



# Paw Prints

WWW.BWPTA.ORG

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## Letter from the PTA President *Derby Pattengill*

We have a new PTA Executive Board. I would like to thank those who are moving on for their tireless efforts to help make the BW PTA what it is today. Our hardworking nomination committee provided us with a great slate and we even had one position nominated from the floor. Your 2010-2011 PTA board is:

Derby Pattengill	President
Pam Hubbell	Executive Vice President
Jessica Earner	Secretary
Kristin Kaufmann	Treasurer
Monica Morgan	Auditor
1 <sup>st</sup> VP	Deanna McDonald
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP	Cathy Monroe
3 <sup>rd</sup> VP	Debbie Zappelli
4 <sup>th</sup> VP	Laura Tandet

I would like to thank Brownie Troop 3003 for an excellent presentation at our April PTA Meeting. Their well organized talk reminded us that the garbage patch in the Pacific Ocean is larger than the state of Texas and that similar patches exist in every major ocean on our planet. The bulk of these patches are plastics, and the Brownies educated us as to what we can do to keep them from getting larger. Recycling, buying in bulk, avoiding plastic using one use water containers, and throwing trash away in an appropriate place are a few easy ways to do this. Troop 3003 went further to suggest and volunteer to start an environmentally responsible fundraiser for the school. Look for BW reusable water bottles next fall!

Speaking of fundraising, does this kind of fundraiser sound interesting to you? The PTA is looking for a fundraising chair. Our moneymaking dynamo Chris Morache is graduating this June and we are in search of a new dynamo. It takes almost \$40K to completely fund our programs every year. The bulk of this is raised in our fall fundraiser. Do you have some ideas of how we may be able to raise this money without incessantly bugging parents? We could continue the tile project on the library for example. This is a great opportunity for a parent who cannot be at school all of the time during the day. Interested? Know someone who may be?

Are you looking for a great family outing for May? How about a rally for education in Balboa Park on May 8<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00am? This rally will take place at 6<sup>th</sup> and Laurel and is being staged by an outstanding local advocacy group called Educate4Future. Their website is [Educate4future.org](http://Educate4future.org). Have a look at their message. This rally is for parents, teachers and community members. This is a chance for you to have a say about your children's education. School board elections are coming up so they had better listen.

Questions, comments, critiques? Look for a test electronic version of Paw Prints next month. Feel free to email or call me regarding PTA business. Let me know how the BW PTA may better serve the needs of our school community.

**Our next meeting will be May 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:45am in the Teachers' Lounge.**

Derby Pattengill 284-9471 [Cpattengill@cox.net](mailto:Cpattengill@cox.net)

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## Message from the Foundation President *Drew Smith*

As we approach the end of the year, the BW Foundation would like to thank everyone for a great year! We tried different ways to raise money for our school and hosted different events. Our success would not have been possible without the fantastic support of BW parents, teachers, staff and children. We did well!

Now's a great time to think about recognizing your child, teacher, staff member or fellow parent by purchasing a tile to be permanently placed outside the school office wall in the main hallway. If you are interested, please fill out the tile order form at [www.bwpta.org](http://www.bwpta.org), click the "Foundation" header. *Continued on page 2*

## Letter from the Principal

May 2010

Dear Families,

Benchley-Weinberger's budget for the 2010-2011 school year will remain the same as this year. Fortunately there will be no additional cuts in staffing. The school will still have a Library Asst., Computer Asst., Health Tech and the current office staff. District is still in the process of searching for a new Superintendent. Parents, students, community members and employees are encouraged to attend a series of Superintendent Search Town Hall meetings to give their input on what qualities they think the district's next Superintendent should possess. Upcoming meetings are scheduled for:

Wednesday, April 21, at Sherman Elementary, 301 22<sup>nd</sup> St. (92102)

Thursday, April 22, at Pacific Beach Middle, 4676 Ingraham St. (92109)

Wednesday, April 28, at de Portola Middle, 11010 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. (92124)

All meetings will take place from 6:30 to 8 p.m. In the meantime, Bill Kowba is our Interim Superintendent and Nellie Meyer is our Interim Deputy Superintendent. Personally, I would like to see Bill Kowba in this position because I believe he would be a solid leader for the district.

Benchley-Weinberger is becoming more and more technology based. With the support of Prop S funding, each classroom has received 5 new computers. This will enable the classrooms to continue using web based programs like RazKids and Math First.

I would like to encourage all parents to send nutritious snacks and a craft or game for classroom birthday celebrations rather than sweet treats. Benchley-Weinberger would like to emphasize and promote healthy eating habits at school to help with the district's campaign to prevent childhood obesity. Please check with your child's teacher to schedule the least disruptive time to avoid interrupting classroom instructional time.

I would like to again remind families that the STAR testing window will begin on April 28<sup>th</sup> and end on May 14<sup>th</sup>. It is important to make sure that your child gets to bed early and has a good breakfast each day. It is also very important that students attend school each day of testing. Make sure not to take any days off or schedule doctor or dental appointments during this time.

This year instead of a Benchley Bash performance, our Choral Music Teacher, Corina Borevitz, will have two "A World of Music" Concerts. There will be two performances scheduled for May 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. On Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup> a concert will be held for Grades K & 1 at 1:30 pm and on Friday, May 28<sup>th</sup> a concert will be held for grades 2, 3 & 4 at 1:15 pm in the auditorium.

Thank you to all our families for your generosity and kindness. It shows in everything you do for our students and staff at Benchley-Weinberger. You are much appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Marian K. Jacobs  
Principal

*Foundation News continued...*



### Calendar Highlights

April 28-May 14—STAR testing

May 11—PTA, Foundation meetings

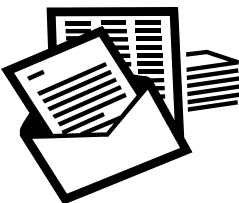
May 20—Paw Prints deadline for June issue

May 27, 28—"A World of Music" concerts

May 27 to June 3—Book Fair

June 2—Open House

June 2—Silent Auction



Get notification of the latest PawPrints when it is uploaded on the BWPTA website by signing up at [WWW.BWPTA.ORG](http://WWW.BWPTA.ORG)

Once complete, bring/send it into the BW office along with your check made payable to BW Foundation.

The BW Foundation's next meeting is Tuesday, May 11th at 6:00 pm in the Teacher's Lounge. We will be discussing the events the Foundation will host for the 2010-2011 school year. To make these events and fundraising efforts a success -- we need YOU! If you are interested in becoming more involved, I encourage you to attend the meeting. The hard work our families put in help make Benchley Weinberger a GREAT school with a GREAT community! See you May 11th!

## BENCHLEY SPRING CONCERTS



# “A WORLD OF MUSIC”

Thursday, May 27<sup>TH</sup> - 1<sup>ST</sup> and Kindergarten performing at 1:30pm

Friday, May 28<sup>TH</sup> – 2<sup>ND</sup>, 3<sup>RD</sup>, and 4<sup>TH</sup> performing at 1:15pm

You're invited to a two-day extravaganza celebrating songs from around the world featuring the students of Benchley-Weinberger!

The students will be singing folk songs from many different countries for the "A World Of Music" Concert on May 27th and 28th. Performances will be held in the Auditorium.

Some of the countries being represented through song are:

Israel  
Ghana, West Africa  
Denmark  
Spain  
Japan  
New Zealand  
India  
Cuba  
China  
France  
USA and Peru!

We hope to see you there!



### Have a Cuppa!

Cold and thirsty during monthly Spirit Assemblies?

Stop by the table operated by fifth grade promotions and purchase a cup of coffee and perhaps a pastry or other goodie.

You'll warm up and help the fifth grade class in one easy transaction.



## PTA Spring Book Fair 2010

*Pam Nelson, Susanne Albright, Chris Morache, Chairs*

Mark your calendars and come and find out.....what's brewing at our **Book Fair Diner – All You Can Read!**

It's an opportunity to inspire everyone to read and dream. **Are you Hungry?** Pack a lunch and grab a blanket and join us for a great book fair. Don't miss it! This special event could start a lifelong love of books. The book fair will be open in the library:

Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
 Friday, May 28<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
 Monday, May 31<sup>st</sup> **No School**  
 Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup> from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
 Wednesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. **Open House**  
 Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

After visiting your child's classroom, come and **shake it up in the Book Fair! Check out what's on special!** Don't forget your menus, there will be delicious books for you to purchase. Great books supply students with the fuel they need to stimulate their imagination, curiosity, and knowledge of the world. The PTA Scholastic Book Fair serves up a wide-ranging menu of great books. Our Book Fair will be a great event for everyone. We invite you to attend and look forward to seeing you. Happy Reading!

We are looking for waitresses, waiters and dishwashers to help take customer's orders and help us whip together exciting recipes for our children. We are trying to help kids develop an **appetite** for reading. If you are interested in volunteering, please call **Pam Nelson at 619-462-5588**. Help make this event **sizzling**, one the children will never forget! Remember, a watched pot never boils! So don't just stand there, get busy cooking up what is sure to be a terrific event for our school. **Order Up!!**



## Save the date!

The B-W Foundation's 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Auction is scheduled for Wednesday June 2, 2010 from 5:00 p.m. – 7:45 p.m. This year it will be a silent auction only and will be held in front of the library during the school's Open House. The auction items available will include unique teacher-child experiences, as well as the ever-popular item, "Student Principal for a Day". Be sure to stop by the auction tables before or after visiting your child's classroom. If you have questions about the auction or items up for auction, do not hesitate to contact me by phone or e-mail: 619/303-7911, [skatcat5@gmail.com](mailto:skatcat5@gmail.com). Deanna McDonald, B-W Foundation Auction Chair

Paw Prints is edited by Jeannette Stumpf and the Benchley-Weinberger PTA.

Next issue's deadline is May 20, 2010 for publication in the June issue. Articles may be sent to: [BWPawPrints1@yahoo.com](mailto:BWPawPrints1@yahoo.com)

Please be sure to provide your name and contact information along with your article.