

SMOKE SIGNALS NEWSLETTER

Principal's Message:

It is hard to believe that we are well into our first trimester of the school year. Progress reports have gone home already with our students in grades 4-8 and students in all grades are working hard on learning their lessons and mastering the state standards at their grade levels. The first trimester ends on Friday, November 4, so there is just about a month left for students to get their assignments in and their work caught up before the official report cards are out. Parent/Teacher conferences will be held the following week.

SATURDAY SCHOOL: The first Saturday School of the year has been held. This year at Shaffer there will be a Saturday School held once a month. We hope that students will not have to serve a Saturday School but if they are assigned a Saturday School due to missing work, lack of effort, or for behavioral choices they've made, it is the parents responsibility to get them to the session. They are only assigned Saturday School for poor choices THEY have made. The next Saturday School is scheduled for Saturday, October 29th. The Saturday School session is 8:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. and held in Room 1 (Mr. Bailey's room) on the upper campus. The 29th is the Saturday before grades go in the system for the end of the trimester. So, if students are not keeping up on their work between progress reports and the end of the trimester they will be looking at serving Saturday School on this day. Please follow up with your child(ren) that they are keeping up on their work and the importance of them doing their jobs as students.

ATTENDANCE AND LASSEN COUNTY PROBATION: A letter was sent home regarding the contract that Shaffer School has entered into with the Lassen County Probation Department. School attendance is VERY important for your child's academic success. Truancy and Chronic Absenteeism have become a very serious problem throughout the state of California and Lassen County is working hard to control this issue. Please refer to the letter, as well as the letter that was sent home in your child's first day of school packet, regarding what constitutes an excused absence. Also, even if your child's absence is excused, it is important to understand that, although not considered a truancy, it does go against their attendance record and is counted toward their chronic absenteeism rate. If you have any questions about this, please feel free to contact me at the school office.

Finally, I would like to thank all of our parents for your dedication to your child's education. Working together as a team we know we can help your child(ren) to reach their full potential. You are their strongest advocate and support and we recognize you are their first teacher. We feel honored you have entrusted us at Shaffer School with their educational needs. Have a great month. HAPPY AUTUMN!

Mrs. Terri Daniels



IMPORTANT DATES

Wed. Oct 5: **2 Hour Late Start**
Teacher Collaboration
School Starts at 10:15 a.m.

Thurs. Oct 6: **Site Council Meeting**
5:30 p.m. Room 1

Fri. Oct 7: **7th Grade Career Fair**

Mon. Oct. 10: **NO SCHOOL**
COLUMBUS DAY

Wed. Oct. 12: **Student Council Trip**

Fri. Oct 14: **Lassen Park Trip Grades**
6-8 TBA

OCTOBER 17-22: SPIRIT WEEK

Tues.Oct. 18: **PTO Meeting 4:30 p.m.**
Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Mon. Oct 24: **Site Council Meeting**
5:30 p.m. Room 1

Thurs. Oct. 27: **MENTOR LUNCH**
(students do not need to bring lunch on this day. Lunch will be provided)

Thurs. Oct 27: **HARVEST FESTIVAL**
5:30-7:00 P.M. HOSTED BY
SHAFFER SCHOOL PTO!!!

Fri. Oct 28: **Halloween Dance**
Gr. 7-8 7:00-10:00 p.m.

Sat. Oct. 29: **Saturday School**
8:00 a.m. – noon

Mon. Oct 31: **Minimum Day**
School Dismissed at 1:00

Thurs. Oct. 27-Fri. Nov. 4
SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR IN LIBRARY

****Parents of students in grades
Kindergarten and Grade 1
THERE WILL BE A FIELD TRIP TO THE
WEMPLE PUMPKIN PATCH IN
OCTOBER. DATE IS TBA. LOOK FOR
INFORMATION TO BE SENT HOME
WITH YOUR STUDENT.



**NO SCHOOL ON MONDAY,
OCTOBER 10TH. COLUMBU:
DAY HOLIDAY**

News from Shaffer PTO

Shaffer PTO says Thank you for supporting the Bake Sale at Back to School Night!

Come to our NEXT meeting on October 18 @ 4:30pm



HARVEST FESTIVAL – October 27 (Thursday)

5:30pm – 7:00pm

****Entrance Fee: 1 Bag of Candy per Family****

Fun Booths & Trick or Treating

Pizza Dinner available for purchase



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Opens @ the Harvest Festival October 27!

Come see all the great books available at this year's Book Fair.

October 27-November 4



BOX TOPS 4 EDUCATION

Box Tops can be submitted in plastic bags and envelopes or on the forms already given to students.

Be sure to mark student's name & grade because **INDIVIDUAL PRIZES** for TOP earners (end of the year).

CLASS PARTY each trimester for TOP class.



SCHWANS CARES!

When ordering from Schwans, go **ONLINE** one-time and link Shaffer Schools fundraiser and Schwans will donate

20% of your orders **through October 28**

(40% of ecard purchases) to Shaffer PTO.

www.schwans-cares.com/c/28877

COMING SOON information on the 2016 Holiday Store in December!

WELCOME to our newest Board Member KIM THRESHER!

SHAFFER SCHOOL THANKS OUR PTO FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK AND DEDICATION. YOUR EFFORTS TO MAKE SHAFFER THE BEST SCHOOL FOR ALL OF US IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!!



CROSS COUNTRY SEASON CONTINUES THROUGH OCTOBER.

PLEASE LOOK FOR THE PRACTICE AND MEET SCHEDULE TO BE SENT HOME FROM MR. BAILEY WEEKLY. **GO SHAFFER INDIAN RUNNERS!!!**

SPORTS CORNER

Girls' Basketball Season is also underway. The schedule of games will be sent home with the girls very soon. Please make sure to contact Mr. Bailey with any questions regarding the season. OUR LADY INDIANS ROCK!!! Good luck for a great season.



SHAFFER SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL

The Shaffer School Student Council has been busy planning upcoming events for the month of October. Here is a list of student council events:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| OCTOBER 12 | STUDENT COUNCIL TRIP TO FLY HIGH TRAMPOLINE PARK IN SPARKS |
| OCTOBER 17-21 | SPIRIT WEEK |
| OCTOBER 27 | BOOTH AT HARVEST FESTIVAL |
| OCTOBER 28 | HALLOWEEN DANCE |

Thank you Shaffer School ELAC for sponsoring the Tamale Feed at Back to School Night. The profit of \$755.00 will go toward the 6th grade outdoor camp in the spring.



WE APPRECIATE YOU!!

“Education is the movement from darkness to light.” ~Allan Bloom

Cafeteria News

***The cafeteria staff asks that parents review the menu with your student regarding what is to be served each day for breakfast and lunch. The menus are sent home with your child at the beginning of the month and are also posted on the school website at:*

www.shafferschool.com

If what is being served is not something your child will eat please plan to send them with a lunch or large snack that day. Also, the cafeteria staff wants your feedback. They try hard to plan meals the students will eat. You may contact the cafeteria manager, Mitsu Soria, with feedback, suggestions, etc. by emailing her your thoughts. You can email her at: msoria@shafferschool.com The staff will try to accommodate your menu ideas while still meeting the guidelines of the National Breakfast and Lunch Program. Thank you for your assistance with this.

**SHAFFER SCHOOL
HARVEST FESTIVAL
AN EVENING OF FUN FOR THE ENTIRE
FAMILY!!**

**GAMES,
PRIZES,
FOOD,
AND MORE**

**PLAN TO JOIN US ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27
FROM 5:30-7:00 P.M.**



Bullying: What Parents Can Do

Printed from the National Crime Prevention Council website

A big, tough kid stops a smaller kid on his way to school and threatens to hurt him unless he hands over his homework. The popular girls at school won't let anyone sit at their lunch table except their friends. These two bullying scenarios and others happen more often than most adults realize. 74% of 8-11-year-olds say teasing and bullying happen at their school. But what exactly is bullying?

Bullying is:

- Fighting, threatening, name-calling, teasing, or excluding someone repeatedly and over time
- An imbalance of power, such as size or popularity
- Physical, social, and emotional harm
- Hurting another person to get something

Many parents don't think that bullying is as big a problem as bringing a weapon to school or drug use but its effects can be severe and long lasting. Every day, nearly 160,000 children miss school because they are scared of bullying, according to the National Education Association. Bullying doesn't only negatively affect its victims, but also the bullies themselves.

Kids who are bullied are more likely to:

- Do poorly in school
- Have low self-esteem
- Be depressed
- Turn to violent behavior to protect themselves or get revenge on their bullies

Kids who bully are more likely to:

- Do poorly in school
- Smoke and drink alcohol
- Commit crimes in the future

Parents can play a central role to preventing bullying and stopping it when it happens. Here are a few things you can do.

- Teach kids to solve problems without using violence and praise them when they do.
- Give children positive feedback when they behave well to help them build self-esteem. Help give them the self-confidence to stand up for what they believe in.
- Ask your children about their day and listen to them talk about school, social events, their classmates, and any problems they have.
- Take bullying seriously. Many kids are embarrassed to say they have been bullied. You may only have one chance to step in and help.
- If you see any bullying, stop it right away, even if your child is the one doing the bullying.
- Encourage your child to help others who need it.
- Don't bully your children or bully others in front of them. Many times kids who are bullied at home react by bullying other kids. If your children see you hit, ridicule, or gossip about someone else, they are also more likely to do so themselves.
- Support bully prevention programs in your child's school. If your school doesn't have one, consider starting one with other parents, teachers, and concerned adults.

When Your Child Is Bullied

Many kids are embarrassed to be bullied and may not tell their parents or another adult right away. If your child comes to you and asks for help with a bully, take it seriously. Many times, if kids aren't taken seriously the first time they ask for help, they don't ask again. Even if your child doesn't turn to you for help, you can watch for these warning signs that he or she is being bullied. Kids who are bullied often experience:

- Withdrawal
- A loss of friends
- A drop in grades
- A loss of interest in activities he or she previously enjoyed
- Torn clothing
- Bruises
- A need for extra money or supplies

If you think your child is being bullied or if your child has told you that he or she is being bullied, you can help. Parents are often the best resource to build a child's self-confidence and teach him or her how to best solve problems. Here are a few ways you can help

- Talk to your child's teacher about it instead of confronting the bully's parents. If the teacher doesn't act to stop the bullying, talk to the principal.
- Teach your child nonviolent ways to deal with bullies, like walking away, playing with friends, or talking it out.
- Help your child act with self-confidence. With him or her, practice walking upright, looking people in the eye, and speaking clearly.
- Don't encourage your child to fight. This could lead to him or her getting hurt, getting in trouble, and beginning more serious problems with the bully.
- Involve your child in activities outside of school. This way he or she can make friends in a different social circle.