

Oxford School News

June 11, 2010

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



This is a busy time of year with many field trips, end of year celebrations, and final assessments. Attendance is very important as we finish the year. Please let your child's teacher know in advance if your child is going to miss any of the final days of school. And please check at home for those lost library books! They were due on May 28th and *we want to be able to give every child a report card.*

—Janet Levenson

NOTE: The BUSD calendar for 2010-2011 school year is available online at the BUSD website:

<http://www.berkeley.net/school-calendar/>

School Calendar

- 6/11 Heritage Potluck Potluck and Family Square Dance, 6-8:00 PM
- 6/17 5th Grade Promotion, 9 am
- 6/18 Last day of school
- 9/1 First day of 2010-2011 school year

Math Challenge Reward

Tomorrow we will finally have the reward celebration for the 2nd-5th graders who mastered the math challenge. We will have a **Build-it-Festival** where the kids get to build giant structures out of newspaper rolls. *Please send in newspapers if you have them and feel free to hang out if you want to help!*

Family Square Dance & Heritage Potluck

Come tomorrow night and celebrate the end of the year. It is a potluck so please bring a dish to share. We call it a

heritage potluck since we encourage you to bring a dish that is traditional to your family's heritage. The outdoor dining will happen on the **upper playground** from 6:00-7:00 PM and then we will have a **barn dance with live musicians and a caller** from 7:00-8:00 PM. We will also be bidding a fond farewell to staff members who won't be returning next year.

Message From Our Gardening Instructor

Hello Oxford parents,— this is **Nicholas Rosenstock**, the volunteer garden instructor for Oxford Elementary. I work with all the kids in grades K-3 for 30 minutes every two weeks (*~10 hours a week for me*)



◆ Update on what the kids have been doing:

As some of you have noticed there are a lot of new things growing in the garden this spring, and the anomalously late rains have helped us. We have kale, lettuce, tomatoes, pumpkins, strawberries, potatoes, carrots, flowers, and the three sisters (*corn, beans, and squash*) growing in the garden. The kids have been learning about nutrient cycles, fungi, and recycling, as well as basic garden skills like weeding, pruning, and planting. We have also discussed seasons, California climate, and Native American agriculture.

◆ Appeal for long-term help:

I have managed to get myself a PhD and I am leaving the country at the end of June to take my first job. So we need some help setting up a *drip irrigation system, tending the garden a bit during the summer, and finding someone to do my job next year.* I am happy to coordinate, orchestrate, or orient any parental involvement towards these goals but cannot really provide for the future of the Oxford garden myself because I will be too busy this June wrapping up my life to find a replacement. An individual like myself would be great, but if maybe 5-10 par-

ents wanted to make a committee perhaps they could do the instruction, too? It's really very easy, rewarding, and fun.

I have really enjoyed working with all of your children, they have been an inspiration and a source of joy to me, and I hope I have been to them. Please contact me if you would like to help out in any way and I will organize email lists/ phone trees before I leave (June 30th).

all the best--Nick Rosenstock

Submissions for the Oxford School Newsletter

Please email submissions to:

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.*

Oxford E-Tree

If you want to receive important information electronically, you should subscribe to **Oxford's etree**.

Only subscribers may post and have moved to a moderated format to ensure that only school related topics are posted. **To subscribe to the list, send a blank email to:**

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