A Message from the Principal-Director

Scott Barton

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We have so many things to cheer about here at The Preuss School starting with our Girls Soccer Team going to CIF Finals on Friday, March 7. While the team lost 1-0 against Del Lago the girls played phenomenally and had a great season. In fact, all of our winter sports teams represented Preuss well. Our Robotics Team, the Midnight Mechanics participated in the FIRST Robotics Competition, March 6-8, and was ranked 7th going into the finals. There were approximately forty students who participated. The next event for the Midnight Mechanics will be Regional competition in Chandler, Arizona, March 18-23.

March means Sixth Grade camp which will begin March 25 and end Friday, March 28.

See page 2

In This Issue

- News from our Principal-Director
- News from the PTA President
- Whispers from the School Library
- Volunteer Opportunities for Parents
- Healthy Ideas from our School’s Nurse
- Counselors’ Notes
News from Mr. Barton Continued

Camp is held on campus, with one overnight stay taking place on Thursday, March 27. The sixth graders will participate in educational field trips to the UCSD Earthquake Simulator Lab, Safari Park and Polar Climate Change lab, Canyon view Pool, Petco Park, and teambuilding exercises here on campus. The week will end with a middle school dance on Friday, March 28, from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

100% of the class of 2014 have applied to UC Schools. All 86 seniors submitted the FAFSA or California Dream application and Cal grant applications. Four year Colleges and Universities have accepted 67 out of 86 seniors. Every week more seniors are accepted to four year institutions such as the University of California campuses, Arizona State University, Colorado State University, San Francisco State University, and Iowa State University. Two of our seniors have been admitted by early decision (binding college admission). Andy Ly will be attending Northwestern University and Dehryen Williams will be attending Trinity College.

Read Across America was observed on March 3rd here on campus in honor of Dr. Seuss’ birthday. Fourteen community members including Board Members, Mentors, and UC San Diego faculty read their favorite Dr. Seuss book to Middle School Advisory classes. This event is an annual reading motivation and awareness program for every child in America to celebrate reading.

On Monday, March 10th, the OverDrive Bookmobile came to our campus to introduce eBooks to the students. The Digital Bookmobile, developed inside a 74-foot, 18-wheel tractor-trailer, is an update to the traditional bookmobile. This high tech bookmobile has a virtual library website, a collection of eBooks, audiobooks and more which is powered by OverDrive. Students toured the bookmobile and learned how to access the collection of eBooks in The Preuss library.

We would like to thank all of those parents who have contributed to this year’s transportation costs. Your help with busing costs is very important to the continued use of buses to transport your students to school. Without your contributions we are in danger of losing our busing for our students. If you have not yet contributed your donations, you may do so by making installments during the year or in one full payment.

It is important that you attend our PTA General Meetings to learn about what is happening at Preuss. There are many important topics and issues that will be shared and discussed. One of these topics is Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF). LCFF is a new method for funding public schools, including charter schools. We will be soliciting parent input in developing and implementing our LCFF. The Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) is part of the LCFF. The LCAP will be a collaborative effort of Preuss School faculty, staff, parents, students and the community. More information about the LCFF and the LCAP will be shared at PTA Executive and General Meetings.

Upcoming meeting are as follows:

PTA Executive Meetings are April 8, May 6, and June 3rd.

PTA General Meetings are March 22, May 17, and June 7.

We are in the middle of our school year; this is an important time for all students here at The Preuss School. It is a time to for students to stay focused and continue to put their education first. We are fortunate to have a great group of motivated students and look forward to the final months of this school year for all of our grade levels.

Sincerely,

Scott Barton
Principal/Director
The Preuss School UCSD PTA President- Michael Million

SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR THE PTA EXECUTIVE BOARD NOMINEES

PRESIDENT– Diane Villalvazo
VICE PRESIDENT--Katia Flores
SECRETARY – Rosa Penamoya
AUDITOR-- Vinny Ngheem
HISTORIAN
TREASURER – Yesenia Valdelarmar

Grade Level Representative/ Representante de Grado

6TH GRADE
7TH GRADE Tsega Dawit , Blanca Angel
8TH GRADE Erika Tabares
9th GRADE Kafisa Mohamed
10TH GRADE: Maria T Gonzalez, Gabriela Carbajal
11TH GRADE Diane Villalvazo
12TH GRADE Katia Flores

PTA Elections

Next Saturday March 22, 2014
Election Day

You have to be a member of our PTA at least for one month to be eligible to run or Vote in the PTA so buy your memberships early.

Membership

So far this year we have 197 paid Preuss School UCSD PTA Members

A Big Thank you to the 285 parents who came to our February 22nd, 2014 General Parent Meeting

Parent Dinner Dance

Saturday, April 26, 2014– 4:00PM-9:00PM
Tickets are on sale now
$ 20.00 per person and $ 35.00 for 2 people.

Audit Report:

The mid year Audit has been completed and it is going to be presented to the association to be Adapted at the March 22, 2014 meeting

JOIN US AT OUR PARENT MEETINGS, THE PTA AND THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION ARE ALWAYS LOOKING DIFFERENT WAYS TO KEEP YOU INFORMED. DON'T MISS OUT!

Fundraisers:

We are selling tickets for our Parent Dinner Dance $20 each $35 a couple, we will also be selling tickets for our Senior Fundraiser to Applebee’s. $10 each. Come support your students!

Come and Bid on your Parent Dinner Dance
Gift Baskets, Lots of exciting Prizes & Fun!

Guest Speaker at our February 22nd Meeting
Dr. Martin T. Stein
Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics Specialist
The Preuss School UCSD Board of Directors
Whispers from the Library - Spring

Congratulations to our bookmark contest winners:

High School: Christina Le (9th grade) and Jennifer Hua (11th grade)

Middle School: Karina Nunez (6th grade) and Anh Du (7th grade)

Monday, March 3rd we celebrated Read Across America by inviting community members to Preuss to read their favorite Dr. Seuss book to a class. Thank you to Erin Preuss, Ann Evans, Marty Stein, Monica Haas, Brian Luscomb, Gretchen Pelletier, Nanci Simkin, Penny Adler, Cheryl Alexander, Bill Eldredge, Monica Logan, Amanda Brumenschenkel, Brett Asa, Eric Romer, and Natasha Ippolito for donating their time and enthusiasm. All our ambassadors did a wonderful job of greeting the volunteers, making them feel welcome and introducing them to the class. Thank you to Isabel-lia Fuller, Hernesto Aguirre, Asha Haghi, Mayerling Colin, Isabella Romo, DJ Sekariyongo, Biezawit Yegoraw, Adriana Chavez, Rosa Hernandez, Laura Castro, Brianna Fedock, Wal Rick, Lexius Waltar, Julieta Ornelas, Angelique Ortega, Selene Garcia, Elaine Pham, Julie Nguyen, and Leslie Chavez for representing The Preuss School UCSD so well.

Monday, March 10th we hosted the Overdrive Digital Bookmobile. Overdrive is our eBook platform. It is new to the library this year. The students have the ability to check out eBooks with their student ID. Almost any device is compatible: tablets, smart phones, laptops, desktop computers and mp3 players. Several classes had the opportunity to visit the bookmobile and get a better idea of how to use the platform. Thank you to Overdrive for coming out and to the parents who volunteered, Gloria Varela, Bruk Agiro, and Julissa Vergara. Also thank you to the staff who gave up their parking space for the day.

New Policies for all middle school students: All students will need to clear their library accounts by the last day of school of their 8th grade year in order to participate in the Celebration of Learning ceremony. A notice will be sent home the week after spring break. If you have any questions about your students’ account, please contact Ms. Nance or Ms. Gonzalez in the library. 858-658-7425.

As a reminder Library notices are sent home on at the beginning of each month. If your student owes the library more than $2.00 or has textbooks from previous years, they will be unable to participate in sports, dances, clubs or any extra-curricular activities.

Upcoming Events:
The annual Origami Contest will be held in April. The Scholastic Buy One get One Free Book Fair will be in June. Information will be announced through the daily bulletin and classrooms.
Trainings Available to Preuss Parents

The National Conflict Resolution Center (NCRC) is a full service alternative dispute resolution provider, based in San Diego since 1983. NCRC provides and promotes collaborative dispute resolution and conflict management to individuals, organizations and society through education, training and client services. They were here on February 22nd and provided a training free of charge to Preuss parents on the “Art of Communication”.

This a two part series class and the next class, “The Exchange”, will be held on Saturday, March 22nd from 11:00-3:30pm. There are many seats available, child care and lunch are provided. Parents also receive volunteer hours for attending. If you would be interested in attending please contact the Volunteer Coordinator.

PTA General Meeting

Saturday, February 22nd was a busy day here at Preuss. We had our PTA meeting where we heard from Dr. Stein on ADHD, Dr. Wilson discussed the 5 C’s of learning, our PTA presented the slate of suggested officers that will be up for vote at our next PTA meeting, and Mr. Barton gave the school update.

We also had our annual Family Potluck, so many of you participated and brought some very delicious food. Thank you for taking the time to prepare a dish to share with the other families. Also, a big thank you to the Preuss International Student Association Cultural Activities Club that provided music and activities during the potluck. We had close to 400 people participating at this event.

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

March 22nd: PTA General Meeting from 8:45am-11:15am. Volunteers needed to help at various PTA Tables.

Tuesday-Friday, March 25th-28th: 6th grade Camp on Campus. Chaperones needed at various times between 9:00am-4:00pm.

Thursday, March 27th: 6th Grade Camp Overnight Stay. Chaperones needed between 9:00pm-7:00am. Must provide proof of current TB test and Clearance needs to be approved by Mr. Barton, Ms. Agliam, and Ms. Gutierrez.

Saturday, April 19th: Science Festival Snack and Beverage Sales. Parent volunteers needed to assist in the snack table. Various times available between 10:00am-2:00pm.

Friday, April 25th: Parent Dinner and Dance Set Up. Parent volunteers needed to set up and decorate for the parent dinner and dance from 4:00pm-6:30pm.

Saturday, April 26th: Parent Dinner and Dance. Parent volunteers needed to help clean up after the dance from 9:00pm-10:30pm.

Donations Requested for 6th Grade Camp

- Pretzels
- Granola bars
- Dried fruit
- Fresh fruit
- Water
- Juice packs
- Sun block
- Disposable cameras
- Paper plates
- Napkins

Donations accepted Monday-Friday, 8:00am-4:30pm or drop off donations on Saturday, March 22nd during the PTA meeting.

Do you enjoy decorating? Do have special skills such as preparing centerpieces? Do you enjoy organizing?

If your answer to any of these questions is YES, we need you. The Committees for the Parent and Dinner Dance, the Teacher and Staff Appreciation, and the 12th Grade Grad Night need parent volunteers to join them.

To sign up for any of the upcoming events please contact Ms. Sandra Gutierrez, Volunteer Coordinator at 858-658-7473 or preussvolunteer@ucsd.edu
Spring time brings to us lots of good things such as warmer weather, opportunities for fresh starts, longer days and the beautiful outdoors. These conditions are conducive for us to spend more time outside and to be more active. Spring is a good time to work on personal goals to improve health. Spending time each day doing your favorite form of exercise with a friend or the entire family or maybe finding a new form of exercise can keep you more physically and mentally healthy. An exercise partner can help keep the activity and goal on track. Remember to always practice safety such as wearing a helmet when bicycling or riding a scooter, obeying traffic laws, using sunscreen and drinking plenty of water.

Spring cleaning can take various forms such as cleaning closets, bedrooms and general clutter. Clean and orderly surroundings can help your student focus and study better. Cleaning carpets, floors and upholstery gets rid of dust and pet dander - very common allergy/asthma triggers. With all that is blooming outdoors pollen counts can be high and vary from day to day. High pollen counts can be a trigger for seasonal allergies and for asthma. If your child is experiencing allergy related symptoms or health problems a visit to the doctor is very important. The doctor can recommend an Asthma Action Plan or an allergy management plan for school. Having a medical plan at school ensures that your child can have the right medical treatment while at school. Please see the nurse for the required medication forms. Also please keep in mind that all medications need to be kept and dispensed at the nurse’s office for safety.

Get an Adolescent Whooping Cough Booster Immunization (Tdap)

Please note that, ALL STUDENTS ENTERING, ADVANCING or TRANSFERING into 7th grade will need proof of an adolescent whooping cough booster immunization (called Tdap) for school in the fall. This requirement applies to all public and private schools. This immunization requirement is intended to help reduce the spread of whooping cough among California’s youth. Most children are fully protected prior to entering kindergarten because of the DTap vaccine. However, protection to these diseases wears off and preteens and teens may be at risk for catching this disease without a booster.

If your student is still in need of the booster it’s important to get your student vaccinated now to avoid the back to school rush and to be protected from disease. Remember to bring in ay shot updates to the school nurse to assure that they are on record.

In addition to Tdap, there are several important vaccines recommended for teens and preteens including the meningococcal vaccine, a second chicken pox and the HPV vaccine series. Everyone older than six months is recommended to receive a seasonal flu vaccine each year.

For any questions concerns or further resources please see or call the nurse @858-658-7422. For information on immunizations and where to go for free or low cost vaccines see www.shotsForSchool.org. For information on how to get a free yearly check up call 1-800-675-2229.
REPORT CARDS

The 1st Mid-semester ends on March 18th, and Progress Reports will be distributed during advisory on March 19th and 20th. Students who’s GPA is below is 2.25 will be placed on Pink Progress Report notices. The next Pink Progress Reports will be given on April 9th and 10th. Parents: it is important to remember that just "getting by" with C's will not necessarily earn a student a spot in a four-year university. Earning a D or F in a core subject may not only require repeating the course, but it may make the student credit-deficient for earning a diploma. Encourage your student to take advantage of tutoring opportunities, stay organized by using the Preuss Planner and interactive notebook, and do all their homework the night it is assigned if possible. All students who need a Cal Grant for financial aid to pay for college must maintain a minimum, un-weighted 3.0 GPA in grades 10 and 11. The time to be proactive is now; thank you for your support!

Course Selection for 2014-2015 for Grades 7 through 12

Students will receive course selection materials in their Advisory classes during March. Parents will be particularly interested in the Course Description and Educational Planning 2014-2015 booklet, which contains a detailed description of each course in grades 6-12. Advisory teachers will share an important presentation about UC eligibility, requirements for a Preuss diploma, available courses, and the process for securing courses for next year. Current achievement will determine whether or not the student progresses onto the next course, or even on to the next grade. Completed Yellow Course Selection Forms with parent signatures are due to the Advisory teacher as soon as possible to assure timely placement for next year. Thank you for helping your student with this important process.

Student Services Inspirational Quote:

“One person can make a difference, and everyone should try.” -John F. Kennedy

An Update on our Class of 2014 College Applications

Seniors have worked hard these past 5 months applying to many colleges and universities. We’ve had over 75 different colleges and universities accept at least one Preuss senior thus far. We expect to receive more acceptances during March and April. On May 1, 2014 (the national day of intent), seniors will have decided what college they will be attending Fall 2014. Congratulations!

This year Princess Project is holding Prom Dress giveaway dates at Horton Plaza downtown, as well as three library locations, as listed below:

Horton Plaza Mall, Downtown San Diego
Site on Level 5 – Parking Level 7 Lemon
Dates: March 12th, 15th, 19th, 22nd

Vista Library & El Cajon Library - April 5th
South Chula Vista Library - March 14th & 15th

Students can sign up online for appointments online at www.princessprojectsd.org
MARCH /APRIL SCHOOL EVENTS

3/19-3/20: Progress Reports Distributed in Advisory Classes
3/22: Saturday Enrichment Academy and Parent Meeting -
9:00 am –11:00 am
3/24–3/28 Sixth Grade Camp on Campus
3/26: 9th Annual Shakespeare Festival – Amphitheater, 2:00pm –
4:00pm
3/28: Middle School Dance: Walton Center, 1:30 pm –4:00 pm
Spring Break: March 31st thru April 4th—Students will return to
school April 7th.
4/12–4/26: Saturday Enrichment Academy -9:00 am –11:00 am
4/19: 12th Grade Fundraiser—Applebee's Restaurant– 8:00-10:00am
4/26: Parent Dinner Dance– 4:00 pm—9:00 pm

The Preuss School UCSD PTA Invites You to Join Us for
a Night of Fun, Food, and Dancing

Parent Dinner Dance
Saturday April 26, 2014
4:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.—Walton Center

Get to know fellow parents, school staff, and community members as we
raise funds to support our students. Tickets are now on sale. You will also re-
ceive 3 hours per family for purchasing the tickets.

Ticket Prices: $20.00 Person & $35.00 Couple

Your ticket includes entrance, dinner, music, and
a good time!

This is an ADULT ONLY EVENT—NO STUDENTS

Tickets can be purchased in the front office with
Sandra Gutierrez (858) 658-7473
preussvolunteer@ucsd.edu

Special Thanks to Our Insight Newsletter
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Visit us on the web at http://preuss.ucsd.edu
858) 658-7412– Reporting a student absence or picking-up your child early
(858) 496-8460– SDUSD Transportation– Emergency number to call fro any concern.