



The Blast

Brittan Acres School | Weekly Messenger

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PTA Corner

Join the Bruin Village. [Click here](#) to make your contribution TODAY!

Monday October 22, 2018

Principal's Message

At Brittan Acres, our goal is to create successful learners. We know that developing a partnership with parents is essential in accomplishing this goal. Below are some tips for parents to help their child embrace what it means to be a continuous learner.

Encourage learning at home

Parents, it is essential to create a comfortable location for doing homework. For starters, turn off the television set and eliminate any other distractions such as loud music. Simple steps like making sure there is sufficient work surface to spread out books or providing proper lighting, school supplies, and having resources on hand can make homework easier to complete. Helping your child develop organizational skills is the foundation for academic success. Parents should help their child prioritize homework by deadline and by the amount of time required to complete an assignment. By breaking large tasks into smaller ones, assignments become more manageable and your child is less likely to become overwhelmed and procrastinate.

Work with your child's teacher

[October Meeting Minutes](#)

Mark Your Calendars

- Halloween Parade: 10/31
 - Bruin Village Deadline: 11/02
 - BA Holiday Boutique: 11/30
 - BA Holiday Boutique: 12/01
-

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

[Goblin Walk Trick or Treating](#)

Friday, October 26

Easy Money Fundraising

Participate in our [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!

Regular communication between parents and teachers is key to improving student achievement. As a parent, you know your child better than anyone else, you know your child's strengths and weaknesses. Share your knowledge to help teachers adapt lessons to match your child's interests and learning style.

Parent conferences will be coming up in November (Nov 9, Nov 13-16). Make sure you have signed up for a parent conference time to meet with your child's teacher. Our goal is 100% of parents attending parent conferences this year. Help us help your child by actively engaging in our school community and continuing to serve as an advocate for your child's education.

[Attend your parent-teacher conferences with a plan to engage in a continuous dialogue.](#)

Consider these Questions:

1. What would you say are my child's strengths?
2. What are the biggest opportunities for improvement?
3. How is my child getting along socially with other children?
4. What examples can you show me of my child's work?
5. Are my child's assignments completed on time and at an appropriate performance level?
6. How can I track my child's performance throughout the year?
7. Do you have suggestions for things we can do at home to supplement classroom learning? (recommend books, educational games, etc.)
8. How can I help you in the classroom? (Being a [classroom volunteer](#), even once a month, gives the teacher more time to focus on individual needs.)
9. What am I not asking or noticing that I should be?

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PTA News



Follow BA on Social Media

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



Walk-A-Jog: Thank You!

Thank you Brittan Acres Families, Teachers, and Administrators for making the 30th annual Walk-A-Jog a huge success! We especially want to thank all the parent volunteers without whom this event wouldn't happen.

WAJ's success was also achieved through its strong partnership with local businesses. The best way to thank our awesome sponsors is to shop with them and visit their websites! Please thank the following sponsors the next time you see them:

MARQUEE Sponsors:

MA Private Wealth, GDA Commercial, Mariana Pappalardo Real Estate, SD Flooring

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Alana Corso, Prima Printing, Ten Toes, CSagum Entertainment, Bianchini's Market, and Junk King.

Fundraising: It's Time to Go the Extra Mile

Thanks to our generous BA community who have joined the Bruin Village and collected WAJ pledges, we are XX% of the way toward our PTA fundraising goal of \$60,000! Donations directly benefit BA through programs such as Artist in Residence, Art-in-Action, B.U.G.S., playground equipment, community building events, teacher hospitality, and, if we exceed our goal, a library refresh!

November 2nd is the deadline to collect WAJ Pledges and join the Bruin Village, and every dollar counts! It's not too late join the Bruin Village at <http://bapta.myschoolcentral.com>.

Enlist your community of family and friends and collect pledges for Walk-A-Jog. Donations are accepted via 2 easy options:

- Direct them to the "Make a Pledge" page at www.brittanacres.dojiggy.com;
OR

- Pick up a hard copy pledge letter in the office to mail to friends and family. Checks made out to Brittan Acres PTA can be dropped off in the WAJ envelope in the office or mailed to 2000 Belle Ave., San Carlos, CA 94070.

For suggestions for next year's WAJ, please email bawalkajog@gmail.com.

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Are You Ready to Get Involved? Three PTA Board Roles Open!

Joining the PTA Board is a great way to support Brittan Acres. 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. There are two Board roles open. Both require attendance at monthly PTA meetings. If interested, please contact ptapresident@brittanacres.org

Membership - This role is responsible for promoting membership, collecting dues, and distributing membership cards. The busiest time is in the Fall.

Parliamentarian - This role is helpful in making sure our PTA is following the "Robert's Rules" and procedures. It's also 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.

Student Services - This role is responsible for supporting various committee chairs and being the liaison to the PTA Board. The various programs that fall under this role include Kindness "month", end of year celebrations, Multi-Cultural fair, Yearbook, Hot Lunch to name a few. This role does not have a peak time but rather is a little each month.

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BA - Pumpkin Decorating Contest is Coming!

BA's pumpkin decorating contest is almost here. All students are welcome to submit their pumpkin before class on Halloween, located outside at the Amphitheater next to the MU. Pumpkins will be judged on the following categories: Funniest, Scariest, Biggest, Smallest, Most Original, and Best Dressed. All submissions will receive a special treat!

Volunteers are still needed to help make the contest a success! Please sign-up to help [here](#) or contact Michele Tomas: mtomas@gmail.com.

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Annual Holiday Boutique is Coming!

BA Holiday Boutique: Friday, November 30 and Saturday, December 1st

To welcome in the holiday season, BA family and friends convert the Multi-Use room into our very own Holiday Boutique! The Boutique allows our students to shop independently (or with a big kid helper) for lovingly crafted gifts made or assembled entirely by our BA community. In the coming weeks, we will provide additional details for volunteering just before and during the event. However, if you just can't wait, check out <http://signup.com/go/KVBPPsB> to sign up now.

Questions? E-mail BAHolidayBoutique@gmail.com

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Nature Park Volunteers Needed...Join the Team!

One of the most loved recess activities for students is to visit the Nature Park!! Whether it's to build forts and fairy houses or just find a quiet area to read or draw, the Nature Park is a magical space for students to experience. We are in need of 5-8 more volunteers to supervise the Nature Park in order to open the space to our kids during lunch recess. If you are available between 12-1pm, this is a great opportunity for you to get involved! Please contact our Nature Park lead - John Moretti - jmoretti@gmail.com if you are interested in getting more information.

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SCEF News

Have a ton of fun and support SCEF!

Dance Party at The Lariat - Nov. 2

*Get down and dance to the hot sounds of San Francisco spinmaster, "DJ ManCub"

*Entry includes a night of non-stop dancing, drinks, pizza & snacks, sweets, and deep grooves!

Tickets available now at: www.scefkids.org/events

Get your Faculty and Friends Concert tickets now at:

<https://www.scefkids.org/events>

On November 9th at 7pm, join our SCSD music teachers, local musicians and community members for an evening of live music. This popular event, held at St. Charles Church in San Carlos, is great for the whole family. Refreshments will be available for sale at intermission. Support SCEF, music in our schools and enjoy our local musicians.

SCEF Photo Stop at Goblin Walk

On Friday, October 26, from 4-5:30pm, when you and your 7 years and under kiddos are wandering Laurel street at the annual Goblin Walk, don't forget to stop by the SCEF Photo Stop. You will find this photo opportunity just in front of Bank of America. Be sure to tag #SCEF and #cityofgoodliving in your photos!

8th Annual Halloween Candy Buy-Back

Enjoy some of your Halloween treats and then donate the rest! Drop-off your Halloween Candy at your school's office November 1-7th. Local dentists Drs. Amin, Chang and Kaher will donate \$1 per pound of wrapped candy to SCEF, and Operation Gratitude with Estes Express Shipping will ship the candy to our troops overseas.

Support our troops and support your school!

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