



The Weekly Read-It

John Muir School PTA Newsletter

November 13, 2017

From the Principal

School Governance Council Meeting on 11/14

The next School Governance Council (SGC) meeting will be held this Tuesday, November 14, at 5 pm. The meeting will be held in the John Muir Library. The SGC meetings are always open to the public. Feel free to stop by if you're interested in hearing about how our school site funds are spent or to learn more about our students' academic progress.

— Audrey Amos, Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER:

11/14 SGC Meeting, 5 pm

11/14 PTA Meeting, 6-7:30 pm

11/18 Creek Cleanup Day

11/20 Thanksgiving Food Drive

11/22-24 Thanksgiving Holiday

11/28-12/1 Book Fair

STUDENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Kindergarten: Hannah Nazaryan, Hudson Jones

1st grade: Adori Thomas, Kaiyu Clemens

2nd grade: Thomas Reichmuth, Samantha Tuscano, Jakub Devaty

3rd grade: Chassidy Banks, Devin Guziak-Nicholas

4th grade: Berket Lukas

5th grade: Jacob McCaughrin, Hector Sanchez-Ramirez

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 14: PTA Meeting, 6 – 7:30 pm, School Library

Please join us Tuesday, November 14 from 6-7:30 pm in the library for our second PTA meeting of the year. We will be holding election for the offices of Secretary and Parliamentarian, nominations will be accepted until just before the vote. If you are interested in nominating yourself or someone else, please contact PTA President Jessica Evans at jburtonevans@gmail.com.

We will also have a presentation by the Berkeley School Fund, and have a discussion about community-focused PTA meetings for later in the year. Free dinner will be provided for adults at the meeting, and free childcare (from Kids In Motion) and pizza for the kids in the cafeteria.

November 18: Creek Clean-Up, 10 am – 1 pm

This first Creek Clean-Up Day of the year will be held this coming Saturday, November 18, from 10 am til 1 pm. New Kindergarten parent Don DeLaCruz will be spearheading the maintenance effort to restore our beloved creek area.

Twenty-two years ago, volunteers from the John Muir community removed eight tons of invasive vegetation, revegetated with 400 native plants, and eventually helped name Harwood Creek as an official National Wildlife Federation Schoolyard Habitat. Today it is an inspiring outdoor classroom used by teachers for science, art, and journal writing, and as an exploration area for after-school programs.

Every 4-6 weeks during the school year, volunteers spend a Saturday morning maintaining paths by laying

mulch, clipping back overgrowth, cleaning up trash, and pulling out invasive plants. Come join us this Saturday from 10 am to 1 pm. Bring your kids, clippers and gloves if you have them, and a small snack to share if you like. Sign up online at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a49a8a82aa2fe3-creek>

November 20: Thanksgiving Food Drive

On the Monday before the Thanksgiving break, the Grizzlies Resource Room (G-R-R!) will be working with the Malcolm X PTA to collect shelf-stable food to help John Muir and Malcolm X families who depend on the school breakfasts and lunches that students will be missing over the break. We will be collecting food at drop-off and pick-up and in every classroom.

All usable, unexpired shelf-stable food contributions are welcome on November 20, but if you would like to sign up to bring a much-needed item, you can:

1. Visit <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f084ea8ab2ea1f58-mxandjohn3> to see the list and sign up. List your children's teachers' names in the "My Comment" section so we can make sure their class is credited with your donation.

OR

2. Text our G-R-R! coordinator at (510) 981-9763 and we will send you a short list of our most-needed items. Let us know your children's teachers' names in your text so we can make sure their class is credited with your donation.

Each classroom has a donation goal of 12 items. Every class that reaches or exceeds their donation goal will be treated to extra recess in December.

If your family is in need of food over the break, please contact Ms. Jocelyn at (510) 644-6410 or jocelynforeman@berkeley.net. Thanks for your help in making sure that every John Muir and Malcolm X student has enough to eat over Thanksgiving!

November 28 – December 1 Book Fair

Save these dates for the Annual John Muir Book Fair (held in the School Library):

- Tuesday, November 28 to Friday, December 1: 2-6 pm each day
- Friday, December 1: Coffee and Donuts Hour at 9-10 am

Please help support this event that encourages our children's love of reading and raises funds for more books in the classrooms. Books from the Fair make great holiday gifts as well! Each student will receive one free book (given out during library class) as part of the Fair.

We need volunteers for this event! Tasks include helping with set up and tear down, being a cashier, or stocking and organizing books. There is an optional cashier training on Monday, November 27 at 9:30 am. Thanks in advance!

Sign up to volunteer here (no registration required): <http://signup.com/login/entry/1186995293268482093>

MORE NEWS

Donate to John Muir When You Purchase from Amazon.com

The holiday gift-buying season quickly approaches. If you are one of those early online shoppers who crosses everyone off your list by November, be sure to bookmark the [Amazon Smile](#) page to raise money for the John Muir PTA.

When you purchase Amazon products using Amazon Smile, the company donates 0.5% of all eligible purchases to the John Muir PTA. Thanks for remembering us during your online holiday shopping. Every bit counts! Shop online at: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-3063895>.