

Monterey Bay Charter School

News and Notes

January 23, 2010

School Location Question

For a complete calendar, go to a [February Calendar HERE](#). Print it out and put it on your refrigerator.

Better yet, go to the on-line calendar [HERE](#).

**February 15-19
NO SCHOOL**

**Saturday, Feb. 27
Plantathon Planting Day!**

Waiting for Answers: Town Hall Meeting Postponed Again

We had every reason to think we would have details about possible school sites by now but we will need to wait a bit longer.

We will schedule a Town Hall meeting when we have all the information confirmed. There will be a discussion at the Tuesday Jan 26 Board meeting at 5:30 with an update at that time. Thank you for your patience.

Cassandra Gallup Bridge addresses the site issue in her monthly Director's Report to the Board, which you can read [HERE](#).

RE-ENROLLING AND NEW STUDENTS

RE-ENROLLING

All currently enrolled students must be re-enrolled in order to attend next school year. The office will be mailing forms to you during the week of February 15th and they must be returned by **March 15th**. After that date, all openings will be filled by new students. (We are not doing an Intent to Re-enroll form this year).

Reimbursement to the school for student supplies will again be \$100 for next school year (\$150 for 1st grade) and possible new instrument costs will be due March 15th along with the re-enrollment forms.

NEW STUDENTS

The lottery deadline for Enrollment Requests is March 1st. We have two **Open Houses** planned for prospective families and [tours scheduled](#). Now is the time to tell friends about our school!

Kindergarten Open House
Saturday, January 30th from 10:00-11:30 am

Grades 1-8 Open House
Saturday, February 6th from 10:00-12:00 am

Click on this - [Enrollment Request form](#) - and fill it out if you have a sibling you would like to enroll next year (even if you are on the wait list this year!). Brothers and sisters of current students are given preference over other applicants if an Enrollment Request is received by March 1st.

RECYCLE IT!

On Monday, our hardy, earth-friendly eighth graders will begin collecting all CRV (redemption value) bottles and cans to earn money for their end-of-year field trip. There will be collection bins at the school office, the 8th grade classroom, and one at the Kindergarten. Anything you can do to help them in their effort will be very much appreciated!

PLANTATHON TIME**PLANTATHON Highlights**

Everyone did a great job in December getting an early start to our Plantathon campaign with donations totalling \$8,500 and now we're gearing up for the **final push!** Our fearless leaders, Melanie Stackpole and Michael Baer, will have a mailing to every family with the pledge sheets and information for the lead-up to the big event. An email will be sent to everyone with all the details.

Here are the main points:

- February 8th starts the final push for collecting Plantathon donations from the community.
- Every family is asked to approach at least one business for sponsorship. There is a list of businesses going to Class Meetings and one is in the office.
- **February 27 from 10am-1pm is *planting day* with an after-party being planned.**

Announcements**Parent Survey about Class Teachers**

An email was sent asking parents to complete a survey about their Class Teachers. It's brief and asks that they be completed by Friday, January 29th. We do this every year to invite feedback on how we're doing. A survey of all-school questions and specialty teachers will be out soon. If you want to fill out a paper survey form, please stop by the office.

**No TV, Video Games, or Electronic Devices, please**

It is important to your child's education and the success of our educational approach to not allow videos, tv, computers, or other electronic devices to be used on school days. Instead, we would want students to be engaged in creative play - keep some art supplies on hand! TV and computers are generally counterproductive to a young child's early development.

You might be interested in the following article from Orion Magazine:

["Computers are dramatically altering the way your children learn and experience the world -- and not for the better."](#) **IMPORTANT:** Students are not allowed to bring electronic devices to school, which includes before school.

Health Concern

Several teachers have reported a growing problem of children not eating breakfast before coming to school. Some students are eating their snack and lunch at the beginning of the school day and then have nothing to eat later. We ask that parents do their best to address this problem by ensuring a healthy breakfast be eaten before school and plenty of food be packed for the day. If you can, it would be helpful to provide the classroom with nutritious granola bars or other individually wrapped food as a backup.

Yearbook

Anne Parker reports that grades 3, 6, 7, and Kinder-Morning Glory need a coordinator for the photo collage page in the yearbook. She is also looking for someone to put together the

Plantathon/Joyous Elves/Festival of Courage pages. You can email Anne at anneyantristan@gmail.com.

Pilgrim's Way Bookstore 2% Tuesdays

Our thanks go to Pilgrim's Way Bookstore in Carmel for thinking of our school. The owners, Cynthia and Paul, gave us 2% of the Tuesday sales in December, which totalled \$128.33!! Stop in and thank them for their generosity when you can.

Upcoming Events

Party Planning Going On

The owner of Wild Plum Cafe offered to cater a gourmet spaghetti dinner to raise funds for Jenny Wood (Mama Jenny, the Kindergarten Assistant and 7th grade mom) who is in need of our support. Jenny has been undergoing medical treatments and has had to miss work and paychecks. Tentative date is March 24th - stay tuned for details!



"JUST KIDS" 3K FUN RUN Save the date - APRIL 24 at 8am.

For a \$5 entry fee, each student will receive a cool aquatic-themed T-shirt, a coupon for free admission to the Aquarium, and a finisher's medallion. It is non-competitive and not timed so everyone can participate. If we have good participation, our school has a chance for an award up to a \$1,000. Registration forms are due MARCH 4th. Thanks go to Charlie Racoosin who has volunteered to coordinate the day of the run.

May Faire

Whoever would like the pleasure of getting in on the planning of this wonderful event, there are working groups starting up now - email Martha Carswell at alnyrhd@comcast.net. Advanced planning is necessary to have a wide assortment of community people involved. Say Yes!

PizzaMyHeart Fundraiser



Wow - Thank you MBCS families and friends!

We had a record night at our January 13th Pizza My Heart fundraiser!

Our 3rd monthly fundraiser earned us over \$340!

Lunches

Lunches are being served as class fundraisers from Monday through Friday. All lunches are \$2.00, or \$2.50 if a bowl or plate is needed.

MONDAY - 4th Grade - Soup or Chili

TUESDAY - 7th Grade - Spaghetti and bread

WEDNESDAY - 3rd Grade - Soup and bread

Get a Soup Card! Pay \$10 for a card that will be punched each time your child has soup.

THURSDAY - 8th Grade - Bean & Cheese Burritos

FRIDAY - 6th Grade - Rotating menu: pizza, fried rice, chili, or rice and beans. (The exact

schedule is on the bulletin board next to 5th Grade)
PLUS - 5th Grade - \$1 Popsicles on Fridays

Ways to Support the School

The Annual Giving Campaign provides essential support for the the enriched program - specialty teachers, music program, Waldorf materials and more.
 If you haven't yet participated, please consider making a tax-deductible donation. Go [HERE](#) for a letter and donation form.

Other ways to support:

Pizza My Heart Day - Wednesday, February 10, 4-9pm

Our monthly pizza fundraiser has been great - January donation was \$340! Order pizza between 4 and 9 pm and tell them you are with Monterey Bay Charter School. Pizza My Heart is located at Del Monte Center in Monterey.

SaveMart S.H.A.R.E. cards

Cards are in the office If you use with purchases, MCBS gets a 3% donation from SaveMart. Our latest check was for \$321.54! Thanks to everyone who swipes their card with every purchase..

E-Scrip

If you enroll on line for e-scrip (www.escrip.com), MBCS will receive a percentage of your purchases, including at Safeway stores.

Boxtops and More

Parent Lorrie Sizemore is taking care of the boxtop program. Go to the [Boxtops4Education web site](#)



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