



Robert Down Principal's Update


March 16, 2023



Principal's Message

Good Afternoon RHD Families -

There's lots to read below, so I will keep this short. I hope everyone gets their power back this evening and is able to get back to "normal" as much as possible.



I also wanted to thank families for using our "cone zone" on Pine Ave. for a drop off and making transitions at other parking spaces as fast as possible so other parents could pull up during drop off.

A special note from the RHD Family (pictured above) below...

LETTER FROM FAMILY:

Hi all.

We just wanted to take a moment to share a thank you as this weekend we were reminded of how much we appreciate the diversity of the curriculum Zahra is exposed to at Robert Down.

Going into our third day without power at home due to the rainstorms, we decided to head up to sunny San Jose to go to the art museum. As we arrived downtown we started seeing many happy people walking around with bursts of color all over their bodies.

We thought it might be a rave, but Zahra immediately recognized what was going on. She excitedly told us it was the Indian holiday, "Holi", that she recently learned about in a video shared at school. She told us about what it meant and why, and of course she wanted to take a detour and go celebrate, so that is what we did.

We met a lot of joyful strangers who asked us, "Would you like some color?" as Holi has a tradition of participants throwing colorful powders at one another. The idea being that Holi equalizes everyone, we all look the same, and skin color doesn't matter.

It was a fun treat for us to learn about through Zahra's eyes and a reminder of the many varied lessons and stories she has been exposed to at Robert Down. Thank you for that.

Best.

Chris & Nadja





[SmartSocial.com](https://www.pgusd.org/Departments/PGTech/Digital-Safety/index.html)

Our long-standing partnership with SamrtSocial and its founder Mr. Josh Ochs has been invaluable. Josh is an active, leading expert on digital safety and specifically when it comes to how kids use social media apps. His parent resources are fantastic. We encourage you to sign up for Josh's podcasts and Parent/family education workshops. Please visit our district website to sign up for SmartSocial information: <https://www.pgusd.org/Departments/PGTech/Digital-Safety/index.html>

LOCAL FUNDRAISER

SOLD OUT

The Great Taste of PG hosted by our wonderful P.G.P.R.I.D.E. comes back to the Inn at Spanish Bay on Sunday, March 19 from 4:00-7:00 PM. Cost is \$75 with various "tastes" from around the peninsula and beyond. I hope to see you there.

VIRTUAL PGUSD TK/K PARENT MEETING, MARCH 22

There will be a virtual parent information meeting for all incoming PGUSD Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten students to discuss registration and program content for the 2023-24 school year.

Zoom Meeting Link

<https://pgusd.zoom.us/j/83838937165>

Meeting ID: 838 3893 7165

For the 2023-24 school year, if your child turns 5:

On or before September 1, 2023: Kindergarten

Between September 2, 2023-April 2, 2024: TK

On or after April 3, 2024: eligible for K in Aug. 2024



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CAREER DAY

We need parent volunteers to share their careers with our 5th-grade students. Volunteers are to contact Mrs. Frudden, at sfrudden@pgusd.org. A meeting will take place in March to inform volunteers of the details. We are looking for a variety of careers to share with our 5th-grade students. Your presentation can be about 10 minutes in length. You will have the option of recording your presentation, presenting via ZOOM while on the job, or in person.

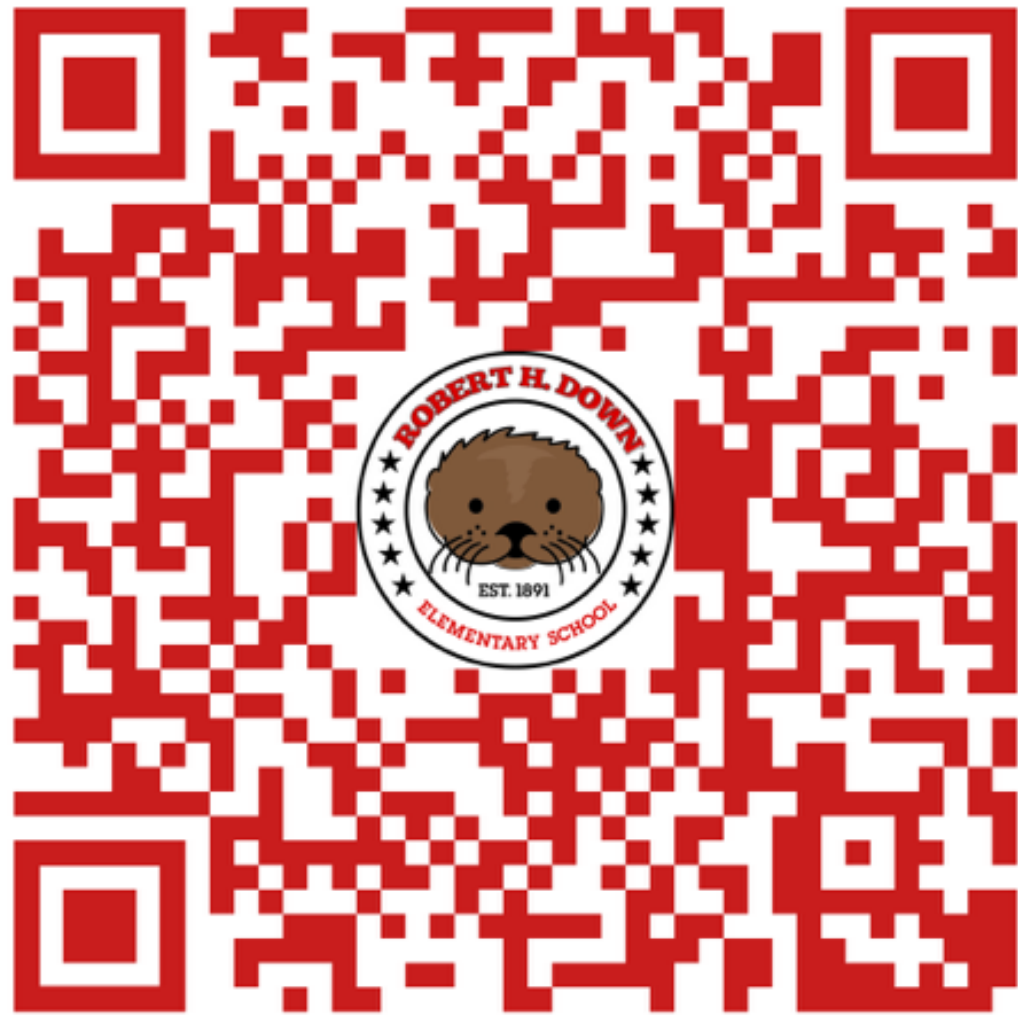
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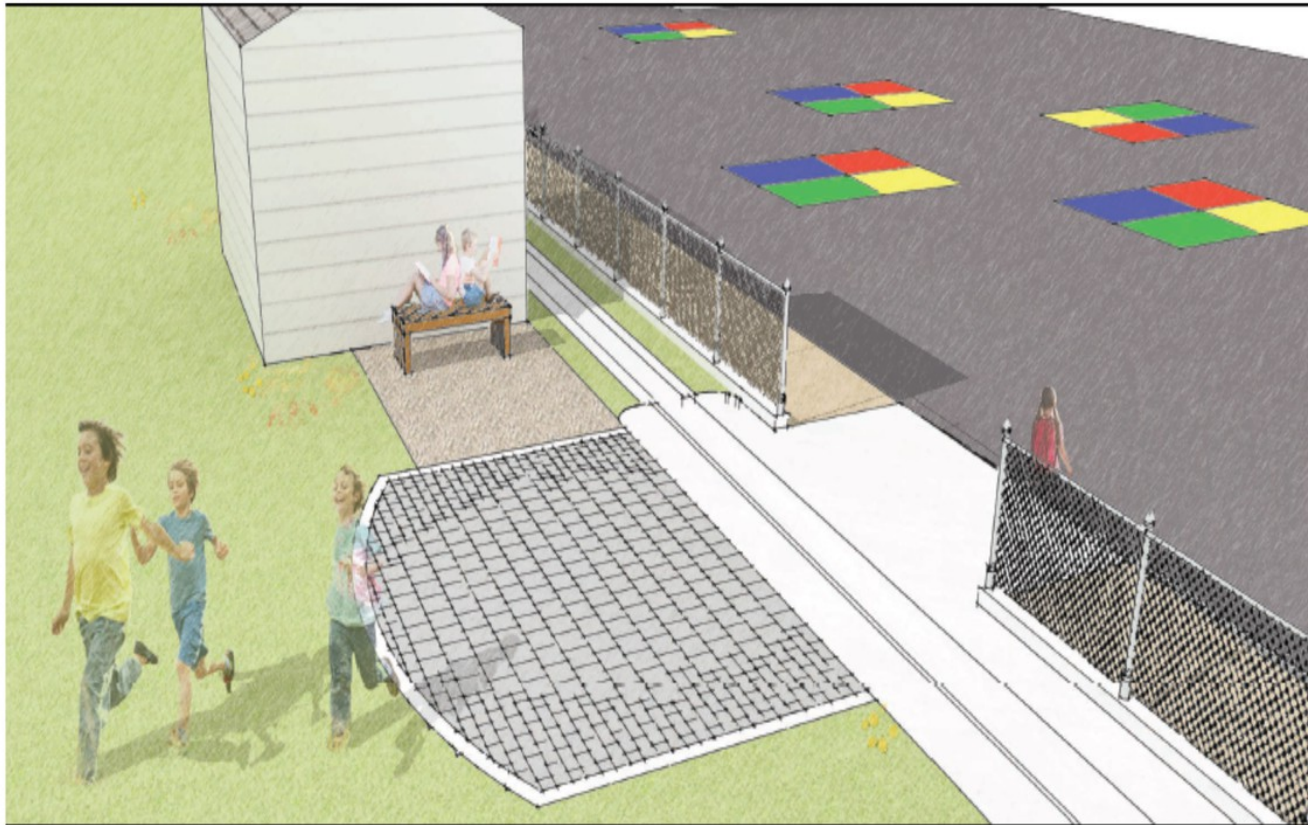
Sean Keller, RHD Principal
Google Voice (831) 275-0083
skeller@pgusd.org

RHD Brick Sales Are Available Online

Brick Fundraiser Back Online

A huge shout out to Field of Dreams Designs and its owner, Neil MacLaren, for being willing to sell RHD Bricks for our fundraiser. Please use the QR code below to order a 4x8 or 8x8 brick for our summer project.





RHD - Active Student COVID Cases

As of March 16

1 student, Mrs. Hiserman's Class

1 student, Mrs. Perkins' Class

RHD Upcoming Events

March 16 - PGUSD Board Meeting, 6:30 PM

March 19 - PG PRIDE Taste of PG, Spanish Bay, 4:00 - 7:00 PM

March 22 - PTA Dine Out, Chipotle at Del Monte Center, 4:00 -8:00 PM

March 22 - PGUSD Virtual TK/K Parent Meeting, 6:00-7:00 PM (see flyer below)

<https://pgusd.zoom.us/j/83838937165> Meeting ID: 838 3893 7165

April 7 - Minimum Day, all students dismissed at 12:10 PM

April 10-14 - Spring Break, no school

April 17 - School Site Council Meeting, 3:30 PM

April 20 - PGUSD Board Meeting, 6:30 PM

April 21 - STEM Night, details TBA

April 27 - Open House, 5:45 - 6:15 New TK/K, 6:15-6:30 PM Principal Message in Ottertorium, 6:30-7:15 PM Classroom Visits



Volunteer & Chaperone Clearance

If you plan on being a **VOLUNTEER** on campus or a **CHAPERONE** for a field trip, please be sure you are fingerprint cleared with our district and submit a copy of your **COVID vaccine card** to the District Office. To make an appointment at the District Office please call Kimberly Ortiz at 646-6553.

Before coming to campus to volunteer, please check with your child's teacher to schedule a time that works best for them.

Office Reminders...

1) Please have your child to school on time. Gates open at 8:30 AM. Warning bell rings at 8:40 AM. **Final bell rings and instruction begins at 8:45 AM.** When a student is tardy it is disruptive to the



office and classroom. In addition, students miss important information and announcements from their teacher first thing in the morning.

2) Did you know that you can report your child's absence with your ParentVUE app? Simply log into your ParentVUE account to send the office a message about why your child is absent.

*** Ways to report a student absent ***

a) ParentVUE app

b) 24 Hour Absence Line (831) 646-6663

c) Email Annie Deis at adeis@pgusd.org

3) Please make sure to relay afterschool plans with your child **PRIOR** to the school day. The office and teachers are getting phone calls and emails from parents daily about what their child should do after school. This is disruptive.



Robert Down Birthday Books

This notice is to tell you about our ***voluntary*** program designed to build the RHD library and foster your child's love of reading.

Here is how it works: To join the Robert H. Down Birthday Book Club fill out the information below (scroll way down to the bottom of this message to print the Birthday Book forms) and deposit it in the Drop Box at school along with a check for \$20.00 (please make the check payable to the P.G.U.S.D. and write R.H.D. Birthday Book on the memo line).

When your child's birthday month comes around Ms. Scanlon will present a new book in honor of your child's birthday. Your child will be the first one to check out and read the book that has been

donated to the library to celebrate their birthday. A bookplate with your child's name will be affixed to the inside cover for all future readers to appreciate.



Birthday Book Club.pdf

[Download](#)

280.3 KB



ToolboxParentWkshopHandout.pdf

[Download](#)

885.8 KB

Congratulations

Robert Down Spelling Bee 2023
Champions!



FIRST PLACE: Olivia Jones

Spelled "gregarious" correctly to win!

SECOND PLACE: Dizzy Dewart-Wodell

Spelled "triumphant" correctly for 2nd place!

THIRD PLACE: Owen Feir

Spelled "precious" correctly to tie for 3rd place!

Daphne Oded

Spelled "stationary" correctly to tie for 3rd!

WISH OLIVIA AND DIZZY LUCK AS THEY COMPETE IN THE 38TH ANNUAL LYCEUM OF
MONTEREY COUNTY SPELLING BEE ON APRIL 1ST! OWEN AND DAPHNE WILL SERVE AS ALTERNATES AT THE COUNTY
BEE.







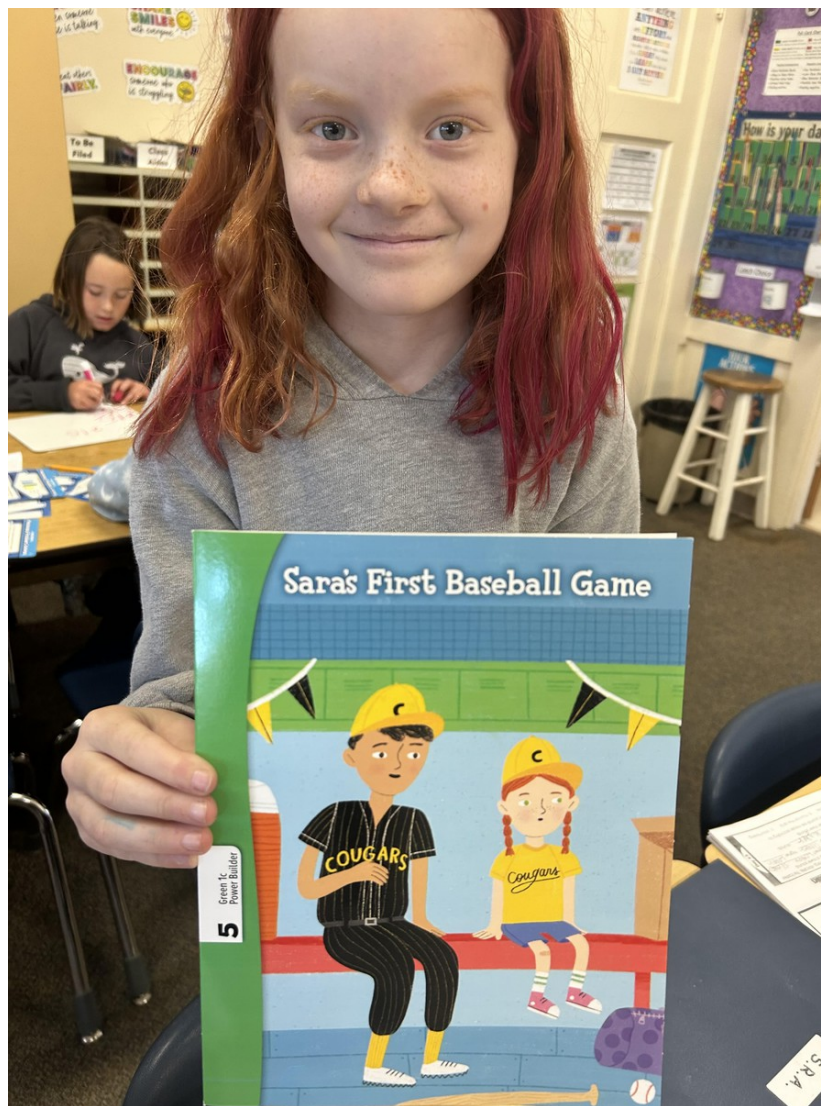






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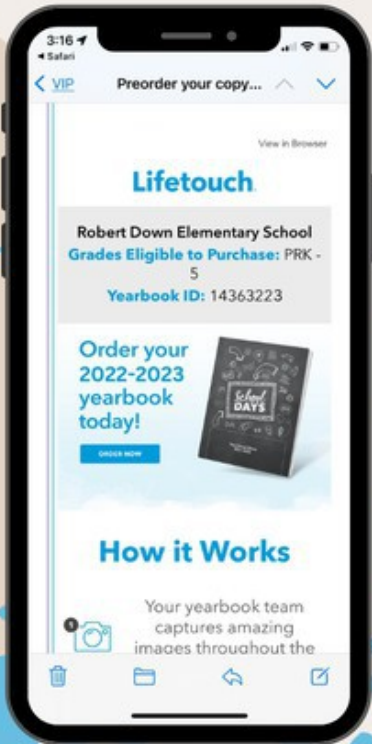
Third-grader Brooklyn found the perfect SRA book to read since she and the main character both play softball for the Cougars, both have #5 on their jerseys, and both have red hair! Our class is also studying the Compare/Contrast text structure! It's like we planned it!





Flyers

PTA Newsletter



Order your 2022-2023 yearbook today!

IT'S EASY!

- 01** Go to <https://ybpay.lifetouch.com/Order>
- 02** Enter our Yearbook ID: 14363223
- 03** Place an order for your child's yearbook!

RHD Yearbooks for SALE!

Yearbooks are available for sale, please order soon if you'd like one:

<https://ybpay.lifetouch.com/Order/SelectJob?>

[jobNumber=14363223&utm_source=ExactTarget&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=PN_YB_F22_DEC&utm_medium=email&utm_source=ExactTarget&utm_campaign=PN_YB_F22_DEC](https://ybpay.lifetouch.com/Order/SelectJob?jobNumber=14363223&utm_source=ExactTarget&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=PN_YB_F22_DEC&utm_medium=email&utm_source=ExactTarget&utm_campaign=PN_YB_F22_DEC)



Orders must be placed by April 17

Don't miss out on all the events at Robert Down Elementary School. Pre-order your yearbook today at ybpay.lifetouch.com using your **Yearbook ID Code: 14363223**.

CLICK HERE to ORDER RHD Spirit Wear

CELEBRATING
40 YEARS OF GIVING!



Sunday,
March 19, 4-7pm

The Inn at Spanish Bay Ballrooms,
Pebble Beach

Come join us for an
evening of Great Food,
Wine, Brew and a
Great Silent Auction!

Raising funds
for Pacific
Grove
Classrooms

Please Join Us

Purchase your tickets or
make a donation online now!

Go to: supportpgpride.com today!

\$75 in advance

\$85 beginning March 13

(over 21 years of age only, please)



Email info@supportpgpride.com for sponsorship opportunities,
silent auction donations, food & beverage vendor opportunities.
Mail Donations to: P.O. Box 419, Pacific Grove, CA 93950

Pacific Grove Unified School District neither endorses nor sponsors the organization or activity represented in this document.

PGUSD 2023-2024

TK & Kindergarten Parent Meeting

This will be a virtual parent information meeting for all incoming PGUSD Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten students to discuss registration and program content for the 2023-24 school year.

For the 2023-24 school year, if your child turns 5:

On or before September 1, 2023: Kindergarten

Between September 2, 2023-April 2, 2024: TK

On or after April 3, 2024: eligible for K in Aug. 2024



Wednesday, March 22, 2023

6:00 - 6:30 PM General Information

6:30 - 7:00 PM Break Out by site

Zoom Meeting Link

<https://pgusd.zoom.us/j/83838937165>

Meeting ID: 838 3893 7165

An opportunity to visit campuses in person will be during Open House:

Forest Grove – April 26 at 6:00 PM, Multi-Purpose Room

Robert Down – April 27 at 5:45 PM, Ottertorium

RHD PTA DINE OUT FUNDRAISERS 2023

FEBRUARY



FEBRUARY 21

5pm - 8pm

MARCH



MARCH 22

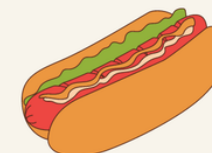
4pm - 8pm

APRIL



APRIL 19

4pm - 8pm



MAY



MAY 17

All day

JUNE



JUNE 14

All day

JULY



JULY 7

11am - 7pm



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utilizing the power of creativity to inspire the next generation of ocean stewards

Sunday, May 21, 2023

Presented by SpectorDance

**At the Monterey Museum of Art
559 Pacific Street, Monterey, CA, 93940**

Calling All Young Artists!

**Please Submit Your Original Ocean-themed Works of Visual Art,
Music, Spoken Word, Theater, Dance, & all other genres**

Application Deadline: March 16, 2023

APPLY [HERE](#)

Pacific Grove Unified neither endorses nor sponsors the organization or activity represented
in this document.

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GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION

[CLICK HERE TO APPLY](#)

WHO CAN APPLY

- Individuals or groups 10- 24 years old
- Teachers and art instructors may apply on behalf of a group of students

- 
- Only one original work of visual art per person will be accepted

VISUAL ART

- Must be approximately 11"x17" and framed or mounted on foam core for display on an easel*
- Work must be delivered to the Monterey Museum of Art. Delivery time slots TBA.
- Work must be labeled (back or bottom) at time of drop-off
- Other sizes and forms of visual art may be considered upon request

Please fill out application information exactly as you want it to appear on the identifying label at the exhibition.

PERFORMING ART

- Works must be 10 minutes or less
- Music must be delivered on a thumb drive compatible with our sound system and delivered to SpectorDance by May 20, 2023
- Performing artists are required to attend a tech rehearsal on May 20 between 4:00 to 7:30 pm or May 21 between 10:00 am to 1 pm. Artists will need to arrive on site 20 minutes before their scheduled tech time slot, which will be assigned. Specifics TBA

SUGGESTED THEMES

Climate Change Resilience of Nature

Challenges Confronting our Ocean

Overpopulation

Plastics in the Ocean

Extinction of Species

Ocean Pollution

Covid Consequences

Inspiration for Solutions

Human Imagination

Engineering and Innovation

Interdisciplinary Partnerships

Bioluminescence

Denial and Apathy

Ocean Acidification

Political and Actionable Change





APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

- ☐ Completed application form. Attach additional pages if needed.
- ☐ Apply soon because spots are limited!
- ☐ Submit a sample of proposed or previous work (e.g.: video link, photograph or sketch of art, text excerpt of poetry/lyrics/spoken word, Mp3 file of music). Work does not have to be finished by the application deadline but should show progress towards completion.
- ☐ High-resolution photographs of artist and/or work for publicity.

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS:

- ☐ Performing artists must be available for pre-event Tech Rehearsal date TBA
- ☐ Artists must give SpectorDance permission to use any photographs or video footage taken at the Ocean Arts Festival: Monterey
- ☐ Artists must be able to arrive before and/or stay after the event to assist with the set-up and clean-up of their visual art display or performance
- ☐ Share the provided flier/information with friends and contacts
- ☐ Follow SpectorDance on Facebook and/or Instagram
- ☐ SpectorDance reserves the right to refuse a work of art for any reason
- ☐ Sign liability waiver: neither MMA nor SpectorDance are responsible for any damage to artwork that may occur during storage for, or display at, the festival

EMAIL APPLICATION FILES (E.G. PHOTOGRAPHS, VIDEOS) AND/OR

QUESTIONS TO: oceanartsfestival.monterey@gmail.com


ELIGIBILITY: Artists between 10 and 24 years of age are eligible regardless of race, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, and physical ability. SpectorDance is an equal opportunity organization.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 16, 2023

OCEAN ARTS FESTIVAL: MONTEREY DATE: May 21, 2023

Thank you for your application to and interest in SpectorDance's Ocean Arts Festival. We look forward to working with you!

Thank you to our major donors: Arts Council for Monterey County,
California Arts Council, Monterey Museum of Art, Monterey County Gives & the Harden Foundation!



For more information call 831-601-8510 or visit www.SpectorDance.org/OAF
[CLICK HERE TO APPLY](#)

PENINSULA
CHURCH



Holy Week

04.02.2023 **PALM SUNDAY** 9AM & 11AM
04.06.2023 **MAUNDY THURSDAY** 6:30-7:30PM
04.07.2023 **GOOD FRIDAY** 6:30PM
04.09.2023 **EASTER SUNDAY** 9AM & 11AM



FOR MORE DETAILS ON
OUR **EASTER EGG HUNT**,
SERVICES,
AND MORE VISIT US AT
PENCHURCH.COM

520 PINE AVE
PACIFIC GROVE, CA

INFO@PENCHURCH.COM
831.373.0431

PACIFIC UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NEITHER ENDORSES NOR SPONSORS THE ORGANIZATION OR ACTIVITY
REPRESENTED IN THIS DOCUMENT



Pacific Grove Unified School District

MARCH 2023 Elementary School Menu



Breakfast				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cereal Raisins / Craisins / Apple Crisps Milk	Mini Cinnis Raisins / Craisins / Apple Crisps Milk	Concha/Pan Dulce (Mexican sweet bread) 100% Fruit Juice Milk	Cereal Fresh Fruit Milk	Chocolate Muffin 100% Fruit Juice Milk
Lunch				
		Wednesday 3/1	Thursday 3/2	Friday 3/3
		Miller's Beef Hotdog (uncooked, no nitrates) Baked Beans Fresh Fruit Milk	Grilled Chicken Sandwich or Veggie Burger Cucumbers 100% Fruit Juice Milk	Domino's Cheese Pizza Side Salad Fresh Fruit Milk
Monday 3/6	Tuesday 3/7	Wednesday 3/8	Thursday 3/9	Friday 3/10
Mozzarella Stuffed Breadsticks with marinara sauce Green Beans Applesauce Milk	Brunch for Lunch Buttermilk Pancakes served with syrup Turkey Sausages Home Fries Fresh Fruit Milk	Turkey Ham & Cheese Sandwich 100% Veggie & Fruit Juice Fruit Cup Milk	Turkey Ham & Cheese Wrap Baby Carrots Fresh Fruit Milk Graham Crackers	Soybutter & Jelly Sandwich String Cheese 100% Veggie & Fruit Juice Fresh Fruit Milk Cheez-Its
Monday 3/13	Tuesday 3/14	Wednesday 3/15	Thursday 3/16	Friday 3/17
Macaroni & Cheese Garlic Breadstick Cucumbers Fresh Fruit Milk	Orange Chicken Steamed Rice Corn Fruit Cup Milk	Turkey Taco Nada Baby Carrots Fresh Fruit Milk	Build-a-Burger (all-beef or veggie patty) plain or with cheese, lettuce & pickles Baked Beans 100% Fruit Juice Milk	Domino's Cheese Pizza Side Salad Fresh Fruit Milk
Monday 3/20	Tuesday 3/21	Wednesday 3/22	Thursday 3/23	Friday 3/24
Cheese Calzone with marinara sauce Green Beans Fresh Fruit Milk	Crispy Chicken Sandwich (NAE whole-muscle breaded filet) Sweet Potato Tots Fruit Cup Milk	Meatballs & Marinara (chicken meatballs) Texas Toast Corn Fresh Fruit	Grilled Chicken Sandwich or Veggie Burger Baked Beans 100% Fruit Juice Milk Abby's Mini Chocolate Chip Cookies	Domino's Cheese Pizza Side Salad Fresh Fruit Milk
Monday 3/27	Tuesday 3/28	Wednesday 3/29	Thursday 3/30	Friday 3/31
Bean & Cheese Pupusa Cornitos w/ Tojin Fruit Cup Milk Goldfish Graham	Chicken & Waffle (NAE chicken served with syrup) Corn Fresh Fruit Milk	Teriyaki Chicken Steamed Rice Mixed Veggies Fresh Fruit Milk	Build-a-Burger (all-beef or veggie patty) plain or with cheese, lettuce & pickles Baked Beans 100% Fruit Juice Milk	Domino's Cheese Pizza Side Salad Fresh Fruit Milk

Daily Vegetarian Option includes Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich & Bean & Cheese Burrito Menu subject to change without notice; the USDA and CDE are equal opportunity providers and employers

ALL MEALS ARE FREE THROUGH MAY 26, 2023
www.pgusd.org/Departments/Food-Services

PGMS PTSA Info

Calling all 5th Grade Parents! Join the PGMS PTSA for '23-'24 school year! All positions on the board are available, if interested, BUT 2-3 Sixth Grade Representatives are needed! What do the 6th Grade Reps do? They help plan several events exclusive only for 6th grade students, as well as, support the PTSA in planning and running events and attend monthly meetings. See the flyer for

more info. We look forward to having you join us...together we can make waves for our PGMS Breakers!



Message from District Nurse Katrina Powley

Medication Consent - Even for Store Bought/On the Counter Medication

A friendly reminder that a medication consent form should be completed with parent and healthcare signature for all over-the-counter and prescribed medications given at school. This includes cough drops and throat lozenges.

Reminder -- Food Allergies

Hello Kindergarten and First Grade Classroom Families,

As a reminder, we have a Kindergarten classmate severely allergic to peanuts as well as First Grade classmates that are severely allergic to egg and egg products in addition to tree nut and peanut products. Therefore, they should not be exposed to any egg, tree nut or peanut products in the classrooms or lunch area in order to avoid life-threatening reactions to these foods requiring Epi-Pen treatment.

The Kindergarten classmate and First Grade classmates can develop life-threatening allergic reactions to these products via contaminated hands with both nut and egg remnants which are rubbed on the eyes, nose, and mouth. To maintain the highest level of safety, all of the Kindergarten and First classrooms will be compulsory egg, tree nut, and peanut-free classrooms.

No school-based foods containing egg or nut products will be served in any of the Kindergarten and First Grade classrooms.

Given the importance of ensuring that there is no exposure to egg and nut food products in the Kindergarten and First Grade classrooms, we request that all Kindergarten and First Grade classroom families refrain from sending any foods with their child to school which contain peanut, tree nut or egg ingredients. We understand that this requires an adjustment for families in the foods that they pack for their students as well as time to plan for alternatives but know that this is an important implementation to minimize the exposure to life-threatening allergens for students with nut and egg allergies.

*Thank you very much,
Katrina Powley, RN, BSN, CSN
District School Nurse
Pacific Grove Unified School District
kpowley@pgusd.org
Google Voice: (831) 275-5396*



Robert Down Elementary School

Website: <https://robertdown.pgusd.org/>

Location: [485 Pine Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA, USA](#)

Phone: (831) 646-6540



2022-23 Pricing Letter to Households.pdf

[Download](#)

156.5 KB



BUS-PASSapplication - 22-23.doc

[Download](#)

80.5 KB



RHD November 2022 Brick Fundraiser Fliers.pdf

[Download](#)

740.1 KB



Robert Down Elementary School

is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

Created with  **smore**

Communicate quickly and effectively with interactive newsletters.

Smore empowers educators to connect with their community, streamline school communications, and increase engagement.

[Create a newsletter](#)