



# Placer Elementary School N e w s l e t t e r

# September 2010

## Notes from the Principal

Carolyn Cowles, Principal

652-1830

Dear Placer Parents,

Its business as usual as our students have settled into the routine of school. Our first days together have been filled with smiles, energy and enthusiasm. The first trimester is an important one as this is the time for students to learn procedures and routines, and to become exposed to the new curriculum in their grade level.

### Housekeeping

As the children settle into their routine, it's also time to remind our families of a few items:

1. Children may not be dropped off in the bus circle. This creates a hazard for children crossing from the auxiliary parking lot. C.H.P. does tend to watch for this and has issued tickets to parents who drive through the bus circle. Please drop your children off in the drive-through, in front of the gym. We appreciate your cooperation.
2. While dropping off in front of the gym, please do not leave your vehicle. This backs up traffic onto Horseshoe Bar Road very quickly! It's like parking your car in McDonald's drive-thru. Parents behind you get very upset. If you need to leave your vehicle, please use a parking stall. This will help everyone to drop their children off efficiently.
3. If your child will be missing school for an "unexcused" reason, please consider asking for an independent study contract. Contracts can only be issued for absences in excess of five days, and prevents our school from losing \$37 per day for your child's absence. Students can only be absent due to illness, doctor's appointment or bereavement, per the state of California.
4. Our school board has adopted a new dress code policy. We will be working with families to help children dress appropriately for school. We ask the shorts and skirts be at least mid-thigh and that no undergarments be showing. To review the revised dress code policy, please go to our school website: <http://placer.loomis-usd.k12.ca.us>

### Odds and Ends

Fall pictures will be taken on September 10<sup>th</sup>. Informational flyers have been sent home with your children. Please call the office if we can provide more information about Picture Day. We can be reached at: 652-1830.

Our first Mad About Science Day is on September 17<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to assist your child's teacher in a day of hands-on learning, please contact him or her!

Our P.T.C. is the backbone of our school and provides most of the "extras" that our children receive. Please join and consider helping at one of our fun events. We also need a treasurer - someone to maintain the "books" and to write the checks. Placer School is very grateful for our generous and pro-active Parent Teacher Club!

Kind regards,  
Carolyn

[www.PlacerPTC.org](http://www.PlacerPTC.org)

## A Message from your PTC President

As many of you know it takes hours of parent dedication to operate a top PTC program. In past years the Placer PTC program has been able to achieve great strides in making Placer School the best it can be. Recently, the national Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) announced the Placer PTC program has received honorable mention in the PTO today's 2010 Parent Group of the Year search. With that said, I would like to congratulate last year's PTC Board and members for a job well done. We should be proud that our children have a great support system in place for them to succeed.

As we start the 2010/2011 school year the Placer PTC has several key positions to fill. The following are the positions available.

Treasurer  
Art Docent  
Auction Chairperson  
Book Fair Coordinators  
Spirit wear

If you are interested in any of the positions above please contact me at [sderifield@gmail.com](mailto:sderifield@gmail.com). Please consider donating a little bit of your time. I promise you will get more out of donating then you give.

Best Regards,  
Shad Derifield, President  
Placer PTC

### PTC Membership Drive in Full Swing

**We can all help make our school the best it can be by joining the PTC.**

The PTC membership drive helps raise money used for books, computers, assemblies, teachers, sports, arts and many other items at our school. You can print your membership form from the website at [www.placerptc.org](http://www.placerptc.org) and you should be receiving a membership form in Thursday/Friday folders soon, so keep checking the weekly folders for the form. The class with the most families that sign up for PTC Membership will win a prize; details on the contest are coming soon. If you are a business owner, joining PTC is great advertising tool. If you join at the Red or Gold level, you are entitled to an ad in the Placer School roster and you can provide special offers for Placer School families. Becoming a PTC member gives you the right to vote and have a say in where our money is spent for the school.

***Becoming a PTC member does not obligate you to volunteer.*** As your PTC Vice President and the Membership Drive Coordinator I will be happy to assist you in any way possible. Please feel free to contact me at any time. Ellie Lagerquist [telager@yahoo.com](mailto:telager@yahoo.com)

## General Announcements

The PTC is seeking a **talented artist** to donate your talents for a small project. The cafeteria recently went through a much needed facelift. In the near future, new flat screen TV's will be installed along with an updated media center. Del Oro Woodshop donated their time and talents to build a beautiful media cabinet. To finish off the look, we are seeking someone that can paint, on a removable surface, the Placer School Logo. All materials will be provided for the project along with the design. So if you would like to see your work displayed for all to see, please contact Shad Derifield, PTC President at [sderifield@gmail.com](mailto:sderifield@gmail.com). Thank you



Teachers depend on the **support from parents** to help out in the classrooms for various duties. If you are able to give some time to help out the kids, please contact your child's teacher to sign-up to help by being an Art Docent, Room Parent, or by correcting papers, reading, one on one academic support, etc. The teachers appreciate as little or as much help as they can get.



Don't forget, if your club, class, or group would like to do a non PTC Sponsored **Fundraiser**, please go to [www.placerptc.org](http://www.placerptc.org), and click on forms to fill out the new fundraiser request form. There is a new policy in place this school year.

### Green Team



Make it a **GREEN** year! Join the **GREEN TEAM**. All students in grades 3-6 are invited to join our school-wide recycling club. We meet every other Friday in room 6. Together we work to recycle Placer School's paper waste as well as our aluminum and plastic bottles. We learn about taking care of our earth and it's natural resources.

Plan to join the fun ~ our first meeting is:  
**Friday September 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
 From 2:00 – 3:00 in Mrs. Swain's Room

## Attention all 7th & 8th Graders!

### Book Your Trip to See Washington, D.C. and The Big Apple During Spring Break!

The 8th Grade Washington, D.C. Trip Club is excited to announce that this year's trip will include stops in both Washington, D.C. and New York City! The 5 day/4 night trip is scheduled for the week of April 17th, 2011 and **is open to all current 8th graders** in the Loomis Basin and surrounding areas. Students can expect to see amazing historical and cultural sites such as Mount Vernon, the White House, the U.S. Capital, the Smithsonian museums, the Statue of Liberty, Ground Zero, a Broadway play, Rockefeller Center and even a baseball game in Yankee Stadium! It's a chance in a lifetime to see amazing things you wouldn't otherwise get to see on your own.

There will be an introductory meeting on **September 14th at 6:30 p.m. at the Loomis Grammar School Library** for all interested families. Topics will include how to get registered, fundraising opportunities, trip details, and more. The Club is also open to **incoming 7th graders going on the trip in 2012**, who want to start their fundraising early. They are welcome to participate in all fundraisers and bank their money toward the following year's trip.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Washington, D.C. Trip Club is an independent club made up of parents in the area who organize the trip and assist in raising funds. Parents are welcome and encouraged to go as chaperones. The club is hoping to get 50 kids and adults to participate. The cost of the trip for students is \$2,063 and \$2,263 for adults, but there are many fundraising opportunities throughout the year to help off-set the costs.

For more information, call Holly Andreatta at 916-768-3501.

## Rummage Sale & Crafter's Fair

### Support our 8th Graders Going to Washington, D.C. and New York City!



Come shop at or donate goods for a huge Rummage Sale taking place at the Loomis Grammar School parking lot on **Saturday, September 25**, from 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. All proceeds will go directly towards Placer's 7th & 8th Graders' efforts to raise money for their trips.

**If you have items you would like to donate** for the sale, or **if you would like to have a crafters/vendors table at the event**, please e-mail [hdandreatta@yahoo.com](mailto:hdandreatta@yahoo.com) or call 768-3501. Thanks for your support!

## Want an EASY and FUN volunteer position?

### Sign up to be a Placer P.E.S.T.

("Parents Encouraging Staff and Teachers")



It's very much like being a "secret Santa". Your family can "adopt" a teacher/staff member for the year and can every so often (maybe monthly or quarterly) surprise them with a simple treat to uplift and encourage. Treats can be as simple as an encouraging note or a flower from your garden. We have almost 50 staff members that would love to be PESTered!

So *please* sign up today by sending your name, address, and email to the PTC Hospitality Committee at:

[rebecca\\_fong@yahoo.com](mailto:rebecca_fong@yahoo.com) or [ajwest@calwisp.com](mailto:ajwest@calwisp.com)



You'll be assigned a staff member and given a profile of their likes and interests (assignments are random, so please no specific requests for certain teachers.)

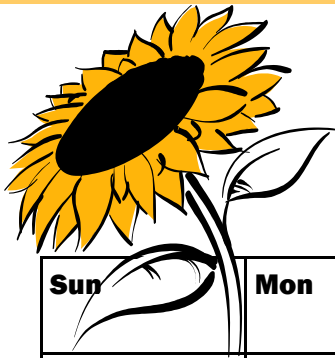
Make someone's day brighter...Show our staff that "Placer School Parents CARE"

## Save the Date—Harvest Festival Coming

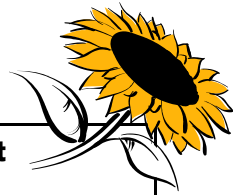
Mark **October 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>** on your calendars for Placer's **Annual Harvest Festival**. Plans are underway for another wonderful evening for our children. The **haunted house** will be open on the evening of Friday October 22<sup>nd</sup> and the entire festival will be open from 5pm to 8pm on Saturday October 23<sup>rd</sup>. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade Washington DC kids will be providing food for you to purchase.



There are still volunteer opportunities available to be a part of this special evening for our children. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Lynn Tucker at [lynn@thetuckerhouse.org](mailto:lynn@thetuckerhouse.org), Shelly Fox at [shelly\\_fox5@yahoo.com](mailto:shelly_fox5@yahoo.com) or your Room Parent will be asking for signups soon.



# September 2010



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Minimum Day 11:10 Dismissal	2	3 Green Team 2:00pm Mrs. Swain's Rm.	4
5	6 No School Labor Day	7	8 Drama Production Parent Meeting 7-8pm Library	9	10 Fall Pictures	11
12	13	14 Washington DC Intro Meeting, 6:30pm Loomis Grammar	15	16	17 Mad About Science Day	18
19	20	21	22 Minimum Day 11:10 Dismissal	23	24	25 Rummage Sale Loomis Grammar 8am-2pm
26	27	28	29	30		

## Annual Harvest Festival

Mark your calendars NOW...  
you won't want to miss  
Placer's Annual Harvest Festival &  
Haunted House

**Haunted House**  
Friday October 22<sup>nd</sup>

**Haunted House and Harvest Festival**  
Saturday October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**This is a favorite for both  
kids and adults alike!**

### Mark Your Calendars!

**October 7 & 8**  
No School  
Furlough Days

**October 22 & 23**  
Haunted House &  
Harvest Festival

