



# Newsnotes

November 13, 2009

## New This Week:

- Reminder Re: University Avenue Repaving Work
- New TBS Logo About to Debut
- Financial Aid Workshop Tonight, Friday
- Report on EBISA Conference
- Sibling Applications Available Now
- Update on El./MS Loading Zone Parking Tickets
- Middle School Flag Football Team Wins Again
- "Positive Discipline" for Older Children
- A Better Chance Fair Coming Up
- Food Drive on Campus to Begin
- TBS Fundraiser at Mrs. Dalloways Nov. 21
- Directory Updates
- TBS Teacher Featured in New York Times Chicken Tales
- Janet's Column Delayed a Week
- *Reminder: Journey Date Changed*

## Important Reminders:

- Parent Stephanie Challberg's Work on FRONTLINE
- "Coffee with Janet" BACK ON, with Guest Stars
- Directory Now Available Electronically
- TBS Book Club to Meet
- Pick-a-Party Reminders
- Parent Ed. Events Calendar



Above: The thrill of accomplishment in Eugenia's "construction zone"! Photo: Anahita Bakhtiary.

## UPCOMING CALENDAR DATES:

**Financial Aid Workshop**, Friday, November 13, 6:00-7:15 pm, in the Art Studio at the El./MS.

**Note: *Journey through Learning***, scheduled for Sunday, November 15, has been changed to Saturday, January 9, 2010.

**Parent Ed. Event: "Positive Discipline for Fourth-Eighth Grade Students,"** Wednesday, November 18, 7:00-9:00 pm, at the El./MS.

**Brownbag Lunch with Janet Stork**, Thursday, November 19, **CANCELED**.

**Thanksgiving Break**, November 23-27. School closed; no childcare available.

**Report Writing Day (note: SCHOOL IS CLOSED!)** has been changed from Friday, January 8 to Friday, January 15, 2010.

**Third Annual TBS Auction**, Saturday, April 10, 2010, Craneway Pavilion, Richmond.

## QUICK LINKS:

- [Calendar](#)
- [Admissions](#)
- [Support BMS](#)
- [Newsnotes Archives](#)



Above: Wildcat Creek students on their trip to Point Reyes to do field research in ecology and visit the Miwok Village. They learned more about Coastal Miwok Indians, looked for animals the students had researched, and observed animals and vegetation at Bear Valley Creek. Photo: Sima Misra. Below: Sweet Briar Creek teacher Kate Klaire feels the love at her birthday celebration. Photo: Kathleen Schwallie.



**University Avenue Repaving Work to Impact EI./MS**  
 A reminder for our K-8 parents: The repaving work on the south side of University Avenue, directly in front of our EI./MS, is scheduled to begin on Monday, November 16, and end by Wednesday, November 18, although there is a chance it will not take so long. During that time, our drive-through and parking lot are expected to be completely inaccessible.



Above: A Day of the Dead ofrenda in a 2-3 classroom. Below: An eighth grade science experiment in velocity vs. acceleration. Photo: Chris Perdue.



- The back gate on Addison Street will be open and staffed for morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up on those three days.
- There will be a temporary no-parking zone at the curb, for our use as a (shortened) drive-through. However, if there is no space to pull up to the curb, **DO NOT DOUBLE-PARK**, even for a moment. We will not bring your child to you if you are double-parked, as it is both illegal and dangerous.
- Although we will have a makeshift drive-through, to reduce congestion we strongly urge you to build a few extra minutes into your schedule so that you can find street parking a block or two away, and walk your child to and from campus.
- If you are picking up your child from Extended Day, you must find street parking and walk onto campus from the University side to pick him or her up.

Again, we appreciate the patience our parents have shown so far during this repaving project. Next week, as we lose the use of the front drive-through, these logistics will be even more challenging for all of us, so please plan now how you will manage them. Copies of the TBS Carpool Directory are available in both school offices. *We will let you know as soon as possible if we receive any updates from the city.*

### **The Berkeley School Logo: Coming Soon!**

Hold onto your hats! The long-awaited new TBS logo is at last nearly ready for its debut! Look for it to be splashed about with abandon after the Thanksgiving break, when you'll even be able to order logowear (think holiday gifts!).

### **Financial Aid Workshop Tonight**

Tonight, Friday, from 6:00-7:15, there will be a financial aid workshop held in the Art Studio at the EI./MS. Come learn all about the process of applying for financial aid, and the changes that have been made to it this year. The final workshops will be Tuesday, December 8, at both 9:00 am and 6:00 pm, also at the EI./MS. Financial aid applications are due Friday, December 11. Please contact Associate Business Manager & Director of Financial Aid Shira Freehling at [sfreehling@theberkeleyschool.org](mailto:sfreehling@theberkeleyschool.org) with any questions.

### **EBISA Conference on Inclusive Schools**

As you know, on Friday, November 6, TBS closed to allow our entire faculty to attend a day-long conference on inclusive schools. The conference got high marks from attendees; here's what one teacher wrote about it:

"My favorite part about the EBISA conference last Friday was the opportunity to hear and see Dr. Pedro Noguera, a well-known author and educator whose research focuses on multiculturalism and diversity. Some tend to think mostly of race when we talk about diversity, but the symposium brought together a variety of panelists who spoke about themes such as gender fluidity, privilege, learning differences, and economic diversity as well. A comment from one of the panelists that resonated with me the most was that, although it's not easy to talk about these difficult themes, it's in this uncomfortable place that we can start raising awareness and making changes for inclusion. The conference definitely raised awareness, and the workshops provided some of the tools that can be used to create a more inclusive environment."

### **Sibling Applications Now Available**

Sibling applications are available now, in either school office. Sibling applicants enjoy priority admission and financial aid consideration, so don't delay -- applications are due December 11.

### **Nov. 2 EI./MS Parking Ticket Update**

Thanks to parent Josh Greenbaum for tackling the city on the tickets that were issued to parents parked in the EI./MS loading zone on Monday, November 2. He reports that, although the BPD acknowledges that the Municipal Code doesn't specify that cars must be attended at all times in the loading zone, they interpret the phrase "loading and unloading" to mean a car must be attended at all times. The officer with whom he spoke, Lt. Upson, stated that the City Attorney's office is currently investigating whether this part of the code needs to be reinterpreted, so there may be a change in policy shortly. Until then, BPD will ticket unattended vehicles in the white curb zone.

"However," Josh writes, "as the parking enforcement officer who ticketed us last week had the wrong time set on her ticket machine, Lt. Upson said **these tickets will be dismissed**. Parents who were ticketed on 11/2 need to email Vicky Frazier with their names, citation numbers, and time of citation (which will say something like 9:30, despite the fact that it was 8:30). These tickets will be dismissed per my conversation with Lt. Upson. Her email is [vfrazier@ci.berkeley.ca.us](mailto:vfrazier@ci.berkeley.ca.us)."



Temescal (above) and Sweet Briar Creek (below) families enjoy examining the students' work for the Day of the Dead Celebration, Thursday, November 5.  
Photos: Laura Gorjance.



### **TBS Express Roars On!**

Coach Craig Jackson's mighty Middle School flag football team racked up another thrilling victory on Tuesday, November 10. (Look for a report on this week's championship game in the next Newsnotes!) Once again, Your Newsnotes Staff longingly considered claiming credit for the following report, only to accept the impossibility of getting away with it. TBS Sports Reporter (and Middle

School Director) Mitch Bostian wrote,

"Everyone maintains a working mental list of 'inevitable' -- rain, construction delays on University Avenue, the timely appearance of Newsnotes in your email each Friday. With Tuesday's 18-16 victory over Berkeley Maynard, the TBS football team is making a strong bid to add one more item to your 'inevitable' list: TBS athletic dominance.

"Once again, the TBS running game was the key to putting points on the board, with standout running back Bill Harrington-Abrams showing off a combination of speed and elusiveness that consistently left defenders gasping for, and grasping at, air. Quarterback Mickey Healey joined him in finding the end zone, as did quarterback Sashko Phillips, who continued his habit of scoring game-deciding touchdowns for TBS.

"None of these offensive standouts would have been able to work their magic, however, if it weren't for the stalwart offensive line. Led by eighth-grader Pascal Sturmfels, these unsung but unbowed heroes consistently attended to the blocking details that sprung their teammates into the opposing defensive backfield. And, playing a position that is rarely recognized for anything but errors, seventh-grade center Catey Hoehn delivered the ball to various quarterbacks smoothly and seamlessly, without exception.

"Coach Craig Jackson pointed to defensive back Max Appel's fourth-quarter interception as a game-saving play, as it defused a potential scoring drive that would have put TBS behind with very little time left. He also recognized sixth-grader Teo Olive and eighth-grader Mesoma Esonwune for their stellar defensive efforts, and once again praised every player on the team for their unselfishness, work ethic, and ability to 'step up' in even the most adverse of circumstances."

### **"Positive Discipline" for Older Children**

Parents of 4th through 8th grade student, your turn has come! As our children grow up, we need different strategies in our repertoire to respond to some of the behavioral challenges typical of older children. Plan to attend the Parent Ed. event on Wednesday, November 18, 7:00-9:00 pm at the EI./MS to learn long-lasting approaches to helping your children develop self-discipline, responsibility and problem-solving skills. You'll become more familiar with the Positive Discipline philosophy that TBS teachers are using in their classrooms, so that together you can support your child's development. HOS Janet Stork writes, "I was so

thrilled to hear that over 50 parents attended the ECC-3rd grade event [held Wednesday, November 11], and were eagerly 'popcornning,' in Catherine Bronnert's phrase, with contributions to the discussions and recommendations to share. This is a perfect example of how TBS supports parents' learning just as it supports teachers' (and, of course, children's)! I urge all parents of older children to attend next Wednesday's event." REMEMBER, you must sign up for childcare in the school office, by end of day today, Friday, November 13. **Please RSVP** to [parented@theberkeleyschool.org](mailto:parented@theberkeleyschool.org), so that we have some idea of numbers.

### **A Better Chance Fair This Sunday, November 15**

A Better Chance program will hold its annual interview day/school fair at Prospect Sierra School, 960 Avis Drive in El Cerrito, this Sunday, November 15, from 11:00 am-2:00 pm. in El Cerrito, 960 Avis Drive. families interested in applying to A Better Chance are invited to attend the fair from 11:00-2:00pm. For entering grades 6-11. A Better Chance is a national organization that has been working since 1963 to substantially increase the number of well-educated young people of color who are capable of assuming positions of responsibility and leadership in American society. Over the years, A Better Chance has developed an approach that has identified and cultivated a highly competent, motivated, and successful body of over 11,000 students and alumni. An overwhelming majority of alumni have gone on to graduate from competitive colleges, graduate programs, or professional schools.

### **Non-Perishable Food Wanted for Food Drive**

Temescal and Wildcat Creek classrooms are sponsoring a food drive through the Alameda County Food Bank this holiday season. Beginning next week, please bring in canned and other non-perishable food (don't forget to check the expiration date, since any expired food cannot be used) and deposit it in one of the large cans at the El./MS. (If you're so speedy with your donations that you beat the cans to our campus, you can leave them at Temescal Creek.) The Food Bank's most-requested items are: canned meat and fish, peanut butter, pasta, rice, beans, canned fruits and vegetables, canned soups (low salt), tomato sauce, and powdered milk. No glass jars, please.

### **Mrs. Dalloway's and TBS Team Up**

One of the owners of Mrs. Dalloway's, the independent bookstore at 2904 College Avenue that recently won a nationwide contest for best Julia Child window display, also has the distinction of being a TBS alumni parent! Ann

Leyhe's son, Nick Pauley, graduated from (then) BMS in 2004. Ann is offering to donate to TBS 20% of total purchases made at the store on Saturday, November 21, for which receipts are submitted to the school. Another perfect idea for holiday shopping -- Mrs. Dalloway's carries goodies for your garden as well as your bookshelves! Just shop at Mrs. Dalloway's on November 21 and submit your receipts to Jennifer Kirk at the EI./MS by Tuesday, November 24 (ECC parents can leave them at the ECC for delivery).

### **Directory Updates**

Please make the following correction to your directory:

- Selihome Abraham's mother, Adiam Fikre, lives at 200 Fairmont Avenue, Apt. 202 (not Apt. 200).
- The home number listed for the family of Anna Littlejohn is actually dad Robert's work number. Their home phone number is 654-1639.

### **Which Came First, the Chicken or the Egg?**

Sweet Briar Creek teacher Kate Klaire was recently featured in a NY Times article on chickens, and the mysterious ailments to which they are subject. Read the article [here](#), and if you've been wondering yourself about keeping chickens and enjoying their fresh, organic eggs, you can contact Kate at [kklaire@theberkeleyschool.org](mailto:kklaire@theberkeleyschool.org) for more information.

### **Janet Stork's Article to Come Next Week**

In Janet Stork's letter of November 4, she mentioned an article on pedagogy she was working on for this week's Newsnotes. That article is still in draft form, due to the frequent visits Janet has had from family members, etc. Tune in next week for more on pedagogy!

### **Journey Date Changed**

Just one more reminder that the "Journey through Learning," originally scheduled for this Sunday, November 15, has been moved to Saturday, January 9, 2010.

### **TBS Parent's Work to Air on PBS**

In other news about talented TBS'ers, Stephanie Challberg, mom of Cedar's Anna Challberg, has edited a film scheduled to air on PBS on Tuesday, November 24 (just before the busiest shopping day of the year!). FRONTLINE correspondent Lowell Bergman examines the consumer loan industry - credit cards, debit cards, pre-paid gift cards, and more. In this co-production with the New York Times, Bergman talks to industry insiders, lobbyists and politicians, who shed light on some of the industry's darkest secrets.

Read all about it at

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/creditcards/>

The website has links to additional reporting by the New York Times, and up-to-the-minute blogs by industry insiders and analysts. The date of broadcast, the site will be updated with links to resources for consumers and much, much more. The program will also be available in its entirety on-line.

### **Correction to "Coffee with Janet" -- Please Come!**

"Coffee with Janet" will continue in Janet's absence, but with guest stars Andrea Gordon, Director of the ECC, and Zaq Roberts, Associate Head of School. EI./MS parents, mark your calendar now to join Zaq at the Bread Workshop at 8:30 am on Tuesday, December 1. Please do drop in for a morning chat with Andrea and/or Zaq! (The November "Brownbag Lunch with Janet Stork" remains canceled.)

### **Directory Now Available in a PDF**

A few parents have asked for the Directory in an electronic form. Rather than send a large file to everyone, we'll be happy to distribute it upon request. Please email Director of Communications Laura Gorjance at [lgorjance@theberkeleyschool.org](mailto:lgorjance@theberkeleyschool.org) if you would like to receive a PDF of the directory.

### **TBS Book Club Meeting**

The next TBS Book Club meeting will be Wednesday, November 18 at 7:00 pm at Saul's Deli, 1475 Shattuck Avenue in Berkeley. The selection will be Birds of America by Lorrie Moore, an older book of lighthearted short stories. Newcomers always welcome! For information, please contact Kathie Hoehn at [kedevoli@aol.com](mailto:kedevoli@aol.com).

### **Party On, TBS!**

The Pick-a-Party season is well underway. Here is a schedule of upcoming parties, for the benefit of guests who signed up:

#### **#13 Decorative Cakes with Fondant**

Saturday, November 14, 12:00-3:00 pm

#### **#14 You've Got to Move It, Move It!**

Sunday, November 15, 10:00 am-noon

#### **#15 Make a Felted Gnome**

Sunday, November 15, 2:30-5:00 pm

#### **#16 "Rock the Lobster" Backyard Extravaganza**

Sunday, November 15, 2:00-8:00 pm

## #17 Knitting Party: Reversible Cable Scarf

Friday, November 20, 6:30-9:00 pm

### Parent Education Event Calendar

Here is a quick reference guide to this year's Parent Education events. All events are held at the EI./MS unless otherwise noted. **Please RSVP** for parent ed. events by emailing [parented@theberkeleyschool.org](mailto:parented@theberkeleyschool.org). Childcare is available during these events by pre-registration only, for the nominal fee of \$10 per family. Please sign up and pay in the office at either campus by the Friday before the event.

Wednesday, November 18, 7:00-9:00 pm

"Positive Discipline for 4th-8th Grade Parents," with Catherine Bronnert.

Wednesday, December 2, 7:00-9:00 pm

"Gender Spectrum Speaks to Parents," including a panel of TBS parents.

Saturday, January 9, 1:30-5:00 pm

"Journey Through Learning" (ECC and EI./MS)

Monday, January 25, 7:00-9:00 pm

"The Price of Privilege," with Dr. Anne Brodzinsky.

Tuesday, February 9, 7:00-9:00 pm (***date to be confirmed***)

"Internet Safety for Parents"