



Matthew Turner Newsnote



www.benicia.k12.ca.us/turner
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(707) 747-8390 FAX (707) 747-8399
Absence line: (707) 748-2982

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September & October dates:

9/6 GATE testing for select students
9 AM at Henderson
9/12 Site Council Meeting 5:30-7 PM
9/19 PTA Board Meeting 7 PM
9/20 BUSD Board Meeting 7 PM
9/24 PTA General Meeting 7 PM
9/25 GATE Parent Meeting 7 PM – MPR
10/3 Picture Day
10/4 BUSD Board Meeting 7 PM



Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school 07-08. We had a very smooth opening of school and find that Matthew Turner is very full with just a few openings in K and 4th. Your children have done an excellent job of "getting back into the school routines" and following school rules.

We have had some changes in our staffing and welcome some new faces: In Kindergarten (PM) we welcome Ms Erica Hightower, in 2nd Mrs. Elizabeth Jack and Mrs. Jennifer Schmitt. We have new Learning Center teachers for Special Education- Mrs. Arlene Empleo and Mrs. Casey Rooney. We just hired Mrs. Margot Yulo for our SDC K-2 position and she has joined our team this past week. Ms. Sue Shabazz (on a 50% job share with Mr. Wofsy) announced her retirement just before the opening of school. She has been caring for her elderly parents and finds that she is needed by her family at this time. We will miss Ms. Shabazz and wish her well. Meanwhile, Mr. Wofsy is teaching the class full-time while we are in the process of interviewing for 50% of this position.

Attendance and being on time for school will be a focus for all schools in Benicia Unified School District this year. Regular daily attendance and being at school on time is highly correlated to high academic progress. We know that children get sick, and we do not want them attending while ill. Excused student absences are due to illness, physician/dental visits, or bereavement of an immediate family member. All other absences are unexcused including family trips and vacations. Being on time to school is equally important. Students that arrive late miss the teacher's opening instruction and feel lost as the class is already settled and started their day. With demands on

become proficient, it is important that students attend the required number of minutes allocated by the school district and state. If your child is going to be out for 5 days, they are able to receive their grade level curriculum by applying for an Independent Study contract. This contract can be obtained by contacting our office 2 weeks prior to the proposed absence. Your assistance with attendance is most appreciated this year.

We are very excited about the changes happening in our library and classrooms Accelerated Reading is coming to Matthew Turner which is a wonderful program that promotes independent reading for our students at their appropriate reading level. We have split our library collection and will now have an Easy reader section with just picture books for our youngest readers. The regular fiction section will be chapter books for our intermediate students who are ready for more text with fewer illustrations. Mrs. Peters and a small crew of parents are busy labeling our collection in preparation for AR. If you can assist in the library – even an hour – to label, call Mrs. Peters at 747-8390 ext. 1730.

We are off to a most successful and enjoyable school year.

Barbara Sanders

Cell Phones

Cell phones must be turned OFF during school hours and kept in your child's backpack. Children are allowed to use them after dismissal. Teachers may take phones away if they are turned on during school hours and disrupting the class. Adults volunteering in classrooms – please turn the phones off while in classrooms as not to disrupt instruction.

California Coastal Clean-up

Coastal cleanup day is scheduled for Saturday Sept. 15, from 9:00-12:00. Matthew Turner is once again participating in this statewide volunteer event. Our

Absences



Please use our 24-hour attendance line at **748-2982** to report your child's absence and request homework. Homework that is requested will be available after school in the office. Thank you.

"Caught You Being Good" Awards

Winners for the week of:



August 27th

Blaine Nanney, Gr. 2
Molly Casper, Gr. 3
Violet Sparks, Gr. 3
Timmy Knox, Gr. 3

September 3rd

Joey Birdseye, Gr. K
Nate Jacobs, Gr. 2
Kaitylyn Bowles, Gr. 3
Cassidy Jansson, Gr. 5

Newsnotes



We will publish our newsnotes on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month and will send home 1 per family with the youngest child. Additional copies are available on our website and in the office.

Lunchboxes & Jackets



Please label lunch pails and clothing. We want to be able to return lost items to their owners. Lost and found is located in the office. Check for lost items before and after school.

Mom, I forgot my homework, book, etc.

Students and parents are reminded that items forgotten in the classroom after the teacher has left for the day will not be retrieved by the custodian. Thank you.

street Beach. Bring your student for a day in the sun, and help the planet and its wildlife at the same time. Free lunch at noon for participants, and as always gloves and bags are provided. Put in as much time as you can between 9 and 12; even a half hour after your soccer game would be helpful! Mrs. Badger and Mrs. Lunsford are the coordinators for this event. We hope to see you there!

Dress Code Reminder

Students are to wear clothing appropriate to the elementary school setting that allows them to participate in classroom and playground activities. Students may not wear short shorts, short skirts, half shirts that do not cover the stomach, or tank tops with spaghetti straps. Students are not to wear flip flops or sandals with no backs, or any other types of shoes that do not provide substantial foot protection for playground and physical education activities. Hats are to be worn outside only (facing forward) if needed for protection from the sun. Hats will be taken if not worn appropriately.

Student/Parent Handbook

Please check our website for the most current edition of our school handbook.

Supervision and Traffic Patterns

Please do not send your child to school before 8:20 A.M. At 8:20, the gates will be opened and teachers will be available to supervise students on the playground. We appreciate parent response to following drop-off and pick-up procedures. The drive-through off Rose Drive is only for bus and child-care vans with placards. The drive-through off Dempsey is for all students traveling by car. Please ask your child to meet you at the "white line" near the multi-purpose room. This area is the staging area for pick-up and drop-off and is supervised by our staff. For your child's safety, please do not ask your child to meet you off-campus.

Security

We have had 2 incidences of unknown persons being in our office and in the parking lots in the past week. Please be vigilant about going through the office and checking in before going to classes. If you leave by one of our gates, be sure to close the gate. This campus is only as secure as we make it. If you see persons loitering outside our gates and in the parking lots, don't approach, but note car license plates and descriptions and report to our office so that we can notify the police department.

Planning Days



Parents are reminded that teacher-planning days are **EVERY FRIDAY** for grades 1-5. **Dismissal is at 12:40 PM.** Afternoon kindergarten will be on their regular schedule.

BUSD Website

Benicia Unified has a new website. Please check it out at www.beniciaunified.org

Safety Patrol

Congratulations to our new 5th grade Safety Patrol.

Emily Casper (Captain), Tyler Lundgren (Captain), Sofia West, Emily Cooper, Maya Motomura, Ellen Armour, and Ryan Wolch.

Thank you for being on duty everyday and helping us to use the crosswalks safely.

SHOULD MY CHILD BE IN SCHOOL WITH THIS ILLNESS?

The following information are guidelines based on the American Academy of Pediatrics and not intended to advise or take the place of your medical professional.

Fever: Fevers are generally signs of infection. A child with a fever of 100 degrees or higher should stay home.

Cold, Sore Throat, Cough: Children average 6-8 colds per year. If your child has a cold and cough with fever or they do not seem to be improving call your doctor. A sore throat with fever and swollen glands may be a strep infection. A student with a medical diagnosis of strep should stay home until they have received antibiotics for 24 hours and or fever is resolved.

Stomach ache, Vomiting, Diarrhea: A child with vomiting and or diarrhea should be kept home until symptoms have resolved for approximately 24 hours and they are keeping down liquids and food. Consult your doctor if symptoms are accompanied by fever, stomach pain, or your child appears dehydrated.

Headache: Keep home if headache is severe and is not relieved with medication. Call your doctor if headache continues.

Earache: Consult your doctor. If there is no fever with an ear infection they may attend school.

Red Eyes: When the white of the eye is red, uncomfortable and has yellow or

most likely conjunctivitis. Medication must be administered for 24 hours prior to returning to school.

Please remember to call the office to report illness especially MEDICALLY diagnosed strep/scarlet fever, chicken pox, pink eye, mononucleosis, or similar contagious diseases and conditions. Please call the first day you are given the diagnosis.

REMEMBER: Hand washing is the single most effective way to prevent the spread of viruses and bacteria!

Interested in being a noon-duty campus supervisor? M-Th 11:55-1:15 / F 10:50-12
Call our office for more information.



PTA NEWS

HELP Wanted

Your PTA has immediate needs for help with the following positions:

Reflections Chair
Art Docent
Laminator

If interested, please contact Judith Barrall at jsbarrall@msn.com or 746-0747.

Wanted: Readers

Do you like to read to kids? Then BookParents wants you! All it takes is a love of good books and a half hour a week. You'll be matched up with a teacher whose schedule fits yours. Book selection can be done by you, the teacher, or a combination. I have lists of books for you to start from too. If you are interested or have any questions, please call Leslie Trybull at 748-0154.

Student's Corner

Conflict Manager Meeting

9/14 & 9/21 12:45-2:45 in Rm. 20



Upcoming Field Trips

9/17	S-Nelson to BSRA 8:45-11:45
9/18	Wofsy to BSRA
9/19	Buchanan to BSRA
9/20	Oliver to BSRA

