



Aztec News

Adobe Bluffs Elementary



CHARACTER COUNTS!

Fairness

(December Focus)

- ◆ Play by the rules
- ◆ Take turns and share
- ◆ Be open-minded; listen to others
- ◆ Don't take advantage of others
- ◆ Don't blame others carelessly

5th Grade Band Winter Music Concert

Friday, Dec 12 at 9am, MPR
All classes and 5th grade music parents are invited.



Important Dates:

- Dec 11**
Nutcracker performance
- Dec 12**
5th gr. band concert
Last day for "Adopt-a-Family" donations
- Dec 22-Jan 2**
Winter Break No School

ADOBE BLUFFS PTA

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Principal's Message: Adobe Bluffs - One School, One Community

At Adobe Bluffs, we have a diverse student population. There are several special education programs including, speech, resource, full inclusion and three new classes for autism spectrum disorder. Autism spectrum disorder is a neurobiological disorder that affects social connectedness, communication skills and sensory processing. It causes a delay in development compared to typical peers and requires specialized instruction for them to learn skills. There is much research to find the cause of this disorder but as of today there is no cause and no cure. Early intervention and intensive instruction has been shown to build foundation skills that ensure success as students get older. Many people relate autism to Dustin Hoffman's character Raymond, in "Rain Man." This is one example of the splinter skills that people with autism demonstrate, however Raymond's skills are not a representation of what people with autism are really like.



Several of your students know the students on campus with autism spectrum disorder. Some students volunteer to help in classrooms. Others may know them from students coming to their classrooms for specific subjects. They may also have students with higher abilities completely included in their classrooms. Your students are an important part of learning for the students with autism. They are great models. Students with autism respond better to their peers and learn valuable language and social skills. They also are able to model academic skills after their peers. Building friendships is very difficult for children with autism and your students play a valuable role in making friends. Having one school and one community at Adobe Bluffs not only teaches the six character traits, it benefits all students in all areas.

If you or your student would like to support the autism spectrum disorder classes, there is the San Diego Race for Autism coming up, this Spring. Adobe Bluffs would like to form a team and participate in the mile walk on a Saturday. You are welcome to join up. Or, if you'd like to make a donation to support the team, please send your check, in an envelope labeled, "Race for Autism," to your child's teacher. All of the proceeds go to further research to better understand autism. For more information, please visit www.raceforautism.org. Thank you for your support.

Adobe Bluffs Adopts a Family



Donations accepted now through Dec 12th

With the holiday season approaching, many PUSD families will need help to end 2008 on a happy note, especially in the midst of this economic downturn. For the past several years, Adobe Bluffs PTA has proudly participated in the PUSD "Adopt-a-Family" program to help PUSD families in need. Each sponsored family submits a children's wish list which is filled by the gifts donated. This year, PTA is holding a "Adopt-a-Family" Holiday Drive and invite all AB families to give and share joy and friendship.

You can help by giving:

- ◆ Gift cards for gas, grocery stores/retail stores (Target, Wal-Mart, Stater Brothers, Albertson; suggested amount: \$25)
- ◆ Toys/games (especially for older kids)
- ◆ New shoes for kids (ages 4-17)
- ◆ Cash donations

Gift cards/cash donations should be put in a sealed envelope labeled "Adopt-a-Family" in the secure PTA box in the office. All other donations can be placed in the box marked "Adopt-a-Family Holiday Drive" next to the kindergarten classrooms.

SCHOLASTIC Book Fair A Success!

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped! Total net sales (w/out tax) were \$5,435. AB PTA earned \$1,329. Thank you to the AB students, families, and staff for making reading a priority and supporting the Fair.


Adobe Bluffs Calendar

Looking Ahead Jan 15 Variety Show rehearsal
Jan 24 Winter Jamboree



December 2008/January 2009

online <http://adobebluffspta.org/calendar.aspx>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
7	8 Mileage Club	9	10 Mileage Club	11 College Shirt Nutcracker Performance 9 & 10:15 MPR Early Release 12:25	12 AB Spirit Day Mileage Club  5th grade band concert 9am MPR Bruce Coville book order deadline Adopt-a-Family donation deadline	13
14	15 Mileage Club	16	17 Mileage Club	18 College Shirt Thursday Sing Early Release 12:25	19 AB Spirit Day Mileage Club \$20 Yearbook order deadline	20
21	22	23	24 No School	25 Winter Break Dec 22- Jan 2	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

AB Welcomes Bruce Coville to our Author's Faire on February 11, 2009

Each year, the PTA sponsors an Author's Faire where students get to listen to a published children's author and learn the process of publishing a book. Through this event, we hope to inspire the students' love of reading and writing.

This year we are thrilled to have well-known fantasy writer, Bruce Coville visit on Wednesday, February 11th. He is a popular writer of children's books, playwright, and teacher and has published over 100 books, including *Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Catcher*, *My Teacher is an Alien*, *The Unicorn Chronicles*, picture books, and many Shakespeare retellings. He has received several awards, including the California Young Reader Medal for *Jennifer*

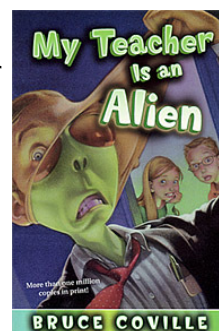
Murdley's Toad, the Giverny Award for *The Prince of Butterflies*, and the Knickerbocker Award for Juvenile Literature. Visit Bruce Coville's website www.brucecoville.com to see a list of all his books, writing ideas, games, and fun.

All students (K-5) will attend one of two assemblies: K-2nd at 10:45 and 3rd-5th at 12:45. The presentation will explain the creation of a book from idea to manuscript to publication. Mr. Coville will address editing and rewriting, creativity, and how to get ideas, using lots of humor.

Bruce Coville book order forms were sent home this week and are due by Dec. 12th. The signed books will be given out on Feb. 11th or 12th. You

may also bring your own copy of one of his books for personalization.

Parents are welcome to attend the presentation, after signing in at the office. Our children will learn about Bruce Coville in the library and the classroom, as being aware of who the author is makes the visit more meaningful. Any questions, please contact Donna Nasielski, Author's Faire chairperson at donnanas@gmail.com. This is her 8th and last Author's Faire at Adobe Bluffs, if someone would like to take over this position, please contact Ron Cole at rcole4@san.rr.com.



Can You Spare an Hour for Art?



Sponsored by the PTA and run by volunteers, Arts Attack (AA) brings quality art lessons to your child's classroom. Materials must be prepared and put away each week for the program to run smoothly. Set-up days are Mon, Tues and Fri. Supply clean-up days are Wed or Thurs. Can you help?

Thank you to the current AA docents for the great art work that is up in the classrooms. In one hour docents teach about great artists and direct students as they create their own art. Interested in becoming a docent? Kids love to see their parents teach. We will train you for free! Contact your child's teacher or Darlene Hart at pqharts@sbcglobal.net



November Contest Winners

Announcing a new Box Top Contest for December! The winning classroom will receive an otter pop party for the class. Drop your box tops in in your classroom's box.

November Box Top Contest winners are Mr. Knorr's and Mrs. Mark's class! The contest earned Adobe Bluffs over \$200! Great job. Let's keep it going!