



# The Bancroft Banner

The Newsletter of the Hubert Bancroft Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

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## Principal's News

Dear Bancroft Community,

With only ten weeks remaining in the school year, I would like to take the time to communicate some upcoming events. First, California's standardized testing for grades 2-12 is around the corner. Bancroft's testing window is April 22 to May 9. During this time, it is important that you make sure that your children are getting plenty of sleep and eating nutritious foods. Rest and nutrition contribute positively to the test-taking atmosphere. I will soon be going through classes discussing the reasons that we are required to take the yearly tests, how they are used within the school system, and why it is important that students do their very best.

Secondly, we have the Spring Carnival scheduled for May 9, and I am eagerly looking forward to seeing all of you on campus enjoying the many creative activities and prizes. This year's carnival is guaranteed to be one of the biggest ever. Bancroft parent and carnival chairperson Mark McClure assures me that he plans to leave Bancroft with a huge hurrah (second daughter is in sixth grade this year). I can't wait. *(for the carnival!)*

In closing, I have to say that the two nights of the talent show were tremendous. I was pleasantly surprised at how all the pieces came together (props, costumes, and practice, practice, practice). Getting up on stage in front of a packed house is not easy, and all the students should be proud of themselves. I look forward to next year's event.

Sincerely,  
Enrique Flores  
Principal



## Pennies for Patients Coin Drive

A HUGE thank you to everyone that donated to the Pennies for Patients Coin Drive that benefits the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. We collected over \$525 to donate to this wonderful cause. Congratulations to Mrs. Achermann's class for being the class with the highest donations! Enjoy the pizza!

## Can You Share a Spare?

Bancroft's Clothes Cabinet (not to be confused with the *Clothes Closet* for children in the entire District) is low on underwear. If you have any extra new underwear, we would really appreciate having some in supply. We can use boys' and girls' socks and underpants, particularly sizes that would fit 5-10 year-old children. We don't need a large inventory, just more choices in a variety of sizes. Thank you for your continued generosity.

## PTA News

Hope everyone had a nice and relaxing Spring Break and are well rested for the last few months of school! It seems like just yesterday it was September! PTA has some fun events planned for Spring: Book Fair, Spring Fling, Carnival, Ice Cream Social/Open House and Honorary Service Awards. Please make an effort to attend as many events as you can. Your participation in your child's school gives them great pride and helps them become better learners.

Kathleen Iwasa  
PTA President

## Friday, April 11th Spring Fling Dance: Spring into Summer in Hawaii



Come out for Bancroft's annual Spring dance on April 11, 2008 from 530pm to 8pm in the multi-purpose room. The dance this year is all about Spring into Summer in Hawaii. The dance will have a special DJ, Sacramento's favorite top DJ Mixxula. Face painting, snack bar, and fun are a must!!! Admission is \$3.00 per family. If you can help with set-up or clean up, please call Michelle Vargas at 214-2985.

### Tissue Donations Tissue Donations Badly Needed!!!

Ms. Kreige, 2 boxes  
Ms. Noonan, 2 boxes  
Ms. Espenshade, 2 boxes  
Ryland Shriver, 2 boxes  
Mickey Doolittle, 2 boxes

## Calendar of Events

4/11	Spring Fling Family Dance
4/25	Book Swap
4/30-5/2	Book Fair: benefits the Library
5/6	PTA Meeting
5/9	Carnival
5/21	Open House/Ice Cream Social PTA Elections
5/26	NO School, Memorial Day
6/3	PTA Meeting
6/6	Play Day
6/9	Volunteer Luncheon HSA Awards
6/13	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion Last Day of School



## Student Drop-off Safety

Parents, please do not leave your vehicles parked on the inside of the horseshoe, it is much safer if everyone can pull up, drop-off and pull out.

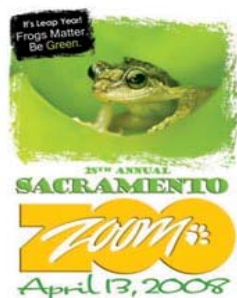


## District Crime Alert

Recent criminal activities at District sites remind us all to pay attention to details. At other schools, purses and wallets have been stolen from unlocked classrooms during the school day. Within the last two weeks, catalytic converters were stolen from cars parked in the lots of Freeport, Harkness, and Bowling Green elementary schools, and Will C. Wood Middle School. Bancroft is not immune; a wallet, money and cell phones were taken during an after-school activity and cables were cut on an electronic keyboard in our music lab. In the College-Glen neighborhood, several catalytic converters have been stolen.

So please, take precautionary measures whenever possible. Don't leave valuables visible in your car. Always lock your doors. Catalytic converters can be swiped in a matter of seconds, and it appears that the most popular vehicles hit are four-wheel drive pickups and Toyota 4-Runner SUV's. (A locked garage might be your most safe haven.) Students should not bring valuables in their backpacks. Most of all, keep a watchful eye for any suspicious activities. If you see anything unusual at school, please call the office right away at 382-5940. Weekend reports should be made to District security (643-7444) or local police (9-1-1). Thanks for your help.

**Support the  
Sacramento  
Zoo at  
Zoo Zoom  
Sunday  
April 13, 2008**



For 28 years, the Zoo Zoom has been a popular event for area runners, walkers and their families. Free admission to the Zoo for participants and their families on race day. Help improve the Sacramento Zoo and enjoy the Saucony Run for Good Kids' Fun Runs. All kids entered in the Saucony Run for Good Fun Runs receive a special shirt, race number 1, and a finish medal!

For race day details and registration, check out the Fleet Feet web site at: [www.fleetfeetsacramento.com/sacramento-zoo-zoom](http://www.fleetfeetsacramento.com/sacramento-zoo-zoom)

## Earth Day Everyday

*Small steps make a difference!*

With all the talk these days about global warming and going green, you may be fielding some tough questions from your child about Mother Earth. By explaining these concepts in simple terms and offering planet-friendly projects and ideas, you can educate your child about how they too can help.

## Recycle Together

Instead of confusing children with complex explanations, show them how their actions can make a difference. To do this, recycle at home, then take the items to a collection center together. Talk about how this keeps things out of the landfill. "Traditionally it's one of the best things kids can do because they see the results of their actions," says Sean Miller, education director for the Earth Day Network. Miller also suggests being creative in your own family's efforts—especially around the house—so as to impress and motivate your child.

- Reuse egg cartons or plastic baby wipe containers for toys and craft materials.
- Make a tire swing in your backyard from a discarded tire and chains.
- Recycle that 2-liter soda bottle, not for a nickel, but to create a flowerpot (simply cut off the bottom half and fill with dirt and seeds).

## Be Aware of Nature

Miller offers some other positive ways to impact the outdoors:

- Plant flowers and bushes that attract natural pollinators such as butterflies. With the bee population on the decline, this is more important than ever. See the Native Plant Database at [wildflower.org/plants](http://wildflower.org/plants) to find plants that will grow well in your area.
- Hang a birdbath or feeder in the yard to provide water and food for birds in the winter, or year-round if you live in an urban area.
- Clean up trash at a local park.
- Ride a bike to nearby parks (instead of driving) to reduce toxic air emissions.

Visit [earthday.net](http://earthday.net) for more earth-friendly ideas.



**Book Swap  
April 25<sup>th</sup>  
Don't forget!**