A Message from our School Principal-Director
Mr. Scott Barton

Dear Parents,

We are three months into the school year and students are taking their education seriously by attending classes at an attendance rate of 98.10%. Students’ grades are affected by their attendance; good attendance translates into good grades. Please continue to encourage your students to have good attendance.

I would like to introduce Jacqueline Azize-Brewer, our new Volunteer Coordinator. She works with all of our volunteers, including parents, tutors and mentors. The next time you are at Preuss, please stop by her office and introduce yourself. We are excited to have Jacquie as a Preuss team member!

Preuss was celebrated as a top five winner in the Statewide 2017-2018 Race to Submit campaign sponsored by the California Student Aid Commission at an awards ceremony on March 2, 2018, in Sacramento. The campaign took place from October 1, 2017 to March 2, 2018, and was aimed at increasing the number of high school seniors who complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the California Dream Act Application (CADAA).

The Preuss class of 2019 is working on their college applications with UC Submission days on November 27 and 28. The deadline for UC applications is November 30. Teachers are working diligently to write college letters of recommendations for the seniors. Seniors are participating in ongoing college representative visits from universities all over the country. It is an exciting time for our future college students.

See Page 2
News From Scott Barton

Cont’d

The Admissions application for the 2019-2020 school year is available in the front office and online. The application is two pages and may be picked up in the front office or completed online at https://preuss.ucsd.edu/admissions/index.html on the Preuss website. A total of 1,050 applications have been distributed to families and schools throughout the county. This year’s Admissions application deadline is Friday, November 16, at 4:00pm, and the lottery date will be February 13, 2019.

As mentioned above attendance is critical to a student’s educational success. Parents play a vital role in their student’s academic success by helping them develop the habit of consistent attendance. To help better monitor students’ attendance we are using the automated communication system ParentSquare. The notification system sends a phone message to the families’ primary phone number, cell phone, and/or a text message. The system keeps parents informed about their student’s attendance. Please phone the school by 9:00am if your child will be absent. If a parent needs to discuss their student’s attendance, we ask they call Mrs. Villanueva at 858-822-0311.

Preuss School students, parents, and teachers are always busy and Saturdays are no exception. Once a month there is the PTA General Meeting and all parents are invited to attend. As part of the PTA General Meetings, there will be speakers, parenting topics, and student performances. There are Saturday Enrichment Academy (SEA) activities two Saturdays a month for students. This year the Robotics club will host the FLL tournament here on campus on Saturday, November 10th, the best viewing will be from 10am – 3pm. The Robotics club will host teams from all over San Diego County, families and friends are invited to view the tournament. This is always a fun event that displays our students’ robotics talents.

Progress reports will be distributed through Advisory classes on November 14 & 15. Please be sure to review the report card with your child. It is important for students to understand their grades and why they earned a particular grade.

The months of November and December are full of vacation days away from school. I want to take a moment to remind students and parents that while we will have breaks these next two months, learning is still our first priority. Students must stay focused in the midst of all of the excitement of the coming breaks. School will not be in session November 19-23, 2018, and December 24, 2018 - January 4, 2019, returning January 7 to school. Please do not extend your vacations as students are expected to be in school when Preuss is in session. Enjoy your time off.

I encourage all of our students and families to enjoy their time off by resting and spending time to get together with family and friends.

Sincerely,
Scott Barton
NOTES FROM THE VICE PRINCIPAL
Mr. Pete Selleck

The Preuss School has always been successful because of the collaboration of parents, staff and students. It is time to renew our commitment to making our kids successful. Here are some reminders that I hope you will find helpful.

Electronic devices- Cell phones are causing many distractions. Students are not successful if they are frequently checking their messages on the phone. Remind them to turn off the phone at school. The device may not be left on “silent” or “vibrate.” Charge devices at night in a location where the kids do not have access. Too many teenagers are sleep deprived because of excessive screen time after 9pm.

The Student Handbook- Be sure to review school policies with your child. In addition check “The Planner” frequently to be sure that your student is using it to stay organized and keep track of homework assignments. The handbook also has a list of all grade reporting dates. Progress Reports and Report Cards are important communication tools to keep parents informed of their children’s growth at school.

Homework- Students need a quiet place free of distractions to study each night. They also need a designated place to store school materials. Help your son or daughter to pack up their backpack after homework is completed. This will help them to stay organized, and reduce the stress of trying to hurry out the door on time in the morning.

Attendance- Our students do not benefit from the outstanding lessons of our teachers if they are not here. It has been said that missing a day at Preuss is like missing a week at many schools. Be aware of the unique school calendar at Preuss. Do not plan any family trips, or other activities, during the school year. Try to schedule medical or dental appointments on Friday mornings, and get the students here as soon as possible in the morning. If your child is absent, call the Attendance Office at (858)822-0311.

Transportation- Be sure to have your students at their assigned bus stop 10 minutes before the scheduled arrival time. Students may only ride their assigned bus, and may only utilize their assigned stop.

Dress Code- Dress codes have been identified as a key factor in promoting safety, and an academic focus in schools. Preuss polo shirts and hooded sweatshirts can be purchased from The Preuss School PTA, and all proceeds go back to our school to fund important programs. In addition, the uniforms for Physical Education classes can be purchased from the PTA. Mario’s Store also has polo shirts, hooded sweatshirts, jackets, sweaters, and skirts that are approved attire for The Preuss School.
Whispers from the Copley Media Center (Library)

We featured Banned Books Week (September 23 – September 29, 2018) with a mini-book jacket contest. The mini-book jacket had to represent a banned book, why it was banned and an about the author section. Our winners were 11th grader Josblan Chavez Martinez, 9th grader Marcella Dixon and 9th grader Meliya Russom. They each earned a $10.00 gift certificate to Barnes and Noble or a choice of a book.

Our Scholastic Book Fair was held October 8 through October 13, 2018. Thank you to our Scholastic Crew and parents who volunteered and helped to make it a great success. We made over $700 to spend on books for our library!

Monthly library notices are now be sent via students’ Preuss email. If your student has late textbooks or fines over $5.00, they are not allowed to participate in any extra-curricular activities. This includes athletics, after school clubs, and school sponsored social events. Please encourage your student/s to bring in any late textbooks or to begin paying off their account a little bit at a time. We can also discuss volunteering time to cover fines.

A Few Reminders

1. Students have access to online eBooks. On the library page of the Preuss School website, your student can click Overdrive to access these eBooks. The site will walk you through downloading the correct app for your device. All your student needs for access, is their student ID # on their planner or picture ID card.

2. The library has a great resource for researching online. Please visit the DCP on the library webpage of the Preuss School website. All materials have been reviewed by experts in their field and is reliable information. You can use this resource for every subject matter. There are even eBooks, online magazines, tutoring sites for homework, and tutorials on how to do research.

3. Are you looking to know more about what your students have access to online or what social media sites are trending and how this might affect your student? Visit the library page of the Preuss School website and click on Common Sense Media. It is a not-for-profit site providing everything from book, movie, and TV reviews to studies on what our teens are using on social media and its effects.

Happy Reading!

Ms. Karen Nance and Ms. Maria Gonzalez
November and December can be stressful months with the holidays creating some financial strain for families. Please remember to utilize 211 by calling 211 or visiting www.211sandiego.org/resources/highlighted-resources/holiday-assistance/ should you need any holiday assistance such as Thanksgiving meals, Thanksgiving baskets, Christmas toys/clothes, etc. I would like to inform families of the Toys for Joy opportunity; this year they will be hosting their event at four different locations: Lincoln High School, Cajon Valley Middle School, Guajome Park Academy and Southwest High School. Gates open at 9am-2pm on December 8th. This is a wonderful opportunity to get a free toy for children 0-11, receive free lunch, entertainment, kid’s activities, giveaways, and free groceries while supplies last. Additionally, Toys for Tots has various locations throughout San Diego. Contact Margie Zacker at SanDiego.Toys4Tots@gmail.com to request a toy for your children. Please see Mrs. Torre if you need any assistance with this or have any questions.

New this year... we are hosting a food distribution every month after the PTA meeting. This is open to anyone in the community. Please be aware you need to bring your own bag for groceries. This is a wonderful opportunity to take home free food.

Please remember, I am here to assist Preuss families with any resources in the community that may be needed such as food, shelter, mental health services, insurance, clothing, etc. Do not hesitate to contact me at aitorre@ucsd.edu or 858-822-1484. Thank you and I look forward to working with you.

Amanda Esquivel, MFT 88617, Family Support Specialist

**SCHOOL PANTRY**
Receive free nutritious food for you and your family

**WHEN:** 11:00AM—12:00PM
**WHERE:** The Preuss School UCSD
3750 Voigt Drive, La Jolla 92037

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**
- You choose what you want
- 16 pounds of fresh produce
- Open to all families
- First come, first served.
- Please bring your own bags

2018-2019
*School Pantry Distribution Dates:*
**October 27th**
***UPCOMING***
November 3rd
December 15th
January 26th
February 23rd
March 16th
April 6th
May 18th
June 8th
Happy Fall Preuss Families

We are thankful for our supportive Preuss families this Fall! If you have any questions or concerns for us, please feel free to contact us for our support. It is truly an honor to work with the students and families at The Preuss School UC San Diego.

We are:

Ms. Patrick—School Counselor Grades 6, 11 and 12  empatrick@ucsd.edu  (858) 822-0996
Mrs. Rutten—School Counselor Grades 7-10  erutten@ucsd.edu  (858) 822-0904
Ms. Ghonaim—School Psychologist yghonaim@ucsd.edu  (858) 822-1485

Naviance is a website directed by the school counselor to help students access college information, such as college visits, scholarships, and college requirements. Fun fact about Naviance: it has a feature that allows students to match their GPAs and test scores to colleges that fit them.

Khan Academy is a website that produces short lessons in the form of videos. Khan Academy also includes supplementary practice exercises and materials for the students to use. It helps improve scores for college associated tests like the SAT, ACT, or AP tests.

If you have not heard of College Board you will sooner or later but the sooner the better. College Board is a great website that helps students access their AP test scores and allows them to Register for SAT and SAT Subject Test.
Hello from the new Coordinator of Volunteer Programs

My name is Jacqueline Azize-Brewer and I am elated to hold the Volunteer Coordinator position at The Preuss School. I was born in Honduras and emigrated to the United States at the age of 17, after graduating from high school. I came to The Preuss School with 15 years of experience working at UC San Diego. In my previous position I worked, primarily, with ethnically underrepresented undergraduate students majoring in Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM) providing support and facilitating advancement opportunities in support of a bachelor's degree and preparing for admittance to highly competitive graduate and professional schools. I have also worked with graduate students advising, supporting and assisting them in their pursuit of a doctorate degree in a STEM field. I am also a UC San Diego Alumna having received my undergraduate (B.S. Cognitive Science) and graduate (M.S. and Ph.D. in Neurosciences) degrees from this institution.

As the Coordinator of the Volunteer Programs I look forward to continuing the wonderful and extensive volunteer programming that has been developed and implemented to date and which has contributed greatly to the success of the school. It is in my vision to continue expanding the volunteer force and volunteer opportunities at The Preuss School by tapping into connections with faculty, undergraduate and graduate students, research scientists, postdoctoral fellows and staff at UC San Diego, to have increased representation in academia and the workforce.

I would love to hear any ideas you may have regarding volunteering opportunities at The Preuss School and look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline F. Azize-Brewer, Ph.D.

A personal note about volunteering...

I believe that those of us who volunteer our time and/or resources receive more than what we give. I am part of the UC San Diego’s Volunteer 50 Campaign - Chancellor’s Call to Service. I have been volunteering at the San Diego Jacobs and Cushman Food Bank for approximately 4 years. As part of a UC San Diego delegation, I go to the food bank once a month to assist with any projects they may need help with. Sometimes we sort through food donations and separate them by kind. Other times we form an assembly line to pack boxes of food that are distributed to seniors in need or pack fresh produce that is given out to people who come to the food distribution events there. I always leave with a sense of joy in that I have contributed in a small way to alleviate the needs of others. I also volunteer with a non-profit San Diego based organization as a meeting co-facilitator and Spanish translator and point of contact. I have been volunteering with this organization for approximately 11 years.

Because of my personal experiences with volunteering and my first-hand knowledge of how volunteers change lives, I deeply value and am most appreciative of the time commitment and/or resources that all our volunteers provide to the success of this school. Please be cognizant that volunteers are a huge part of what we do here at The Preuss School. I know the desire to volunteer and give back many times comes from a dutiful sense to “pay it forward,” knowing that most likely there have been people along our journey that have helped us get where we are.

As I get settled into my new position I have come across several quotes related to volunteering. I leave you with a couple of them to reflect on...

“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not.” –Dr. Seuss

“None of us has gotten where we are solely by pulling ourselves up by our bootstraps. We got here because somebody...bent down and helped us.” –Thurgood Marshall

Save the date for the upcoming meetings:

December 2018

4th – PTA Executive Board Meeting, 5:30-7:00 pm
15th – PTA General Meeting, 9:30 – 11:00 am
NEWS FROM THE ART AND STUDIO CLASS
By Ms. Tamima Noorzay

September found Preuss Studio Art students and Farshid Bazmaneghanmahdieya from UCSD Arts and Humanities collaborating on a painting project based upon the work of retired UCSD Professor Kim MacConnel. A major player in the Pattern and Decoration movement, MacConnel’s work during the 1970s highlighted nonwestern traditions and was focused on cultural patterns and iconography. Working on 12x12 canvases Preuss students were inspired by MacConnel’s work, creating pieces reflecting motifs relevant to their lives, including personal iconography. Not only did our students get to interact with UCSD Arts and Humanities students, but they have also been offered an opportunity to display the works at UCSD’s University Art Gallery. Stay tuned to Insights for show details.

In October, all Studio II and AP Studio students enjoyed the annual trip to Torrey Pines State Reserve for hiking and plein air painting. This year students focused on the ethnobotany of the Kumeyaay, conducting research on the medicinal, food and utilitarian uses of indigenous plants found at the reserve. Students demonstrated evidence of their learning through botanical posters as well as ceramic pavers. Preuss art students and the educational program at the park led by Luis Sands will be collaborating on a project to create ethnobotany and wildlife pavers for the outdoor classroom space at the Reserve. After painting and hiking, students were treated to Jersey Mike’s lunch, generously provided by Ron Campnell. Our beloved and retired Nurse Chris, who is also a docent with the park, served as chaperone and guide! The morning began with a thick layer of fog, which burned off leaving a misty cloak over the trees, and as the morning wore on the sun came out treating the two groups of painters to entirely different escapes. Catch up with us through this year’s copy of the Torrey Pines book in the front office after winter break. As always, look for the artwork to be showcased at the 4th Annual Festival of the Arts on March 7, 2019!
The San Diego Zoo Education Outreach Program recently provided two days of hands-on learning for the 6th grade advisory classes. The lessons involved learning about native and non-native animals that rely on the biodiversity in the area for their survival. San Diego County is known as a biodiversity hotspot because of the wide variety of both habitats and living things in those habitats, many of which are endangered. The first session focused on animals that are native to the area and what role they play in managing other populations as both predators and prey. The zoo instructors brought a rosy boa and a young possum to share with students. The program was first proposed to Preuss science teachers by Jahayra Munoz, a zoo education outreach program leader and a former Preuss student. After graduating from Preuss, Jahayra received her degree in child development from Chico State before returning to San Diego and joining the Zoo Outreach Program.

Preuss Hosted the First Lego League Qualifying Tournament

On Saturday November 10th, The Midnight Mechanics (Our High School Robotics Team) once again hosted our annual First Lego League Qualifying tournament. Twenty eight teams middle school teams from around San Diego (including three from The Preuss School) were competing. Students presented their research project to judging panels and showed off their Lego Robots on stage in the Walton Center. Top scoring teams advanced to compete in the Southern California Championships at Legoland in December! The event was free and open to the public to watch some matches.

A big thank you to all of our parents who volunteered at the event. For more information about Robotics, please, contact Dan Rupert at drupert@ucsd.edu

Dan Rupert
Teacher: The Preuss School UC San Diego
Coach: FRC Team 812, The Midnight Mechanics
YEARBOOK SALES!!!

Buy the Preuss yearbook online at yearbookforever.com! Order the 2018-2019 Yearbook for only $35! Student(s) are able to customize their yearbook with different packages and/or features such as: a Namestamp, iTAG, Clear Book Protector, Year in Review, and Autograph Supplement.

How to buy the yearbook online:
* Go to www.yearbookforever.com
* Enter “Preuss School.”
* Select desired package. Individual features are also sold separately. To buy only a nameplate, choose yearbook only and then add the nameplate separately.

If you can’t buy it online, make sure to attend our pre-sales that are held each month during middle and high school lunch to buy the yearbook. Our next pre-sale is Monday November 12 to Friday November 16. You may also purchase the new features during our pre-sales! Reserve your yearbook by making a down payment of only $10 to Dr. Ensberg in room B201.

No bills greater than $20. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Dr. Ensberg at pensberg@ucsd.edu.

Yearbook Advertisement Pages / Dedication Pages
Dedication pages are available for sale. Buy your student a page, or a part of a page, on the yearbook to express your pride in your student’s accomplishments at Preuss. Dedication pages can include messages from family members and pictures of the student. Dedication pages can be designed by you or the Yearbook staff. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the yearbook class through pensberg@ucsd.edu. You may also order your dedication page online and even design it online if you choose!

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Celebrate your student’s achievements with a dedication in the 2019 yearbook! You are able to design it yourself or let the yearbook staff design it for you!

IMPORTANT SCHOOL DATES:
11/14/18 & 11/15/18: 2nd Mid-Semester Progress Report Distributed.
12/1/18 & 12/15/18: Saturday Enrichment Academy-9:00 A.M - 11:00 A.M
12/15/18: General Parent Meeting–School Auditorium – 9:30A.M-11:00A.M
1/12/19 & 1/26/19: Saturday Enrichment Academy–9:00 A.M - 11:00 A.M
1/21/19: Martin Luther King Jr. Day (No School)
1/14/19 - 1/17/19: 1st Semester Final Exams
1/18/19: 1st Semester Ends
1/24/2019: 1st Semester Final Report Cards Mailed Home to Parents.

NEXT SATURDAY PARENT MEETINGS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2018
SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 2019
The Preuss School Auditorium
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Special Thanks to Our Insight Newsletter Contributors:

Michael P. O’Neill, Director of Manufacturing
CareFusion Corporation

Chip Mutza, Site Manager from Ikon Office Solutions

Philip Battle, Production Specialist

Jose Garcia, Preuss Former Parent, Class of 2004

CareFusion Corporation
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