

March, 2022

Bret Harte Community,

We had an incredible week last week with several events and lots of participation! Our 'meet the principal' hot cocoa & ice cream social was a big success; thanks to everyone accommodating the last-minute location change. Our garden work day had an incredible turnout and we got a lot done - the garden is continuing to look better and better. Our pizza meet & greet after the garden work day also had a great turnout and some prospective new families were able to get to know our school and some of our families. Let's continue this strong momentum over the next few months to not only finish this school year strong, but also to get prepared for the next year starting in September. Thank you to everyone who attended these events and especially to those who helped make them happen.



Why We Love Bret Harte

All of the Valentines hearts have been put on display in the walkway outside of the office. These were collected last month from students and families who wrote something they love about Bret Harte. If you have a chance to check out, they are a great source of inspiration.

Garden

Our garden is starting to sprout! The peas and potatoes that students planted last month are growing and students are excited to see the sprouts coming up. We are continuing to make plans for the garden and will also be getting butterfly habitats for each class to be able to study butterflies and release them in the garden.

Our next garden planning meeting is online via Zoom on Wednesday March 16th at 6pm

Our next garden work day is Saturday March 26th 10am - 12pm

National Reading Month

In association with Dr. Seuss' birthday, March is National Reading Month and our school is doing various activities to support reading. Our PTA is also supporting a reading challenge for the month. Please look for a reading log to come home where students can track their reading progress every week. Take time to read with your child and encourage them to set their own reading goals and track their time. Whether you read to your child or they read on their own, help them track their time and push themselves to spend more time reading in March. Reading to a sibling, parent, family member, or even their pet is a great way to get students to read more! There will be prizes for participants and there is a school-wide goal of 1,000 books read for the month of March so be sure to track all reading on the reading log.

March Association Meeting

We only have 2 more association meetings for this school year - March & April. Our next association meeting is Monday March 14th at 6pm online via Zoom (meeting info below). We will be discussing plans to finish out this school year and begin plans for the next year.

Upcoming Elections

In our April association meeting (on Monday April 18th) we will be electing our board officers for next year. Officers are needed for the roles: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian. In April we will also determine if any changes are needed in the chairpersons for our committees: Events Committee, Fundraising Committee, Garden Committee, and Membership/Family Engagement Committee.

If you have an interest in serving on the board or being involved in a committee (as a chairperson or as a member) please email: BretHarteBearsPTA@gmail.com

It is **extremely important** that we have a big turnout for our April meeting to hold our election and start discussing plans for the next year. This will allow our new board to meet over the summer break and start preparing for the new school year. **Please, please, please attend the April association meeting!**

Shop with Amazon - donate to PTA

If you shop online with Amazon, please consider choosing your Amazon Smile charity as our PTA. You can go here to select our PTA: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/90-1185048>

After that, any time you shop on Amazon using the <https://smile.amazon.com> website (or using the mobile app) a very small portion of the proceeds will be donated to our PTA quarterly.

Upcoming PTA meetings

All of our meetings are online via Zoom and the meeting number and password is below, or can be picked up from the school office.

- Thursday 3/3 - Fundraising planning meeting at 6pm (1st Thursday of the month)
- Thursday 3/10 - Events planning meeting at 6pm (2nd Thursday of the month)
- Monday 3/14 - Association Meeting at 6pm (2nd Monday of the month)
- Wednesday 3/16 - Garden planning meeting at 6pm (2nd Wednesday of the month)
- Saturday 3/26 - Garden Work Day 10am-12pm (no meeting)

All of the meetings will use this Zoom meeting number / password:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8745743320?pwd=ZUxaK1p3QjhTcDNLVWo0OWg4VEZlZz09>

Meeting ID: 874 574 3320

Passcode: 963258

Thank you all for your support and partnership!

Adam Gothard

President, Bret Harte Bears PTA