

# ROBERT DOWN PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

September 7, 2023







# **Principal's Message**

Dear RHD Families -

I wanted to thank our Garden Coordinator, Heidi Feldman, and parents/guardians Julia Triplett, Nan Johnson, Claire Bresnahan, Gary Karnes, and Michele Barat along with a host of 5th graders that helped prep our garden this past Sunday.

As you can see from the pictures above, plant life is little to none; however, Ms. Feldman has assured me that dry soil is the best time to plant seeds, and she looks forward to helping the different grade levels an area to plant and learn from the growth to come.

Our PTA president, Socorro Valdez, would like to thank families for their support during Back to School Night and for participating in the Monterey Bay Union Back to School Night. Any middle schoolers that are interested in earning community service at our upcoming Bike Rodeo on Saturday, September 23rd from 10:00-12:00 or earlier/later if they want to help set up or clean up. Contact Socorro at <a href="mailto:socorrovaldez33@gmail.com">socorrovaldez33@gmail.com</a>

**Reminders:** 

- Thank you to the Pine Ave. drop off parents/guardians for doing a great job so far in helping
  to speed up the transitions out of vehicles and not parking or getting out of the car to help
  your student out which truly slows down the flow of vehicles in a very tight window during
  drop off. If you want to take some time to say goodbye, please park in front of the cones or
  across the street and use the crosswalk.
- I'm hoping to hire a crosswalk monitor and additional noon duty staff member tomorrow. Crossing fingers, pun intended. :)
- We always need help from parents/guardians for PTA events. Please see the list below.

### From the PGUSD Nurse

Please contact our health clerk if your child has a severe allergy and has emergency medication to manage them. Cindy Waznis / <a href="mailto:cwaznis@pgusd.org">cwaznis@pgusd.org</a>

# Parents are needed to help organize the following events:

- Bike Rodeo (September 23rd-1 parent signed up)
- Butterfly Bazaar all PGUSD PTAs help with this event (October7th)
- Halloween Party (Late October Friday TBD 4 parents signed up)
- Read a Thon/Book Week (February)
- Book Swap (March 7th Get Donated Books/Students bring one get one)
- Book Night (March 8th Contact Guest Readers, like me!)
- Art and STEM Night/STEAM Night (April TBD)
- Diversity Night (TBD)
- Bingo Night (TBD)
- Movie Night (TBD)
- 5th Grade Campout (May, TBD)
- 5th Grade Sunset (May, TBD)

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In Otter Ohana,

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

# **RHD Upcoming Events**

September 7—PGUSD Board Meeting, 6:30 PM

September 9 - Wellness Fair, PGMS, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

September 16 -PG PRIDE, Walk with Pride Event, Lovers Point 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

September 19 - PTA Meeting via zoom, link to follow

**September 20** —School Picture Day



September 20 - PTA DIne Out, Pacific Thai, all day
September 23 - PTA Bike Rodeo, RHD Playground, 10:00 AM 12:00 PM

**September 26** - Cocoa with Keller, 6:30 PM, https://pgusd.zoom.us/j/86528894217

Meeting ID: 865 2889 4217



# 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 <u>adeis@pgusd.org</u>
- 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.



# **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. To make an appointment at the District Office please contact Bree Nehring by calling 607-8892 or emailing <a href="mailto:bnehring@pgusd.org">bnehring@pgusd.org</a>

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



# **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

# **SMARTSOCIAL**

### Screen Time Events from SmartSocial

- Live Parent & Student ChatGPT & Google Bard Al Training September 7th
- Avoiding Strangers, Drugs, and Dangerous Situations Online VIP Event, September 26th & 27th
- Navigating Al Tools To Prep A Student For Their Future College & Career VIP Event, October 24th & 25th
- Using Screen Time to Support Positive Student Behaviors on Campus and At Home VIP Event, November 14th & 15th

# **Virtual Parent Night Event**

In today's digital world, screens are an integral part of our lives, offering boundless opportunities for learning and leisure. But how can we ensure that screen time is a source of joy and not a thief of it?

This event is designed for parents, students, and educators. We will be sharing insights, tips, and tools to make the most of screen time while reducing its potential downsides.





# **Al Parent Training For Students**

The SmartSocial Parent, Teacher & Counselor forum will teach you the hidden safety features of TikTok, Snapchat, Instagram, Fortnite, Netflix, YouTube & More

☑ smartsocial.com

# **PLEASE READ: ALLERGY ALERT LETTER**

Hello Robert Down Families,

This year, we have some schoolmates in grades 2 through 5 with life-threatening allergies to eggs, tree nuts, peanuts, and milk requiring Epi-Pen treatment if exposed to eggs and foods containing tree nuts, peanuts, and life. To maintain the highest level of safety, all of the 2nd grade classrooms will be <u>compulsor</u>, egg, tree nut, and peanutif. To eccentrate the thing that the life of the safety and the safety of the safety and the safety of th

Mr. Keller will be discussing with all grade levels the importance of being safe at the lunch tables and not playing with milk cartons by purposely pouring liquids onto trays, onto the table tops or ground, and not stomping on cartons to hear them "pop". He will also share with students the importance of using hand wipes or washing hands after eating any food allergy products to keep playground equipment safe for all students.

The best way to determine if foods are allergy-free snacks is to read the label since most brands have a warning statement or The best way to determine it foods are allergy-free snacks is to read allergen list. Be aware of phrases like this:

May Contain Peanuts
Processed on shared equipment with Peanuts
Manufactured in a facility that also processes Peanuts
Contains Peanut or Peanut Ingredients



In addition, we will encourage students to care for their food properly at school by not not sharing food with others, not throwing food, and not carelessly spilling food onto others in order to eliminate food allergy exposure and cross contamination in eating areas shared by multiple grade levels.

The following resource link and attachment can assist you in teaching your children how to support friends with allergies and how to keep them safe.

community.kidswithfoodallergies.org/blog/8-ways-to-teach-children-about-food-allergies

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thank you very much,

Katrina

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

# Allergy Alert Letter August 2023.docx.pdf

**Download** 

520.1 KB

# How To AVOID a Food Allergy REACTION

The only way to
AVOID having an
allergic reaction is
to AVOID THE FOOD
YOU'RE ALLERGIC
TO. That's why it's
important to follow
these rules.



Don't share food or drinks.

Read labels twice or ask an adult. NO LABEL? DON'T EAT IT!

Always tell whoever is making your food about your food allergy.

Don't take chances.

If you don't know what's in your food, DON'T EAT IT.



# Food Allergy MYTHS



MYTH: Eating a little bit of a food you're allergic to won't hurt.

FACT: For someone with a food allergy, even a small amount of a food allergen can cause a serious allergic reaction.

### MYTH:

Peanut allergy is the most dangerous food allergy.

FACT: Any food can cause an allergic reaction. No single food allergy is more dangerous than another.

MYTH: Food allergies are not serious. FACT:
Food allergies
are VERY serious.
People with food
allergies must be
careful about what they
eat all the time and
always be prepared for
an allergic
reaction.

MYTH: A food allergy always develops in childhood, then you're stuck with it for life.

**FACT:** A person can develop a food allergy **anytime**, even as an adult. **Kids may outgrow a food allergy**, especially allergies to milk, egg, soy, and wheat.



# **RHD Drama Club**

Dear Robert Down Families,

We are very excited to announce that Drama Club for Grades 2-5 will begin this fall. The club will meet after school on certain Mondays and Tuesdays from 3:15-4:30pm. For those that are interested in joining please send an email to <a href="mailto:robertdowndrama@gmail.com">robertdowndrama@gmail.com</a>

There is a capacity limit, so enrollment will be based on a first come first serve basis. Since this club is fully voluntary, we will ask all parents to volunteer at some point during the program. Thank you,

Shawn Rozsa (Club Director)

# A Message from our Garden Coordinator

Dear Robert Down Families,

I'm happy to let you know that I will help refurbish your school's garden as the newly hired Garden Coordinator. My past experience includes managing the public education program at the Monterey Regional Waste Management District, which included working with school gardens and environmental education. I'm also involved with the PG Community Garden.

The RHD garden is a diamond in the rough...a beautifully designed space for children that is just waiting to be cleaned up and replanted! We will revive this wonderful resource to make it a treasured space once again, inviting our students to learn in a natural, fun environment. My hope is that we can do a deep clean and new planting in the next few weeks, to make the garden ready for student visits very soon, including classroom time, garden lunch, and an after-school Garden Club.

Please let me know if you would like to volunteer, as your time permits, to make the magic happen, no gardening experience necessary. Our kids and teachers will be so thankful for your gift of time and hands-on help. You can contact me at <a href="mailto:rdgarden@pgusd.org">rdgarden@pgusd.org</a> if you are available to join me in the garden.

Wishing you all a very happy start of school,

Heidi Feldman 831/521-8196

e-mail: <a href="mailto:hfeldman@pgusd.org">hfeldman@pgusd.org</a>

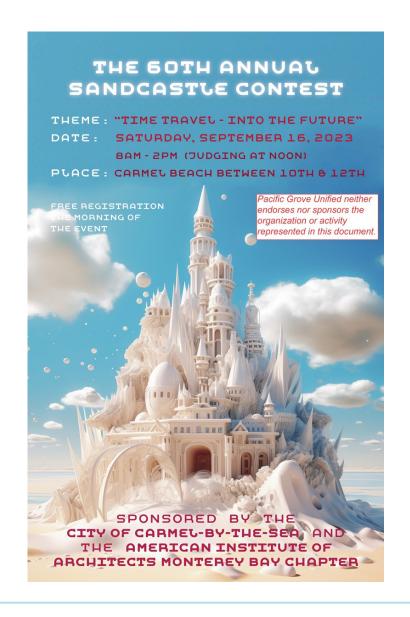
# **FLYERS**

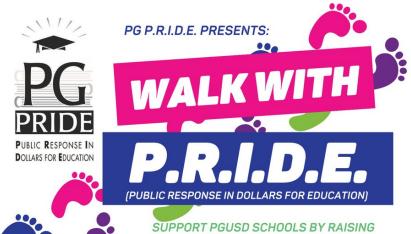


ROBERT DOWN SIGN UP LINK

**Click HERE for Lego Robotics!** 









SUPPORT PGUSD SCHOOLS BY RAISING
MONEY FOR YOUR CLASSROOM, TEAM, OR
CLUB! PARTICIPANTS WALK, RUN, BIKE OR
SCOOT ALONG THE REC TRAIL BETWEEN
LOVER'S POINT AND THE AQUARIUM, AND
GAIN PLEDGES FROM FAMILY AND FRIENDS
TO SUPPORT THEIR EFFORTS!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 9:00 AM - 12:00 NOON



START @ THE LOVER'S POINT REC TRAIL

DONATE NOW @ WWW.SUPPORTPGPRIDE.COM

ALL MONEY RAISED GOES DIRECTLY TO YOUR CHILD'S CLASSROOM - DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR!

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

# **Fall Pictures!!!**

**ROBERT H. DOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** 

School QR Code: rdwnf23

visit: PremierStudiosCA.com or scan QR code visite: premierstudiosca.com escanear el codigo QR



**SCAN** 



PICTURE DAY: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 DIA DE FOTOS: MIÉRCOLES 20 DE SEPTIEMBRE 2023

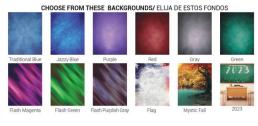




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# https://fieldofdreamsdesigns.com/butterfly

Get your 2023 design items by pre-ordering before midnight on Sept 17 (to be delivered before the Oct 7 event) OR buy them at the Butterfly Bazaar



**Tickets** 

\$1 each OR

Wristbands -

\$15 in advance,

\$20 on Sat.

This Pacific Grove Tradition since 1939 Saturday, October 7th

# **Parade**

Line-up @10:00 in front of Robert Down Elementary

March through town @10:30

Robert Down Field 11am - 2pm

Food! Games on the field

My Museum Wheelie Mobilee

Inflatable Slide

# Food for sale: (cash or check)

- Tacos & Burritos
- Pizza
- Sausages
- Popcorn
- Baked Goods Veggie & Vegan options

# Volunteers needed

- Middle Schoolers earn community service
- Parents look for Sign-up genius from PTA or school site email
- Join us to have some fun!

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

Butterfly\_baazar\_presale\_ticket\_flyer-2023.pdf

**Download** 

212.5 KB

# Parent Workshops

Guidance and Support from the Elementary School Counseling Team - Zoe Roach, MEd, PPS, Sonda Frudden, PPS and Cori Rosenberg, LCSW,RN

### Parent Toolbox Talk

- Wed Sept 6 | 6pm Robert Down
- Thurs Sept 7 | 9am Forest Grove



### Executive Functioning (EF)

- Wed Jan 31 | 9am Forest Grove
- Thurs Feb 1 | 6pm Robert Down



Coffee and pastries will be available Questions? Please contact Cori at the morning sessions and snacks in the evening sessions

# Helping Your Child Cope with Stress and Anxiety

- Wed Nov 15 | 6pm Forest Grove
- Thurs Nov 14 | 9am Robert Down



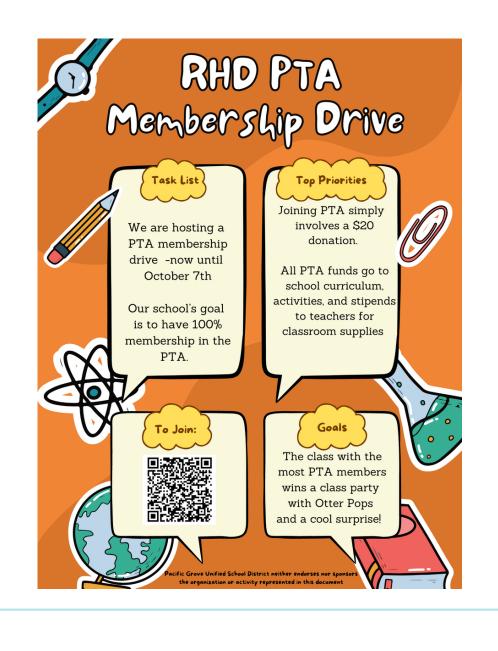
### Transitions for parents of 5th graders

- Wed May 1 | 9am Robert Down
- Thurs May 2 | 6pm Forest Grove



Rosenberg: crosenberg@pgusd.org or (831) 632-9551

These talks are a collaboration between FG and RD and parents are welcome to attend any session at either school ©



# RHD PTA DINE OUT FUNDRAISERS

**AUGUST** 



AUGUST 23

SEPTEMBER



SEPTEMBER 20

All day

OCTOBER



OCTOBER 11

All day





NOVEMBER



**NOVEMBER 15** 

Dinner

DECEMBER



**DECEMBER 13** 

All day





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# **Pacific Grove Unified School District**



# **September 2023 Elementary School Menu**

Breakfast				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cereal Raisins / Craisins / Apple Crisps	Mini Cinnis Raisins / Craisins / Apple Crisps	Concha/Pan Dulce (Mexican sweet bread) 100% Fruit Juice	Cereal Fresh Fruit	Chocolate Muffin 100% Fruit Juice

Lunch					
Monday 9/4	Tuesday 9/5	Wednesday 9/6	Thursday 9/7	Friday 9/8	
FRIDAY 9/1 PIZZA FRIDAY  MONDAY 9/4 Labor Day Holiday	Grilled or Crispy Chicken Sandwich Carrots Fruit Cup	Miller's Beef Hotdog (uncured, no nitrates) Sweet Potato Tots Fresh Fruit	Burger Day (all-beef or veggie patly) plain or with cheese, lethuce & pickles Boked Beans 100% Fruit Julice	Domino's Cheese Pizza Side Salad Fresh Fruit	
Monday 9/11	Tuesday 9/12	Wednesday 9/13	Thursday 9/14	Friday 9/15	
Bean & Cheese Papusa Garlic Breadstick Green Beans Fresh Fruit	Chicken 8 Waffle (NAE chicken served with syrup) Corn Fresh Fruit	Orange Chicken Steamed Rice Broccoli Fresh Fruit	Grilled or Crispy Chicken Sandwich or Veggie Burger Sweet Potato Tater Tots 100% Fruit Juice	Domino's Cheese Pizza Side Salad Fresh Fruit	
Monday 9/18	Tuesday 9/19	Wednesday 9/20	Thursday 9/21	Friday 9/22	
Mozzarella Stuffed Breadsticks with marinara sauce Green Beans Applesauce	Grilled or Crispy Chicken Sandwich Carrots Fruit Cup	Mini Corn Dogs Sweet Potato Tots Fresh Fruit	Burger Day (all-beef or veggie patty) plain or with cheese, lettuce & pickles Baked Beans 100% Fruit Juice	Domino's Cheese Pizza Side Salad Fresh Fruit	
Monday 9/25	Tuesday 9/26	Wednesday 9/27	Thursday 9/28	Friday 9/29	
Bean & Cheese Papusa Garlic Breadstick Green Beans Fresh Fruit	Chicken 8 Waffle (NAE chicken served with syrup) Corn Fresh Fruit	Orange Chicken Steamed Rice Broccoli Fresh Fruit	Grilled Chicken Sandwich or Veggie Burger Baked Beans 100% Fruit Juice	Domino's Cheese Pizza Side Salad Fresh Fruit	

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

1% White & Fat Free Chocolate Milk Available at each meal service

\*ALL MEALS ARE FREE!!! www.pgusd.org/Departments/Food-Services







<b>Regular Schedule</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> grade)		Regular Schedule (TK & Kindergarten)		
8:40	Warning Bell	8:40	Warning Bell	
8:45 - 9:55	Instruction	8:45 - 9:40	Instruction	
9:55 - 10:05	Recess	9:40 - 9:50	Recess	
10:05 - 12:05	Instruction	9:50 - 12:00	Instruction	
12:05 - 12:50	Lunch	12:00 - 12:50	Lunch	
12:50 - 1:55	Instruction	12:50 - 2:10	Instruction	
1:55 - 2:05	Recess	2:10	Dismissal	
2:05 - 3:10	Instruction			
3:10	Dismissal			



TI	nursday Schedule			
(4	ALL STUDENTS)			
8:40	Warning Bell			
8:45 - 9:55	Instruction			
9:55 - 10:05	Recess			
10:05 - 12:05	Instruction			
12:05 - 12:50	Lunch			
12:50 - 1:55	Instruction			
1:55	Dismissal			

# Minimum Day Schedule

(All Students)

8:40 8:45 - 9:55 Instruction 9:55 - 10:05 Recess 10:05 - 12:10 Instruction 12:10 Dismissal Warning Bell Instruction

**EVERY OTTER SWIMS - RHD BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS** 

Robert H. Down Elementary Behavioral Expectations  Every Otter SWIMS						
	Hallways/Restrooms	Cafeteria/Lunch Area	Playground/Field	Arrival/Dismissal	Classroom/Ottertorium	Toolbox Tools
<b>S</b> how Respect	Walk Slowly on the right side     Use positive words with others     Respect the space and needs of others	Stay Seated Stay in a single file line while waiting Keep your hands and feet to yourself Ask permission	Show good sports-manship Use appropriate language Respect the space and needs of others	Arrive on time     Follow the rules if riding the bus/using bike/scooter     Use crosswalks     Be safe on sidewalks	Speak and listen carefully Clean up work areas and desk area Let the little things go Show gratitude	Please and Thank You Using Your Words Garbage Can Be Safe
<b>W</b> ork Hard	Be quiet while in transition  Make good decisions  Keep school clean  Voice Level: 0	Use manners Sit with others and get to know new people Keep school clean Voice Levels: 0-2	Walk on blacktops at all times Be a problem solver Try all games/areas Voice Level: 3	Wait outside with patience     Enter building quietly and in your line     Voice Level: 0-2	Embrace academic struggle     Listen with your eyes, ears, and heart     Voice Level: 0-2	Patience     Listening     Breathing     Perseverance/Grit
<b>I</b> ncrease Integrity	Go directly where you need to be     Be honest and respectful with peers and adults     Keep restrooms clean	Raise your hand for assistance Be prepared to eat & don't leave any items inside building Cleanup after yourself	Admit when it is not your turn or are out     Follow game rules and do not make up new ones     Praise others for their play	Have all your needed materials     Be aware of responsi- bilities and behavior expectations for all activities	Be engaged during instruction Be prompt, prepared, and ready to learn Do your own work and not depend on AI/technology	Apology & Forgiveness     Empathy     Be Kind
<b>M</b> ake a Difference	Keep hands and feet to yourself     Show genuine care for RHD     Respect the space and needs of others	Eat all your food to reduce waste     Separate food scraps, recycling, & waste     Respect all staff members providing direction	Walk away from a conflict and inform an adult     Show genuine care for others—look out for the Buddy Bench	Respect all staff members providing direction Make safe decisions while walking/riding to and from school	Care for equipment and supplies  Clean up work areas and desk area  Take risks and learn new things	Taking Time Personal Space Quiet Safe Place Be Your Personal Best Every Day
<b>S</b> tand Up for Yourself and Others	Do the right thing     Share if someone is making a mess or does not flush     Respect others' stuff	Do the right thing when no one is watching     Bring food that does not cause allergic reactions, especially PB & J	Tell the truth and accept the results Seek assistance to resolve problems: Stop, Walk, Talk	Walk and be safe inside or outside buildings     Ask an adult staff member for help if someone needs a ride	Include all students in groups and activities Give your best effort on homework Try new ways to learn	Courage     Be an Upstander     Looking Out (for Others) Tool

Mr. Keller will be discussing the RHD Behavior Expectations with students during our first Toolbox Assemblies on Friday: Primary grades (TK, Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd at 10:10) Intermediate grades (3rd, 4th, and 5th at 10:30). Parents who have been cleared as a volunteer may attend (fingerprinted and cleared).



# **CLICK HERE to ORDER RHD Spirit Wear**

**OTTERLY ADORABLE** 















# **Robert Down Elementary School**

Website: <a href="https://robertdown.pgusd.org/">https://robertdown.pgusd.org/</a>

Location: 485 Pine Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA, USA

**Phone:** (831) 646-6540



**Robert Down Elementary School** 

is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters



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**Create a newsletter** 

