



# Aztec News

## Adobe Bluffs Elementary



Volume XVII, Issue V

October 17, 2008

**CHARACTER COUNTS!**

**Respect**

(October Focus)

Treat others with respect; follow the Golden Rule

Be tolerant of differences

Use good manners, not bad language

Be considerate of the feelings of others

Don't threaten, hit or hurt anyone

Deal peacefully with anger, insults and disagreements

**Important Dates:**

**Mon-Fri, Oct 20-24**  
Red Ribbon/Character Counts Week  
(see page 2 for details)

**Monday, Oct 20**  
Character Count bookmark deadline

**Wednesday, Oct 29**  
Early Release 12:25

**Thurs-Fri, Oct 30-31**  
Non-student days  
Parent Teacher Conferences



**Friday Oct 31**  
Boxtops deadline

**ADOBE BLUFFS PTA**

Palomar Council  
Ninth District, Inc.  
CCPTS

8707 Adobe Bluffs Drive  
San Diego, CA 92129  
(858) 538-8403



Mark Atkins, Principal  
Ron Cole, PTA President  
Editor: Jennifer Good  
jgoodcause@yahoo.com

**Principal's Message "The Aztec Way" - Mark Atkins**

This fall at our first staff meeting, I spoke to the Adobe Bluffs staff about my vision for our school. I call this vision "The Aztec Way". I shared that I believe school should be a place that not only develops students academically, but also looks to build their character, and help them understand how they can and do impact the world around them. The seven components of the Aztec Way are:

- Consistency for all students
- Developing Character Traits
- A College Ready Culture
- Community service
- Connecting kids to school - Clubs
- Environmental awareness
- Exploration of Careers

The first area is consistency for all students across the school. This means we need to have the same expectations for academics and behavior for all of our kids. Since students have different academic ability levels, this boils down to requiring their best efforts, all the time. As a staff we will model the behaviors we want to see from our students. Secondly, we want to develop the character traits. Our district has adopted "character counts", and the traits of trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship are what we want to see in our students and staff members.

In my last article I shared that a college ready culture means educating our students in a way that prepares them for college, so they have that option available to them if they choose to attend. Our focus will be on having our students proficient or advanced on the STAR tests, because that prepares them to meeting the A-G requirements for UC/CSU campuses.

This year I wanted Adobe Bluffs to provide opportunities for students to become involved in clubs, and community service. This has begun with our new 5<sup>th</sup> grade gardening club. The students will receive community service credit for helping to beautify the school. They will also learn about horticulture and gain environmental awareness. We are also working to begin a recycling program at the school that will be lead by our student council. These programs will help connect kids to school because research shows that students who feel a connection do better academically.

Lastly, we began our career exploration with our Junior Achievement program "kickoff" this month. Volunteers from the local business community will come into all of our classrooms five times throughout the year to teach lessons. The lessons include hands-on activities that are designed to help students understand careers, business and economics. For more information about the elementary school Junior Achievement program you can visit this link:

[http://www.ja.org/Programs/programs\\_elem\\_overview.shtml](http://www.ja.org/Programs/programs_elem_overview.shtml)



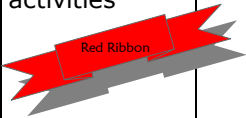
**AB Student Council Officers for 2008/2009:**

- President  
*Kylie Hetzel*
- Vice-President  
*Nicky Stuckey*
- Secretary  
*Neele Pantfoerder*
- Treasurer  
*Mark Nasielski*
- Publicity  
*Matthew Chen*
- Commissioner Spirit  
*Teresa Tran*
- Commissioner Environment  
*Anthony Cabrito-Jones*

**Ball Room Volunteers Needed**



Tues and Thurs 11:20-12:25  
Students check out sports equipment and board games. Without parent volunteers this PTA run program cannot be open on a regular basis.  
Contact: Jaime Kaesbauer at [jaime\\_kaesbauer@hotmail.com](mailto:jaime_kaesbauer@hotmail.com)

| Sun   | Mon                | Tue | Wed                                       | Thur   | Fri  | Sat |
|---|--------------------|-----|---|--|--|-----|
| 19<br>See list below for daily activities<br> | 20<br>Mileage Club | 21  | 22<br>Mileage Club                        | 23<br>Thursday Sing<br>YMCA Sports Clinic<br>Early Release 12:25 | 24<br>AB Spirit Day<br>Mileage Club<br>Cultural Diversity<br>Potluck form deadline | 25  |
| 26  | 27<br>Mileage Club | 28  | 29<br>Mileage Club<br>Early Release 12:25 | 30<br>No school - Parent /Teacher Conferences                    | 31<br>No school - Parent /Teacher Conferences                                      | 1   |

## Box Tops...Box Tops...Box Tops

Turn in your box tops before the **October 31<sup>st</sup> Deadline.**

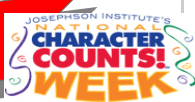
Each box top makes a difference...just 10 box tops per student earns \$400 for Adobe Bluffs!!!

Drop off Box tops in the rocket next to the office.



Find box tops on these products. Click here for a [complete list](#). Get coupons at [BoxTops4Education.com](#)

Red Ribbon Week



### Daily Activities

20 Monday

Receive your Red Ribbon/Character Counts bracelet Wear it all week.

High-five our AB Red Ribbon Ambassador (Mr. Knorr)

21 Tuesday

Crazy Hair Day!

22 Wednesday

Dress in Red from Head-to-Toe Day

23 Thursday

#### **Character Counts! Day**

Wear your grade level color for a school-wide picture

**Preschool/Kindergarten - purple**

**1st grade- blue**

**2nd grade - green**

**3rd grade - yellow**

**4th grade - orange**

**5th grade - red**

#### **Family Night**

6:00-7:00 @ MPR. Students will participate in 6 different activities correlating to specific character traits. Door prizes, other gifts and Bookmark winners will be announced

24 Friday

Hugs not Drugs Day (bring in a favorite stuffed animal)

## What Is the History of Red Ribbon Week?

The murder of a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Special Agent by drug traffickers in 1985 sparked National Red Ribbon Week. Then, a tradition of displaying red ribbons spread as a symbol of intolerance toward drug use. Now, Red Ribbon Week events are held all across the country to strengthen prevention messages. Source: [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services](#)



Adobe Bluffs Is thankful for our

Diverse Cultural Community!

**What:** AB International Potluck  
**When:** 6-8pm on Friday, Nov 14th  
**Where:** AB MPR and outside tables  
**What to bring:** a food dish to share that feeds at least 12 adults  
**What else?** Free crafts for the children. Share your recipe in the AB International Cookbook  
**Sign-deadline:** Friday, October 24th

Questions? see the [yellow flyer](#) sent home last Friday or contact: Patty Verhage at 858-484-5743 or [pjjv@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pjjv@sbcglobal.net) or Ron Cole at 858-538-1699 or [rcole4@san.rr.com](mailto:rcole4@san.rr.com)

## Coming soon! New Spirit Wear *Adobe Bluffs*

Show your AB pride with Adobe Bluffs apparel. Items will be embroidered with a design chosen by the 5th graders. Several colors and a variety of styles will be available. Check out the samples in the office. Order forms will go home on or after Fri., Oct. 24th. Turn in order forms and money by Fri., Nov. 7th.

**Reminder:** The GATE testing request windows is closing soon. The last day to request testing for your child (grade 2-7) is Tues., November 4th.

[Online information](#) at [http://www.powayusd.com/teaching/learning/gate/pdf/GATE\\_Testing%20.pdf](http://www.powayusd.com/teaching/learning/gate/pdf/GATE_Testing%20.pdf)