

Shark Bytes

October 2009

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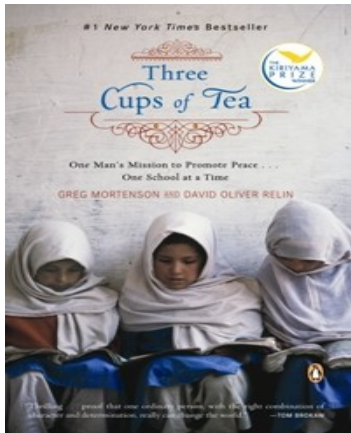
Dates to Remember

Oct. 26
Fall Carnival

Nov. 18
Family Puzzle Night

Introducing "Sierra Elementary Reads!"

Sierra Elementary Reads! is modeled after the successful "One Book, One Community" events that occur in communities throughout California and across the nation. The purpose is to promote reading and increase multicultural awareness and understanding. Our initial book suggestion is *Three Cups of Tea*, by Greg Mortenson. Friends and families are encouraged to read and share this book together in preparation for upcoming events at Sierra. More details to come soon!



Fall Carnival

Monday, October 26th 3:30-6:30 pm

Mark your calendars!
This is an event you won't want to miss!! It's a chance to wear your Halloween Costumes early, play games, and win prizes and CANDY!!!!
This year we will be having a costume contest and a class pumpkin carving contest. Be sure to get creative!!

Check out the website www.sierraptc.com for event details.



Family Puzzle Night

When you walk through a toy store or a craft fair and you spy a mechanical puzzle--the ones commonly made of metal, wood, and string--do you stop, pick it up, and attempt to solve it? If so, you'll want to be sure to join us:

Family Puzzle Night
Wednesday, November 18th
6:00 to 7:30 PM
Multipurpose room

The evening will be devoted to a variety of mechanical puzzles which will challenge all ages. Wear or bring along a shirt with button holes (down the front or on the long sleeve cuffs) and we'll send you home with a puzzle you can share with your family and friends.

Parents, do you want to help out?
If so, please contact Robert Wharton,
robert.wharton@hp.com.



Library News

We want to thank everyone for making our Book Fair such a success. We were able to raise \$2000 for the Library. Also, thank you for the donating over 146 books to our Library and teachers.

A big Thank You to all of our volunteers who made the Book Fair happen!
Our Book Fair angels are:

Karen Thomas Brandt
Suzanne Bratkovich
Cari Colonius
Mary Daughters
Debbie Dolan
Leslie Domingo
Melissa Dueck
Beth Eppler
Stacy Farrish
Lynn Fox
Shannon Greener
Sharon Igarashi
Lori Kambe
Marilyn Kinsey
Jodi Larson
Rachel Lund
Jane Mitchell
Vi Nicholson
Lisa Nivinski
Kathy Phelan
Allison Pinkham
Niki Salesky
Nancy Spooner
Kristen Sypolt
Inga Templeton
Ilene Torres
Kayla Una'Dia
Jill Vogt
Darcy Wharton
Chris Wilson
Hale Witt
Jake Wright
Sara Wright

Principal's Message

Sierra students, staff and parents have full calendars for the next few weeks. Be sure and check our school web page calendar for the latest updates.

The change of seasons is upon us and we have already experienced quite a few rainy days. Please remember to use extra caution when dropping off and picking up your students in the rain. Our parking lot can get very congested during wet weather, but our primary goal remains keeping students safe. Please do not block the crosswalk or entrance or exit with your vehicle. Umbrellas limit student vision, so be particularly vigilant. Reduce your speed and use your lights for better visibility. Better yet, consider arriving five to ten minutes early, parking your car, and meeting your child at their classroom. We do our best to provide adult supervision in our parking lots and crosswalks, but whether children walk, take the bus, or ride in a car; parents play a key role in getting them to and from school safely.

Red Ribbon Week

Some of you have asked about the amount of drug education included in our Red Ribbon Week curriculum. Each grade level handles the subject matter in a way that is appropriate for the age of their particular students. No matter the age, our primary focus is teaching kids to respect themselves and others and to always make healthy choices. Our culminating assembly on Friday is a fun filled presentation that focuses on goal setting and making healthy choices a life long habit.

PYP Focus

Stop into any classroom, K-6, and you're apt to see an inquiry-based lesson or activity in progress. Our students and teacher are embracing IB skills and concepts and the results are exciting. Research shows that college success is directly linked to the following:

- Drawing inferences and conclusions from texts
- Analyzing reading passages
- Supporting an argument with evidence
- Solving complex problems with no obvious answer

These same skills are integral to IB methods of teaching and learning. IB strives to produce students who are; thinkers, communicators, inquirers, risk-takers and reflective, open-minded, knowledgeable, caring and balanced. These are the skill sets of life-long learners!

A **big** thanks to all of you who participated and helped with our Jog-a-thon, with special thanks to our PTC board. What a terrific event!!

Karen Huffines
Principal



We Want To Hear From You!

Your 2009/2010 board members are listed below. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or comments. General questions and comments may also be directed to ptc@sierraptc.com

President
Lori Kambe
lori@kambe.org

Vice-President
Lynn Fox
lfox@surewest.net

Vice-President
Lisa Nivinski
nivinski@starstream.net

Secretary
Suzanne Bratkovich
suzannebratkovich@ssctv.net

Treasurer
Laurie Townsley
stownsley@hotmail.com

Historian
Kristine Widger
ckwidger@sbcgobal.net

A Letter from the PTC President

Hello Sierra Families,

I would like to thank everyone who helped with the Jog-A-Thon. There were so many people that helped, I could not possibly name all of them! Please know that your help is appreciated.

The Jog-A-Thon was a huge success. The kids had fun and we raised nearly \$20,000.00 for the school! I would especially like to thank the families at our school whose businesses were a business sponsor for our t-shirts!

Michael and Julie Jalone - Magnum One Realty
Rick Helmuth and Lisa Arthur - Sherman.Loehr Contract Interiors
Brian and Susan Bennett - Paul Martin's American Bistro
Jeff and Fauline Nelson - Music That Matters Studios
Erik and Rene Carlson - Magical Entertainment with Erik Carlson

We are looking forward next week to the Halloween Carnival. It will be a spooktacular event. Beth Eppler and her committee have been hard at work for the last two months to bring the fun event to our school. We look forward to seeing you there.

Also coming up in November is the Family Puzzle Night. This new event is taking over for Family Math Night this year. Come on November 18th to figure out a few puzzles!

I hope to see everyone in the next few months at the fun events we have planned. We also hope to see you at our next PTC Meeting on Thursday, November 12th.

Lori Kambe
PTC President



If you have questions, comments or concerns regarding the Sierra Elementary Newsletter, or if you have information you would like to add to next month's Newsletter, please contact Heidi Dailey at heididailey@yahoo.com