

November 16, 2018

eBlast

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Please note that if you chose to keep your student(s) home today, it will be listed as an "excused" absence, as long as you provide us with a note when he/she returns. You do not need to worry, if your child was at home today, that it will be marked as an "unexcused" absence.

Please check your email over the weekend, just in case we decide to close on Monday . . . although, unless the air quality changes quite a bit, we will remain open and keep the children in throughout the day. Once again, it is up to you as to whether you send your child to school or not during the smoky period of time.

#### Ukulele Club

We will be starting the year off with clinics. This is, specifically, for those that have never picked up a ukulele. For those that attended the clinics last year, understand that this will be EXACTLY the same clinic. Attend if you feel like you need a refresher... better yet; attend if you would like to help teach the new people! The clinics will cover:

- How to pronounce "ukulele"
- How to hold the ukulele
- Fretting
- Strumming
- Chord changes
- Playing a song

Our first clinic will be on Monday 11/26. 5:30 - 6:45 pm in the 8th grade classroom. Please contact me if you need to borrow a ukulele. [rqsuratos@gmail.com](mailto:rqsuratos@gmail.com), 510.205.0921

#### Chocolate Sales

Please remember that our Worlds Finest Chocolate sale ends on November 30, 2018. We do not have any extra boxes in the building to pick up and sell, but if you let us know before Thanksgiving vacation, they will be delivered to the school for pick up before the closing date.

Thanksgiving Prayer Service/Packing the boxes for the Bay Area Rescue Mission Tuesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, will be a time dedicated to "prayer filled gratitude" for the many gifts God has given us, as well as a time to remember those who could benefit from our help. Please refer to the list that has come through the Tuesday

newsletters, as well as the ones the teachers have sent home, to remind you what we are collecting. If there should be a school family (ies) who needs a Thanksgiving basket for the holidays, please do not hesitate to give me a call or send an email my way. The school community would be happy lend a hand.

### Fall Colors

On Tuesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, the students may have free appropriate dress in orange, yellow or brown.

### Monday Envelopes

There will be no Monday envelopes going home next week and no Tuesday newsletter. Anything that may need to be announced will be done through an eBlast.

### Lead Samplings

After talking with representatives from the Diocese of Oakland, we have a sink in the big kitchen that will need to have the plumbing replaced due to a higher level of lead samplings. It is the one under the windows, next to the refrigerator. You can use it for washing dishes and cleaning up, but to be safe, please do not drink the water from that particular sink. We will, also, need to replace the commercial freezer in that kitchen soon, since it proves to be inefficient, and the lock was recently broken off.

### Prayer of Gratitude

Thank you, Lord, for the blessings you have bestowed on my life. You have provided me with more than I could ever have imagined. You have surrounded me with people who always look out for me. You have given me family and friends who bless me every day with kind words and actions. They lift me up in ways that keep my eyes focused on you and make my spirit soar.

Also, thank you, Lord, for keeping me safe. You protect me from those things that seem to haunt others. You help me make better choices, and you have provided me with advisors that help me with the difficult decisions. You speak to me in so many ways so that I always know you are here.

And Lord, I am so grateful for keeping those around me safe and loved. I hope that you provide me with the ability and sense to show them every day how much they matter. I hope that you give me the ability to give to them the same kindness they have provided to me. I am just so grateful for all of your blessings in my life, Lord. I pray that you remind me of just how lucky I am, and that you never allow me to forget to show my gratitude in prayer and returned kind acts. Thank you, Lord. In your name, Amen.

### Blessings,

Arlene