



The Bancroft Banner

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

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Principal's News

Dear Bancroft Community,

We have reached the 100th day of school, and I am looking forward to the remaining 81 days. I am so honored to work with the respectful and kind students of Bancroft. Your children are truly a joy to be with each and every day. Many events have been planned and implemented since my last communication.

Our school and community had a very difficult month of fighting the flu in January, and our school-wide attendance took a turn for the worse. Our school average of over 96% was devastated by our 92% average for January. I am hopeful that the flu that was going around has finally been eradicated. Remember, plenty of sleep and rest will keep our students healthy in mind and body.

The 2nd benchmark test results are back. I am busy reviewing the data and very soon will address the results with staff. I suggest you inquire about your student's progress. Benchmarks are a good indicator of how your students are fairing in language arts and math, and a good measurement of their progress. We will have two more benchmark tests this year. If you have questions, please check with your child's teacher or talk with her at the upcoming parent-teacher conferences.

The campus is all abuzz with the talent show practice in full swing. I'm told the show is spectacular, and I'm looking forward to seeing this year's production. Along with talent show practices, we have many other activities that result in students being on campus after school. Please, ask your students to maintain their excellent behavior during this time. Supervision is much more difficult when the community comes on campus to use the facilities. Often students lose their focus and interact with friends who are on campus for community activities. Our rule is that children should not be on campus after school unless they are here for a scheduled, supervised activity.

As always, I look forward to continued communication with all of you. My door is always open to any concerns you may have. Please take care, and PLEASE do what you can to make sure your students get to school on time.

Sincerely

Enrique Flores
Principal



PTA News

February is here and we have been lucky enough to get a little taste of spring. I sure love seeing the sun!! But remember February is still cold and flu season. We at Bancroft had a very high absenteeism in January due to many students out with illness. And if your house is anything like ours, when 1 in the family gets sick it seems to get us all. The same goes for the classroom so please remind your children to wash their hands often, so we don't share the germs. It is also important to get plenty of rest. February is also a short month with not 1 but 2 three day weekends, so now is the time to relax a bit before we head into the busy spring. We have many upcoming events ahead and can always use some extra hands. Keep watch for upcoming information on the spring book fair, spring family dance and the carnival. There will be a volunteer sign up sheet coming home soon and I hope you will all be able to lend a hand. Enjoy the sun while we have it!

Kathleen Iwasa

Tissue Donations

Nick Iwasa	10 boxes
Kinsy Yurica	8 boxes
Derek Van Zanten	4 boxes

Holiday Food Baskets 07' Update & Thank You

This was the 8th year of the holiday food drive and the students, families, teachers, and staff of Bancroft out did themselves. The food drive was kicked off with the generous donation of 25 turkeys from the Sacramento Senator Lions. It was however, the tremendous outpouring of donations from the Bancroft community that made it possible for us to exceed all expectations and provide 35 families with a holiday feast as well as provide food for additional meals. Your gift of food made an immediate difference in the lives of 69 children, 32 teenagers, 2 infants and 62 adults in our community. We should never underestimate the power of sharing when each gives just a little.

I would like to thank the following for their generous support and commitment to our community. Thank you to Pam and the student council members; **Anthony, Brett, Bryan, Jazmin, Jennifer, Joseph, Katelyn, Linnae, Nicole, Rebecca, Tyler** who worked before the food drive decorating baskets and wrapping boxes, and every day morning and after school during the food drive collecting and sorting the food. I was moved by the dedicated efforts of our students who eagerly participated. One student even delayed her family's departure to Disneyland until she had completed her time volunteering to sorting food. To our local scouts: Girl Scout Troop #933 for the beans and Troop #1364 the 70lbs of sugar, Boy Scout Troop 394 for the 65lbs of rice and Pack 383 for the 70 lbs of potatoes. To our local Avon ladies Melanie Hefley and June Melville who gave us 75 sturdy Avon boxes for the food distribution. To the parents and friends of Bancroft; Kathleen Iwasa, Cindy Kilby, Jeanne Chasko, Shelly Fleming, Kelly O'Hagan and Patty McCabe. To the staff and teachers of Bancroft whose generous cash donations made it possible to purchase additional items, to Tracy and Colleen for all the office support with flyers and phone calls, to Mr. Flores for his support, to Darin for opening the multipurpose room and working around our schedule and all the donations, to Velma who once again willingly worked with us and provided space to store and sort all the food, to the Senator Lions Club who not only donated the turkeys but gave of their time to work along side our students in sorting and individually packing the baskets for each of our families. Kudos to the staff at Rosemont High for helping to deliver the baskets. And lastly, but not leastly, our thanks to Boy Scouts Alex Bollenbach and Brian Painting who came and cleaned up after the distribution of baskets until 6:30 p.m. on that Friday night.

But mostly, I would like to extend a huge Thank You to everyone who donated and made this effort a monumental success! It takes many hands and hearts for this project ---and we were very successful in making the difference in the lives of over 160 people in our community during the holiday season. I look forward to working with each of you for the 2008 food drive.

Angie Marin
Food Drive Chair



Reflections Update

Congratulations to our Bancroft students who submitted Reflection entries. Ryan Ascala, Paige Borgogno, Nieve Kelly, Scout Miller, Serena Owsley, Anthony Sprigg and Mia Sunderland, along with student's throughout Sacramento will be recognised by the Sacramento PTA Council and given Awards of Merritt, Wednesday, February 20th, at 7:00 p.m. here at Bancroft. Way to go guys!!

Do You Have Health Insurance?

Free or low cost health coverage is available for your child or teen. Medical, dental and vision coverage is included. Our school district has joined with Sacramento County to make this health coverage available to families who qualify (based on income). Please check your child's backpack for a flyer to come home during the next week. If you think you may qualify, please submit an application.

How Germs Spread

The main way that illnesses like colds and flu are spread is from person to person in respiratory droplets of coughs and sneezes. This is called "droplet spread." This can happen when droplets from a cough or sneeze of an infected person move through the air and are deposited on the mouth or nose of people nearby. Sometimes germs also can be spread when a person touches respiratory droplets from another person on a surface like a desk and then touches his or her own eyes, mouth or nose before washing their hands. We know that some viruses and bacteria can live 2 hours or longer on surfaces like cafeteria tables, doorknobs, and desks.

In a nutshell: take care to: Cover your mouth and nose, Clean your hands often, and remind your children to practice healthy habits, too.