

Monday Blue Newsletter



Ocean Shore School

Pacifica, California

May 16, 2011

Quote of the week: *“Every drop in the ocean counts.”* Yoko Ono (1933 -present)

Important Dates

- May 17 - Oceans Week begins
- May 25 - Open House and Silent Auction at OSS 5 – 8 pm
 - Kindergarten from 5:30 – 6:30 pm.
 - 1st grade from 6 – 7 pm.
 - 2nd grade (Fran) from 6 – 7:15 pm; (Alice) from 6 – 7 pm.
 - 3rd grade (Connie) from 6:30 – 7:15 then square dancing until 8 pm;
(Sheila) from 6:30 – 7:30 pm.
 - 4th/5th from 6:45 – 8 pm.
 - 5th/6th from 6:30 – 7:30 pm.
 - 7th and 8th from 7 – 8 pm.
- May 26 - Professional Development Day (no school for students)
- May 27 - Furlough Day (no pay for teachers and staff)
- May 30 - Memorial Day Holiday (no school for students)
 - OSS KOA Camping Trip
- May 31 - School Site Council meeting 3:30 pm
- June 1 - PTO General Meeting 7 pm
- June 2 - Band parent meeting 7 pm
- June 6 - DLG Dinner 6:30 pm Staff Room
- June 7 - All-District RSMF Band Concert 7 pm SSF High School
- June 8 - PSD Super Sports Day
 - Peer Mediation Celebration during lunch
 - PTO Executive Board Meeting 7 pm
- June 11 - PEF sponsored Family Run and Fun Day
- June 14 - 8th grade graduation
- June 14 – 17 - Minimum Days for last week of school
- June 17 - Frontierland Park Picnic

News and Information

Our hallways are coming alive with the decorations for our annual Oceans Week. The theme this year is wetlands. Oceans Week is a culmination of many weeks of preparation as our students have studied the insects, birds, fish and wildlife of the wetlands.

When our students learn about the importance of the wetlands they grow to make decisions in the future to safeguard this important part of our ecosystem. Some of our students will grow to be leaders, policy makers, environmentalists, scientists, authors, teachers, and voters. Their

experiences at Ocean Shore will make them stewards of our ocean environments throughout their lives. The Environmental Protection Agency, in 1995, wrote the following description of the natural world's dependency on the wetland environments:

More than one-third of the United States' threatened and endangered species live only in wetlands, and nearly half use wetlands at some point in their lives. Many other animals and plants depend on wetlands for survival. Estuarine and marine fish and shellfish, various birds, and certain mammals must have coastal wetlands to survive. Most commercial and game fish breed and raise their young in coastal marshes and estuaries. Menhaden, flounder, sea trout, spot, croaker, and striped bass are among the more familiar fish that depend on coastal wetlands. Shrimp, oysters, clams, and blue and Dungeness crabs likewise need these wetlands for food, shelter, and breeding grounds. For many animals and plants, like wood ducks, muskrat, cattails, and swamp rose, inland wetlands are the only places they can live. Beaver may actually create their own wetlands. For others, such as striped bass, peregrine falcon, otter, black bear, raccoon, and deer, wetlands provide important food, water, or shelter. Many of the U.S. breeding bird populations-- including ducks, geese, woodpeckers, hawks, wading birds, and many song-birds-- feed, nest, and raise their young in wetlands. Migratory waterfowl use coastal and inland wetlands as resting, feeding, breeding, or nesting grounds for at least part of the year. Indeed, an international agreement to protect wetlands of international importance was developed because some species of migratory birds are completely dependent on certain wetlands and would become extinct if those wetlands were destroyed.

Please come by during Oceans Week and see our students engaged in learning and teaching both inside and outside their classrooms. I learn more each time I pause at a display in the hallway this week. We see, when we stop and listen to our students and teachers during the week, that they have a wealth of information to teach us about the wetlands.

We look forward to seeing all our parents at Open House next week!

*Laura Shain
Principal*

IMPORTANT INFORMATION for current 6th and 7th grade students: Students will not be allowed to attend school in the fall without this new immunization form given to the school office by the first day of school! 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 and www.getimmunizedca.org.

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. For more information visit www.thinkbridgecamp.org or call 650-355-9432.

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.

Each year we ask for volunteers to serve on the **School Site Council** for our school. This group meets periodically throughout the year to help determine how site funds will be spent on to develop a site plan so that all our students have access to programs that will help them achieve and succeed. If you are interested in serving on this council, please let me know through email, a note, or a phone call within the next two weeks. Send email to: lshain@pacificasd.org.

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.

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 is 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.

Silent Auction at Open House - Ocean Shore will be having a silent auction at Open House on May 25 in the evening. Currently we are looking for volunteers to help put the silent auction together and to work the day of the event. We are also in need of donations for the silent auction. We are looking for all type of items: gift certificates for good or services, flight miles, hotel stay, electronics, classes, tickets, and anything else you can think of. If you think it might be of interest then we probably will too. If you can help in either of these areas please contact Melissa Rivera at mamarivera916@yahoo.com.

All are welcome to the last meeting of the **Diversity Leadership Group (DLG)** on June 6 from 6:30 – 8. Participants from this year will be sharing dinner with guests at this celebratory meeting. If you are interested or curious about attending the DLG meetings next year, this would be a wonderful time to drop in and see what we are all about!



Band News: The advanced band students have a district concert rehearsal at IBL Monday, May 16 from 6 to 8 pm. Beginning band students have their rehearsal the following Monday, May 23 at Cabrillo School from 6 to 8 pm.

For both events, Jerry will be moving equipment and large instruments such as tubas, bass clarinets, and music stands. Smaller instruments will be taken home by students and brought to the practices.

Each student is responsible for bringing their music and any accessories that they use.

Our district concert is June 7 at South San Francisco High School. We will need some stage help and chaperones. Please let me know if you can help out. If you have any questions e-mail Jerry at jwdownloads@prodigy.net or call 650-455-6542.

Silent Auction: The fund raising committee is looking for donations for our Silent Auction at **Open House**. If you or anyone you know has something that can be donated please see the attached form. This is something that can be used as a tax deductible donation and is a great way to advertise. Contact me Melissa Rivera for more information.

Back to School **Planting Pickup and Picnic Sunday**, August 21st, 2011 10 am - 2 pm. Come help beautify the school before class starts, and earn hours! This is a great way to get involved in the school garden, and we need help throughout the year. Come meet the team, learn about the garden, and how you can earn hours throughout the year. Contact christinarimmer@yahoo.com if you have any questions.

Two For One: Make money for our school district while staying in shape with your family and friends! Register today for the **1st Annual Family Run and Fun Day, hosted by the Pacifica Education Foundation**. Enter the 7K Hazelnut Challenge Run, the 5K Weiler Ranch Race, or the 2 mile Family Fun Walk, for \$25 per person, or just \$20 if you enter as a team member. Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 11 at San Pedro Valley County Park and get your team together today. After the races, pick up your free t-shirt and stay for an afternoon of family fun and activities. Bonus: Help Ocean Shore win the Top Participation Award by registering by this Friday. The school with the highest percentage of families registered by May 20 will be honored at the awards ceremony immediately following the races. To register and find more information, visit www.runandfun.pacificaef.org. Questions? Contact Catherine at wachtler.c@gmail.com / 650-201-3360 or Ana at anarestivo@yahoo.com, your PEF liaisons.



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