

Oxford School News

October 15, 2009

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

This year the teachers decided to give awards to students each week as a way to reinforce the schoolwide expectations and to recognize those students who are doing a great job being safe, respectful and responsible. Each week the winners are announced at Friday morning's Community Meeting and Janet reads a short description of why each student was chosen by the teachers. The winners to date have been:

K-2: Luis Gehrt-Stehr, Amelia Costello, Mabel Robinson-McGee, Ella Troutman, Angel Acosta-Buendia, Alexandria Thomas

3-5: Sebleh Owens, Je'Kyla Hunt, Gabriella Alvarez, Austin Wilson, Sophia Quintana, Aryan Webster

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Several parents came and cleaned up the school yard the past two weekends. Many thanks to Sachu Constantine, Suzanne DelBanco, Duff McGee, Kim Robinson, Richard Roston, Carl and Lee Kempf, CJ Higley, Mike Mayeri, Patricia Lewis, Thomas Richardson, and apologies to anyone else we may have forgotten. The yard looks beautiful!

—Janet Levenson

NOTE: The BUSD calendar for 2009-2010 is available online at the BUSD website: <http://www.berkeley.net/school-calendar/>

School Calendar

10/17	Harvest Fair/Book Fair, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM
11/2-11/5	Shortened days for parent/teacher conferences
11/6	No school (conferences)
11/11	Veterans' Day Holiday
11/13	Berkeley Symphony Orchestra concert, Oxford School, 8:30 AM
11/20	Spell-a-thon
11/25-11/27	Thanksgiving Holidays

PTA News

Hello Oxford Parents new and seasoned!

Some of you may remember our former fall fundraiser the Sally Foster Wrapping Paper sales.

Some of you may even remember it fondly but...

The PTA has decided to try something new this year and we are looking for someone to head it up.

The *first annual Oxford Elementary Spell-a-thon* is upon us and it needs a leader! This is how it works: our students ask the same people to whom they sold wrapping paper to sponsor them for the spell-a-thon: grandparents, neighbors, parents, and friends. Sponsors can pay an up front flat fee, or commit a certain amount per correctly spelled word. *Joal Arvanigian and Mary Burmester*, our **Literacy Specialists at Oxford**, will be creating spelling lists for each grade. Students will study and then on **November 20th**, during class time, teachers will administer the test. They will be scored and then students can go back to their sponsors and collect the funds. The parent chairperson of this event will work in tandem with an already volunteered co-chair to publicize the event, to create sponsor sheets for our students, and to coordinate collecting the money raised. Fun and collaborative, academic but spirited... I would do it myself, but I'm a little busy!

In these tough budget times your help is our best resource!!! Don't volunteer all at once now!

Thanks! *Chrissy Meuris*

The Harvest Fair is Coming in Just 2 Days!

Saturday, October 17, 11 AM-3 PM



Don't forget to come to the fair and bring neighbors and friends. Free games and craft activities will be on the upper playground. There will be fabulous music and dancing on the lower level. **Yummy food will be sold** and there will also be a

Farmer's Market booth set up where you can buy local produce to take home!

Here are a few last minute things that we need!

If you have any of them, please bring them to the schoolyard on Saturday morning. **Set up will start at 10AM.**

- ◆ **Shade Canopies!!!!** We need many. Let us know if you have one or some to bring.
- ◆ **Gas grills and volunteers to help BBQ** on the day of the fair.
- ◆ **Baked goods to sell.** Just bring them to the lower playground on the day of the fair. We will price them to sell.
- ◆ **Produce or flowers from your garden or tree.** *Ask your neighbors!* Consider *donating your weekly produce box*. Bring it to the Farmer's Market table on the day of the fair!
- ◆ **Recycled bags for produce** at the Farmer's Market table.

This is such a fun community event!

Make sure you are in contact with your room parents and sign up for shifts. We always need help with set-up and cleanup!

Any questions about the fair? Let us know!

Autumnal Happiness and Joy-
Ceci Bowman & Jennie Knight

The Book Fair Wants You!

The Book Fair Committee would greatly appreciate some help to make this year's fair another success:

- ◆ **Set-up in the Cafeteria – Friday October 16, 12:00PM--2:00PM.** Come help unpack the book boxes and set up the display tables.
Any amount of time you can spend will help.
- ◆ **Bring a Baked Good/Treat for the Teachers' Preview Tea – Friday, October 16, 2:00PM**
- ◆ **Pack-up – Saturday, October 10/17, 3:00 PM**

Pack-up the books and load the truck. *The more help we have the faster it will go!*

We are excited about our new book fair vendor. **Be sure to check out our great selection at the Fair!** Contact: *Sally McLaughlin*

BUSD School Governance Training

This fall's training for School Site Decision-Makers will take place Tuesday, October 27th from 6:00-8:30PM at Longfellow Middle School. A light supper, childcare, and Spanish language sessions will be provided. Workshops will offer something useful for everyone, from basic orientation to intermediate and advanced data analysis and meeting management. Parents and Teachers who serve on the SGC, ELAC & PTA are all invited. School Governance Council Chairs are required to attend and Principals should mark their calendars.

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 we primarily distribute electronically, through the District website and Etrees. We encourage you to subscribe to receive it directly, electronically every month. To do so, send an email to: subscribeA+@berkeley.k12.ca.us and write *Subscribe* in the subject line. This will allow us to send you a PDF document and the website link.

PowerSchool Training for Parents

In preparation of the release of PowerSchool logins to parents at the elementary and middle school levels, BEA will provide three PowerSchool Parent sessions the week of **October 19th**. These sessions are aligned with the "train the trainer" model and are designed for anyone (staff, parent volunteers, etc.) who will provide PowerSchool parent trainings and support at the site level. ***Please note that these sessions are NOT for all parents, but limited to trainers.*** All sessions will be held in English and Spanish. The trainers will receive materials in English and Spanish for their use. Elementary and middle school sites can use the flyers attached to recruit attendees. Each school must send at least one person.

Halloween Costume Swap



The Halloween Costume Swap has been set up in the **middle entryway** at school, next to the *Lost and Found* box. So clean out those closets and bring any clean, gently used costumes

(or pieces--gloves, scarves, boots, belts, etc.) for another student to use. You and your child can look through the box; you may find the perfect costume for this year, *absolutely free!*

Thanks,

Heidi Ross

(Aliyah, 4th, and Jessicah, 2nd)

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.*