Learning Skills Program in the Fall of 2010. **\$5.00 per child** can get us there! For more information about PEF, go to <http://www.pacificaef.org/>. Volunteers will be collecting donations at drop-off and pick-up locations. Please help support PEF. Meeting our goals will enable us to seek outside donations from corporations and philanthropic organizations. If you have questions, please contact Julie Phillips: julie.phillips@stanfordalumni.org.

Diversity Leadership Group's January event was exciting! Thank you to all who participated in the Martin Luther King Jr. celebration. The children had a wonderful time singing, listening to a speech excerpt, and dressing up. We are looking forward to this month with **Celebrate Diversity Day**. We have changed our meeting day to the second Monday of the month. Please save the dates: February 8, March 8, April 12, May 10, and June 14. Meetings will still be held at 7 PM in the Staff Room.

We will be **collecting e-waste** for families who missed the e-waste drop off day at Vallemar. The new date is Friday February 12 for the e-waste run. We need volunteers to help with the e-waste run. Do you have a truck? If so we are looking for you. Would like to help out? If we do not have volunteers for the e-waste run we will not be able to make the run so please let me know as soon as possible. Please email Melissa Rivera at mamarivera916@yahoo.com if you have e-waste or can help with the e-waste run.

Please support our **Student Council's SOCK DRIVE** efforts! We are seeking at least one pair of new, white, men's athletic socks from each of our students and staff (a total of 400) to donate to a homeless relief program. Socks can be given to classroom teachers or brought to the office Conference Room throughout February. Show our Student Council that we can effect change in small and large ways by education, compassion, and giving.