

# Monday Blue Newsletter



Ocean Shore School

Pacifica, California

September 27, 2010

Quote of the Week: *"Societies need rules that make no sense for individuals. For example, it makes no difference whether a single car drives on the left or on the right. But it makes all the difference when there are many cars!"* (Marvin Minski, 1927 - present)

## Important Dates

- September 27 - 8<sup>th</sup> graders at Yosemite all week
- September 30 - PSD School Board Candidate Night at Cabrillo 7 pm
- October 2 - Rob Schneider Music Foundation Gala 6 pm
- October 5 - PSV Math Workshop for K- 5<sup>th</sup> at IBL 7 pm
- October 6 - Walk, Bike, or Carpool to School Day
- October 7 - DLG Meeting with Cookies and Tea 6:30 pm
- October 8 - Outdoor Movie Night
- October 12 - Life Touch Picture Day (CHANGED from 10/5/10)
- PSV Math Workshop for 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> at IBL 7 pm

## News and Information

If has come to our attention that we are having some problems with the yard and pick up practices after school. Now that we have our recess supervision running smoothly, it's time to focus on the adults in our community and be clear with our rules, expectations, and routines.

We have had to change the timing of when we unlock some of the gates around campus at the end of the day to ensure safety when our students are still out on the yard during minimum day and Wednesday lunches. Student lunch and recess ends at 12:45 on those days, and the gates remain locked while students are present. Please refrain from jumping over the fence when the gates are locked. Our students look to all of us as role models and may mimic the adult behavior. We also need to be alert to strangers jumping over our fences and do not want it to be something that is considered normal behavior. We often have substitute custodians during the day and the schedule is not followed as closely as we plan. It is helpful to us when you notice the gates are locked in the morning or at the end of the day if you call the office from a cell phone and let us know.

Our kindergarten students have four more weeks of early dismissal and pick-up. Please be aware that our older students are fast and powerful as they run around on the yard and on the upper-level play structure during their lunch recess. Kindergarten students still on campus after noon with a parent, should be very cautious when they are playing outside the kindergarten playground. Please supervise closely.

We also need to remind our community that dogs are not allowed on school campuses unless they are service animals. We have safety concerns with dogs getting excited around groups of unpredictable children, cleanliness concerns in our grassy areas with animal waste, and some of our students are fearful of dogs and become especially stressed around unleashed dogs.

When driving to drop-off and/or pick-up children at Ocean Shore, please drive very slowly and carefully in and around the school campus. The local police have been stationed north of our campus to stop speeding cars going up toward Monterey Road or Highway One.

We'd like to remind you of the traffic patterns to follow on the campus. When you enter the lot from Ocean Boulevard, you may either loop in front of the school and turn right onto Oceana Boulevard, or you may continue through the staff parking lot toward the turn-around and exit on Manor Drive. Double parking in these areas creates an unsafe situation for our students who may be walking through the lot.

If you use the turn-around road to pick-up students, please note the red curb areas and do not park at them. You may pause if your children are nearby, while they come to your car, but please don't leave your car in the turn-around while you get out and retrieve your child from the school or playground. Also, please do not drive up on sidewalks to stop and wait for your children. There are plenty of parking spaces available on surrounding streets. If your child is not usually at the gate and ready to go, it would be best to find an area to consistently park on a surrounding street, and walk onto the campus to retrieve your child.

If you have issues in the lot, concerns about safety, or suggestions to share, please let me know. Thank you for helping to assure safety for all our community even if it requires some extra effort and time on your part. Unfortunately, accidents involving cars and students around school campuses at arrival and dismissal time are far too common and often occur when students walk or dart out between two stopped cars. Our preventative steps can prevent the heartbreak of having a student injured on or near our campus.

*Laura Shain  
Principal*

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**The Pacifica School Volunteers** and the Pacifica School District are working together to provide math workshops with a K - 5<sup>th</sup> grade focus on October 5; and a 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade focus on October 12. A literacy workshop will be offered with a K – 5<sup>th</sup> grade focus on October 12. Workshops will be held at the Ingrid B. Lacy Middle School library from 7 – 9 pm. Please RSVP to the Pacifica School Volunteers at 650-355-9432. Flyers with detailed information are in the OSS main hallway.

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Pacifica School District has scheduled a second **Candidate Forum Night** for those running for Board of Trustees, Pacifica School District. The second session is on September 30, 2010 at Cabrillo School from 7 – 9 pm. Check out the posting on *Riptide* at <http://pacificariptide.com>

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**Fall Clusters** are just round the corner. They will take place Friday, October 29, 2010. I will need many MANY hands to make this event a success!!! I would especially like clusters that will lend themselves to cross age/grade participation. This is an excellent opportunity to fulfill your special projects requirement and have fun with kids at the same time. We will have two rotations that will take place between recess and lunch. Contact Joanne Simonson at [joanne.simonson@gmail.com](mailto:joanne.simonson@gmail.com).

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The **Diversity Leadership Group (DLG)** will hold its 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the year, with a Tea & Cookies Meet-n-Greet, on Thursday, October 7 from 6:30 - 8:00 in the staff room. Everyone is invited and welcome! We'll be brainstorming ideas for the upcoming school year. In the past, the Diversity Leadership Group sponsored a Martin Luther King, Jr. event in January and a Celebrate Diversity Day event in March. Our mission is "to encourage activities that build character and foster awareness and appreciation of diversity by involving and coordinating students, parents and staff in both on-going and project-oriented instruction." The group will continue its monthly meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 7 pm. New and returning families are encouraged to attend!

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**Homework Center** is open! The Homework Center with Dottie Borba is available on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays in the OSS library. The center is open from 2:45 – 3:45. (On Thursdays, the room is shared with the We Teach Science remote mentoring computer program so the homework center attendees will need to respect the quiet atmosphere.)

Please see the posted flyers for more information, including costs and payment instructions. The center will not be open on any minimum days throughout the year.

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The **Yearbook Committee** is in need of volunteers to help out with many aspects of creating this year's yearbook. It takes a team! We need people to help with monitoring the class for the students, gathering photos, acting as sales manager, and doing computer editing and processing. If you are interested please come to the meeting on Wednesday October 6, 2010 at 6:00 pm in the OSS Library.

If you can't be a part of the Yearbook directly you can still help! All the photos in the yearbook are from parents and staff so please send in your photos, clearly labeled, to [ossyearbook@gmail.com](mailto:ossyearbook@gmail.com). You may also put them in the photo container near the parent folders or the Guido-Dumlao family folder!

The Yearbook is in need of 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who are interested in being a part of this year's Yearbook staff. You will have to work after school on the yearbooks once a week on Wednesdays after school. You and your parent will have to come to a meeting to discuss the yearbook's needs. It should be a lot of fun!

It's great to see so much work come together by our students to produce a keepsake for the whole school to enjoy! Contact Tanya Guido at 650-359-1072 or [tanyaguido@comcast.net](mailto:tanyaguido@comcast.net)

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Pasta Pomodoro will donate 20% of their proceeds from purchases on Wednesday, September 29 at their Bayhill Shopping Center location on Cherry Avenue in San Bruno. Dine-in or take-out is available and the offer is good for the entire day. Please let the restaurant know that you would like

Ocean Shore School credited with your purchases. A flyer must be presented for each table or pick-up order. Flyers were sent out through email on the Yahoo group and are available at the school. Thank you for supporting our fundraising needs!

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Every once in a while, even in a community such as ours, **personal property** is taken from backpacks, desks, or work areas. Oftentimes, these items are not significantly valuable except to the owner. We recently had a student lose items that were attached to her backpack and stowed in a shared break-out room. Whenever your children come home with items, such as the missing Winnie-the-Pooh trinkets, that you did not purchase, please let us know. It is not uncommon for children to need concrete consequences and guidance in the morals of taking things from others. We really appreciate your help with this throughout your children's years at Ocean Shore.

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The **We Teach Science Foundation** is working with Ocean Shore to offer free math and science mentoring to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students through an online program. The students connect through an online program to their mentor who is at his or her office. The program happens from 3-4 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Ocean Shore Computer Lab. There will be about 5-10 students in the computer lab at a time. We are looking for a few parent volunteers who are reasonably computer savvy to help us run the program. The job requires organizing materials consisting of tablets and headsets, helping students switch to another computer if something goes wrong, and signing the kids in and out. We are not able to run the program without the help of volunteers.

Email Dina, the program manager, at [dina@weteachscience.org](mailto:dina@weteachscience.org), if you're interested.

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We are looking forward to the **Ocean Shore School Beach Clean-Up** every month! We will meet at the levy at Sharp Park Beach at 9 am on the second Saturday of each month. PARENTS: Bring your children! You will receive hours for keeping our beach clean! Contact Kelly Hopkins at [kcoppsean@aim.com](mailto:kcoppsean@aim.com) if you have questions.

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The **After-School Enrichment Program** (ASEP) schedule and registration information will be available on Tuesday, September 28. Sign-ups will start on Wednesday, September 29 at 8 am and classes will begin on October 4, 2010. Please contact Heidi Lucey at [leopictures@hotmail.com](mailto:leopictures@hotmail.com) if you have questions once the schedule is out.

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The Fundraising Committee sends thanks to everyone who volunteered and donated to the **bake sales!** We really appreciate all your hard work!

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The **UnWaste Fundraising Event** is coming to Ocean Shore School on Saturday, October 16 and Sunday, October 17. Keep all your old electronics out of our landfills while safely recycling them. Many other items will be accepted, please see fliers for details. We will need volunteers to help with this event, please sign up in the parent hallway. If you have questions, contact Jill Grochowski at [jillybean201@hotmail.com](mailto:jillybean201@hotmail.com) or 355-3707.

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Our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students brought home an opt-out permission slip for access to Young Adult books in the **Ocean Shore library**. Opt-out means that we assume permission if we don't receive a permission slip back stating that you do not give permission. It has come to my attention that students may choose to not return these slips if they want access and a parent does not agree. The Young Adult book selections are books that may have more mature themes for our sixth through eighth grade students that we historically reserve for our middle school age students. However, many of these books are at a reading level that our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students enjoy and are on topics that interest them. If you did not receive the permission slip or would like to be sure that your child does not have access to books deemed appropriate for grades 6 and up, please contact the school office.

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The Pacifica School District's Green Team and the Environmental Action Team present **Walk, Bike or Carpool to School Day**. Wednesday, October 6, 2010 is International Walk to School Day. You can join the fun and reduce your carbon footprint by walking, biking or carpooling to school on this important day! Bus riders, please check the SamTrans website for schedule and fare information <http://www.samtrans.com/schedules.html>. We will be giving out fresh fruit and a sticker to each person who participates in the event.

If you can volunteer to hand out fruit and stickers from 8:00 – 8:45 on October 6 at Ocean Shore School, please contact [christinarimmer@yahoo.com](mailto:christinarimmer@yahoo.com)