

R Robinson Elementary School

A California Distinguished School
Tuesday, March 25, 2008



Family Art Night This Friday



Family Art Night is Friday, March 28th, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Children of all ages and their parents are invited to learn about the artist, Marc Chagall, then create their own masterpieces using his techniques. Return your

Art Night forms to the office to reserve your family's spot today. A few spaces are still available. Extra forms are in the office.

Principal's Message

MBUSD Budget Cuts

During the last few weeks MBUSD has worked to make significant cuts based on the Governor's reduction in educational funding. Diligent efforts have been made to ensure few to no programmatic changes, thanks in large part to our MBEF grants. Many districts have eliminated administration, class size reduction and much more. Among the changes approved, has been a 20% reduction in administration time at Robinson, because of our smaller size. Although additional district responsibilities were offered to me at the time this cut was considered, I declined due to extenuating family responsibilities. Ensuring supervision and safety, the ESS (elementary support specialist position), though reduced, will remain 21.6% at Robinson in the fall. This position, held by Mrs. Syverson, will continue to function as administrative designee during school hours to support students, staff, and parents, especially on any day in which I will not be on campus. Although this will be a change for everyone, we feel confident that we will positively reorganize our efforts without compromise to the integrity of our wonderful school. We are still in the process of dialogue and continual budget review and will continue to apprise the Robinson community of changes. Please join us on May 8th at 7:00 p.m. for our PTSA general meeting. At that time, we will be able to discuss any further changes in the Governor's May Budget Revise and subsequent impacts to our site as well as hear your concerns. At any time, I welcome your questions and concerns. As always I feel deep gratitude for your ongoing support.

Absence & Tardy Letters Sent Home

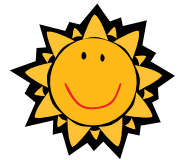
Absence and tardy letters were sent home to parents whose children have had 10 or more absences or tardies since the first day of school on August 29th, 2007. This is a mandated practice for attendance. Please remember that tardies and absences are disruptive. We want and hope that students will be here each day on time and healthy! Thank you.

Safety Reminder

Please do not use the teachers parking lot on 1st Street to drop off and pick up your child. This is very unsafe. Students should not walk through the parking lots to enter school. Thank you.

Proper School Attire

As the weather gets warmer please be reminded that students are expected to be dressed appropriately for both indoor and outdoor activities. Sandals and slip-ons are impractical and unsafe for P.E. Students are not to wear revealing clothes or clothing in poor taste for school (bare midriffs, low cut, spaghetti straps, tank tops and very short skirts). Hats may be worn at school for protection from the sun during outdoor activities only.



Lost & Found

Mr. Richard went through the Lost & Found items and those with names he hand delivered to the classrooms. We still have a tremendous amount of lost clothing and lunch boxes in our Lost & Found bin located in the Robinson cafeteria. You may drop by the cafeteria to see if any are yours. All items not picked up before our Spring Break will be donated to charity.

2008/2009 PTSA Board Positions Available

If you are interested in being on the PTSA Board next school year or would like more information about the Board, please contact Ann Marie Johnson at 310-374-0929. The following positions are currently available: 2nd VP Membership, 3rd VP Volunteers, 6th VP Community, 7th VP Scrip, Financial Secretary and Treasurer. Thank you.

Camp VIP

For those of you who stopped by the Summer EXPO Saturday at MBMS, you were first in line to receive the 2008 Camp VIP enrollment materials. This summer's program offers many of the "oldies but goodies" from past summers, (yes, Mr. Winser offers his unique Military History in Miniature, Mrs. Daly is back with Sixth Grade Summer Book Club, and Getting Ready for Middle School provides that grade transition to MBMS), PLUS new and innovative classes taught by our MBUSD staff and favorite community providers, including two new classes utilizing Gifted and Talented teaching strategies (open to all students), fun dance classes, second, third and fourth grade preparatory classes, an afternoon session of "Variety VIP" (be sure to check it out in the brochure), and much more! There truly is something for everyone. The brochures will be coming home this week, so be sure to check backpacks. Registration is now open, and the web site at mbathleticfoundation.org will be ready within a few days for online registration and updated information. Additional copies are also in the school offices. For questions, please contact Nancy Rosenberg, Program Director at 376-6115 or email nsrosenb@aol.com. See you this summer at Camp VIP

Planet Pals Earth Tips

Take a Step: Drive Less

By saving just one gallon of gasoline (20 to 30 miles of driving in most conventional cars) you will prevent about 20 pounds of carbon dioxide from being released into the atmosphere. To save that gallon, consider taking public transportation or carpooling to work one day a week, or planning a route to make running your errands more efficient.

In particular, short trips by car are the most polluting because 60% of emissions occur in the first few minutes of operation, before pollution control devices can work effectively. To reduce the number of these quick trips, consider walking or bicycling for part of the week. Check out <http://www.bicyclinginfo.org> for more ideas.

Take a step away from your car ~ plan your car use.

Scrip News

We've just added the popular \$25 CVS gift card to our scrip inventory. The CVS/pharmacy card is redeemable at all locations nationwide for merchandise, including prescriptions.

Attention online shoppers.....

Amazon.com gift certificates are now available in \$25 and \$100 denominations. Certificates do not expire. Any unused balance will be placed in a "gift certificate account" on Amazon.com and is not transferable to another person or account.

The scrip table will be open this Wednesday from 1:15 - 2:00pm.

Dates to Remember

March

28 Family Art Night 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

April

2&3 4th Grade GATE

7-13 Spring Break – No School

16 Kinder Field Trip to RB Performing Arts Center

16&17 5th Grade GATE

19 Earth Day Celebration at Polliwog Park 11-4

22 Earth Day

23 5th Grade Student Tour/Student Orientation at MBMS from 9:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

25 Spirit Assembly 10:20 a.m.

28 Staff Appreciation Week

28 5th Grade Parent Orientation at MBMS Multi-Purpose Room at 7:00 p.m.

State Testing Dates:

May 5 – 16

(Grades 2-5)

Please do not plan vacations or appointments during these dates.