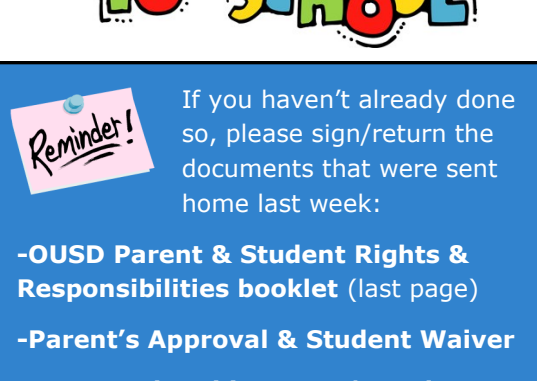




Upcoming PTA Events	
Aug 26 8:45 AM	Dunlap "Welcome" Coffee Talk with Principal and PTA Board
Aug 30	PTA Board Meeting
Aug 31 6:30/7PM	Back to School Night/ PTA Board Meeting
Sept 8 3-4 PM	Room Parent Tea
Sept 13	PTA Board Meeting
Sept 23	Lunch on the Lawn
Sept 30	Student of the Month & PTA Membership Drive Ends
Oct 7	Fall Festival



Reminder! If you haven't already done so, please sign/return the documents that were sent home last week:

- OUSD Parent & Student Rights & Responsibilities booklet (last page)
- Parent's Approval & Student Waiver
- PTA Membership Letter/Envelope
- PTA Volunteer form

Open Art Studio & Arts Attack are two **additional** volunteer opportunities. If you are interested in volunteering for either of these programs, please note it on the bottom of your form. *These two programs are described in greater detail further down in this newsletter.*

Hello Ralph Dunlap Families,

Welcome back to the 2016-2017 school year here at Ralph Dunlap! It will be a wonderful year as we connect with both new and returning families and work together to continue building a strong, nurturing, and excellent learning environment.

The mission of PTA (Parent Teacher Association) is **"to positively impact the lives of all children and families."** I appreciate the use of the word, "impact" because by definition it is "the force exerted by a new idea, concept, technology or ideology." Our PTA is definitely a positive force on Dunlap's campus, within our community and beyond! At Dunlap, our PTA provides many enriching learning opportunities throughout the school year for both children and families to enjoy. I encourage all families to get involved and find a way to connect with school activities because it means so much to your child(ren).

For many years, studies have validated that **teachers AND parents working together mean better educated students.** The beauty of this result comes from the foundation of a good healthy working relationship between home and school, parents and teachers. Please ask how you can get involved, either a little or as much as you like, depending upon your availability. We greatly appreciate any and all support you choose to contribute and understand that your time is precious.

Please join us in the Multi-Use room on Wednesday, August 31st at 6:30 pm for our PTA General Meeting and Teacher Introductions by Mrs. Herbstreith with Back-to-School Night to follow from 7:00-8:00 pm. I look forward to seeing you there!

Working together,
Veronica Leach
PTA President

Dunlap PTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

6:30 PM, Wednesday, August 31
Dunlap Multi-Use Room

Back-to-School Night
room visitations will follow at 7 PM

Check It Out!

Take a look at our newly **revised Dunlap PTA website:**
<http://dunlappta.weebly.com/>

Updated regularly with PTA-related reminders, deadlines, information about upcoming activities, etc.

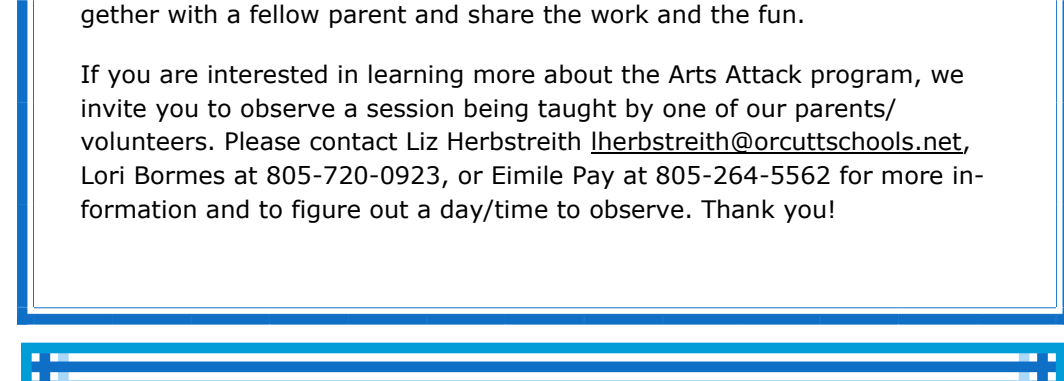
PTA Membership Drive Underway

Every year our PTA helps to oversee the needs and development of our school. We ask for your support as this new school year begins.

Every student that brings in a membership envelope by September 30th will receive a Smencil as a prize. Please submit only one envelope per family - all students from the same family will receive credit for membership (and a Smencil) as long as all children's names are listed on the envelope.

Class prizes will also be awarded to the next grade class (K-3) and the upper grade class (4-6) that have the highest percentage of memberships.

Joining the PTA by submitting a \$6 membership DOES NOT obligate you to volunteer - though we would certainly welcome you!



HELP WANTED

Who: Moms and dads, grandparents, aunts, and uncles!
What: Volunteer with Dunlap's **Open Art Studio**
Where: Room 23
When: Most Fridays during lunch recess for 1st-6th grade, 11:30 AM to 1:10 PM
Why: THE ORCUTT DISTRICT'S ONLY OPEN ART STUDIO NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

Art Studio's purpose is to give our kids the space and materials to explore and create if they choose to. Sometimes we offer suggestions or themes to get them going. Sometimes we get volunteers with arts/crafts skills who want to share them. For many of the kids it is just about exploring the materials and less about producing art work. We regularly offer acrylics and watercolors, oil and chalk pastels, drawing, crafting, origami and more. We have special activities around holidays and PTA events. We also provide some supplies for the joy-a-thon T-shirt contest entries and Reflections projects.

Our kids create the art. VOLUNTEERS DO NOT NEED ART EXPERIENCE whatsoever! You do not have to participate in any art activities or teach art. It is their space to be creative. We are there to keep the supplies flowing and make sure everyone gets back to class on time. It is a high energy, fun place to be on a Friday afternoon!

Volunteer every Friday, every other Friday, once a month, or a couple times a year. Come for the whole time or part time or just during your child's recess. For more information, or questions, or to donate items, email Lisa Thornton mail4thorntons@yahoo.com. ***KINDER parents, if you are interested in volunteering we would love to have you. Please email and we will discuss the specifics.

Thank you!



Arts Attack

Our new art program needs volunteers!

Thanks to the generosity of the Orcutt Children's Arts Foundation (OCAF) we are able to **BRING ART INTO THE CLASSROOMS.**

We have several parent volunteers currently coming into classes and giving art lessons but we need more to meet all of our classrooms' needs.

Arts Attack is a video-based curriculum with no special training required. Art experience is not necessary and supplies are provided. Watch, learn, execute. Volunteers can choose the class/grade they would like to work in. There may also be opportunities to co-teach with another parent -- get together with a fellow parent and share the work and the fun.

If you are interested in learning more about the Arts Attack program, we invite you to observe a session being taught by one of our parents/ volunteers. Please contact Liz Herbstreith lherbstreith@orcuttsschools.net, Lori Bormes at 805-720-0923, or Emilie Pay at 805-264-5562 for more information and to figure out a day/time to observe. Thank you!

ROOM PARENT TEA

Thursday, September 8th
3:00 - 4:00 PM
Multi-Use Room

Please attend if you are interested in helping your child's teacher and room mom with classroom activities during the school year.

Childcare is available for Dunlap students during the tea.

Lunch on the Lawn

Friday, September 23

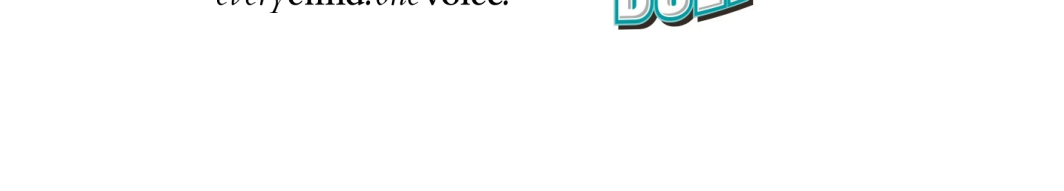
Ralph Dunlap parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc. — You are invited to come to school and eat lunch with your student(s) on September 23rd.

The lunch schedules are as follows:

Grades 1 & 2:	11:30 - 12:15
Grades K & 3:	11:55 - 12:40
Grade 4:	12:00 - 12:40
Grades 5 & 6:	12:30 - 1:10

Bring a blanket/chairs and a picnic lunch and create some special memories by sharing this special lunchtime with your student(s).

The PTA has again arranged to have food and beverages available for purchase at school. A portion of the food/drink sales will be donated back to our PTA.



What Is Your Story?

PTA Reflections is a nationally acclaimed student recognition program to encourage artistic creativity in the classroom and at home. Students of all grades and abilities may participate and explore the arts based on the 2016-2017 theme: **What Is Your Story?**

Student(s) can start creating, writing, dancing, taking photos, creating music and making short films.

Information on the grade breakdown and categories can be found here:
<http://www.pta.org/programs/Reflections.cfm?ItemNumber=4571>

More information on the Reflections program will be sent home in the coming weeks.

SAVE THE DATE

Ralph Dunlap School's
Fall Festival
Friday, October 7, 2016

School Spirit Fridays

Wear your Dolphin shirt or blue and white on Fridays to show your school pride!

Stay tuned for information on when/where the PTA will be selling Dolphin shirts!

Box Tops for Education

Our first trimester Box Tops class collection runs through **Thursday, November 10th**. The class that brings in the most Box Tops will earn a **Toy Zoo** gift card for their teacher and a **cool treat** for themselves!

Remember to write your teacher's name and room number on all collection **sheets** or baggies of Box Tops turned in so that your class gets the credit.

We cannot redeem expired Box Tops, so please check your Box Tops before submitting them.

Go to BTFE.COM/PRODUCTS for a complete list of Box Tops products.

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Well, that's a wrap on the first PTA newsletter of the 2016-17 school year! I hope you will find this monthly newsletter helpful. As you can see, we have an active PTA that sponsors many fun and educational student and family activities throughout the school year.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at jeneric543@yahoo.com

Jennifer Kantorowski
3rd Vice President &
PTA NewSplash Editor & Webmaster

"The Dolphin Pod"

We invite you to join the conversation on the "The Dolphin Pod" on Facebook. Click on the Facebook icon above to be taken to Dunlap's Facebook group.

