



# Patwin Elementary

March 17, 2008 Newsletter

Visit our web site: [www.patwinelementary.com](http://www.patwinelementary.com)

## Calendar of Events

Date	Day	Time	Event
3/16/08	Sunday	4:00 - 6:00 pm	Poster Making Party for Junior High Rally (Stonegate Country Club, 919 Lake Blvd)
3/17/08	Monday	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Kindergarten Information Night
3/18/08	Tuesday	4:00 pm	Rally for Three Junior Highs (Central Park)
3/18/08	Tuesday	6:30 pm	PTA/New Principal Criteria Meeting (Library)
3/20/08	Thursday	11:45 - 1:00	Kite Day (Lunch Recess)
3/20/08	Thursday	9:00 - 3:00	Kindergarten Registration for 2008-09
3/20/08	Thursday	7:00 pm	DJUSD Board Meeting (City Chambers)
3/24/08 - 3/28/08	Monday - Friday		School Holiday: Spring Break
4/5/08	Saturday	9:00 - 1:00	Patwin Walkathon
6/4/08	Wednesday		Kindergarten Patwin Day
6/6/08	Friday		Patwin Day

- Running Club meets Tuesday and Thursdays from 2:35 to 3:35. Running Club will be cancelled if it is raining up to 1 hour before 2:30.
- A Waste-Free Wednesday Lunch includes: reusable lunch container; cloth napkins; stainless-steel forks and spoons; reusable drink containers; and reusable lunchboxes
- There will be no cupcake sale this Wednesday. The cupcake sale will return on April 9.
- School Savings deposits are collected each THURSDAY morning from 8:10 to 8:25 outside the MPR
- Music Club meets on Thursdays from 3:10 to 3:45.
- Recycle, help the earth, and support the fourth grade class's trip to Malakoff Diggins this spring! Please bring your aluminum cans to the bin outside room 15.
- If you would like to add or update your email account for receiving notifications from the PTA, please visit <http://www2.dcn.org/mailman/listinfo/patwin-pta-announce/>.

The Patwin Newsletter is published each Monday of the school year by the Patwin PTA. The deadline to submit articles is the preceding Thursday at 9:00 am. Articles should be e-mailed to the editors at [patwineditor@gmail.com](mailto:patwineditor@gmail.com) Please include a contact name and phone number.

## Principal's Corner

Dear Parents,

I cannot remember more financially challenging times for schools than what we are currently experiencing in our nation, state, and city. Of course, the effects on a small school district such as ours can appear overwhelming, especially when the situation is compounded by declining enrollment. One thing you as parents can do right here, right now, is have your youngster in school every day that he/she is not ill. Students in attendance generate approximately \$40 per day. School revenue is calculated differently from when you and I were students. In those days, parents wrote notes explaining absences and some were calculated for funding and some were not. Now, unless students are in their seats on a given day we receive nothing for their absence. The exception to that rule is if your student is absent for five or more days and you complete an Independent Study Short Term Study/Travel Contract prior to departure. The Independent Study contract must be satisfied with required school work upon your return before we submit the contract with the completed school work for funding.

I admire and appreciate the responsible and creative manner in which our district leadership and school board are confronting our district's financial challenges. These people are not responsible for the mess we are in. They are however, working tirelessly to remedy the situation. Thursday night, March 20 the board will be considering grade configurations and different programs from what we now have in the district. I encourage you to follow your heart. If you feel strongly about any proposal, make your thoughts known. If you choose to not voice your opinion you may dislike the decisions that are made and you will regret not having been heard. There are tough decisions to be made. I admire the courage of the decision makers. Our "cuts" had to be made to satisfy a positive district budget which had to be in place by March 15. I think the cuts will not be as deep as they now appear. Superintendent James Hammond and Chief Business Officer, Bruce Colby, are working diligently to make the school budget understandable for all of our community. Both men were at Patwin at 7:30 last Thursday morning to help staff understand why we have such a financial dilemma. I truly think this situation will improve and many of our district staff will be called back to work before school opens next fall.

The Davis Schools Foundation under the leadership of president, Janet Berry has produced a letter (the bright orange one) requesting tax-deductible donations to save the valued programs we have in our district. I encourage you to do what you can to support this effort. Many of us moved to Davis to raise our kids and to live in one of the most desirable communities in California. I have faith in the integrity and strength of our district leadership and school board. I encourage you to join me in supporting them during this challenging time.

## Rally to keep 3 Junior Highs

On Tuesday, March 18 at 4 pm in Central Park, local residents are invited to a demonstration against a proposal to close a Junior High School. There will be a party to make posters for the rally on Sunday, March 16 from 4 to 6 pm at Stonegate Country Club, 919 Lake Blvd.

If accepted, the proposal saves the District \$600,000 but it has to spend an additional \$400,000 to install portable classrooms. Enrollment would increase to 1,000 students at Holmes and Harper Jr. Highs. School boundaries would change transferring Holmes students to Harper to make room for Emerson students.

### New Principal Selection

Kevin French, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, will meet with Patwin parents this Tuesday, March 18th at 6:30 pm during the regular PTA meeting. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss criteria and qualities in selecting a new principal.

### DJUSD Board Meeting

The next meeting of the DJUSD Board of Education will be held this Thursday, March 20 at 7:00 pm in the Community Chambers of the City of Davis. In the continuing discussions related to budget cuts, Patwin parents are encouraged to attend. It can also be viewed live or on demand over the Internet at [www.djUSD](http://www.djUSD).

## PTA Corner

Greetings Patwin Families,  
Parents, Friends:

Spring break is just around the corner and after that, the Patwin Walkathon! We hope to see everyone at the Walkathon on Saturday, April 5th--it's a great event for everyone--both as a fundraiser for our school and as a chance to visit with friends and family. Please support Patwin by pledging, gathering pledges or participating as a walker at this wonderful event.

The event could not happen without the hard work of our Walkathon Co-Leaders Ellen Shields and Mary Maffly and their amazing committee, who are busy pulling everything together. We will need volunteers the day of the event, between 8 am - 2 pm. Please contact Grace DeMasi, if you can volunteer for a shift during the event. Grace can be reached at 753-8609 or [gracedemasi@earthlink.net](mailto:gracedemasi@earthlink.net).

There are also day-of sign up sheets in the office window and at the outdoor bulletin board.

We are also beginning recruitment for next year's PTA. If you are interested in serving on the Patwin PTA, please email us at [patwinpta@gmail.com](mailto:patwinpta@gmail.com). Information on open positions will be posted in the newsletter following Spring Break and on the outdoor bulletin board.

See you at the Walkathon!  
Nicole & Jacki

## Less than 3 weeks to Walkathon!

Put a Spring in Your Step on Saturday, April 5th, from 9:00am-1:00pm! Not able to make it to this year's walkathon? Got a soccer tournament or a baseball game? Why not sponsor Mr. Parker? It's his last walkathon so let's make it special! You can help out Patwin, and if you sponsor him for at least \$20 you'll still get your own t-shirt!

Now that the book fair is over, it's time to sign up to help out—lots of volunteers are still needed! Call Grace DeMasi at 753-8609 or look for the signup sheet coming soon to the PTA bulletin board! Remember, walking in or helping out at the Walkathon supports all of the ways that the PTA helps make Patwin a great school for our children—even more important now in light of the extreme budget cuts coming our way!

## Patwin Walkathon T-shirt Contest

Thank you to the following students who submitted a t-shirt design idea for this year's Walkathon! You are all fabulous artists and it was VERY difficult to choose a winning design. You are all winners in our book, and all of the entries will be displayed on the ball wall the day of the Walkathon!

Sells:	Mia
Hewell:	Grace
Zais:	Maggie, Kenny
Lamb:	Dylan, Riana, Isaiah, Danielle, Breana, Habbaba, Erica, Jack, Stephanie, Joshua, Dani, Keevan, Casey, Alex, Louisa
Warner/Harding:	Riley, Cody
Phillips/Anderson:	Faith, Annie, Ryan, Laura, Abby, Keahi, Zaire, Sophie, Alex, Hava, Sasha
Wallace:	Darla, Sylvia, Dakota, Abbey, Tara, Teliz, David, Bay, Claire, Jared
Medeiros:	Nina, Gabriella, Jackson, Osama, Melanie, Hannah, Phoebe, Jill, Gage
Britz-Diaz:	Giulia, Maria
Fingerman:	Nathaly, Jamie, Corin, Blaise, Nikolay, Estephanie, Elisa, Rohan, Rachel, Phoebe, Mohammed, Alexis, William, Francisco
Biewer-Elstob:	Shannon, Molly, Natalie, Jessica, Ki
Weir:	Megan, Sara, Bianca
Cook:	Devin, Maddie, Jin Hee, Seung Hyun

In case you did not hear the announcement last week, our winners were Bianca Rosario from Mrs. Weir's class for the front of the shirt, and Jared Kimzey from Mrs. Wallace's class for the back! Congratulations to you both!

## Patwin Day 2008

Spring break may mean spring cleaning for some of you. While you are throwing out those old newspapers, rubber bands and small jars, think of Patwin Day on June 6! Although it seems like a long time from now, it will sneak up on us fast. Please mark your calendars--Kindergarten Patwin Day is on Wednesday, June 4 and for first through sixth graders it will be on Friday, June 6. We will need volunteers for both days as well as donations and rolled newspapers! Have a great spring break! Ann Shuman and Jennifer Bavetta, Co-Chairs, Patwin Day, 2008

## Patwin School's Kite Day!

**WHEN?** Thursday, March 20 during each lunch recess

Grades 1 and 4	11:45 – 12:15 Recess
Grades 2 and 3	12:05 – 12:35 Recess
Grades 5 and 6	12:30 – 1:00 Recess

**WHERE?** Patwin School Playground

**WHY?** It's a lot of fun to fly a kite

**WHO?** Students in grades one through six with their parents

**HOW?** Students may have their parents join them for lunch and then take their kite which they have brought from home and fly it during recess



## Wennberg Festival

Come and see what the amazing Davis Public School orchestral music program has accomplished this year. Led by the phenomenal directors Angelo Moreno, Greg Brucker and Kim Cole, 5 orchestras with musicians ages 10 - 18, will perform for the community. The Concerto Competition winner, 16 yr old Angela Yeung, will perform Beethoven's Concerto No. 3 in C Minor. Whether you are a community member, budding musician, or a supporter of the arts from across the country, this festival will prove the value of music in our schools.

The Wennberg Festival (12th Annual) will take place Saturday, April 12, at 2:30pm at The UC Davis Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets available, \$8-16.00, at the box office, [www.mondaviarts.org](http://www.mondaviarts.org) or by calling: 866-754-2787. More information at: [http://www.mondaviarts.org/events/event.cfm?event\\_id=554](http://www.mondaviarts.org/events/event.cfm?event_id=554).

## Kindergarten Registration

If you have a child eligible to start Kindergarten in the fall, be sure to mark you calendars now. Kindergarten Information Night will be held at Patwin on this Monday, March 17 from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. Registration for the 2007-08 school year will be held this Thursday, March 20, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

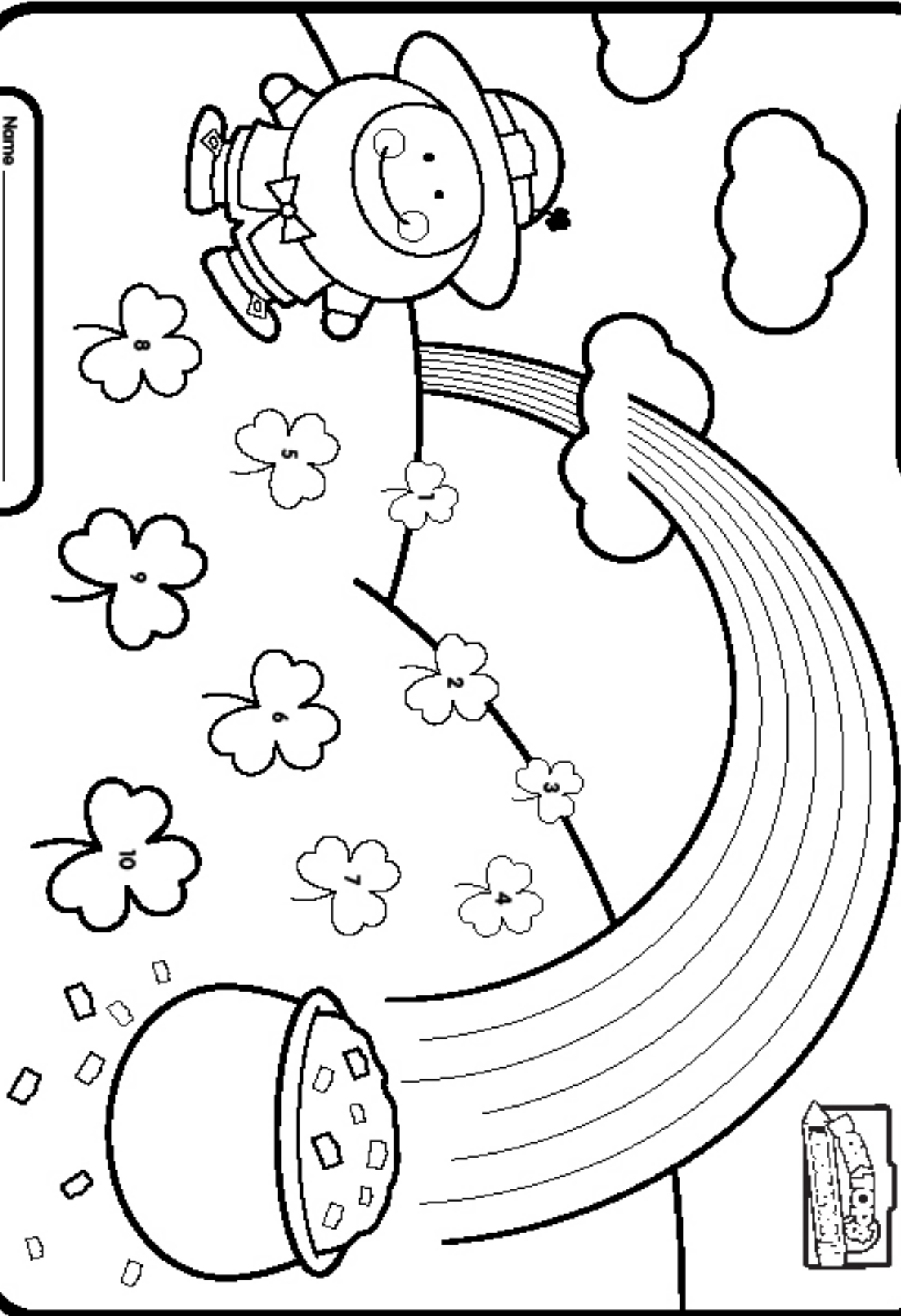
Please contact Bike Exchange coordinators Jill Van Zanten ([jillvz@integrity.com](mailto:jillvz@integrity.com) or 758-7667) or Angelica Herrera (753-2084) if you are interested in the listings below, or if you have a bike offer or bike need (give age & gender of child/size of bike). Bike size is determined by measuring the diameter of the wheel rim. Names of donors and recipients will be kept confidential. Kids' bikes in good condition only, please.

## Patwin Bike Exchange

BIKES NEEDED	BIKES OFFERED
14 or 16 in girl's bike	12 in orange unisex bike w/training wheels
14 or 16 in boy's bike for a 1st grader, training wheels a bonus	12 in red unisex bike
	12 in Huffy boy's bike w/training wheels

*Disclaimer: By participating in the Patwin Bike Exchange, you agree to hold neither the bike donor nor anyone affiliated with Patwin Elementary School or Patwin PTA responsible or liable for any circumstance resulting from a Patwin Bike Exchange-related gifting or communication.*

Box Tops are as good  
as gold for your school!



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for helping! Every Box Top you collect is worth 10¢ for your school.  
For more collection worksheets and projects, go to [www.boxtops4education.com/activitycenter](http://www.boxtops4education.com/activitycenter)