



Patwin Elementary

February 23, 2010 Newsletter

Visit our web site: www.patwinelementary.org

Calendar of Events

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT
2-22-10	Monday		Make-No-Waste Monday
2-22-10	Monday		School Holiday
3-8-10---	Monday-		Patwin Bookfair
3-12-10	Friday		*VOLUNTEERS NEEDED*
3-11-10	Thursday		Lamppost Pizza Fundraiser

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 12:00 noon. Articles should be e-mailed to the editors at patwineditor@gmail.com Please include a contact name and phone number.

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Michelle Flowers, Principal • Terri Clarke, PTA President
www.patwinelementary.org

Visit District Dollars to Learn About the DJUSD Budget Situation

As part of the district's ongoing effort to keep the community informed, Superintendent James Hammond recently introduced District Dollars.

DistrictDollars(www.districtdollars.org) is a web-based, interactive program to help you understand the DJUSD budget situation. It provides information on:

- How California pays for schools
- How much money the district gets and how it is spent
- The different options for balancing the budget
- The superintendent's reduction plan

District Dollars lets you ask questions, provide feedback and share your own values about education priorities. This information will be reviewed by administration and the Board of Education throughout the budget process.

District Dollars will be available as a Quick Link on the DJUSD website (www.djUSD.net) through June, when the Board will adopt a final budget for the 2010-11 school year. You are invited to visit the site at your convenience.

Walkathon Saturday, April 24th 9am-1pm

If you would like to help or your business would like to sponsor this event, contact Grace DeMasi at 753-8609 or

Bookfair: Volunteers Needed

March 8 - March 12

So far I have only had 6 people signed up! We need at least 15 parent volunteers to have a successful bookfair.

Setup - March 5 (9:00 to 3:00) (need at 5 more)

Mon. March 8 (1:15 to 3:45) (need 2 more)

Tues. March 9 (1:15 to 3:45) (need 2 more)

Wed. March 10 (1:15 to 3:45) (need 1 more)

Family Night March 10 (5:30 to 7:30) (need 1 more)

Thurs. March 11 (1:15 to 3:45) (need 2 more)

Friday March 12 (1:15 to 2:15) (need 1 more)

Packup (2:15 to 5:00) (need 5 more)

Even 1 hour afterschool helps!

Contact: Terri Clarke @
Tclarke190@aol.com

Become Active in the PTA

2010/11 PTA BOARD MEMBERS
Your Leadership is needed at
PATWIN.

Let your voice be heard and help make decisions on how PTA money is spent.

PTA President - Open

PTA Vice President - Open

PTA Treasurer - Cathy Miller
(offered to volunteer one more year)

PTA Secretary - Hillary Alejo
(offered to volunteer one more year)

PTA Parliamentarian - Open

If you are interested filling these positions, please contact Terri Clarke at Tclarke190@aol.com.

Parent University a Success

Thank you to all that were able to attend our First Annual Davis Parents University on February 6th. We had over 350 attendees. AVID Reader will be donating \$195.00 to the Davis Schools Foundation based on book sales at the event and has offered to donate 10% to anyone who buys Christine Carter's book "Raising Happiness" through the month of February. Davis Schools Foundation was able to raise a total of \$704 in donations that day due to your generous efforts. We would like to thank the following organizations whose donations helped make this event so complete: Farm Fresh to You, Nugget Markets, and H2O to Go. If you have any questions/comments or would like to find out how to be a part of the planning committee for next year, please contact Raychel Kubby Adler at radler@choicepointwellness.com.

Patwin CDC

We have Programs for Preschool (ages 2.9 - Entry into Kindergarten) and school-age Kindergarten - 6th grade for before and after school enrichment programs.

Free or reduced tuition may be available for qualifying families. Please inquire about the YCEL application. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis.

Please visit or contact us at Patwin CDC for more information about our programs. We are located next to Patwin Elementary adjacent to the park. We have been serving the community for over 15 years since 1995.

We look forward to meeting and serving families in our community.

Patwin Library News

By Wendy Chason, Patwin Librarian

This has been an exciting and fun filled week for students and staff at the Library. We opened our **Reading Olympics; Reading for Minutes Program** with the theme from the Olympics being played throughout the school, and the lighting of our “torches”. The library is decorated with flags from some of the participating nations—the students have been having a great time figuring out which country the flags represent—or finding the flag of their family’s culture. Book checkouts have greatly increased this week, especially for the three day weekend as the students are thinking about how many minutes they can read by February 26th.

Our culminating activity will be the Reading Rally on Wednesday, March 3rd.

Our Olympic reading teams will be announced during the assembly that afternoon.

We hope your family will consider sending in a donation to help us buy needed new books for the library—even the smallest amount can make a difference.

In addition to our Reading Olympics, the third and fourth graders are beginning to read books for their **Battle of the Books** which will take place on Thursday, April 1st. I’ll be sending a letter home to parents with all the details of the Battle, but the titles I picked are listed below. The public library will have our battle list, as well as the Avid Reader, but we have multiple copies of the titles, so buying the books is not necessary.

This year’s titles are:

Becoming Winn-Dixie, by Kate DiCamillo

Frindle, by Andrew Clements

The Kite Fighters, by Linda Sue Park

Mummies in the Morning, by Mary Pope Osborne

The Boggart, by Susan Cooper

Key to the Treasure, by Peggy Parrish

Marvin Redpost, Class President, Louis Sachar

There’s An Owl in the Shower, by Jean Craighead George

Garden/Recycle Corner

Take a Look! The Tuesday Lunch Time Garden Club workers have been busy weeding out the area along the chain link fence behind the science building to prepare for the planting of peas! It’s pretty labor intensive as the weeds are well established. We should finish the weeding this Tuesday and begin the planting of the edible pod peas.

It is now time to plant other cool season crops like beets, carrots, cabbage, lettuce and spinach to name a few. We planted some of these in the raised beds last October and November but they got off to a slow start. We should see them taking off now, as if we just transplanted them in February. Take a walk by the beds to observe their progress. Unfortunately, most of the transplants the third graders put in the other garden area got eaten up by snails and slugs, such is the unpredictable nature of gardening.

But, on the bright side, the lettuce bed is beautiful with 5 different varieties and the wheat is growing well. We’re hoping to get some more crops planted soon in some of the other available spaces. If you’re interested in having your child’s class participate and you can offer some time, please have their teacher contact me to set up a planting session.

Recycling news: Reminder that it is never too late to have your child start bringing waste-free lunches. I’ve been noticing that the garbage cans are less full than usual, so congratulations to all of you who have put in that extra effort to decrease the waste stream at Patwin. The lessons you are instilling in your children are ones that will remain with them for their life time.

A waste-free lunch can be brought any day of the week, but Earth Buck Tokens are only given out on Mondays. Waste-free lunches are free of plastic bags, mylar packaging (Capri-Sun and the like), lunchable-type items and anything else that gets thrown out after one use. Try buying things in bulk instead of single serving packages and putting the foods in reusable containers. It’s great to get your children started down this road and it has the added advantage of saving you money, too.

Any questions, comments or advice contact Joannie, RISE/Garden, jmsiegler@hotmail.com