



# **Ladera PTO Newsletter**

## **2010/2011**

### **PTO Board**

**President:** Nancy Mallory

**VP Programs, Assemblies:**

Mary Hajali & Kathy  
Ghanouni

**VP Programs, After School**

**Programs:** Sheila  
Haghighinia

**VP Fundraising:** Janice Lee

**VP Membership:** Carmel

Ryan & Cindy Koval

**VP Publicity:** Karen Sisson

**VP Volunteer:** Pam

Edmondson

**Secretary:** Zubia Villacorta

**Treasurer:** Pam Dixon

**Financial Secretary:** Becky  
Yang

We are still looking for another volunteer to help with Fundraising next year. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Janice Lee at [janicel@mygatsby.com](mailto:janicel@mygatsby.com).

We also still have some open PTO Committee Chair positions. Please see page 4 of this newsletter for a list and contact Nancy Mallory at [nancy-mallory@cox.net](mailto:nancy-mallory@cox.net) to volunteer or for more information.

## **Principal's Message** by Ryan Bollenbach

Throughout this past school year the Ladera community has worked together to create a positive learning environment where every student can excel both academically and socially. It has been through the work of the students, teachers, support staff and parents that Ladera has truly become a community of learners. To everyone who is part of this community, THANK YOU!

To our PTO and PTO President Nancy Mallory, thank you for all you do for our students and staff. Whether it's organizing our fundraisers, coordinating assemblies, planning Family Nights, working the Book Fair, planting in the garden, or the countless other jobs the PTO has participated in, your support is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to all of our parents, you have shown your support of our school throughout the entire school year. Whether you are volunteering in the classrooms, chaperoning a field trip, or helping your child with their homework, we are so grateful for the time, energy and effort that you dedicate to Ladera.

Thank you to our support staff, you consistently demonstrate the highest degree of dedication and professional performance. Ladera is fortunate to have so many wonderful people to work with our children.

To our teachers, not only have you done an incredible job of educating our students, your dedication to our profession is amazing. You have set the bar high

for your students and for yourselves and through hard work and motivation you have helped our students reach that bar. It has been my privilege to work with you this year.

To our students, you are the reason we come to work everyday. We are all so honored to be able to work with such an exceptional group of young scholars. Thank you for being such wonderful citizens. I want to personally wish all of our fifth graders the best of luck as you continue your educational careers in middle school.

It has truly been an honor to serve as your principal. Have a great summer and I look forward to seeing everyone in September.



## **Have a Great Summer!**

## Good Luck to our 5th Graders Moving on to Middle School!

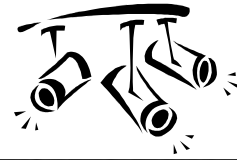
Aria Aminloo  
Radean Anvari  
Caroline Beckman  
Brian Bowers  
Sarah Brunel  
Will Cohen  
Yash Dara  
Natalie Erickson  
Arianna Ghanouni  
Peter Hajali  
Zack Heller  
Justus Henderson  
Carolyn Ho  
Mary Hu  
Hayley Johnson  
Matthew Jones  
Alesha Kenaley  
Dean Kendall  
Keita Kirchhoff  
Claudia Korea  
Eric Lim  
Foster Matsukbo  
Alec Martinez  
Leah Messinger  
Paige Mills  
Omead Moini  
Liam Molina  
A.J. Moore  
Lexi Neary  
Priscilla Nguyen  
Jade Nunez  
Jack Owens  
Ashley Palmer  
Ian Park  
Sharon Park  
Nirali Patel  
Dylan Phan  
Adi Ramachandran  
Jack Rilum  
Meghna Sen  
Cameron Sheffield DiMaria  
Melanie Shum  
James Son  
Christian Sul  
Curtis Talley  
Nicholas Ton  
Jose Villa  
Sarah Villar  
Anthony Vu  
Sabrina Wiggins  
Cody Wilkison  
Troy Yoon  
Justin Wayt  
Ayaka Yamamoto



## Ladera Talent Show a Smashing Success!

by Lynne Crawford and Meg Donovan

The Ladera students have showcased their talents once again in Ladera's annual talent show held on May 27<sup>th</sup>. The show included students from all grade levels with a wide range of talents from singing, dancing, and instrumental music. Thank you to the talented cast for a great show! In particular, a huge thank you to Nicole Stepanian, Kathy Ghannouni, Gita Aminloo, Shannon Bowers, Kristin Schechter, Zubia Villacorta, and Laurie Biele for all of their efforts and many extra hours helping to put together a successful show. Without you it would not have been possible!



## Help the Environment: Dispose of Household Hazardous Waste Properly

Did you realize that all of the items listed below are considered Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and may NOT be disposed of in the trash can? Instead, these items should be taken, free of charge, to any of the four HHW Collection Centers located in Orange County.

The following items fall under the category of Household Hazardous Waste:

- Aerosols (paint, cleaners, lubricants)
- Antifreeze
- Automotive Fluids
- Auto polish & wax
- Batteries (auto & household)
- Cleaning Solution
- Cosmetics (nail polish & remover)
- Electronic Waste
- Fertilizers
- Fire Extinguishers
- Fluorescent lights
- Furniture polish & wax
- Mercury Thermometers
- Motor Oil and Oil filters
- Paint

- Pesticides
- Pool Supplies
- Sharps/Needles



There are four convenient Household Hazardous Waste Centers located throughout Orange County that accept residential toxic waste\*. All of the centers are open Tuesday-Saturday 9a.m.-3p.m. and are closed on rainy days and holidays (note: proof of Orange County residency is required). The center closest to Ladera Elementary is in Irvine, located at 6411 Oak Canyon, just off Sand Canyon, south of the 5 freeway.

For more information and for a complete list of Household Hazardous Waste Centers in Orange County, please go online to [egov.ocgov.com](http://egov.ocgov.com) and click on "OC Waste & Recycling" which is found under the "Departments and Agencies" menu.

\*Please note, it is illegal to transport more than 15 gallons or 125 pounds of HHW per trip (Department of Transportation requirement).

## Battle of the Books Winning Gold Medal Teams

The Battle of the Books program is a voluntary reading incentive program for fourth and fifth grade students run by Mrs. Shaw. Teams of five students read a predetermined list of ten books then compete against other teams to see which team can answer the most questions correctly about the books.



**Congratulations to this year's Battle of the Books Winning Gold Medal Teams:**

**Mr. Warren/Mrs. Goldenberg's Fourth Grade Team:** Danielle Dixon, Jilliane Fernando, Andrew W. Kim, Hayley Rottger, and Taylor Stern

**Ms. McDonald's Fifth Grade Team:** Leah Messinger, Priscilla Nguyen, Jack Owens, Adi Ramachandran, and James Son



## Summer is here and that means more time to relax and enjoy a good book! by Geri Shaw

This summer, I am encouraging students to read with my Summer Reading program. Reading logs will be coming home soon. Barnes & Noble, Borders Books and the public library will also be promoting reading programs. All programs, including mine, will provide new, free books based on the number of books your child reads during the summer.

Also, I would like to say a big thanks to the parent volunteers that came in each week with classes to help during library time. These parents help keep the library running smoothly.

A special thanks to Elizabeth Stevens

for organizing the Birthday Book Club again this year. We had nearly 150 participants donate books to the library .

Finally, a fond farewell to Lori Palmer and Janine Rilum, the organizers of our fantastic Mrs. Nelson's Book Fairs and our first-ever Barnes & Noble Book Fair. Their children are moving on to Pioneer and I will truly miss having Lori and Janine here providing such well-run and successful fairs. The funds earned from our book fairs are used to purchase books for the Ladera Library. These funds are the key to keeping an updated collection of books available for our students.

Have a great summer and keep reading!

## Junior Great Books is Going Green!

Junior Great Books (JGB) is starting a recycling program. Each year we ask parents to pay for student anthologies for our students. In order to keep the cost of the program down in the future, we are giving students the opportunity to turn back in their JGB student anthologies for other students to use in the future. The program is voluntary.

Please let us know if you wish to donate your JGB student anthology by contacting Laurie Biele at [laurie-biele@yahoo.com](mailto:laurie-biele@yahoo.com).

If you have JGB student anthologies at home from past years, you can also donate them by placing the books in the JGB recycle box in the front office.

## Birthday Book Club's Newest Members

Morgan BroughKaramardian  
Nicholas BroughKaramardian  
Sophie Brunel

Alanna Edmondson

Gwen Gaylord

Zach Heller

Sanskriti Jha

Matthew Jones

Meredith McKinley

Harshitha Muduganti

Ali Raoufi

Dylan Ryan

Andrew Stern

Nicolette Turner

Zachary Wayt

Ethan Zambon



## 2010 Field Day

Mark your calendars for Monday, June 14<sup>th</sup> and come participate in Ladera's Annual Field Day! It's the one day of the year that everyone gets to act like a KID and have FUN. Parents, come armed with super soakers and water balloons to participate in this crazy, exciting day. The event starts right after drop-off that morning!



## Yearbooks are Still Available!

There's still time to reserve your personal copy of the Ladera 2009/2010 Yearbook for \$30. This year's book features:



- 80-page computer layout
- Quality digital photos
- All pages in **color** featuring highlight photos of school activities and events
- Cover art designed by Ladera students
- Panoramic all student photo 2-page spread
- Grade level photo collages

Yearbook order forms are available in the front office, on the school website or through a link in the weekly email. Order your copy today!



## Teacher Appreciation Week Recap

by Carmel Ryan



Teacher appreciation week was May 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>. Special events were organized each day for the teachers. On Monday, all the kids signed a thank you card and made a special notebook for their teachers; breakfast was also set up in the teachers' lounge. On Tuesday, the kids brought in flowers for their teachers and made some beautiful flower arrangements. On Wednesday, there was a fabulous lunch provided by ZOV'S. On Thursday, the classrooms got cleaned and on Friday all the teachers got goodie bags filled with treats and a gift card. There was also a daily raffle and some of the teachers won gift cards and tickets to the San Diego zoo.

I want to thank all the room parents and everyone else who helped with Teacher Appreciation Week. I also want to thank the teachers for all the effort they put in each and every day for our children, and for all the patience and kindness they constantly show. We are so lucky to have such wonderful teachers at Ladera!

### Open PTO Committee Chair Positions:

**Book Fair** - Coordinate two book fair events each year to help raise money for the school library. Set-up the library and coordinate volunteers for the event.

**Community Art Liason** - Publicize community art exhibits, programs and contests via flyers and/or the newsletter and website. Coordinate a committee to plan lunch art programming.

**Family Nights** - Coordinate Harvest Night, Cozy Story Night, Bingo Night & Angels Game.

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion** - Work with 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers and parents to implement 5<sup>th</sup> grade promotion and related activities.

**Fundraising Assistant** - Implement passive fundraising opportunities

**Green** - Assemble & manage Student Green Team. Coordinate & support "Walk to School Wednesdays". Consider additional recycling/green opportunities. Coordinate Earth Day event.

**Room Parent Coordinator** - Responsible for the coordination of all room parents. Ensure room parents are aware of party guidelines, responsibilities, and assist with coordination of the Spring Fundraiser room baskets for the live/silent auction. Help with development of consistent guidelines for all room parents. Organize beginning of the year room parent meeting and any others as needed throughout the year.

**Hospitality** - Coordinate food/beverage for PTO meetings and Principal's Coffees as needed.

**Recycling** - Manage all recycling efforts, including paper, ink jet & laser cartridges, cell phone recycling, and any other recycling opportunities.

**Spirit** - Responsible for planning and organizing volunteers for school-wide spirit events throughout the school year, including Field Day. Also responsible for Spirit Wear sales.

**Tustin Public Schools Foundation/PTO Liaison** - Collaborate with TPSF on various events, such as Dinosaur Dash, Teacher of the Year Dinner, and PATS (Parents Appreciate Teachers and Staff) cards.