



The Blast

Brittan Acres School | Weekly Messenger

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Mark Your Calendars

- WildMinds Assembly: 12/13
- Danny G (3rd Graders): 12/17
- Winter Break: 12/24-01/04
- Staff Dev Day: 01/08

Monday December 10, 2018

Principal's Message

Brittan Acres hosts District-Wide Readers/Writers Workshop

Professional Development on 12/4 & 12/5

Our Brittan Acres Staff hosted last week's district-wide Lucy Calkins Readers/Writers Workshop. All grade levels, TK-3, participated in two days of Professional Development. One class at each grade level hosted teachers from across the district to model Readers/Writers workshop mini lessons. Reading and writing workshops are deliberately designed to offer a simple and predictable environment so that our teachers can focus on the complex work of observing students' progress and teaching to their needs. The brief mini-lessons that begin each day in reading and writing workshop are a time for teacher-led explicit instruction. While the content of mini-lessons will change from day to day; minilessons contain four components: connection, teaching, active engagement and link. In third grade our students were learning to summarize the text. They read a chunk, and were prompted to stop and think, "what's the main idea?" They then reread for details to support and prove it.

Please click on the link below to enjoy some student and staff pictures from our Professional Development Days: [_BA PD Day](#)

PTA Corner

[November PTA Minutes](#)

Volunteer

[Volunteer at BA](#) to build community and support our students. There are lots of in class and at home roles to choose from.

Community Update

- **Early Bird Deadline Extended for San Carlos Youth Softball!** Interested in playing softball this Spring? SCYS is a great way for girls to have some fun, develop skills & build friendships. Click [HERE](#) to register.
- **STEAM Fest on the Square 2019:** Save the Date: Saturday, April 27, 2019, from 11-3 at Redwood City Downtown Courthouse Square. All Bay Area students, families, and friends are invited to the Redwood City Library Foundation's 4th annual free STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) Festival. Attendees will experience a day of hands-on STEAM activities, including projects in construction, robotics, art,

Thank you to the Brittan Acres Holiday Boutique Team!

Our amazing Boutique team created one of the best events ever! BA had the support of an amazing volunteer team: Kristi Martinez, Stephanie Sanborn, Alin Gedikian and Jenny Goines. Many BA families commented just what a treasured tradition it is as evidenced by the outpouring of support! Thank you to our BA staff: Dianne and Jenna for your crafting, Sergio and Sebastian for setting up, Karen for handling our mini book sale and Deana and Alison for joining the committee and putting an enormous amount of hours into making it happen.

Please enjoy some pictures that capture the essence of our holiday boutique:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/dSjeTmD3cvdqtMbl7>

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PTA News

Still looking for a Parliamentarian for the PTA Board

Are you feeling like you want to get involved but don't know what to do? Please consider joining the PTA Board. As we kick off the new year, we are looking for a Parliamentarian. Not only does this role make sure our PTA is following the correct meeting procedures, but it is most critical in helping with new Board elections through creating a nominating committee and managing the election process. The busiest time for this role is January through April.

Please consider if this might be of interest to you. In addition to adding your voice as we seek to make a positive impact on each child's experience at school, it's a great way to get connected and build community. It takes a Village! Jump on in!

Contact ptapresident@brittanacres.org

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Assembly - THIS Thursday, 12/13 - WildMind Associates!

On Thursday, December 13th WildMind Associates (formally WildLife Associates) will be presenting a fun and interactive assembly for all of our BA students. This presentation is a longtime favorite with the students and teachers! This year, they will be bringing LIVE animals, red-tailed hawk, turkey vulture, a

coding, forensics, and much more, with a closeup look at the latest energy-efficient automobiles.

Amazon and eScrip rewards programs and a percentage of your purchases will automatically be donated to the Brittan Acres PTA - at no cost to you!



Follow BA on Social Media

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook for up-to-date info on events and issues!



grey fox, and a North American porcupine and opossum. They will not only center on California wildlife but, will also help teach our students about conservation, the environment and science in a fun and fascinating way. Thank you to your Brittan Acres PTA for sponsoring our first assembly of the school year! Make sure to ask your child about it!

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Danny G Performance Coming up Monday, 12/17 - 3rd Graders

3rd Grade Parents - please join us Monday, December 17th in the MUR at 8:45am for a culminating event. Your child has been working hard each week with our Artist in Residence, Danny Giray, in preparation for this event. This program is being paid for by your PTA - thank you for donating to the Bruin Village fundraising program and helping to provide fantastic opportunities for our students! We hope to see you there!

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District News

Break Schedule

Reminder that schools will be closed for Winter Break from December 24-January 4. Monday, January 7 will be a staff development day with no students/classes. Students will return to school on Tuesday, January 8.

SMART-E President's Week

SMART-E Presents... PRESIDENTS' WEEK CAMP

Fun activities in Sports, Arts & Crafts, Make & Build, and the "You CHOOZ Zone"

February 19th-22nd, 2019

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday

Camp: 9:00am - 4:00pm (drop-off begins at 8:00 am)

Extended Care: 4:00pm - 6:00pm (must buy separately)

White Oaks Elementary School (MUR), 1901 White Oak Way

TK-5th Grade Campers:

4 Day Camp Only* - \$275

Registration opens on Wednesday, December 5th and closes Tuesday, February 5th at 12:00pm

4 day Extended Care* - \$50
(in addition to 4 Day Camp)Registration opens on Wednesday, December 5th and closes Tuesday, February 5th at 12:00pm

To register or for more information:
Visit https://apm.activecommunities.com/smartescsd/Activity_Search or call the SMART-E Business Office at 650.590.5966.

Thank Our Crossing Guards

Here in SCSD we are fortunate to have such dedicated crossing guards supporting our students. Please take time in the next few weeks before the winter break to say thank you to Ronda Copeland (Woodland/Arroyo), Paul Alipate (Cedar/Arroyo), and Martin Pearlta (Brittan/Cedar).

Safe Route to School Transportation Survey

Please take 5 minutes to complete the linked survey. Your feedback allows us to adjust Safe Routes to School (SRTS) education and encouragement program features to best meet the needs of each individual school. Results will also be shared with decision makers throughout the county who can address infrastructure issues regarding safe walking and biking.

English Link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/1819_English

Spanish Link: <https://es.surveymonkey.com/r/1819Spanish>

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SCEF News

In Search of Unique Auction Items

Do you have access to a vacation home, event/sports tickets, fine wine/wine tasting or another fun experience? Does a family member or friend work in the entertainment industry? We'd love to hear from you! Our volunteer committee is hard at work creating unique auction items for our March 2019 Starlight Gala & Auction. Write to our events team at events@scefkids.org with your ideas and connections and help make this year the best auction yet.

End of Year Giving

Donate Early

As we enter the last weeks of 2018, we invite you to consider making your SCEF Annual Fund donation earlier than usual. Take advantage of possible 2018 tax deductions by making a gift of cash or stock to SCEF before December 31st. As our district faces challenging budget issues, SCEF would like to be able to provide a good estimate of our grant to Superintendent Harmeier and her team by March 30,

2019. Donate now at: www.scefkids.org/donate

Double your Donation

Many employers will match your gift to SCEF. Our handy Double the Donation tool will help you determine if your company has a matching program. Go to www.scefkids.org/donate to learn more.

Appreciated Stock

A gift of appreciated stock you've held for more than a year is better than giving cash. If you donate stock that has increased in value since you've owned it - and if you itemize deductions - you can take a charitable deduction for the stock's fair market value on the day you give it away. You'll also avoid capital gains taxes on the increase in value over time.

Go to www.scefkids.org/stock to learn how.

Honey Bear Trees

Haven't bought your Christmas tree yet? Buy your tree and wreath at Honey Bear Trees and SCEF will receive 15% of your purchase price! Bring a copy of the flyer to take advantage of this offer.

Tree lot locations and flyer can be found at: www.scefkids.org/hbt

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