

SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

November newsletter: The November newsletter was sent out on Friday, October 26. It should arrive at your homes in a few days.

Autumn Work Day: JOIN US TOMORROW, **Saturday, October 27**, for our 6th Annual Autumn Work Day. Projects include: gardening, graffiti removal, painting, and small classroom repairs. We invite all students, parents, teachers, staff and community members to come and help make Bret Harte a better place to be. Many teachers offer credit for citizenship or scholarship to their students who participate. Work Day will run from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Lunch will be served at 1 p.m.

School Dance: The Halloween Dance will be held on Wednesday, October 31 from 1:35 to 3:45 p.m.

Annual Title I Meeting: Please attend our Annual Title I Meeting on **Tuesday, November 6 at 6:30 p.m.** to learn how Bret Harte is using its supplementary federal funding to support the improved academic achievement of our students. Chinese and Spanish interpreting will be provided.

The Castle Walk: Seventh grade students and their World History teachers invite you to **Castle Walk** on **Wednesday, November 7 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.** Come see over hundred of models of imaginary and real European and Japanese castles and vote for your favorites. Come celebrate the hard work and skillful craftsmanship of this year's fabulous seventh grade students. Light refreshments will be served.

Information Night for Prospective Families: On **Thursday, November 15 at 6 p.m.** Bret Harte will hold an Information Night for prospective families. After a general presentation, guests will be able to meet several of the teachers and speak with current students and recent alumni. School tours will be offered on the following days:

- Thursday, November 8
- Tuesday, November 27
- Wednesday, December 5
- Friday, December 14
- Tuesday, December 18

School tours start at 9 a.m. in the Parent Center, Room 102 and last about 1 ½ hours. Please let your friends and neighbors know about our Information Night and tours!

STUDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Here is a sampling of the student announcements for this past week:

“Applications are still available for the Student Leadership Team. If you want to help plan activities, work on the yearbook, and be a voice for your fellow students, sign up today. Applications are available from Ms. Harris in Room 301.

The Halloween door decorating contest will begin this week. Decorate the inside of your door using Halloween decorations. Teachers: use students from your 3rd period class, before or after school, or during lunch only. Your door will be judged on October 31st. Please let Ms. Harris know if you are

planning to participate.

There will be a Halloween costume contest held during 3rd period on October 31st. We will count the number of students wearing costumes during 3rd period and the class with the most costumes will win. There will be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes.

The Halloween dance will also be October 31st at 1:35 p.m. Any student that has been suspended between October 15 and 31 will not be allowed to attend.

Our academic words for this week are ‘identify’ and ‘equivalent.’ Ask your teachers about how to use them for extra credit.”

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Annual Parent Leadership Conference: OUSD’s Family & Community Engagement Office is sponsoring a **Parent Leadership Conference on Saturday, October 27, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.** The conference will be held at Patten University, 2433 Coolidge Ave. Topics include Discipline, School Budgets, Programs for Exceptional Children, English Language Learners, No Child Left Behind & School Improvement, Translation Services, A-G Requirements for High School Students, California High School Exit Exam, Equity Plan, Parents in Governance, K-3 Standards, 4-6 Standards, and Parent/Teacher Relationship Building. Last year’s conference received good reviews!

Performing & Visual Arts College Fair: The 2007 San Francisco Performing & Visual Arts College Fair will be on **Saturday, October 27 from 4:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.** at the Nob Hill Masonic Center Exhibit Hall, 1111 California Street, San Francisco. The Performing and Visual Arts (PVA) College Fairs are designed for students interested in pursuing undergraduate and graduate study in the areas of music, dance, theater, visual arts, graphic design, and other related disciplines

Marcus A. Foster Institute Family University: The Marcus A. Foster Educational Institute will be presenting information about how to chart a financial plan for college, identify, understand and support diverse learning styles, create an education plan with clear and measurable goals, effectively advocate for your child's educational needs, and more. Information will be presented in three more Saturday workshops (the first was October 6).

November 3, 2007	8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
January 5, 2008	8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
February 9, 2008	8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Families will receive a **FREE** refurbished computer if they complete at least 3 Saturday workshops in the series. Breakfast, Lunch, Childcare and Raffles are included. The cost is \$25 per family for all 4 sessions. Limited scholarships are available. Workshops will be held at the First Unitarian Church at 685 14th Street, Oakland. For more info, call 835-0391 or <http://www.mafei.org/>. Stop by the Parent Center to pick up a registration form.

HELPING BRET HARTE

Sometimes parents would like to feel a greater connection to Bret Harte but aren’t sure how to make it happen. If you feel this way, here are some ideas for you.

Parent Center Library Help: The Parent Center has a number of useful books to lend to parents. We need help with recording an inventory and creating cards so we can keep track of the books. Can you help us with this task?

Adopt the Teacher's Copy Room: If you would like to improve the quality of life for our teachers, in one small way, then you could volunteer to tidy the Teachers' Copy Room. This would take an hour or less of your time every week or two.

Display Cabinet Master: Do you like to make artistic arrangements? If so, you could become the Display Cabinet Master for the cabinet outside the Cafetorium. This would take an hour or so of your time every month or so.

Contact the Parent Center to claim one of these opportunities!

Cordially,
Sharon Higgins, Eva La and Gerarda Gonzalez
Parent Coordinators
Bret Harte's Parent Center, Room 102
879-2068