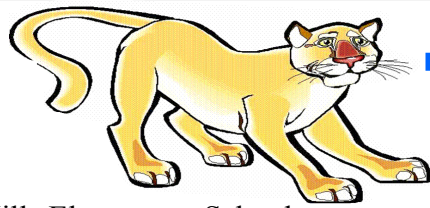


PUMA



TRACKS

The PTA Newsletter of Rolling Hills Elementary School

October 5, 2007 · Volume 6, Number 7

Next Week: Oct. 8-12

Mon.	Book Fair, LRC	8:00 am-3:30 pm
Tue.	Book Fair, LRC	8:00 am-3:30 pm
Wed.	Book Fair, LRC	8:00 am-3:30 pm
Thu.	Book Fair, LRC Polar Party, MPR	8:00 am-3:30 pm 6:00 pm-8:00 pm 6:00 pm-8:00 pm
Fri.	Book Fair, LRC Chorus 1:00 pm-2.00 pm MPR Minimum day	8:00 am-1:30 pm

Future Important Dates

Tue. Oct. 16	Dining Out Night Panera 5:00 pm-8:00 pm
Mon.-Fri. Oct. 21-27	Red Ribbon/ <i>Character Counts!</i> Week
Fri. Oct. 26	Halloween Party MPR 5:00 pm-8:00 pm
Mon. Oct. 29	Deadline for <i>Reflections</i> entries.
Wed. Oct. 31	Minimum day. Grades 1-5 12:50 pm dismissal
Thu. & Fri. Nov. 1 & 2	Conference days No school for students

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Total school communication

Rolling Hills Elementary School

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California PTA, National PTA

A Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Friends of Rolling Hills,

As we enter into October, I want to explore the importance of helping our children develop learning behaviors that will serve them well as students and citizens in our learning community and beyond. The notion of guiding students to develop positive “habits of mind” is a job that is shared between home and school. As we help students develop high aspirations and prepare them to become college ready, we need to include the following skill sets:

- Problem solving
- Critical thinking
- Inquisitive nature
- Willingness to accept critical feedback
- Openness to failure and learning from experience
- Ability and desire to cope with frustrating and ambiguous tasks
- Discern the relative importance and credibility of various sources of information
- Draw inferences and reach conclusions
- Use technology as a tool to assist learning

At Rolling Hills, we focus on creating opportunities for our children to practice developing habits of mind for learning through a variety of curriculum materials and instructional strategies. At this point in the school year, a major school-wide focus is on helping students to understand their learning needs and guide them through the process of individual goal setting. Teachers and students meet to look at daily work samples and assessments for learning to establish the specific skills the child needs to focus on in order to improve academic achievement. In addition, our students are learning to self-assess their work to discern where improvements or corrections need to be made before the teacher assesses the written product. These processes encourage our students to develop and enhance problem solving and critical thinking skills. Students are learning to look at their work and ask the following:

- Is this quality work?
- Is this my personal best?
- How can I improve my work?
- Does this help to meet my learning goal?

Parents, you have an amazing opportunity to support the process of building positive habits of mind by encouraging your child to talk and think about what he/she is reading and learning in school and in the community. The classroom, soccer field, dance class, and sleepover at a friend’s house are typical examples of external learning environments that our children encounter. Each presents a true opportunity for growth in developing essential habits of mind. Communicating with your child about daily experiences is the key to opening the door to future success.

Sincerely, Kathleen Marshack, Principal



SCHOLASTIC

BOOK FAIR NEXT WEEK

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR NEXT WEEK

Books, educational games and unique learning tools and supplies are arriving in time for the opening next week of the fall book fair in the Learning Resource Center. Hours are Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-3:30 pm and Friday 8:00 am-1:30 pm. The fair will also be open Thursday evening between 6:00 and 8:00 pm in conjunction with the Polar Party being held in the Multi-Purpose Room (see below).

Teachers will be getting a sneak preview today when they will identify books that will provide valuable resources for their classroom. Apart from shopping for themselves, parent and students will have the opportunity to select from their teacher's list and make a lasting donation to their class.

What better way to shop for educational gift ideas while supporting the school. Scholastic will return a portion of all sales to the PTA.

Keying off this year's frigid theme, a Polar Party has been organized in the Multi-Purpose Room from 6:00-8:00 pm on Thursday Oct. 11 with games, crafts, and other fun activities. Wear your gloves or mittens, it's going to get coold! For more information, or to volunteer, please call Kim at 672-1481 or stadlerfamily@earthlink.net.

It's going to get coold!



Peace Patrol announced

Congratulations to the fourth grade students who are now part of Rolling Hills Peace Patrol. They will work during their lunch recess as peer mediators helping to solve conflicts on the playground. Peace Patrol students will also help others learn the playground game rules. In addition to these responsibilities, they will oversee the game table during lunch recess. Next time you see these students, please thank them for being leaders and for helping to keep our school a fun and safe place.

Peace Patrol Members are: Claire A., Audrey B., Darius C., Bofan C., Mallory C., Breanna D., Arielle D., Setareh E., Shir E., Ian G., Olivia H., Anique L., Soleil L., Bryan M., Madalyn M., Sina M., Nathan R., Hannah R., Michael R., Mursel S., Ava S., Zack S., Derek S., Hannah S., Mariam T., Mercedes W. and Tatiana V.

We will have four training meetings before these students are on the playground, and then support and training sessions once a month. Thank you, parents, for guiding these young people who exhibit such admirable qualities.

Jackie Cardinale, School Counselor

DESTINY Library Catalog and Book Search

After early closure of the library last school year, students are now benefiting from the installation of the new Destiny book catalog and search system. This district-wide resource enables books to be searched by keyword, title, author, subject and series. The search returns the library code, author, publication date and availability. If the book has an Accelerated Reader® classification, its level and points are shown. To aid recognition, some of the results show an image of the cover.

Please visit the school website, www.powayusd.com/pusdrhes where you will find a link to the new system and an updated file of over 7,500 A/R books!

A tropical success!

Everywhere you looked last Wednesday, there were families with their students and teachers having dinner or waiting together outside *Islands Restaurant* for the first Dining Out Night of the school year.

The manager said it was the biggest promotion of its kind that he had seen and many had to wait a little longer than usual as we had caught him out with our participation.

Thank you to the 57 families for your involvement, patience and diligence in bringing your flyers. *Islands* donated \$441.69 to the Rolling Hills PTA. A great night out for Rolling Hills, and a boost for the PTA.



October Dining Out Night announced

Panera Bakery•Café is the latest great local restaurant to host our school. Parents, don't cook on Tuesday, October 16; take the family over to 12156 Carmel Mountain Road to eat with friends and boost your PTA's funds. No flyer is needed. Panera has generously offered to donate 10% of total receipts between 5:00 and 8:00 pm. So encourage your friends and neighbors to join you.



Red Ribbon-Character Counts! Week

October 21-27

Working for you at Rolling Hills

Your PTA sponsors many activities at the school throughout the year. In September, your PTA organized the following activities:

- Family movie night (Family Events)
- San Diego Philharmonic Quintet assembly (Assembly/Education Programs)
- Dining-out night at Islands (Ways & Means, fundraiser).

Thank you for supporting us with your membership and participation.

We welcome new members throughout the year. For more information on PTA membership, contact Sandy Hatfield at

membership@rollinghillsppta.org. Membership envelopes are also available in the school office.

Where is the fire extinguisher?

Are you prepared in case of an emergency? Chances are that many of us are not... It's not a matter of 'IF', but 'WHEN' San Diego will

experience another large scale disaster. Possible scenarios include: earthquakes, canyon fires, water shortages/drought, power failures, and terrorist attacks.

The Rancho Peñasquitos Town Council will be holding a **Family Emergency Preparedness Fair** at Hilltop Park (on Oviedo St.) on Oct. 13 from 10:00 am-3:00 pm. Elements to be covered will include evacuation plans, preparing your emergency 72-hour kit,

dealing with people with disabilities and the elderly, how to take care of your pets, and preparing a family communication plan. Registration is not required. For more information, visit the Town Council's web page at www.rpcouncil.com or call them at (858) 240-4479.

