

THE PREUSS SCHOOL UC SAN DIEGO

Insight Newsletter

Winter Edition
(Nov-Dec 2024)
VOLUME 1

Dear Preuss Scholars, Families, and Educators!

As we approach winter break and the year winds down, we want to take a moment to celebrate our community's remarkable achievements and anticipate the exciting opportunities awaiting us in 2025.

This semester has showcased the unwavering dedication of our students and staff. From outstanding academic accomplishments to enthusiastic participation in extracurricular activities, you have set an inspiring standard for excellence. A heartfelt thank you to our teachers and staff for their tireless efforts in supporting and motivating our scholars every day.

The California School Performance Dashboard for 2023-2024 was released in November. Compared to 2022-2023, the data highlights both progress and areas for continued focus. Dr. Steitz will provide a comprehensive report at the February PTA meeting.

We are also proud to share that, according to U.S. Newsweek, The Preuss School UC San Diego remains one of the nation's top schools. Many of our scholars will take Advanced Placement (AP) Exams this May, with 823 exams scheduled for 360 students. These exams represent the culmination of year-long courses, allowing students to earn college credit with passing scores.

This spring marks a particularly exciting chapter for our seniors as college acceptance letters begin to arrive. We eagerly await the chance to celebrate your achievements and the bright futures that lie ahead. Please remember that our counselors are here to support and guide you throughout this important journey.

On behalf of the Preuss Learning Community, we wish you a wonderful holiday season. May this time be filled with peace, happiness, and cherished moments with loved ones. Let's return in January refreshed, re-energized, and ready to embrace the new semester with enthusiasm and determination.

Warm regards,
Dr. Matthew Steitz
The Preuss School UCSD

Attendance Notices

Dear Parents and Guardians of our
Esteemed Scholars,

As the second semester comes to a close, we would like to remind our school community about the importance of maintaining good attendance. We urge students and families to avoid absences before and after the scheduled breaks, particularly as final exams are approaching.

Regular attendance is critical to a student's success in school. Students who are frequently absent miss social interaction and direct instruction from teachers, even if written assignments can be made up.

As long as your child is healthy, please support the school by sending your student to attend class. If your child is struggling and needs support, please reach out to our nurse and counselors who can provide you with resources to better support your family. At the Preuss School, we are all committed to help your child learn, thrive, and succeed.

Thank you for your support. Please reach out to the Attendance Office or Front Desk for any questions or concerns regarding attendance.

Sincerely,
Allie Lee
Attendance and Transportation Coordinator

NEW ATTENDANCE CHALLENGES FOR STUDENTS

We are very excited to announce our two new Monthly Attendance Challenges that are rolling out in January 2025!

The advisory class with the highest attendance percentage at the end of the month will be rewarded with a pizza party.

Additionally, all students that have perfect attendance for the entire month will be automatically entered into a raffle and a randomly-generated winner will receive a grocery card for their family! In order to get perfect attendance, students must be present every day of the month. Tardies and departures will be included in perfect if they are for excusable reasons.

Excused reasons include the following:

- Medical related (illness, medical appointment, mental health)
- Family emergency (must be verified with the Attendance Coordinator)
- Religious
- Funerals or memorial services
- Personal emergencies (up to discretion of the administration)

Keep a lookout on ParentSquare to stay updated on the latest attendance items!

Contact us:

(858) 822-0311 (attendance), **(858) 822-3000** (main line); attendance@preuss.ucsd.edu

Student Services and Counseling Department

Dear Preuss Families,

High School students have had the opportunity to experience different colleges across the US, on campus with many college visits happening from September to November.

Seniors submitted CSU applications at the end of October and UC applications on November 20, 21 and 22 which are our UC submit Days !

UC Submit Day!



UC San Diego



Financial Aid Workshop

January 2024

Seniors and their parents will attend the Financial Aid workshop and get assistance with submitting their FAFSA or CADAA. Stay tuned for the official date!

Safa's Story

In November our 6th graders participated in a live theatre show called Safa's story. This experience allowed our students to consider the complexities of peer to peer relationships and conflict and taught them healthy ways to interact with each other.

Therapy Fluffies



On December 13th, Middle and High School Students enjoyed having therapy dogs on campus to pet and spend time with! We are thankful for the collaboration and partnership that we have with Love on Leash!

UCSD Medical School Mental Health

This is our second year of having UCSD Medical students come to Preuss to do a Healthy Relationships workshop.

We had 35 students attend and said that they learned a lot!



November and December 2024
<https://preuss.ucsd.edu/counseling/index.html>

ARC NEWS



This December, Arc held a basketball showcase and engaged in fun holiday art activities. The Arc basketball team invited parents and students to watch them show off their newly developed skills on the court. They performed the three-man weave, dribbled through obstacles and to finish off the event, they played a scrimmage. The rest of our Arc students focused on making holiday themed crafts. The most popular craft to make were Christmas ornaments. The students used balloons and some colored tissue paper to make ornaments to hang on their Christmas trees at home.

Whispers From the Library

Welcome to 2025!

We had one of our best Fall Book Fairs ever. Thank you to all the families, students and staff who purchased books and book related items. Our library made over \$1,000 to purchase new book from Scholastic Publishing. We used some of the funds to purchase popular titles directly off the fair shelves.

Our Annual Bookmark Contest has begun!!! All Preuss students are welcome to participate. The theme this year is 'Favorite Marvel or DC Character.' Bookmarks can be picked up in the library starting Friday, January 10th. The completed bookmark is due Friday, January, 24th. Students will vote on their favorite design from Monday, January 26th through Friday, January 31st . Winners will be announced Monday, February 3rd in the Daily Bulletin. The top three bookmarks from middle school and the top three bookmarks from high school be published for the whole school to enjoy and will receive a new book of their choice. All entries will be displayed at UC San Diego's Geisel Library to honor World Bookmark Day, February 25th ([WOBODA 2025](#)). The bookmarks will be on display the month of February.

Paper copies of library notices are sent at the beginning of each semester. Any student with fines over \$5.00 or one late textbook are placed on the 'Do Not Participate' list. Students will not be able to participate in clubs, sports, dances or socials until the late textbooks are returned, or some amount of the fine is paid or the student volunteers to reduce the fine.

Online library information is on the [Preuss School website](#). Check us out. We have links to our databases, the school catalog, and Sora by Overdrive (our ebook collection site). Students are also able to access eBooks by downloading the SORA APP on their phone and using their student ID number to login.

Keep Reading,
Ms. Nance and Ms. Gonzalez
librarians@preuss.ucsd.edu