

Bret Harte Community,

Thank you to everyone that came out to the Art Show last week, it was a great event and next year we can take it to the next level! There is still lots happening at school before the end of the school year and plenty of opportunities to help out. Please reach out if you would like to help with any of these events. Last month we finished our brainstorm of ideas for next year and our PTA board will be meeting over the summer to coordinate and plan out activities and create our budget so we can start the next school year with a strong plan.

Teacher Appreciation Week

THIS WEEK is Teacher Appreciation Week and we are encouraging everyone to show you appreciation to all of our teachers and staff. They have been through a lot this year and deserve our support and appreciation this year, especially with all they have been doing to support our students during this tumultuous year. Looking back over the last past 8 months at all they we have been through together - adjusting to being back to school in person, mask & social distancing requirements, regular health screenings and testing, supporting the emotional and mental health of students, coordinating activities and events with limited volunteers, a change in administration and challenges with the hiring process, welcoming and adjusting to a new principal in the middle of the school year, union/district negotiations and being unpaid during a long strike, and more. Our teachers and staff have done an incredible job of adjusting to all of this while trying to provide stability and structure for our students.

PTA will be providing breakfast to all on Wednesday morning, but please take the time to let everyone know how much you appreciate them.

Fat Cat Cookie Dough Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone that turned in orders for our fundraiser, we raised around \$450 and the orders will be ready for pickup this week. We will be contacting those who have orders to pick up to coordinate and confirm pickup date and time as these are refrigerated goods.

May association meeting

Our last association meeting for the school year is next Monday, May 9th and the Zoom info is below. We will be celebrating all that we have accomplished this school year.

We also have a guest speaker lined up - Mrs. Bina Lefkovitz is the trustee for our area of the County Board of Education (SCOE), which is different than the school district board of education (SCUSD). She will be presenting information on what SCOE does and how they work with our school district. Her focus on SCOE has been around Mental Health/Social Emotional Learning, civic/career education, early college access, equity, diversity, and more support for our students.

May Spirit Days

In May, each Friday will be a school Spirit Day with a fun dress-up theme for the day. The class with the most percentage of participation will get a popsicle party in the afternoon. Here are the themes:

Friday May 6th - Crazy Hair Day

Friday May 13th - Disney Day (wear your favorite Disney gear)

Friday May 20th - Pajama Day

Friday May 27th - Red, White, and Blue Day (for Memorial Day)

Yard Sale

We are participating in the Curtis Park neighborhood-wide yard sale on May 21st. You can donate items to the yard sale in the boxes in front of the school, we will be organizing, pricing, and selling these during the yard sale and the money raised will be used for our welcome-back activities and events in the fall. If you

would like to assist with the event, you can reply to this email or we will also have an online sign-up coming out next week.

Water Play Day & Garden Day

Our last Garden Work Day will be on June 4th. We will be getting the garden ready for the potato harvest so that students can dig up their potatoes and get ready for the french fry party.

Due to the weather getting warmer, we will start earlier in the morning. After the garden work is done, we will have pizza and snacks and will have some water play time in the field for the kids - sprayers, water squirt toys, kiddie pool, slip & slide, etc. So bring your water clothes and sunscreen for a fun day taking care of our garden! This will be on Saturday June 4th. Garden work will be 9:00am to 11:30am with pizza lunch and water play afterwards.

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 & events

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.

Calendar invites for each of the meetings are attached to this newsletter and you can add them to your calendar for easy access to the meeting invites.

Planning Meetings & Discussions

Monday 5/9 - Association Meeting at 6pm (with guest speaker)

Thursday 5/12 - Events planning meeting at 6pm

Wednesday 5/18 - Garden planning meeting at 6pm

Events

Monday 5/2 through Friday 5/6 - Teacher Appreciation Week

Fridays in May - Spirit Days

Saturday 5/21 - Yard Sale 8am to 1pm

Saturday 6/4 - Garden Work Day with Lunch & Water Play 9am to 1pm

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