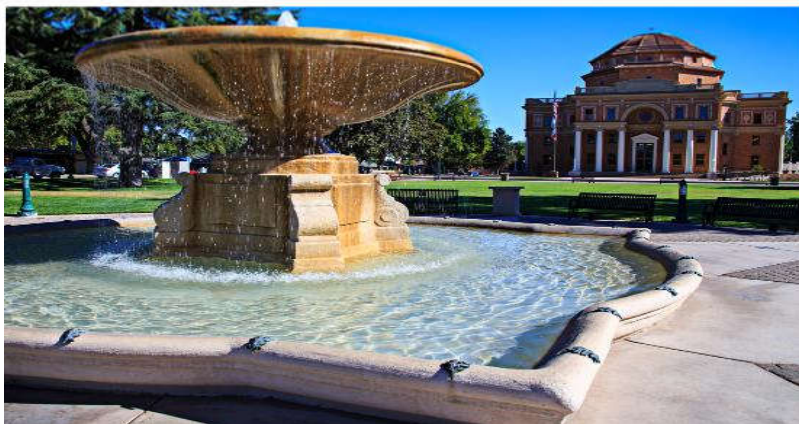


Monterey Road School PTA Newsletter

April 2017

"Come Run with the Mustangs"

www.mrspta.org



President's Corner

Hello Monterey Road families,

Happy Spring!

April brings us Open House, Book Fair and Staff Appreciation week (SAW).

We will be voting on our new PTA board on April 6th! There are positions still open and we would love to see new faces!

For more information about the PTA Board positions, please contact me at bahasmith@yahoo.com or 423-5930.

Emily Smith

PTA President

bahasmith@yahoo.com



APRIL 10 - APRIL 17

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE



APRIL

- 3 PTA Board Meeting (5:30 pm)
- 3-6 Spring Book Fair
- 6 Open House (6:30-7:30 pm)
- 10-17 Spring Break
- 18 School Resumes
- 24-28 Staff Appreciation Week

MAY

- 1 PTA Board Meeting (5:30 pm)
- 4 Battle of the Books
- 12 Talent Show
- 19 Student Awards Assembly
- Grades 1-3 (9 am)
- Grades 4-5 (10 am)
- 26 & 29 NO SCHOOL: Memorial Day
- 30-Jun 2 Book Character Week



YOU'RE INVITED TO
MONTEREY ROAD SCHOOL'S
OPEN HOUSE!

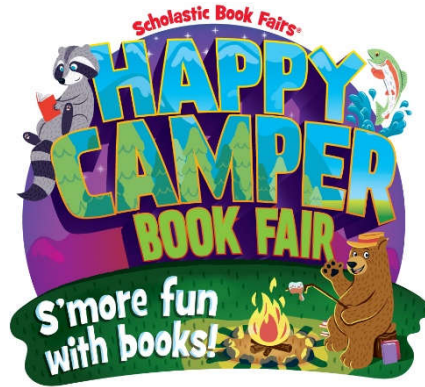
When: Thursday, April 6th
Time: 6 pm - "Welcome" in the cafeteria
7:30 pm - Classrooms close

Our students are excited to show off all they have been learning this year!
Hope to see you there!

Because of District policy and State Education guidelines, only first names and last initials are used when reporting news regarding students.

PTA NEWS

Spring Book Fair



Happy Camper Book Fair: S'more Fun with Books!

Book Fair will be every day after school April 3rd-6th from 2:30-3:30 pm
Book Fair will be open on the evening of Open House, April 6th from 5:30-8:00 pm

We will have Happy Campers Flashlight Reading with guest readers! S'more goodie bags & a chance to win grade-level raffle prizes for those attending the Book Fair during Open House!

All Book Fair proceeds go directly to our students and our school. Bring your completed raffle ticket entry to the book fair each day you visit for a chance to win a gift certificate to buy the book of your choice. Thursday's ticket will enter you into a special raffle prize announced on Friday.

The gift of reading is the best gift you can give! Consider the gift of a book to your child's classroom library. Teacher wish baskets are at the book fair and all books in baskets are available for purchase.

We always need volunteers to make it run smoothly. If you can help during any of these shifts please follow these 3 easy steps or email [Lisa Gattuso](mailto:Lisa.Gattuso@yagoo.com) [lfgattuso@yagoo.com](mailto:Lisa.Gattuso@yagoo.com) with any questions.

Volunteers shifts:

Sales: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (2:15-3:30 pm)

Open House: Thursday, April 6th (set up 5:15-6:30 pm, sales 6:30-8 pm & pack up 8-9 pm)

- 1) Click this link to see our sign-up sheet on SignUp.com: <http://signup.com/go/Nzu3bh>
- 2) Review the options listed and choose the spot(s) you like.
- 3) Sign up! It's Easy - you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password on SignUp.com

Staff Appreciation Week (SAW)

It's that time of year again where we get to celebrate our amazing staff at Monterey Road! We take one week out of the year to appreciate them for all they do. During SAW, we surprise the

staff with food, cards, daily raffle prizes, and gift cards. So PLEASE help in any way you can! A form filled with lots of information was sent home with your child a few days ago. If you did not receive it or want more details regarding Staff Appreciation Week, please contact [Annie Allen](mailto:annieroseallen@gmail.com) at annieroseallen@gmail.com.

OTHER NEWS

Battle of the Books

The 20th Annual Battle of the Books is taking place on Thursday, May 4th at Monterey Road School! To qualify, students are required to read a set number of books from the Battle list.

The requirements are: 10 books for 4th grade and 12 books for 5th grade.

Students must complete their reading and any teacher requirements by April 28th. Please check with your student to see how they are progressing. The more students we have participate, the more fun the day is!

The Battle is a fun-filled day with continual mini-tournaments, snacks, lunch, prizes and the final "Battle". Your child may participate if he or she has read the required number of books from this year's "Battle of the Books" list. The list of books can be found at: <http://www.battleofthe-books.org/book-list/traditional-standard-30-book-list-4-6-grades-2016-17.php>

This year we are pleased to announce that T-shirts may once again be ordered for Battle participants. The shirts will feature a student-created design around the theme "Be a Super Hero...READ!" Having a t-shirt adds to the festive atmosphere and excitement. If you would like to order a t-shirt for your child, please send in the form (at the end of this newsletter) with \$9 payment by April 7th.

We also need parent volunteers on the day of the Battle to help us out with setting up, tournaments and lunch time. Please let us know if you can help us out on that day! Parents will need to arrive by 8:15 am for a brief Battle instructions meeting. If you would like to help out, please fill out the bottom portion of the form below (at the end of this newsletter). All volunteers must have Megan's Law clearance.

Thank you for your continued support at Monterey Road Elementary School!

Sincerely,
The Battle of the Books Committee

Garden Club

We want to thank everyone for cutting out and turning in BOX TOPS for Education. We sent in another box full worth \$143.10. Please continue to send in those Box Tops. We really appreciate it!

Go to BTFE.com/products for a complete list of Box Tops products.

1st, 3rd and 5th grade "Garden Club" will meet after school on April 3rd. 2nd and 4th graders will meet on April 24th. Garden club will not meet during the month of May. The last garden clubs of the year will be on June 5th and 12th and will be for all grades.

The garden will be selling after school on Mondays. Please stop by the picnic tables to buy eggs from our chickens, seeds from our garden to plant in your yard (onion, sweat pea, poppy, peas), and produce. We currently have lettuce and spinach for sale.

We are still looking for larger river rocks to use for our decorative rock river we want to create by the marquee. We also still need a compactor for the DG we want to place under the tables we have in the garden. If you have any of these items or if you have any questions about the garden, please contact Diane Shervem at dshervem@charter.net.

One Cool Earth Corner:

Fun Food Fact #1: The highest amount of vitamins and nutrients are contained within the vegetable's skin and the layer directly underneath it.

Fun Food Fact #2: Beets contain betaine, a substance that relaxes the mind and is used in other forms to treat depression. It also contains tryptophan (also found in chocolate), which contributes to a sense of well-being.

Your children are amazing!

Early in March, students pitched in and worked together laying 450 sq. feet of cardboard, burlap and cedar gorilla hair during recess in a single school day. How do we know it was 450 sq. feet? 5th graders from "Math in Action" calculated the area of burlap we used to work out how much ground they covered. Those students who pitched in, displayed great attitude and the ability to work together. The cedar gorilla hair was funded by the PTA and supplied by Rossi transport.

Why are they doing this?

For one, the grass on the bank used a lot of water through the drought and had to be cut multiple times. Replacing the resource-hungry grass with native plants and a food forest will save precious water and provide an outdoor space for pure enjoyment and connection with the living world.

Looking for a fun and meaningful way to engage in your child's school? One Cool Earth needs your help growing Monterey Road School's garden big and green! In addition to the great work with

[Diane Shervem](#) on Mondays, volunteers with clearance through Atascadero Unified School Districts will now be able to work with Garden Manager "Ed" during lunch, recess and class time to get

students learning in the garden and food forest every Thursday from 9 am - 2:30 pm.

RSVP at action@onecoolearth.org to get involved or get more info! From planting to painting signs, there's an activity for everyone!

Remember to check out One Cool Earth online: www.facebook.com/onecoolearth or www.onecoolearth.org.

Attention: 5th Grade Parents

Are you looking forward to coming to Atascadero Middle School next year? Do you have questions about curricular opportunities, sports, schedules, electives, medications, and more?

Then save these dates and times:

- Monday, April 3rd (4:30 pm) - Orientation in Spanish held in the Cafeteria
- Thursday, April 6th (5:00-5:25 pm) - 6th Grade Orientation in the Baro Gym
(6:00-6:30 pm) - All staff, students, and incoming families to Baro Gym to enjoy the outstanding AMS Band & Choir performance.

They will do their best to answer your questions, provide you with information that you need and help you feel as excited to be coming to Atascadero Middle School!

MONTEREY ROAD SCHOOL BATTLE OF THE BOOKS
Thursday, May 4 from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm

Battle of the Books T-Shirt Order Form:

I would like to order a Battle of the Books T-Shirt. I have included \$9 (cash or check) to cover the cost of the shirt. Shirts will not be ordered without pre-payment. Make checks out Monterey Road Elementary. T-shirt orders due April 7th. Parent volunteers are welcome to order and wear one too!

Name: _____

Teacher: _____

Size: (CIRCLE ONE)

YOUTH MEDIUM

YOUTH LARGE

ADULT SMALL

ADULT MEDIUM

ADULT LARGE

ADULT XL

ADULT XXL

Battle of the Books Parent Volunteer Form:

I would like to volunteer at the Battle of the Books on Thursday, May 4. I have volunteer clearance on file in the office. I will plan to be at school at 8:15 am for Battle Day instructions.

Student's Name: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Parent's Email: _____ Parent's Phone Number: _____

Jobs I Can Help With: (CIRCLE)

Question Reader or Scorer

Help with Snack / Lunch

Set-up or Clean-up

Thank you for your help!

Monterey Road Elementary School
3355 Monterey Road
Atascadero, CA 93422
(805) 462-4270

Dear Monterey Road Parents,

Over the next few months, you will be receiving information about an opportunity we have to celebrate student learning. This involves students completing the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments and using the results to celebrate, share and clarify student learning.

This spring, Atascadero Unified School District students in grades 3-8 and grade 11 take the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments for ELA and mathematics. Results from these assessments are just one piece of information to help teachers, parents/guardians, and students understand how well a student is meeting the grade-level standards. Additionally, students in grades 5, 8 and 11 will take a pilot science test based on the new science expectations. The pilot test is intended to provide feedback on the quality of the new test questions so student results will not be available in science.

Student learning is evaluated in a variety of ways. This includes classroom work and tests, SRI and DIBELS benchmarks, and interim assessments. All provide multiple measures to evaluate student learning and adjust instruction accordingly.

This is the 3rd year of the Smarter Balanced Assessments and they are very different from the old STAR tests in several ways. First, they are aligned with the California's new content standards for ELA and mathematics. Second, they reflect the critical thinking and problem-solving skills that students will need to be ready for college and the 21st century job market. Third, they are taken on a computer and are adaptive, which means that during the test, the questions will become more or less difficult on the basis of how the student performs. If the student answers a question correctly, the next question may be less difficult. Lastly, they provide many more supports for students who need them, including students learning English and students with disabilities.

If you have any questions regarding the assessments, please contact me or your child's teacher at (805) 462-4200. Our students have been working very hard this year! Students can practice this test at home too! Your child most likely knows how to get to the test practice log in through our school website. However, here is the direct link: <http://capt.tds.airast.org/student>. Thank you for your support!

Our school will assess on the following dates: **May 8th - 18th (8:30 am - 10:30 am)**

Please make sure your student is on time to school and has eaten a good breakfast!

Sincerely,
Julie Davis
Principal