

# Monday Blue Newsletter



Ocean Shore School

Pacifica, California

April 25, 2011

Quote of the week: *“The gap between vision and current reality is also a source of energy. If there were no gap, there would be no need for any action to move towards the vision. We call this gap creative tension.”* Peter Senge (1947- present)

## Important Dates

- April 26 - SEPAC Behavior Strategies Workshop 6:30 – 8 pm District Office
- April 28 - Spring Band Concert 7 pm OSS (band students arrive at 6:30 pm)
- April 30 - Band trip to Great America for *Music in the Parks Festival* 8 am
- May 2 - CST STAR Testing begins at OSS
- May 7 - PSV sponsored Children’s Book Sale 9 – 3 (see below)
- May 9 - Scholastic Book Fair begins
- May 9 – 13 - Minimum Days for select conferences
- May 17 - Oceans Week begins
- May 27 - Furlough Day (no pay for teachers and staff)
- June 7 - All-District RSMF Band Concert 7 pm SSF High School
- June 8 - PSD Super Sports Day
- June 14 – 17 - Minimum Days for last week of school

## News and Information

We hope everyone enjoyed the week off last week and were able to spend time with family, friends, and perhaps even a little alone time to rejuvenate for the next two months of school. We have a third grade theme day preparing for Oceans Week; sixth, seventh, and eighth grade field trips to the Black Diamond mines, Elkhorn Slough, and the ropes course in San Bruno; reflection on Point Reyes activities for our 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes; and we are preparing for standardized testing next week! Tomorrow is the final day of our SDC swim program at Oceana and our students will receive awards for their bravery and positive spirits in the pool.

Most classes will begin STAR tests next Monday morning. Please help us create the most optimal test-taking environment for our students so that their scores will reflect their knowledge and abilities; and so that our school will shine as a model for successful school achievement. Please keep a normal, healthy routine with regular bedtimes, provide a healthy breakfast, and arrive to school on time each day. Encourage your students to take the tests seriously, work hard, and use their critical thinking abilities for test-taking challenges. Thank you for your support!

This year at Ocean Shore we increased our report card reporting from twice a year to three times to align with the district board policies. We already had our conferences on the calendar so the times don’t match exactly with the report card dates. Students will receive a final report card the last day of school so parents will be informed of their students’ entire year’s progress. We had conferences

in the fall with all our families so that we can work together for a successful and productive year. Our spring conferences are as needed. Teachers will contact families that they feel the need to conference with in May. These spring conferences are to plan and work together, at home and school, to optimize student learning and behavior for the remainder of the year. Parents are always welcome to meet with teachers, and may contact their students' teachers if a conference has not been requested by the teacher yet is desired by the parent. Conferences are not used to determine classes for the next year. Our teachers work with me to create balanced classes after considering many factors impacting group dynamics and student needs. We request that you trust our process as we work with the best intentions for the well-being and success of each students. If there is an unusual circumstance that you feel we should know before we begin the process, please let me know through email or a letter.

New PTO jobs will be posted soon in the main hallway for next year. Please come by and consider signing up for an interesting new post. We all really appreciate your time, effort, energy, and enthusiasm!

*Laura Shain  
Principal*

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A **new school immunization law** requires all California students entering 7th - 12th grades in the 2011 - 2012 school year to be immunized with a pertussis (whooping cough) booster shot called Tdap. The new requirement affects all students -- current, new, and transfers -- in public and private schools. The law has two phases: For the 2011 - 2012 school year, all students entering 7 - 12 grades will need proof of a Tdap vaccine before starting school. For the 2012 - 2013 and future school years, all students entering into 7th grade will need proof of the Tdap vaccine. Information is available at [www.shotsforschool.org](http://www.shotsforschool.org) and [www.getimmunizedca.org](http://www.getimmunizedca.org).

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An exciting new summer camp in Pacifica!

This summer it is time to think, create and innovate! **ThinkBridge Summer Camp** is a new program in Pacifica that challenges young minds to explore new ideas, analyze situations and solve creative problems through innovative thinking lessons and games, computer exercises and music instruction. Our fabulous staff of experienced Pacifica School District teachers - Sydney Tyler Parker and Marilyn Wells - will lead campers through a summer of creation and innovation.

ThinkBridge is a 4-week, 1/2 day program held at Vallemar School. Pre- and post-camp onsite child care is available. Registration is now open and space is limited. Register before April 30 and save \$100!

For more information visit [www.thinkbridgecamp.org](http://www.thinkbridgecamp.org) or call 650-355-9432.

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**Gently loved children's books needed** by the Pacifica School Volunteers.

Time to start spring cleaning and clear your shelves of all those books your children have outgrown. Donate your gently loved children's books to Pacifica School Volunteers Children's Book Sale. Board books, picture books, early readers, chapter books, novels, non-fiction - all children's books are welcome from baby books to high school level. Books can be dropped off March 9 thru May 4 at:

- Pacifica School District Office, 375 Reina Del Mar
- Starbucks, Linda Mar or Fairmont Shopping Center locations
- First National Bank, Linda Mar Shopping Center
- Pacifica Community Center, 540 Crespi at Hwy 1
- Pacifica School Volunteers Office, Linda Mar Education Center, 830 Rosita

All donated books will be sold at the Ninth Annual Children's Book Sale, Saturday, May 7 at Linda Mar Shopping Center. Proceeds from the book sale will support literacy programs in Pacifica schools and the work of Pacifica School Volunteers, a local nonprofit organization dedicated to helping all children achieve academic success. For questions about the book donations or the sale, contact Pacifica School Volunteers, 650-355-9432 or [psv@pacificasd.org](mailto:psv@pacificasd.org).

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### **It's Raffle Time!**

Champion Pacifica's youth by supporting **Pacifica School Volunteers!** Raffle Tickets available now for our Ninth Annual Children's Book Sale and Raffle. Great prizes include:

- Nor Cal 9' Surfboard, donated and shaped by World Famous Big Wave Rider, Shawn Rhodes and Fine-tuned by Gordon Guptill of Nor Cal Surf Shop (see it at Linda Mar Starbucks).
- One week timeshare at Pine Acres Lodge in Pacific Grove, CA.
- Debris Box (14 cubic yards/for 2 days), donated by Recology of the Coastside.
- Handmade quilt.
- Pacifica Performances Package.
- Granucci's Italian Restaurant Gift Certificate.
- and much more!

Raffle tickets on sale at Starbucks (Linda Mar or Fairmont Shopping Centers), First National Bank (Linda Mar Shopping Center). Tickets for the surfboard draw are available only at Nor Cal Surf Shop (Pedro Point) or Linda Mar Starbucks.

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**FROM THE OFFICE:** Please let the school office know as soon as possible if you are not planning on **returning to OSS next year**. This is important information for our planning.

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Volunteer Garden Educators needed for the **Pacifica Gardens**. Pacifica Gardens is recruiting volunteer educators to help participate in educational tours for school children of the Pacifica Gardens. They have great stations showing kids the different stages in the lives of plants. This is a fantastic science learning opportunity. Volunteers are needed on Wednesday and Friday mornings. Contact Ann Long for more information at 650-868-0237 or [long5tioga@yahoo.com](mailto:long5tioga@yahoo.com). See the garden at [www.pacifica-gardens.org](http://www.pacifica-gardens.org)

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Please alert the school office as soon as your child is diagnosed with a **contagious illness**, such as strep throat or pink eye. We alert classrooms so that families can be aware of illnesses that their children may have been exposed to. Some children are particularly susceptible to certain illnesses and preventive care can begin with timely notification. Thank you!

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**Behavior Strategies Night** - Tuesday, April 26. The Special Education Parent Advisory Committee will be hosting guest speakers Vanessa Kahlon, MA, Behaviorist; and Lindy Joffe, OTR-L, Occupational Therapist, for a discussion about what children's behaviors mean and strategies to increase appropriate behavior. We will be meeting at the PSD District Office from 6:30 - 8:00 pm.

**Scholastic Book Fair** - May 9 through May 13. The Book Fair is the only fundraiser to support the Library and Computer Lab. Sign-ups for set up, cashiering and breakdown have started, please check the parent hallway or contact Jillian Robinson at [shycookie9@yahoo.com](mailto:shycookie9@yahoo.com).

**Super Sports Day** - Wednesday, June 8. The Ocean Shore 4th and 5th graders will be hosting Super Sports Day for over 90 athletes from our Special Day Classes throughout Pacifica School District. We are looking for parent volunteers to help out with small group supervision, activity supervision or lunch prep, serving and clean up. If you can help out in any of these areas please contact Teri Voorhes 650-738-6997 [teriryan13@yahoo.com](mailto:teriryan13@yahoo.com).

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**Dates for next year!** (Please refer to the calendar on the district website in case changes occur.) Our expected first day of school for students in August 24, 2011. Thanksgiving break will be from November 21 – 25, 2011. The Winter break will be from December 19, 2011 – January 2, 2012. President's Week break will be from February 20 – February 24, 2012. Spring break will be from April 9 – 13, 2012. The last day of school will be on June 14, 2012. Currently, no furlough days are planned. STAR testing usually occurs at the end of April and beginning of May.

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[www.oceanshoreschool.com](http://www.oceanshoreschool.com)