

THE PANDA PRESS



Briarwood Elementary School, 1930 Townsend Avenue, Santa Clara, CA 95051 (408) 423-1300

Principal's Message

Read Across America Day is a nationwide reading celebration that takes place annually on March 2nd - Dr. Seuss's birthday. Across the country, thousands of schools, libraries, and community centers participate by bringing together students and books!

We here at Briarwood are excited and honored to have D.L. Carroll, author of the many incredible children's books including the Sir Licksalot series, visit our school to help us celebrate. Ms. Carroll will be meeting with the students in small groups to read a little from some of her books, discuss her creative process, talk about the publishing process and answer student questions. D.L. Carroll is the recipient of many awards including:

Readers Favorite "Bronze Award Winner" - *Sir Licksalot & The Maverick Fools*

Family Review Center "Gold Award Winner" and "Best of 2012" - *Sir Licksalot & The Island Fools*

Family Review Center "Seal of Approval", "Editors Choice" and "Best of the Year, 2013" - *Sir Licksalot & The Arctic Fools*

Family Review Center "Seal of Approval" and "Best of the Year, 2014" - *Sir Licksalot & The Bay Fools*

IMPORTANT DATES

PTA Meeting (6:00pm)	March 3, 2015
Community Gathing	March 4, 2015
Young Writer's Expo	March 7, 2015
Science Fair	March 10, 2015

Read Across America Oath

I promise to read each day and each night.

I know it's the key to growing up right.

I'll read to myself, I'll read to a crowd.

It makes no difference if silent or loud.

I'll read at my desk, at home and at school, on my

bean bag or bed, by the fire or pool.

Each book that I read puts smarts in my head, 'cause

brains grow more thoughts the more they are fed.

Peachjar Communication System



SCUSD has launched a new electronic flyer communication tool called Peachjar. To view school and district eflyers, simply click the Peachjar button on our school's website homepage.

If the district has your email address on file you will receive a welcome email from Peachjar that includes a username and password. This is provided to give you the opportunity to manage your account and flyer delivery preferences. If you do not receive a welcome email within the next week, contact the school office to update your email address. To ensure smooth delivery of this communication, we suggest you add "school@peachjar.com" to your email contacts. When you receive your first eflyer, be sure to click "always display images."

This system is used exclusively for distribution of school and district approved flyers; **your email address will not be shared or used for any other purpose.**

PTA Reminders

Next Meeting

The next PTA meeting will be Tuesday, March 3, 2015 at 6:00pm in the Briarwood Staff Room. All are welcome!

Membership

Please consider joining the PTA. Membership dues are \$10.00 per family. Membership envelopes can be found in the school office.

Jamba Juice Friday

Jamba Juice can be purchased every Friday after school. The treats cost \$2.00 and can be purchased in the Multi-Purpose Room.

Weekly Ice Cream Sales

Ice cream is sold from the PTA room every Wednesday after school. All ice cream is \$1.00. Grab a treat and support the PTA!

Please consider coming to a PTA meeting – the work the PTA does is so important for the students, staff and community. The programs and events the PTA provide offer unique and memorable experiences for our students.

Currently, a huge amount of work is being done by a small group of dedicated, fun people. We need more help. Please consider coming to a meeting, volunteering to help with the planning of an event or even becoming a member of the board.

Student Council

Our amazing Student Council has planned some fun spirit days for our students and staff. Please mark your calendars with the following dates and have your student show his/her school spirit by coming to school dressed to match each theme.

Wednesday, March 11, 2015 – Super Hero Day

Wednesday, April 8, 2015 – Neon Day

Wednesday, May 13, 2015 – Crayon Day (Wear One Color)

A special thanks to Mrs. Therres and our Student Council for all their hard work in organizing and delivering Candy Grams this past month. It was a wonderful treat for our students and a generous fundraising activity for the fifth grade Science Camp trip!

ABC – Asset Building Champions

This Month In Transitional Kindergarten And Kindergarten.....

Students will read *Be Polite and Kind* by Cheri J. Meiners, M.Ed. *Be Polite and Kind* focuses on manners such as courtesy, respect and kindness. The book helps students learn that good manners help everyone get along and do kind acts.

This Month In First And Second Grade.....

Students will read *How Do I Stand In Your Shoes* by Susan DeBell Ph.D. The focus of this book is to learn about empathy. Empathy is defined as a capacity to understand and care about another person's feelings. This book helps students notice, name and understand the feelings or difficulties of others. Understanding the feelings of others is a complex social skill that requires practice.

Students can do this by taking caring action in relationships as a care-giver. By offering sympathetic responses, the care-giver is receptive and attentive to the cared-for. Going deeper, both giving and receiving empathy requires practice. When caring and empathy are given, the cared-for receives the act of caring and should recognize it with a response. Responses to subtle social cues are learned social behavior that develop as our students mature. You can help develop these skills by noticing and naming feelings, behaviors and appropriate responses in your families daily interactions.

Purpose

The Asset Building Champions Program or ABC Program aims to promote concepts of caring, empathy and responsibility through literature and to create a common language and vocabulary about respect in our school community. ABC parent volunteers are caring adults who help students create a positive school climate where they all feel safe and accepted.

Please Help

You can make a difference, please consider becoming an ABC reader! Readers are asked to volunteer three hours per month for the program. If you are interested please contact Jessica Yee at gogetsum@gmail.com or call the school office at (408) 423-1300.

Count Down To The Science Fair

Student projects must be dropped off in the Multi-Purpose Room on

Monday, March 9, 2015 from 2:30-5:00pm

Or

Tuesday, March 10, 2015 from 7:30-8:30am

Judges will be reviewing projects starting at 8:40am on Tuesday, March 10, 2015.

Science Fair Night is Tuesday, March 10, 2015 from 6:00-7:30pm.

Student projects will be on display in the Multi-Purpose Room for students and families to view. In addition, a number of community organizations will be on campus with displays and activities.

All projects must be picked up after school on Wednesday, March 11, 2015.

If you are interested in volunteering to help, please contact the school office.

We look forward to seeing you on March 10th!



