

Borel Bobcat Blast #15

2 files • Katherine Russell • about 2 months ago • Thursday, Nov 10 at 4:45 PM • **Borel Middle School**



Bobcat Blast Newsletter #15

November 10, 2022

Attendance: 650-312-

7669

**Principal Message: Preparing for Conference Week,
Thank you Veterans & Voters!**

Safety: Fire Alarm Malfunction

**Student Achievement: 7th Grade Math Formative
Assessment, Homework Club**

Wellness: Social Media Wellness, Club Fair

**Equity & Inclusions: ELAC materials for Multilingual
Families**

Drama Needs Your Help to Help Others

Yearbook News

Important Upcoming Dates

11.11 Veteran's Day--No school

11.14-11.18 Borel Book Fair in Library

11.15 to 11.17 Parent-Teacher Conferences

Special Minimum Days--Dismissal at 12:39pm

11.18 Monday Schedule for all Students

Students dismissed at 3:03pm

11.21 to 11.25 Thanksgiving Break--No school

11.28 Return to scho

Principal Message

Preparing for Conference Week Our teachers are looking forward to conferencing with you next Tuesday-Thursday. As a reminder, these will all be minimum days for students. We have arranged special bus transportation. Students get a sticker from the front office to put on their ID to signify parents have permitted them to ride these special buses home. Unfortunately, the company said they would be arriving 30 minutes late. So if your child does not want to wait around, please make other arrangements for pick up at 12:38 Tuesday-Thursday. Information about our Fall Conferences is on our webpage. When you enter campus, please bring your child with you and you will get a map. We are clustering teachers by grade so you don't have to walk far. We're a big campus! Please check out our PTA and Book Fair while you are here.

Tomorrow we celebrate Veterans Day. Thank you to all the Veterans who have served our country and fought for the many freedoms we enjoy. One of those



freedoms is the right to vote. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to vote and have a say in our government. We encourage our students and families to speak up and out about what is going well and what we can improve. We serve our community best by listening, learning and acting peacefully together. Thank you.

SCHOOL NEWS

Safety: Fire Alarm Malfunction We are very sorry that learning time was disrupted yesterday afternoon. The fire

alarm and evacuation was not due to student misbehavior. The fire department came and concluded it was a system malfunction. This is the second time it has happened this year. We have notified the district office and our alarm company. The company is coming out to do a service call. This acts as a drill takes the place of the November drill which would have been on 11/29. Teachers and students did a great job following expectations and moving quickly and quietly into position.

Student Achievement: 7th Grade Math Formative Assessment, Homework Club As you might have read in our district communications our math formative assessment data results are showing us how well our students are doing. This next week, students in 7th grade will take their Common Formative Assessment and their teachers will calibrate grading and utilize the results to inform planning. Please make sure your child gets enough rest and has something to eat for breakfast, snack and lunch. We serve free breakfast and lunch daily.

We're excited to announce that after Thanksgiving Break we will expand our Homework Club Model. Ms. Gilchrist will share specific details soon and reach out through Parent Square to specifically invite students who could benefit from this support.

Wellness: Social Media Wellness, Club Fair "Adolescents are living life increasingly online. Screens form a crucial part of teens' social lives, and social connectedness is integral to long-term wellness. Screen time is both necessary and uncontrollable, so what can we do as parents to check in with our kids and understand how screens are affecting them? [Click here to read more from our PTA Wellness Ambassador Dr. Tiffany Wightman.](#)



Last week I reached out to families that I could identify for help with an Instagram account that is offensive. It uses our logo, name and students write in anonymously to talk about others. Some students have tried to reach out to the owner and shut it down without success. I appreciate their efforts. I have reached out to our district and to Instagram to Report this account as content that "shouldn't be on Instagram" and also as "it may be under the age of 13." I'm asking that if you allow your child to be on Instagram please work with them to look at the phone together to see if they have created or followed 650.borelconfesses. If they do follow, please work with them to understand why it's important to all Report it & Block It. If possible, let us know who created it so we can work with them. You can always reach out [anonymously through Anonymous Alerts.](#)

One thing we'd like all students to do at least once is join a club. In Advisory last week, we held a [Virtual Club Fair](#). We even have a fun Club on Saturdays.

Equity & Inclusions: ELAC materials for Multilingual Families: Thank you all for coming to our 2nd ELAC meeting. Please try to invite one more person to come with you next time! It was a great conversation and time to build community together. If you missed us here is the [presentation](#). Our next meeting is February 7th, 2023 from 8:30AM-9:30AM in the Borel Library.



Borel Drama Sponsors Needed! – Jinx is a new musical written by alum Makena & Teagan Reynolds with JT Kaufman for Borel Middle School. The spell-binding story of young teens maneuvering their way through a mysterious jinx that flips the lives of a socially awkward teen and the high achieving popular kid --leaving them asking What Did I Do to deserve this? With your generosity, we will find out if they can defy the Rules of the Jinx - or if will They Never Change A Thing? Based on the size of our devoted audience, we will perform once again in the beautiful San Mateo Performing

Arts Center. Please help us fund this historic production and achieve our ultimate goal – to foster an appreciate and love for the dramatic arts in all students and their families. **[Click here to make a donation to our production.](#)**

***We are also looking to partner with local businesses to help **[sponsor our production.](#)** If you are interested in sponsoring our show and advertising your business, please contact Alyssa Goldrath at **agoldrath@smfc.k12.ca.us**. To learn more about our program or this show, visit **<https://www.boreldrama.com/>**. Mark your calendars now! We look forward to seeing you at the show March 3 – 5, 2023.

Yearbook: Leadership would love photos of our Borel students for our 2022-2023 yearbook! First day of school, sporting events or any other photos you may have taken.

There are 2 ways you can help us and contribute.

1. Download the app named “Yearbook Snap.”
2. Directions for submitting any pictures you’d like to possibly see in this year’s yearbook are below. 2.) Visit the **www.yearbookforever.com** website and share your pictures with us.

Click on the “Community Upload” tab and look for our school “Borel” on the dropdown menu. The access code for yearbook snap is borel23. Once you are there, you can upload the photos from your computer.

Yearbooks are on sale now! There are two ways to purchase a yearbook:

Pay online! Go to **www.yearbookforever.com** search for "Borel" to pay with a credit card.

Or you can drop off a check or cash to the front office.

Yearbook Only

Now - 11/30/22	\$40.00
12/01/22 - 01/31/23	\$45.00
02/01/23 - 04/30/23	\$50.00

With a Namestamp

Now - 11/30/22	\$45.00
12/01/22 - 01/31/23	\$50.00
02/01/23 - 04/30/23	Unavailable

Upcoming Borel Book Fair FAQs for families

BOOK FAIR HOURS

PTA NEWS

Scholastic Book Fair

This year's book fair theme is "Books Make the World Go 'Round!" Studies show that having a home with books is beneficial for kids...so what better time than now to stock up during Borel's Book Fair the week of [November 14-18](#). When you buy from Borel's Book Fair, 50% of all proceeds benefit our library directly - which means more books for all of our students. We still need a few volunteers to help cashier and assist students with finding their next favorite book. If you can help, sign up [here](#). For more details as well as instructions on setting up a digital eWallet for your student, refer to the [FAQ](#).

Sports Basement Discount Week

Are you a Sports Basement frequent shopper and Basementeer? Save the date for Borel Families Discount Week, November 12-20, for additional savings (some exclusions apply.) Sports Basement has partnered with Borel Middle School to give 10% of profits back. This is an easy way to support your school and get discounts! View [here](#) for details on how to sign up as a Basementeer. If you are already a Basementeer, email friends@sportsbasement.com to get Borel designated as your beneficiary. Use the Sports Basement [Flyer](#) in store or online during our discount week. Questions? Please email Dalia at fundraisingevents@borelbobcats.org.

Borel Boosters Blitz

Which grade will win? Take advantage of year end corporate matching and maximize your donation to Borel. Please donate at BorelBobcats.org/Boosters. Between now and December 15, the grade with the highest percentage of families who are Borel Boosters will win our Boosters Blitz Contest and win a custom T-shirt. Current Percentages as of 11/5/2022: 6th grade - 18.3%, 7th grade - 15.2%, 8th grade 10.8%. Encourage your friends and classmates to participate! We appreciate the generosity of the [Borel Community](#) who have donated to our Borel Boosters Fall Drive. Questions? Email Sophia Tseng at boosters@borelbobcats.org.

Wellness Corner

In November's newsletter, Tiffany Wightman, Wellness Ambassador, writes about how adolescents are living life increasingly online. Screens form an increasing part of our teens' social lives and social connectedness is crucial to long term wellness. Screen time is both necessary and uncontrollable, so what can we do as parents to check in with our kids and understand how screens are affecting them? Read more of [this month's article](#) or visit the [Wellness Corner](#) for all her articles! Questions or Feedback? Please contact Tiffany Wightman at wellness@borelbobcats.org.

New Payment System for the PTA Website

On November 1st, we enabled a new payment system on the PTA website to ease the donation/payment process. A PayPal account is no longer needed instead an inbuilt payment processor called Stripe is used. Available payment types are credit cards, debit cards, Apple Pay, Google Pay, and Electronic Checks (ACH). Any active subscription payments using PayPal will continue without any interruption. If you have any questions or issues, please contact treasurer@borelbobcats.org.

Borel's Cultural Fair

Get excited for Borel's 32nd Cultural Fair on March 22, 2023. If you and your family are interested in sponsoring or helping a Country Booth, details are linked [here](#). If you have additional questions, send an email to Claudia and Karina at culturalfair@borelbobcats.org. If your interest is helping behind the scenes, please come to the Cultural Fair Volunteer Virtual Kick-Off Meeting on November 8th at 7:30-8:30pm. Email Jen at community@borelbobcats.org for the meeting invite.

Borel's Online Auction

Borel's Online Auction Team is looking for In-Kind Donations and Corporate Sponsorships for our 2nd Annual Online Auction. They are in need of Gift Certificates and Spirits donations in particular. Check out their [Auction Wishlist](#) for ideas! A few volunteers are still needed for their Auction Team for Operations, which is website work. Email the Auction team at auction@borelbobcats.org.

Borel Bobcat Chat & In The Know

Are you receiving the PTA newsletter "Borel Bobcat Chat" every Tuesday? If not, please reach out to tech@borelbobcats.org. Visit the Borel PTA website at BorelBobcats.org to view updated information about events at Borel. Subscribe to the [Borel Calendar](#) so that you'll never miss an important School or PTA event. Use the [Borel directory](#) to find and connect with other families.

COMMUNITY NEWS

National Charity League

National Charity League's, Crystal Springs Chapter, membership drive is now open. National Charity League is a group of mothers and daughters who come together in a commitment to community service, leadership development, and cultural experiences. The Crystal Springs chapter is comprised of families from Burlingame, Foster City, Hillsborough, Millbrae, and San Mateo. The membership drive kicked off on October 1 and will continue through the end of November. If you have a daughter who is currently in the 6th grade, and is interested in volunteering in the community please review their [membership information](#). They are holding a prospective member meeting Tuesday, November 14th. Reach out to membershipcrystalsprings@nclonline.org for information.

Borel Neighborhood Association

Announcing the new **Borel Neighborhood Association!** Founded one month ago by a parent of a Borel 8th grader, the Borel Neighborhood Association is a community group that pays attention to issues important to our neighborhood. Situated east/west from El Camino Real to the Hillsborough line, and north/south from Hobart Avenue to Hwy 92, Borel Middle School is the center of our community and Aragon High School is adjacent to us. Our priority issues are slowing traffic in the neighborhood to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety, reducing crime through coordinated neighborhood watch, organizing events to get to know your neighbors, and reducing litter on our streets and sidewalks. Other priority issues include community amenities, climate resilience, street lighting, and fundraising for the local schools. If you are interested in joining, email Pam Rittelmeyer at pamrittel@gmail.com. Indicate in your email if you are interested in a Board position and/or if you have any special skills. Particularly, we are looking for Treasurer, Website Design, and Communications roles in addition to general members. Suggested dues will be \$25 per household per year and will be collected starting late 2022 or early 2023.

The Peninsula Girls Chorus presents: Carols & Candlelight 2022 all-choir holiday concert Peninsula Girls Chorus returns to the beautiful Capuchino High School Theater for our 9th annual "Carols and Candlelight" concert, featuring all 6 of our choir levels lifting their voices in song. There will be holiday and non-holiday tunes alike, running the gamut from the littles singing "Think Snow" to our oldest girls performing the beautiful "Pater Noster" by Basque composer Xabier Sarasola. Other well-known tunes include: Patapan, Carol of the Bells, and Up on the Housetop, and so much more. You won't want to miss this annual tradition of holiday cheer!

Concert Details**Date:** Saturday, December 10th, 2022**Time:** 3:00pm**Tickets**(\$20 for Students/Seniors, \$25 for General Admission & \$40 for Premium Seating): [click link](#)**Location:** Capuchino High School Theater 1501 Magnolia Ave., San Bruno, CA 94066