

Brook Knoll Newsletter

Volume 13 <http://www.brookknoll.santacruz.k12.ca.us>

March 5, 2010

Mon. 3/8 School Site Council Meeting 3:30pm - Small Groups Room
Tue. 3/9 SVUSD Board Meeting 6:00pm - SV City Council Chambers
Tue. 3/23 SVUSD Board Meeting 6:00pm - SV City Council Chambers
Wed. 3/24 Kindergarten Orientation for Parents 7:00pm - BK Rec. Room
Mon. 4/5-Fri. 4/9 SPRING BREAK – NO SCHOOL!
Mon. 4/26-Fri. 5/7 State Wide Achievement Testing! California Standards Tests



Principal's Message

Dear Brook Knoll Families and Community,

The Auction Saturday night was an AMAZING event! I am overwhelmed and humbled by the hard work of our auction committee and volunteers, the incredible generosity of community and staff, and the commitment of all of us to support our fabulous school. We are all anxiously awaiting the "grand totals"!

On Wednesday, March 3rd, we had our annual PTA Founder's Day Luncheon. It was such a special event to honor the hard work of the PTA as a whole and to highlight individuals for special recognition. **We are ALL the PTA! Thank you for your support and enthusiasm during these difficult economic times.** This is the time we need to rally with each other in support of education – and our PTA is doing exactly that!

On Thursday, March 4th, there was a state wide "**Call to Action**", **supporting public education for all of our students.** Please look for suggestions on the district website and letters coming home from the PTA on how to support education for all of our kids in California.

March has come in like a lion! We need the rain, but look forward to Spring!

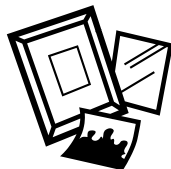
Kathy Frandle

STAR Testing Dates

Please mark your calendars! The State's 2nd – 5th grade English Language Arts and Math **STAR testing will begin Monday, April 26th – Friday, May 7th.** Please do not schedule children's appointments during the weeks of April 26th -May 7th.

Celebrate Art!

Scott's Valley High School is preparing to host its 8th Annual Art Night on Friday, March 5th, from 6:00pm to 9:00pm in the SVHS Student Union! Several art mediums will be shown from ceramics, drawing, painting, printmaking, graphics, mixed media, found art, sculpture, and more. Our students will also be taking their IB Art Exams, so this is an opportunity to help them prepare by communicating with them about their process and evolution in their artwork.



Please come and support our student artists! Admission is free, all we need is YOU!!

Scotts Valley High School Falcon Club Fundraiser!

Saturday, March 6th, at the SV Community Center from 7:00pm-12:00pm.

Come celebrate Spring, support your SVHS after school sports program, enjoy food, drinks, live music by The Convertibles, all in a casual lounge setting,. Browse some amazing silent auction items; including a Private Gourmet Seafood Foraging, lead by Adventure Sports Unlimited founder Dennis Judson, a beautiful Truckee/Tahoe Donner weekend getaway, and more! Tickets are \$50 a person, celebration begins at 7pm. Don't miss the fun! Space is limited! Reserve your spot now! 21 or older please! To get tickets online, go to: www.falconclub.org or <http://falconclub.ticketleap.com> For more information contact Allison Niday at allison@impactcommpr.com or Tammy Thomas-Blanchard at tammyblanchard@gmail.com

Spring Picture Day Volunteers

We need three volunteers to help with picture day on **Tuesday, March 16th**. You will need to be here from approximately 8:30am to 2:00 pm, however, we usually finish early. All volunteers will receive a complimentary Portrait Voucher, which can be used toward your picture packages.

If you would like to help with this day, please call Michelle at the school office at 423-2454.



Mileage Club is Coming!

Mileage Club is a 10 week fitness program open to 3rd, 4th and 5th graders (and their teachers). During recess (**9:30-10:30am**) **every Monday and Friday** on the upper grade track at Brook Knoll from **March 15th through May 28th, 2010.**



The goals are to walk/run a marathon (26.2 miles), get fit and have fun!

Awards will be given to each participant, including teachers, for completing 5, 10, 15, 20, and 26.2 miles. **Prizes** will also be given to the top three finishers from each grade.

We need some parent volunteers to help count laps and cheer the kids on!

If you are interested, please contact Natasha Katznelson at 831.566.0526 or nashakat@comcast.net



SPELLING BEE

On Monday, February 22nd, Brook Knoll held their spelling bee.

Fourth and fifth graders had an opportunity to study a list of possible words. Students were allowed to write the words down before giving their answers. Our winners were Brandon Einck and Ian Gallagher. Our alternates are Agnes Pelezar and Madelyn Saranto. Congratulations to Brandon, Ian, Agnes, Madelyn and also to all of our competitors.

Science Fair

Congratulations to the following Brook Knoll students who will be presenting their science fair projects at the 2010 Santa Cruz County Science Fair: **Neil Pacella, Chance Brown, Katie Hertz, Andi Hamm, Reilly Merlo & Brandon Einck, Vineha Ramesh, Venny Petrini, Gracie Kerr, Kieran Ruf & Emma Schaefer-Whitthall.**



This year the science fair will take place at the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds in Watsonville. It will be open to the public on March 13th, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm.

The week of March 22nd, Brook Knoll Students will have their science fair projects on display in the Brook Knoll Library for anyone to view!

Anne Ritchey scaritchey@yahoo.com or Tammy Arghavani 5seashell@sbcglobal.net

New French and Spanish classes starting!

Bonjour~Hola. Sign-up today for a new session of French (Wed.) or Spanish (Fri.)! Both classes will be learning different topics from last session but at the introductory level so they are appropriate for both returning and new students. See Friday folders for more info. Forms are available in the office. Price breaks available for volunteers and returning students. *Please note French started this week but you can still enroll at a pro-rated price and start March 10th! Email camp@pssantacruz.com or call 430.0910. for more info.



BOX TOPS INFO

The results are in! Brook Knoll collected 4,666 Box Tops for the latest collection period...the submission is in and the check should arrive in April! Congratulations go out to **Mr. Sutherland's** class for collecting **the most Box Tops with 342!**

His class squeezed out the reigning champion Mrs. Anderson's class by only 8 Box Tops! **His class will receive the ice cream/popsicle party soon!** The top 3 collectors were Toby Walpole (125) of Mrs. Carver's class, Brendan Hull (110) of Mrs. Finder's class, and Neil Pacella (102) of Ms. Muehlhauser's class. The top 3 collectors will receive a certificate and a small prize for all of their hard work! Keep clipping!

Celebrate PTA!

PTA Founders Day was celebrated on Wednesday, March 3rd. This event was an opportunity to thank the many volunteers that do so much for Brook Knoll PTA. Several awards were presented for outstanding service to the children of Brook Knoll. Recipients were:

Honorary Service Award:

Anne Ritchey, Karen Kufchak, Sue Vaughan

Auction Committee:

Nicole Taylor, Cori DiMeo and Karen Endres

Continuing Service Award:

Michelle Burnett, Jeannine Anderson

Very Special Person Award:

Alexis Lansman

Next time you see these people, please say "Thank You". **Together we DO make a difference.**



Host a Community Meeting

As some (or perhaps all) of you are aware, the Scotts Valley Board of Education is making a concerted effort to hear from the community as they attempt to mediate some of the effects of our terrible fiscal situation. Allison Niday and Michael Shulman, President and VP of the Board, attended the Brook Knoll PTA General meeting on Tuesday, March 2. It was a very lively discussion of solutions to this problem.

It is a great start, however, we need your help.

They are trying to get into neighborhoods and groups not necessarily associated with the school district in order to hear from them. I am asking you to consider supporting this effort by having a coffee in your home and inviting people other than just parents of children in our schools. Or if you prefer, consider organizing a group to meet for coffee at a local restaurant or a local park. Of course, parents could attend as well. Two board members would attend to listen and to respond to questions.

If you would consider helping in this way, please contact Michael Shulman or Allison Niday directly. As president and VP of the Board, they are organizing the efforts: michael.shulman@us.ul.com and allison@impactcommpr.com

Together we do make a difference!

Mary Ann Ransler
 Brook Knoll PTA President
maransler@comacast.net

Shara Sheard
 Brook Knoll Executive Vice President
shara.sheard@yahoo.com

What was Lost is now Found

Looking for something you lost? Found something someone else lost? Check out our NEW Lost & Found Closet, located in the same old space. Gina and Ladd Johnson cleaned up the space and now you might be able to find your lost items. THANK YOU Gina & Ladd for building a custom closet and supplying hangers for the items!

The Founders Day Luncheon Hospitality Volunteers:

I would like to thank the volunteers who generously helped with cooking and baking treats for our teachers and staff and PTA Officers.

Thank you to Laurie Aiello, Bonnie Friedenbach, Heidi Reynolds, Jody Bryson, Melissa Walpole, Amanda Gundersen, Yuriko Yamasaki, Anne Smith, Kelly Reber, Rose Tran, Laura Burns, Shara Sheard, Mary Curtiss, Monica Reynolds and Maryann Ransler.

Thanks - Raina Giguere
 Hospitality/Founders Day

50/50 Raffle Announcement

Congratulations to Paul Friedenbach, who was the winner of the 50/50 raffle from the Auction. Paul has made the incredibly generous gesture to donate his winnings of \$2,450 BACK to the PTA. Thank you everyone who participated and a huge THANK YOU to Paul and the Friedenbach family for this wonderful donation.



Brook Knoll 2010 Silent Auction

"Hawaiian Classic" was a HUGE success and it couldn't have been done without the help of each and every one of you!!

Thank you everyone for coming and supporting our school, teachers and students! We had over 250 people attend this year's dinner/auction. Thank you to the teachers who donated their time and interests for fun activities for our kids. Thank you to all the classroom volunteers who put together wonderful baskets which helped to raise quite a bit of money. Thank you to the parents who donated their services, vacation homes, talents and time. The kids deserve a "Thank You" for selling so many raffle tickets, adding the tickets sold at the auction we raised \$4900.00. And finally, a big "Mahalo" to all the many volunteers who made this event possible by giving countless hours of their precious time and amazing talents!

We don't have a final total for the night yet, it will be coming soon.

Mahalo!
 Cori and Nicole