

# Oxford School News

February 18, 2010

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



We have made it to the 2nd round of the **Distinguished School Award** process. A team of educators will be here on **March 15th** to visit classrooms; interview staff, parents and students; and review documentation of our work for the past three years. We have chosen to highlight our **Scholars and Reading Coach programs** so they will be paying particular attention there. If we pass this next round of the process, we will receive the award at a ceremony in Southern California the first weekend in June.

—Janet Levenson

## PTA News

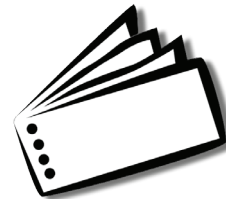
Thank you to everyone who attended last week's PTA meeting. It was a great success with **Tarah Fleming**, from **Start Dialog: Courses in Cultural Competency**, facilitating a discussion about how to discuss issues of race and oppression with our children in a developmentally appropriate way.

Please check out her website ~ [www.startdialog.com](http://www.startdialog.com) for resources about how to effectively have challenging conversations with your children, the four goals of anti-bias education, children's literature and media depicting multiracial families, and literature about anti-racism. The third in this series, "**Making Oxford Welcoming to All Families**" will be next month on *Tuesday, March 9th*.

—Chrissy Meuris and Melanie Green,  
PTA Co-Presidents

## Raffle Auction Dance Update

The famous **Raffle Auction Dance** is coming up! Mark your calendars for *Thursday evening, March 18th*. It is a great party with great food, great prizes and hundreds of items for auction.



*We need your help.* If you are interested in being a part of the effort this year, here are your contacts:

- Auction: **Kristen Takakuwa**
- Raffle: **Oswaldo and Paula Leon**
- Food: **Marilee Lovell**
- Dance: **Kaye Anderson**

Also, watch the *Oxford e-tree* for specific announcements!

## Raffle Tickets Go On Sale Today!

Oxford's biggest fundraiser and school event, the **Spring Silent Auction, Raffle and Dinner Dance**, *is just 4 weeks away.* That means we have to start selling those raffle tickets to our friends, family,

## School Calendar

2/19	Raffle Ticket Sales Begin
2/20	Online Auction Begins
2/23	All School Panoramic Photo
2/26	Student performance with the <i>Berkeley Symphony Orchestra</i> at 10:20AM in cafetorium
3/12	Schoolwide math challenge tests
3/8	RIF Day
3/18	Annual Raffle, Silent Auction, and Spring Dance at Oxford
3/29-4/2	Spring Recess ( <i>no school</i> )

co-workers and neighbors this week. Today or tomorrow students will receive a raffle ticket packet with instructions and raffle tickets. You may sell your tickets as soon as you receive them. This year's raffle has some great prizes, including:

- Laptop Computer
- Tour for 4 of Pixar Studios in Emeryville
- 2 Prime Tickets to see The Giants play
- The Oakland A's at AT&T Park
- \$75 shopping certificate for Five Little Monkeys Toy Store

## Online Auction Opens This Week

Exciting things are available on the **Oxford Online Auction** website at <http://oxford.cmarket.com>. You can view it any time with no log in required. There are donations from local businesses and fun items from the generous Oxford staff and community. If you want to bid the website will require you to set up an account with a credit card. You can even give yourself a fun screen name for your bids. We arrange this through **cMarket**, a secure and reputable charity auction website manager. Thanks to **cMarket**, our small online auction can also offer small appliances, domestic and international travel and other unique merchandise. *Check it out!*

## April Fundraiser

Hi, I am looking to put together a **fundraiser** for **Sat. April 10th** at the school and wanted to see if anyone wanted to help brainstorm and organize. This could be a fun outdoor event to raise some funds for the school. What I was thinking of...

- Booth selling outgrown kids sport equipment.
- Flowers, produce and baked goods.
- Homemade kids and adult art and crafts.
- Book trade or sale.

Let me know if you are interested in helping. I am planning on setting up a meeting at my house early March. Thanks a bunch!

--Nan Mervin (*Cooper 4th grade and Maude 1st grade*)

## Parent's Fix It Club Project

**Sunday, Feb. 21st, 1:30PM**

The school is having some cleaning and mold testing done under the stage, and we will be helping to move all the stuff stored under there to storage sheds on the lower yard. We could use a number of strong backs to help get all the stuff moved. We may also need some tarps to provide temporary rain cover if the sheds are not quite finished yet. Please give **Sachu Constantine** (*father of kinder Jorah Delbanco*) a call or send him an email if you think you can help. Thanks - Sach

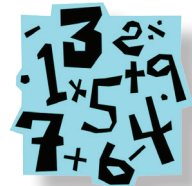
## Berkeley Symphony Concert

Tomorrow morning all students will perform with the **Berkeley Symphony** at Oxford School. Please join us if you can to hear this fabulous concert. The 4th and 5th graders will play instruments, the 3rd graders will play recorders, the younger students will play rhythm instruments and sing. The concert is at **10:20AM on Friday**.

## Reminder: Calling all Grandparents!!

Your help in grading the tests for the **Spell-a-thon** was invaluable.

*Are you willing to help correct the tests for the schoolwide math challenge?* The students will take the tests at the beginning of the day on **March 12th** so we anticipate grading could be completed between 10:00-12:00. *Please let Lety know if you are available to help.*



## BUSD A+ News Update Available Electronically by Subscription

The **BUSD A+ News Update** reports on the many accomplishments of our students, teachers and staff, and gives highlights of our community partnerships, and Board and administrative actions. This is the second season of the newsletter, which is primarily distributed electronically, through the **District website and Etrees**. BUSD encourages you to subscribe to receive it directly, electronically every month. To do so, **send an email to: [subscribeA+@berkeley.k12.ca.us](mailto:subscribeA+@berkeley.k12.ca.us)** and write **Subscribe** in the subject line.

## **Photos and Lots More on Our Oxford Website**

Don't forget to check out the wonderful and very up-to-date Oxford Elementary School website that our fabulous webmaster, Linnie Garnica, maintains.

*Have a look!* <http://oxfordelementary.org>

## **Reporting Absences**

If your student is absent, **please call the school office or send an email to Lety Marquez**, letting her know why they won't be (or weren't) at school.

## **Submissions for the Oxford School Newsletter**

Please email submissions to:

**[OxfordSchoolNewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:OxfordSchoolNewsletter@gmail.com)**

**as attached MS Word documents.** Submissions received by Fridays will go out in the Newsletter the following Thursday. Please send an email to the same address if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions. *Thank you.*