



## Upcoming Events

<b>Oct 29</b>	<b>Fall Festival, Upper Grade field, 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Oct 31 – Nov 4</b>	<b>Parent Teacher Conferences – <b>Early Dismissal every day</b></b>
<b>Nov 1</b>	<b>Parent Teacher Conference – <b>NO SCHOOL</b></b>
<b>Nov 7 – Nov 11</b>	<b>Families Forward Thanksgiving Food Drive</b>
<b>Nov 8</b>	<b>Book Fair &amp; Family Fun Night – University Center</b>
<b>Nov 9</b>	<b>PTA Meeting, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.</b>

## Thanks from Dianne Daucher, Chairman of “Walk to School Day”

I'd like to thank all of the children, parents and volunteers who participated in Walk to School Day. We had a total of 737 bracelets to hand out to students. At the end of the day we only had 20 left. If your child walked to school, but did not receive a bracelet please be sure to pick one up from the front office. Out of approximately 835 students, it looks like at least 715 participated. That means about 85% of the students walked or biked to school today! This is a great turn out!

Please consider walking as an option every day of the week, particularly on Wednesdays or when we are on a minimum day schedule. If you must drive a portion of the way, parents can always park their cars on Amalfi or Turtle Rock Loop, rather than having their cars idling in front of the school. The air quality is so much better in front of the school when we make a healthy choice and opt to walk. The gridlock of cars can also be a tad frustrating, whereas walking is a healthy opportunity to both walk with and talk to your child.

## School Site Council Candidates Sought

Parent/guardian candidates are needed for Turtle Rock's School Site Council (SSC). Up to five parents serve on the SSC for two-year terms. SSC's are established by California law as the forum where school officials and parents get together to review school performance and implement plans to improve it. The core task of the SSC is to shape and approve the School and Library Improvement Plan, which allocates discretionary funds toward improving student achievement.

If you are interested in serving on the SSC, please contact Principal Catabijan: [katabij@iusd.org](mailto:katabij@iusd.org) or 949-936-6250. You may also nominate a parent or guardian for SSC.

## Volunteers of the Week

Congratulations goes out to Mary Iwata, mother to Anne in sixth grade and to Kathy Thomas, mother to Aeven in third grade, for coordinating this year's PTA Reflections Program! Mary and Kathy did an amazing job advertising the program, coordinating the entries and submitting them to the judges. We have so many talented students at Turtle Rock who submit entries and we are so pleased they were able to take over this very important PTA Program.

## Families Forward Food Drive

Families Forward is holding a Thanksgiving Food Drive at Turtle Rock from November 7 – November 11<sup>th</sup>. Please help local families this year and take your Thanksgiving Meal Donations to the bins outside the school. A list of recommended food items will be attached and will be included in your child's conduit.

## Absence Hotline (949) 936-6251

Please notify the school office before 8:30 am each day your child will be absent from school. The above line is dedicated specifically to attendance procedures. Please assist us in this very important absence reporting safety issue. If your child is tardy to school, he/she must report through the front office to allow us to change our attendance records.

## Book Fair & Family Fun Night

Bring the family, celebrate reading, and have a blast at the Book Fair & Family Fun Night sponsored by the PTA from 4-8 pm on Tuesday, Nov 8, at Whale of a Tale bookstore & participating restaurants in University Center on Campus Drive. Bring the coupon flyer that will appear in next week's conduit in to any of the participating shops and restaurants, and they will donate 20% of the pre-tax amount that you spend to the PTA so we can continue to bring quality programs to Turtle Rock – like our art, music and PE lessons, support for the health assistant, teacher's classroom accounts, etc.

Buy books for own your children; they make wonderful holiday or birthday presents. Or buy books that your child's teacher has put on his/her "Wish List" and donate them to your child's classroom. You won't want to miss the fun, which includes (at no cost) make your own bookmark crafts from 4-8 pm, "The Princess and the Frog" puppet show from 4-5 pm, Story Time with book readings by teachers and parents from 5-6 pm, and "Abbit the Average" performing an amazing magic, juggling and comedy act. Meet other TR families and enjoy a relaxing night out. Principal Catabijan has declared it to be a "No Homework" night for all grades!

#### **PTA General Assembly Meeting – Attention Parents!**

Please plan on attending our next PTA General Assembly Meeting on November 9th at 6:30 in the MPR. This meeting will feature guest speakers from IPSF who will explain their critical role in our children's education. The classroom with the most parents in attendance will receive a popsicle party!

#### **Girls' Harvest Cup Team**

Congratulations to the girls harvest cup soccer team for working hard and playing a great game against Brywood Elementary School. The girls gave 100% effort and had a super time participating in the Harvest Cup this year. A big thank you goes out to their coaches, Michael Dennin, Brett Sanders and Elmur Hung. Great job team!

#### **Boys' Harvest Cup Team**

We congratulate the boys who competed on this year's Harvest Cup Team: Dara Arabzadeh, Calvin Brown, Dhanvi Desu, David Ge, Cameron Ghaznavi, Ryan Hane, Sam Kelly, Oliver Kubit, Minwoo Kwan, Calvin Lee, Ryan Miller, Kyle Mumm, Viktor Petokas, Brendan Saraf, Rafe Schaberg, Grant Sheen, Max Solomon, Aryan Zaveri, and Kento Zollinger. They played two outstanding games defeating Santiago Hills and Alderwood in games that ended in nail-biting penalty kicks then they went on to play Canyon View in the semifinals. It was a hard fought game, but Canyon View's early lead was too much for the Turtle Rockers to overcome. Canyon View went on to win the tournament. Our thanks go out to the wonderful dads who coached the team: Chris Hane, Don Kelly, Abe Lee and Paul Miller. Also, the team and coaches want to thank the dedicated parents, siblings, family and friends who cheered them on. A wonderful time was had by everyone!

#### **LAST DAYS! Clothing Drive for Children in Afghanistan**

Do your children have winter clothes that are too small? Please bring them to Turtle Rock and leave them in the bins outside the MPR. For the fifth year in a row, we will collect gently used winter clothing (hats, coats, gloves, sweatshirts and sweaters) from now until October 29<sup>th</sup> to send to children in Afghanistan. Clothes will be mailed to the US Marine Corps, who will distribute them in collaboration with the Afghan National Army where winters are harsh. For more information, contact Tammy Smecker-Hane ([tsmecker@cox.net](mailto:tsmecker@cox.net), 949-509-7195).

#### **Smoothie Sale**

Smoothies are on sale every Friday after school. Juice It Up smoothies are \$4.00 and support TR 6<sup>th</sup> grade Outdoor Education.

*Don't forget that it's early dismissal on:*

*Oct. 31*

*Nov. 2, 3, & 4*

*Nov. 1-No School*

See you at Fall Festival on Saturday, Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>. It's going to be a **Spooktacular** afternoon.



# Fall Festival



Ready for a spooktacular way to start off your Halloween weekend? Our annual Fall Festival is on Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, and it's a **costume party** for all! Join us on the Upper Grade field from 4:00-7:00 p.m. for a booriety of activities with your family and friends, including crafts, carnival games with prizes, our traditional cakewalk, a haunted MPR and more. We hope to see you there!

### Pricing Information:



**ENTRY:** \$5.00 per child. Adults enter free. Child will receive 15 tickets for Festival activities.

**FOOD:** Dinner from the delicious Tacos & Co., including vegetarian choices, will be available for purchase. Cost range is \$4-\$7.00 per person. Options include tacos, burritos, quesadillas and nachos. \*\*Kettle Corn (\$5.00 per family size)

\*\* Kona Ice (\$2.00-\$4.00 cold treats)

All vendors take cash only.

### ADDITIONAL TICKETS:

Extra tickets can be purchased at the entrance. Minimum purchase is 15 tickets for \$5.00.

15 tickets = \$5.00      30 tickets = \$10.00      45 tickets = \$15.00      60 tickets = \$20.00

**Cakewalk: 4.30pm**

**Food served between 4:30pm – 7:00pm**

**Guessing Jar Winner: Will be announced on Monday during school hours.**

### TICKET USAGE:

Carnival Games = 1-2 tickets

Table activities = 2 tickets

Haunted MPR = 3 tickets

Cakewalk = 2 tickets

Guessing Jar = 2 tickets

Our annual 25¢ Book Sale will also be there! Please help make this event a reader's delight by donating your gently used books. Bins will be in front of the school through October 28<sup>th</sup>. You can also donate some treats for the cakewalk too!



Irvine Unified School District



# STUDENT SUCCESS BEGINS WITH ATTENDANCE!!!

Please help improve student attendance by taking a positive approach to assist in establishing positive attendance patterns and avoid chronic truancy.

## **FACT:**

**Hard Truancies almost always begin with a pattern of  
Soft Truancies that is not corrected.**

## A Message to Parents and Students:



The youth of Orange County are our most precious resource. In order for each individual to reach his/her highest potential, education should be a top priority. Your child's focus begins at home and parents need to understand why it is important for their children to be at school, on time, and throughout the entire scheduled day.

### **School Attendance Laws and Parent/Student Responsibilities:**

- All persons 6 through 18 years of age are required by California State Law to attend school. Parents have a legal responsibility to ensure their child's attendance. (Education Code Section 48200)
- A pupil is considered truant if he/she is absent for more than 3 full days in one school year without a valid excuse; tardy or absent for more than a 30-minute period during the school day without valid excuse on 3 occasions in one school year, or any combination thereof. (Education Code Section 48260)
- A pupil who is absent from school without a valid excuse for ten percent or more of the school days in one school year, from the date of enrollment to the current date, is deemed a chronic truant. (Education Code Section 48263.6)
- A student's refusal to attend school regularly can result in a referral to the School Attendance Review Board (SARB); to Juvenile Probation or the Juvenile Court System. (Education Code Section 48260)
- Parents who fail to compel their child's attendance may face criminal prosecution and penalties. (Education Code Section 48291)
- Any pupil who has once been reported as a truant and who is again absent from school without a valid excuse one or more days, or tardy on one or more days, shall again be reported as a truant to the attendance supervisor or the superintendent of the district. (Education Code Section 48261)
- If any minor pupil in any district of a county is a habitual truant, or is irregular in attendance at school, as defined in this article, or is habitually insubordinate or disorderly during attendance at school, the pupil may be referred to a school attendance review board. (Education Code Section 48263)

# WHAT IS SOFT TRUANCY?

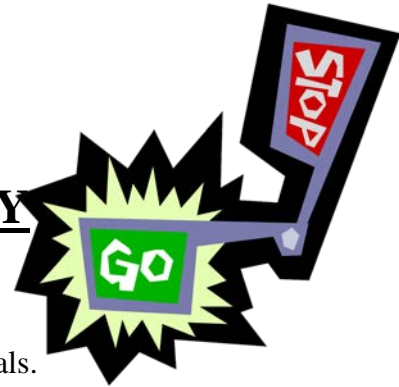
Soft Truancy is a negative pattern that often leads to direct violation of the Education Code of California.

Soft Truancy includes, but is not limited to:

- Bringing a child late to school (less than 30 minutes).
- Picking up your child early for family outings, vacations, frequent medical appointments or business, or even trying to avoid traffic.
- Excusing a student as ill more than 10 days without medical verification.
- Frequent excused absences.
- Keeping an older child home to baby-sit.
- Keeping an older child home to work.
- Irregular attendance.
- Taking vacation during school.

## AVOID TRUANCY

- Be on time every day.
- Stay in school all day.
- Have a specified area at home for all school materials.
- Parents should call the school office or send a note when a student is ill and provide a medical note whenever possible.
- Work hard and try hard.



## AWARENESS TIPS

- Be sure to always follow all District and Site Attendance Policies.
  - Students need to understand that education should be their top priority.
  - To get the best start in life, a child needs a good education.
  - If your child does not go to school, he or she will fall behind other students.
  - If your child is not in school, he or she can't get the grades needed to graduate.
  - Young people who miss school are often victims or perpetrators of crimes.
  - Tardies and leaving school early should be an exception, not a norm.
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# THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

Help us provide 1,000+ families with food needed to celebrate Thanksgiving this year!

## SHOPPING LIST

Due to lack of space, please provide gift cards in substitution for turkeys. The quantities listed would be for one family. Thank you.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Gift Card for Turkey or Produce | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Cans of Vegetables                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Boxes of Stuffing                  | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Cans of Fruit                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Jars of Gravy                      | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cans of Evaporated Milk              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cans of Cranberry Sauce            | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cans of Pumpkin or other Pie Filling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Boxes of Muffin or Corn Bread Mix  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Boxed Pie Crust                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cans of Sweet Potatoes or Yams     | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Dozen Eggs                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cans of Soup (1 Broth and 1 Cream) | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Lb Margarine or Butter               |

## ADDITIONAL FOODS ITEMS NEEDED FOR FAMILIES...

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canned Chicken, Tuna, Meat                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Spaghetti Sauce/Pasta - All kinds |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soups-Hearty, Chowders, Tomato, Minestrone | <input type="checkbox"/> Mac & Cheese                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chili-Stew, Canned Pasta                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Peanut Butter & Jelly or Honey    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canned Beans-Kidney, Black, Pinto, Baked   | <input type="checkbox"/> Canned Vegetables                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rice – 1 lb. bags                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Canned Fruit                      |

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