

Borel Bobcat Blast #13

Katherine Russell • 2 months ago • Thursday, Oct 27 at 4:45 PM • Borel Middle School



Bobcat Blast Newsletter #13

October 27, 2022

Attendance: 650-312-

7669

Principal Message: Earthquake preparedness, Monthly Celebrations, Announcements Location

Safety: Fire Alarm Pull, Halloween Procedures

Student Achievement: Math gains across the district, Library newsletter

Wellness: Second Step's Harassment & Bullying Unit began Wednesday

Equity: Inclusive practices

Basketball Tryouts

Yearbook News

Principal Message

Growing up in New York we didn't practice Earthquake drills. Since I moved here in 2008 I've learned a lot. It's pretty impressive that San Mateo County has established clear safety protocols so people can think on their feet and act in a safe way. As some of you felt or followed in the news, there was an earthquake in San Jose Tuesday. We did not have reports of shaking at Borel, but it's always a good time to review our Drop, Duck & Cover followed by Evacuate Protocol.



Do you have a family meeting place in case you need to evacuate due? Wednesday night we reviewed as a family our procedures in house and also where we'd meet up outside of our house. Reviewing procedures helps children feel more comfortable. If your child needs additional support to process this week's earthquake please reach out to our great counseling team.

Thanks for reading this blast. It's a way to communicate weekly what's going on. Students listen to daily announcements. If they are absent or find something hard to hear, our [announcements](#) document are located on our website.

This month we have been having fun celebrating both **Filipi**



no History & Down Syndrome Awareness month with facts and history of the announcements. We're also

celebrating **Diwali**, the festival of lights!



Important Upcoming Dates

Week of 10.31 Report cards will be sent home

Week of 11.7 Basketball tryouts after school

11.10 Special Minimum Day

Students dismissed at 12:39pm

11.11 Veteran's Day--No school

11.14-11.18 Borel Book Fair in Library

11.15 to 11.17 Parent-Teacher Conferences

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 school

SCHOOL NEWS

Safety:

Today and a couple weeks ago the fire alarm was pulled. Through our campaign of "See Something, Say Something," we have identified the person involved in each incident and asserted serious consequences. Please talk with your child about fire safety. If someone needs help or there is a fire, that is a direct line to

emergency services. It is never a joke to pull. We can not silence our alarm without the fire department coming which takes time and money. Thanks for reviewing fire safety with your child.

Our leadership & student council students have been selling fun Boo grams during lunch in anticipation of a fun and safe Halloween. Please review the costume guidelines below:

As Halloween approaches, we want to review costume guidelines for those students who want to celebrate Halloween at school. Students may dress in costume if the costume can be worn without distraction to your child or others. Children may not bring any part of a costume that simulates a weapon, blood, violence, or any other inappropriate item (see planner for list.) If you are in doubt as to whether the item is allowed, please consult with us in advance. Any costume article of a violent/inappropriate nature will be taken away and held by the office until the end of the school day. In accordance with the District Wellness Policy, please do not have your child bring food/beverages to share. We appreciate your cooperation, thank you.

One practice my parents did for safety every year on Halloween was having us bring home all our candy for inspection before we dived in. Check for any tampered products and only eat store bought goods. The DEA shared recently that they are “advising the public of an alarming emerging trend of colorful fentanyl available across the United States. Since August 2022, DEA and our law enforcement partners seized brightly-colored fentanyl and fentanyl pills in 26 states. Dubbed “rainbow fentanyl” in the media, this trend appears to be a new method used by drug cartels to sell highly addictive and potentially deadly fentanyl made to look like candy to children and young people.” If you see or hear anything related to this dangerous product, please alert authorities.



Student Achievement: Recently Superintendent Ochoa shared the great math gains across the district. Our 8th grade students recently took an interim assessment. The department works together to collaborate grading and utilizes information to plan differentiated instruction.

The library October newsletter is [here](#). Meet the reader, get book recommendations for FilipinX-American History Month, and more.

Wellness: This Wednesday, students started the bullying and harassment unit in their advisory. Remember they are multiple ways to report bullying or harassing behavior so it stops. You can reach out to any adult, including Assistant Principal Brillhart or utilize the Anonymous Alerts app. Thank you for your support as we work together to build a bullying and harassment free community.

Equity Declaration: At Borel, we want everybody to have access to all the things we have to offer. So please let your teacher or counselor know if you are interested in a program or opportunity and you might confidentially need a scholarship or discount to help defray or lower the cost.

DO NOT PULL THE FIRE ALARM



San Mateo High School is holding a Hip Hop Workshop for 8th Graders in the SMHS Dance Studio on Saturday, October 29th at 1pm. This is a great way for 8th grade students to meet some of our awesome Bearcat dancers, see the San Mateo campus, and get to experience what a high school performing arts class is like. The workshop is open to 8th grade students of all levels of dance ability. Beginners are more than welcome! Please see the attached flyer below. They can scan the flyer to register or use this [direct link](#). Students and parents can also email Ms. Reidy at oreidy@smuhdsd.org with any questions.

Basketball Tryouts

Attention all 7th and 8th grade students who are interested in trying out for basketball;

The tryout dates are as follows;

Monday Nov. 7th-7th grade boys 3:15-5:00pm, 8th grade boys 5:15-7:00pm

Tuesday Nov. 8th-7th grade girls 3:15-5:00pm, 8th grade girls 5:15-7:00pm

Wednesday Nov. 9th-7th grade boys 3:15-5:00pm, 8th grade boys 5:15-7:00pm

Thursday Nov. 10th-7th grade girls 1:00-2:45pm, 8th grade girls 3:00-4:45pm

It is mandatory to register on Sports Net prior to tryouts. Go to the Borel Website **AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS PAGE** which can be found here: <https://borel.smfcsd.net/for-students/afterschool-sports>, and click on "Click here to register" If you have already registered for a fall sport, you do not have to register again. If you have any questions, please see Mr. Codianne.

Good luck!

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

PTA NEWS

Explore The Arts & Express Yourself

All submissions for the Reflections Art Contest are due tomorrow, **Friday, October 28th, at 5 PM**. Please remember all submissions are virtual this year. Please visit BorelBobcats.org/reflections for more information or email Emily Wang at reflections@borelbobcats.org.

Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair will be held the week of November 14th and needs parent volunteers to help make it a successful event. Our volunteers will cashier and help students find their next favorite book! This is such a fun way to get involved and volunteer your time. Sign up [here](#).

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

We appreciate the generosity of the [Borel Community](#) who have donated to our Borel Boosters Fall Drive. Borel PTA's Fundraising Goal of \$282K would only be possible with your participation and contribution. Currently, we are at 75% of our Booster's goal and still need your help. Any amount big or small is appreciated. Please DONATE at BorelBobcats.org/Boosters or complete the donation form that was brought home by your student and return it to the office. Also, check to see if your company offers donation matches. Any donation of \$10 or higher gives you PTA membership and eligibility to vote at the Association meeting to make your voice heard. Email Sophia Tseng with any questions at boosters@borelbobcats.org.

New Payment System for the PTA Website

Thank you for all your feedback. Starting November 1st, we will enable a new payment system on the PTA website to ease the donation/payment process. A PayPal account will not be needed instead we will use an inbuilt payment processor called Stripe. 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.

Wellness Corner

In October's newsletter, Tiffany Wightman, Wellness Ambassador, explores how emotions and behaviors relate to our needs and wants. Our needs change as we evolve from babies to adolescents to adults, but underlying many of our emotions is the need to have a healthy attachment to others, feel supported by friends and family, and have agency over our lives. Emotions experienced internally and expressed outwardly help get our needs met. 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.

Volunteer at Borel

Amazing programs, hosted by PTA, continue to ask for your help to get off the ground. To sign up, visit BorelBobcats.org/volunteer as we are looking for VP Fundraising (Board Opportunity), Program Volunteers (Cultural Fair, Community Event), and Fundraising Volunteers (Grants Fundraiser Lead, Online Auction, Lunch Bunch). Our Online Auction team is getting started right now and the Cultural Fair Team will begin in November. Contact Jen Hwang at community@borelbobcats.org with your interest

COMMUNITY NEWS

Volunteers Needed at Baywood's Fall Festival

Baywood's annual beloved Fall Festival is back next Sunday, October 30th from 1-4 PM, so come join the fun on the school playground. There will be games, prizes, crafts, music and food available for purchase. We encourage you to bring a can for the Samaritan House Project Wee Care canned food drive. This is a FREE event for all Baywood families put on by the PTA and completely run by parent and youth volunteers. There are so many fun and easy ways to be involved. Please sign up [here](#) to volunteer and Borel students can earn volunteer hours! If you have questions email fallfestival@baywoodpta.org.

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.