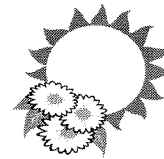


BRITTAN SCHOOL

Weekly Information and Updates

www.brittan.k12.ca.us

Wednesday
February 2, 2005



CALENDAR-MARKING DATES:

February

- 3 BAC Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 7 CJSF Installation, 7:00 p.m.
- 8 2nd Grade to Gray Lodge
School Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 10 7/8 Valentine's Dance
- 11 No School
- 16 Progress Reports go home
- 17 CJSF Rewards Trip
7/8 Parent Meeting re Graduation
6:30 p.m. in Room 24
- 21 No School
- 23 Minimum Day
- 28 Literacy Night - *Read a Great Tale*
6:30-7:45

DOG/CAT VACCINATIONS

Northern Valley Vet Assoc and Sutter County Community Services Dept. are sponsoring local rabies clinics. Cost is \$6, Saturday afternoons from 2:00-4:00 p.m. on the following dates:

- 2/12 Sutter Fire Station
licenses available
- East Nicolaus Fire Dept
Palm Ave, East Nicolaus
licenses available

A NOTE OF THANKS - Your generosity is overwhelming! \$830 has been collected for the tsunami disaster fund. Thank you so much.

READ A GREAT TALE! FAMILY LITERACY NIGHT

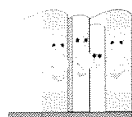
Monday, February 28th
6:30-7:45 p.m.

Free books for all Brittan students who attend.

Book Fair Bingo John Carter
Prizes Karaoke

Guest Readers
Student Presentations

Come join the fun!



BAC BRIEFS

See's candy orders are scheduled to be in by February 10th.

SPORTS

7/8 Boys Basketball

- 2/3 Faith, here
- 2/8 Live Oak, here
- 2/15 Egling, here

6th Grade Boys & Girls

- 2/4 Faith, here
- 2/8 at St. Isidore
- 2/10 @ Grace Christian (boys)

BOOK DRIVE

Through March, there will be a box in the library where you may place your donated books. Zach Buras, a Boy Scout from the area, is working on his Eagle project and collecting books for various literacy programs, school libraries and retirement homes throughout the Yuba-Sutter area, from Live Oak to Sutter. All types and conditions will be accepted - children's books are in high demand; however, *every* book will be utilized. You'll not only be helping Zach to achieve his Eagle status, you'll be helping our community. If you have questions, please call Zach @ 749-1985.

YEARBOOKS

will be on sale starting
Monday, February 7th - \$25 each

LOST AND FOUND BOX

BAC will empty the lost and found box in the hallway on February 10th. Please come by the school to see if any of your children's missing items are in the box. It's full of coats, sweaters, sweatshirts, etc.

STUDENT I.D. INFORMATION

We are excited about the added level of safety that the new badges have added to our students. They allow our staff, volunteers, visitors and substitutes to be able to identify our students. Last week, the lack of a badge quickly pointed out to a staff member that a non-student was on campus. Also, in an emergency, law enforcement and fire personnel could easily identify each and every student.

The attendance test that is taking place in the junior high is going well. We are trying to keep the class disruptions to a minimum.

Questions have arisen regarding the safety of the materials used in the badges. The chip that is used to activate the attendance of a student entering the classroom does not have any radioactive elements.

Please contact Mr. Graham @ 822-5155 if you have any questions.

Helping Children Learn®

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School

April 2004

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

How Can Parents Help With Spelling?

Q: My child has trouble with spelling. How can I help her improve this skill?

A: Some kids are natural spellers. Others have to work hard at it. But most people can learn to be better spellers. Try these ideas:

- **Pay attention** to how words are spelled. When you are reading aloud, for example, stop once in a while to notice a word with your child.
- **Play spelling games** together. Scrabble®, Boggle®, UpWords® or cross-word puzzles can give your child practice.
- **Make sure your child** studies spelling regularly. Set aside 15 minutes at homework time to review spelling words.
- **Quiz your child** on spelling words at the beginning of the week. Spend the most review time on the toughest words.
- **Have your child write sentences** with spelling words. To make this more fun, have everyone in the family write funny sentences with the words.
- **Review spelling words** in the car as you take your child to activities.
- **Encourage your child** to write a letter to a relative using the spelling words for the week.

Source: Jeanne Shay Schumm, *School Power*, 2001, Free Spirit Publishing.



PARENT QUIZ

How Are You Affecting School Success?

Parents can prevent many common school-related mistakes. Here's a quiz to see how you're doing. Give yourself five points for something you always do, zero points for something you never do—or any score in between.

- ___ **1. I don't allow my child** to procrastinate about schoolwork.
- ___ **2. I don't let my child** give up on tough assignments.
- ___ **3. I don't do homework** for my child.
- ___ **4. I don't treat mistakes** as failures. They are opportunities to learn.

___ **5. I don't avoid** parent-teacher conferences.

How did you score? Twenty or above is good. Fifteen to 19 is average. Below 15? Use the ideas in the quiz to boost your child's achievement in school.

“A good teacher, like a good entertainer first must hold his audience's attention, then he can teach his lesson.”
—John Henrik Clarke

ENCOURAGING READING

Help Your Child Discover New Choices at the Library

School-age kids can pick out their own books at the library. But it's good to help them seek variety and challenge in their reading. Visit different sections in the children's area. Ask the librarian for ideas. Don't forget to look at magazines, music and audio books.

Source: “I Can Read and Write! How to Encourage Your School-Age Child's Literacy Development,” 1999, International Reading Association.

MAKING TIME COUNT

Have a Kitchen Classroom

Cooking together is more than fun. It helps children learn and builds a sense of pride. While following a recipe, your child can:

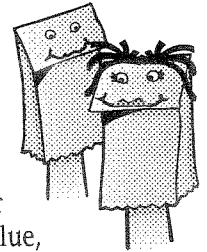
- Read directions aloud to you.
- Help you double or halve portions.
- Fill measuring cups and spoons.
- Look up terms in the dictionary, such as “poach” or “mince.”
- Keep an eye on the time.

Source: Barbara Nielsen and Patrick Wallace, *Keep Your Kids Busy The Lazy Way*, 1999, Macmillan Publishing.

BUILDING SELF-ESTEEM

Puppets Help Children Talk

Sometimes kids are shy about saying what they do well. Here's a way to give your child a chance to put compliments in someone else's mouth. Give each family member a paper bag. Have yarn, glue, crayons and colored paper handy. Everyone can make a “me” puppet. The puppets should discuss good things about themselves and each other.



Source: “Recipes for Success,” Ashland.com, www.ashland.com/recipes/recipes.asp?type=Entrees&id=49.

Helping Children Learn®

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