

# The Gardener: A Joint Publication from Your PTA and Foundation

November 3, 2017



## A Message from our Principal, Gail West

### Parent Teacher Conferences

Parents and teachers are partners in your child's education. It is extremely important that we work together to help support and encourage the children to work to their potential and to achieve at the highest levels. Parent Teacher Conferences provide an opportunity for you to find out how your child is doing in school, what the teacher is working on, and how you can help at home. Please make sure to make the time to attend the scheduled conferences the week of November 13<sup>th</sup> – November 17<sup>th</sup>.

- Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup> – All day Parent/Teacher Conferences – NO SCHOOL for students
- Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> – School All Day
- Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> – Early Dismissal 11:45 a.m. for Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> – Early Dismissal 11:45 a.m. for Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup> – Early Dismissal 11:45 a.m. for Parent/Teacher Conferences

### Maker Creative Space

- We are working to create an indoor recess option for the lunch/recess time, based on creativity.
- Our hope is to transform a classroom space into a space where students can work and create with Legos, do arts and craft projects, play chess or checkers or other board games while listening to soothing music. The room will be monitored by a Character Coach and overseen by Mrs. Joann Vallese.
- We would appreciate any donations of Legos, Lego sets, and Lego boards.
- Stay tuned for updates.



### Character Coaches

We are looking for an additional Character Coach

### Growth Mindset

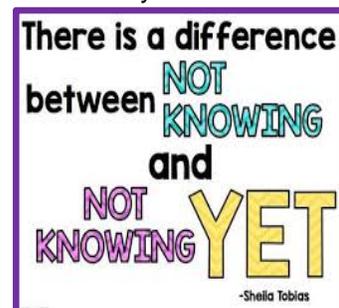
Our mantra for the month of October had been, "My Brain is Like a Muscle That Grows." "If at first, you don't succeed... you are normal!"

A growth mindset helps remind us that it's okay not to get everything right away, and that working hard and persisting is what is important. There is a difference between not knowing, and not knowing **yet**.

We shared a Growth Mindset reminder most mornings on the announcements, and shared Growth Mindset facts at the Friday Flag. We explained that Albert Einstein is recognized as a genius, but when he was in elementary school, he was labeled a slow learner. He didn't talk until he was 4 years old. Later in life, he won the Nobel Prize and discovered the Theory of Relativity.

J.K. Rowling, author of the Harry Potter series, was rejected by 12 different publishers before one finally decided to publish her book. She never gave up trying, and now the Harry Potter Franchise has earned over 7.7 billion dollars.

Thank you for supporting your children in persisting and developing "Grit."



## **A Message from Jim Sytsma, PTA President**

### **Family Makes All the Difference**

As parents, your involvement is vital to your child's achievement in life. They look to you for love, nurturing, knowledge, leadership, and watch you daily as an example how to act and live. The equation in math terms is very simple: "Family + Engagement = Child's Success." I'm sure your teachers have stated that "learning really begins at home, then at school, then back to home." It's a cycle that needs you. Parents are tired a lot! We work, we clean the house, we take care of as much as we can in our adult lives before the end of day school bell rings and then those kids come flying in the door, full of energy and carrying homework. We squeeze in sports, Foundation, PTA, and other community service events all while scrambling to decide if we can meet as a family to eat around a table just once in the week. However tired we may be, as parents we must stay in the game. We must find that energy. We must support our child's educational journey. We cannot expect teachers to be 100 percent responsible for a child's ability to read, write, add, and subtract. We must do our part as well.

Here are five family engagement facts provided in a 2016 special edition of the California PTA Newsletter. They may help you find that energy on a rough day:

1. A home environment that encourages learning is a bigger factor in a child's achievement than a parent's income, education level, or cultural background.
2. Schools would need to spend \$1,000.00 more per child to reap the same gains to student achievement that an involved parent brings.
3. Family engagement provides improved school readiness, higher grades, and healthier behavior.
4. Family engagement brings an increased likelihood of graduating high school and college.
5. Family engagement brings a child valuable things only a parent can provide that are unteachable in a classroom. It brings a deeper and greater love, support, and mentorship.

So whether it is reading together, coloring a picture, playing a board game, looking at your child's school work they brought home, talking to their teacher, joining the PTA, or taking an active role in the school and its educational decision making, your child's success is up to you and the time you're willing to give your child. Long days? Yes. Worth it? That smile and hug I get from my two kids often before bed says it is, and I hope you find that same feeling with yours.

Help them, guide them, and teach them. It's a team effort.

### **For parents of students who are in our English Learner program:**

You are warmly invited to a meeting of our English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC)! We will gather on Monday, November 6, in Room 7 right after school starts. It will be an opportunity to meet other parents and staff members, learn new information, and have your questions answered. It's fine to bring younger children with you. Muffins and coffee will be served. The meeting will run under an hour. We hope to see many parents that morning! If you need more information, contact **Mrs. Terri Gosen** at [tgosen@powayusd.com](mailto:tgosen@powayusd.com).

# \$27,199.26

Yes, you read correctly. As of this publication, GRES has *netted* \$27,199.26 making this the most successful Apex Fun Run to date. We are still trying to collect some outstanding pledges—please help us reach our goal of 100% collection. A great big thanks to all of our amazing volunteers who made this so successful. An especially big shout out to this year's chair, **Tiffany Waasted**. Tiffany—you've outdone yourself and exceeded everyone's expectations. Thank you!



\*\*In the next few days, teachers will be receiving information about the 10% of their classroom earnings that they get to purchase supplies for their classroom! Happy spending!

### \*\*\*Yearbooks & Dedications\*\*\*

Yearbooks can be purchased online at [treering.com/validate](http://treering.com/validate). Enter code 1015010918823274.

**5th GRADE PARENTS ONLY:** Full-page dedications are SOLD OUT. There are half-page dedications available for \$55 each. Space is limited so reserve yours before they're gone. Turn in a check, payable to GRES, along with an order form found in the front office.

\*A yearbook must be purchased separately online.

We are still looking for a few people to join our yearbook team! If you like taking pictures, are interested in designing a page in the yearbook, or would like to help with minor administrative or marketing duties, then come join us!

Email Diana Russo at [yearbook.gres@gmail.com](mailto:yearbook.gres@gmail.com) for more info.

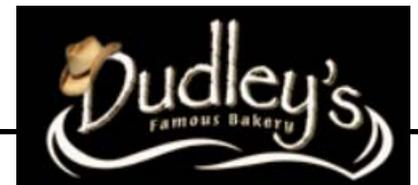


### \*\*\*Dudley's Bakery Fundraiser\*\*\*

Dudley's order forms, along with money, must be turned in to your student's teacher or the front office no later than 2:20 p.m. on Thursday, November 9th.

**\*LATE ORDERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED\***

Pick up your Dudley's orders from the MPR from 1:30-3:30 p.m. on November 16<sup>th</sup>.



### Shoe Box Lunches is on Wednesday, November 15th

Shoe Box Lunches, for those who don't know, is a tradition here at Garden Road where volunteers decorate a box or container and provide a lunch for a teacher or staff member during the week of Parent-Teacher Conferences. Conference week is generally very busy and most of the teachers don't get a break. I provide them with a menu so that they can choose what they like. Be as creative as you would like with your box, then fill it with the items they picked from the menu.

About 30 volunteers are needed. If you would like to participate, email Judy Fish at: [pescagrande@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pescagrande@sbcglobal.net).

Let me know if you would like a specific teacher and I will do my best to make it happen, but I cannot guarantee it.

Thank you,

Judy Fish, PTA Hospitality



### Healthy Chats 3

The month of October held true to form with temperature extremes as Southern California's way of easing into Fall. My all-time favorite holiday is just days past. At Halloween time, the kid in all of us can come out and we can set aside our serious side for a day and frolic and enjoy the fun that Halloween brings. From hayrides and pumpkin carvings to creative decorations and selecting the perfect costume. But of course, we cannot forget Tricks or Treats.

Our country spends over \$2.7 billion each year on Halloween candy. The top 3 candies for California based on a 10 year survey are M&Ms, salt water taffy, and Skittles. It is estimated that Americans consume an average of 22 pounds of candy each year!

While your kids have already left and returned with their bags of candy, consider the following:

Limit the amount of candy your children consume.

Donate some of their candy to the military or a shelter.

Take some of their candy to a participating dentist and get money by the pound, which in turn the dentist donates the candy. Tummy aches from too much sugar are no fun.

The trick or treating may be over, but the fun continues. Try your hand at this candy quiz. Answers are at the end of the *Gardener*. And until next time, stay healthy and balanced.

1. What type of animal did the Snickers candy bar get its name from?
  - A. Dog
  - B. Cat
  - C. Horse
2. Until 1990, Snickers had a different name in England. What was it?
  - A. Marathon
  - B. Peanuts
  - C. Goodbar
3. Approximately how many Hershey kisses make up a pound of chocolate?
  - A. 55
  - B. 75
  - C. 95
4. Which color of M&Ms was discontinued from 1976 to 1987?
  - A. Green
  - B. Red
  - C. Brown
5. Which famous candy maker did H.B. Reese work for before making his famous Reese's Peanut Butter Cups?
  - A. Henri Nestle
  - B. Frank Mars
  - C. Milton Hersey



The PTA is a vital part of our school and coordinates many of our school programs. We would love for all our Garden Road families to join. Remember, all family members can join the PTA—that includes grandparents. The more voices we have for our kids, the more enriching the school year will be.

Questions? Call, text, or email me!

Sabrina Lattimore  
(562) 972-1845  
smlattimore@gmail.com



### Friday, November 3rd is Family Fun Night.

We will be showing *Boss Baby*.



- This film is rated PG.
- MPR doors will open at 6:00 and the movie will start at 6:15.
- Free popcorn and water will be provided by the PTA.
- Children must be supervised by an adult.
- Come join us and feel free to come in your pajamas!



By now you have all, hopefully, seen information on the SCRIP program. Have you recently walked into a store and thought, "Oh! I should have gotten a SCRIP gift card so Garden Road could have gotten some money?" Check out Presto Pay. With Presto Pay, you can purchase e-gift cards to be able to use on that shopping trip and still earn money for our school. Be sure to check out and sign up for our fabulous SCRIP and Presto Pay Fundraising Program!

**Garden Road's enrollment code is  
56C63DD549269**

This program allows you to purchase gift cards for the places you already shop at and gives back Garden Road a percentage of the cost. This is a great and easy way for Garden Road to make money. You would be shocked at how many retailers are part of this program. There is a complete list in the front office. Or go to [www.SHOPWITHSCRIP.com](http://www.SHOPWITHSCRIP.com)!

For more information and a full list of retailers, email me at [gresscrip@gmail.com](mailto:gresscrip@gmail.com).

### BOX TOPS UPDATE

Our last collection of box tops brought in over **\$440.00!** Thank you to everyone who clipped and submitted! Our classroom winners are as follows:

Pizza Party in Room 8 with **Mrs. Bevill**

Ice Pop Party in Room 4 with **Mrs. Stralla**

Popcorn Party in Rom 21 with **Mrs. Patterson**





Here's  
what's  
coming  
your way!

Mark your calendars and  
come dance—  
Friday, December 1st



**Friday, November 3rd**

Family Fun Night: *Boss Baby*. MPR doors open at 6:00.

**Thursday, November 9th**

Dudley's Bread Orders due. No orders accepted after 2:20 p.m.  
Board of Education Meeting, PUSD District Office, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
PUSD Public Meeting- Trustee Area Elections, 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

**Week of November 13th**

Parent-Teacher Conferences

**Wednesday, November 15th**

Shoe Box Lunches  
Foundation Meeting, 6:00 p.m.  
Restaurant Night—dinner and dessert: Five Guys, Poway (All Day) and Yogurtland...  
right next door! (All Day)

**Thursday, November 16**

Dudley's Bread Pick Up in the MPR, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.  
PTA Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

**Week of November 20th**

District Recess



**Wednesday, November 29th**

Restaurant Night: Souplantation, Rancho Bernardo (All Day)

**Friday, December 1st**

Friday Flag, 8:00 a.m.  
PTA Family Fun Night Winter Dance

**Tuesday, December 5th**

Scrip Gift Card Monthly Ordering Deadline

**Wednesday, December 6th**

X-Ploration



*The Gardener* is a newsletter created jointly between the PTA and Foundation and is published throughout the school year. Information herein must fall within the PTA guidelines of being nonsectarian, noncommercial, and non-partisan.

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**\*\*IF you have any Legos, please consider donating them to our creative space. See the message from our principal on page 1.**

**Healthy Chats Candy Quiz Answers**

1- Horse; 2- Marathon; 3- 95; 4- Red; 5- Milton Hershey

Questions about the *Gardener's* Healthy Chats?  
Email Cindy Sytsma at [csytsma@nu.edu](mailto:csytsma@nu.edu)

