

# THE BRIGHTWOOD BARK



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Visit us online at: [www.brightwood-elementary.org](http://www.brightwood-elementary.org)

A publication of the Brightwood Elementary  
School Parent-Teacher Association, Alhambra  
Council, First District of the California State PTA.

**PTA**

*every child. one voice.*

## REMINDER

Brightwood School PTA

Read-a-Thon

First Annual Winter Fundraiser

January 9 – 29, 2012

### Schedule for Read-a-Thon:

**December 19<sup>th</sup> – January 8<sup>th</sup>:** Students collected pledges from family, friends, and neighbors, and record them on the "Brightwood School Read-a-Thon Pledge Sheet".

**January 9<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>:** Students will record daily minutes read at home (both minutes they read alone and minutes they are read to) on the "Read-a-Thon Calendar". Goals for daily reading minutes based on grade level can be used.

**January 30<sup>th</sup> – February 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Students will collect money from their per-minute or flat rate pledges listed on their pledge sheet and return the money they raised to the school. All funds are due by Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, with checks made payable to **Brightwood School PTA**.

### Prizes to be awarded:

Recognition/Award to all participants who submit their pledge sheet and donations collected.

Electronic Readers Overall Top Readers (3)\* – Highest total number of minutes read.

Top Reading Participants (18)\* - Highest total number of minutes read by grade level.

Overall Top Participants\* - Most total donations collected.

Top Classroom – Highest total number of minutes read.

Top Classroom – Most total donations collected.

\* = Participants are eligible for only one category, and must submit their pledge sheet and donations to qualify.

*Thank you in advance  
for your participation in this event.*

## WAYS FATHERS CAN BE INVOLVED IN A CHILD'S EDUCATION

Be a role model

Take an active interest

Meet the teacher

ask questions about classroom expectations

know when school starts/ends

Introduce yourself to the principal

ask questions about school expectations

Create goals with your child

Create expectations with your child

Attend parent conferences

Talk about school, friends, lessons, attendance, feelings

Make homework a priority

have child follow a routine

give help if needed

review the work

set a good example

Speak positively about school

Speak positively about learning

Talk about choosing classes

Join the PTA

Attend school and PTA meetings

Serve on committees at school

Serve on committees in the PTA

Adjust your work hours if you can

Attend special events at school

From <http://www.capta.org/sections/parents/downloads/CAPTA-Father-Involvement-2005-en.pdf>

## Alhambra Council PTA Founder's Day Fundraiser

We will be celebrating PTA Founders Day with a Gala Casino Night event on Friday, February 24, 2012 at Almansor Court.

We will be celebrating our Honorary Service Award recipients from Alhambra Council PTA and from the PTAs from each of our 16 AUSD schools. The awards ceremony will start at 6pm and the Casino Fundraiser portion will start at 7:30pm. There will be exciting raffle prizes and silent auction items. Tickets are \$35 each and proceeds will be split among all the participating PTA Units, including Brightwood, for scholarships.

Please send an email to [SteveLim.bb@gmail.com](mailto:SteveLim.bb@gmail.com) if you are interested in purchasing tickets or submitting a donation this exciting event.



School Cents Is Now DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS  
Attention all shoppers!  
Take your receipts from all purchases made between  
Sep.15, 2011 to May 15, 2012 to Guest Services in front  
of Macy Home store and log those points!

No time to visit Guest Services? Save your receipts and  
send them to the Office in an envelope marked for PTA  
School Cents. We will log them for you and return your  
receipts if you want them back.

Ask your friends and neighbors to save and log their Shops at Montebello receipts and help us earn points!  
To see the current flyer visit <http://www.shoppingpartnership.com/points/flyers/montebelloflyer.pdf>

## California Budget Woes

Governor Brown's 2012 Budget Plan;

- 1) Contains a proposed \$4.8 Billion cut in public school funds if voters reject a proposed tax hike on the November 2012 ballot. He is proposing a half-cent sales tax and increased income taxes for the wealthiest Californians.
- 2) There is a need to close the \$9.2 Billion State deficit.

The 2011 Budget triggers already enacted to date:

- 1) Cuts to higher education and community colleges: \$230 million.
- 2) Home to school transportation K-12; \$248 million
- 3) \$80 million to Prop 98 (K-2 funding)
- 4) Over the last 3 years: 40,000 certificated educators laid off

Possible cuts if new taxes are not voted in:

- 1) \$4.8 Billion cut to K-12 ( the equivalent of 3 weeks of school) and \$200 million to California's two public university systems.
- 2) Massive cuts to Medi-Cal and the Healthy Families Program depriving the state's poorer families of proper medical care.
- 3) Decreases in Welfare and child care services to the poor.
- 4) Reduced funds for the courts, firefighting and public safety programs.

Impact on Alhambra Unified School District:

- 1) \$50 million in cuts over the last 3 years
- 2) Three furlough days for students
- 3) First Trigger prompted an additional \$1 million in cuts
- 4) Elimination of Adult Education; loss of high school programs; negative impact on K-3 student/teacher ration; loss of support staff in instructional programs; higher class size in physical education and the visual and performing arts programs.

What Parents/Community Can do:

- 1) Write a letter to the governor/legislator to urge them to support stable funding for public education.
- 2) Support the governor's initiative that would increase revenues by \$7 Billion a year by temporarily raising income taxes on the wealthiest Californians and boosting the statewide sales taxes by one-half percent
- 3) Call for eliminating tax loopholes on corporations that enable businesses to pay significantly lower property taxes than homeowners.
- 4) Stay informed:

Check the following websites for up-to-date info:

California Teachers Association: [www.cta.org](http://www.cta.org)  
PTA District 1 website: [www.pta1.org](http://www.pta1.org)

### Brightwood PTA RECYCLES all ink cartridges!

Please turn in your USED ink cartridges to the school office and help Brightwood PTA raise \$\$\$.

*Thank you for your donations and your continued support!*



I want to thank all who have participated and to encourage you to keep collecting Box Tops from your favorite products such as Cheerios®, Betty Crocker®, Juicy Juice®, Ziploc®, Kleenex®, Hefty® and more! Every 10 cents you earn means that much more for our school. It is not a waste, so please keep clipping! Through your efforts the Brightwood PTA has received about \$1400 since the beginning of the school year from the Box Tops program.

### ATTENTION ALL BRIGHTWOOD CLASSROOM OR EVENT VOLUNTEERS: EASY WAY TO SUBMIT YOUR HOURS

Many matching funds and grants depend on the percentage of parent participation and volunteer hours. It is very important for us to record all volunteer hours for Brightwood.

We need you to document your hours whether it's done at home, in the classroom, chaperon field trips, helping out at grade level event or for a school-wide event.

You can fill out a volunteer slip at the front desk or submit it via email immediately after a task or an event and as often as you wish.

Please send the following information to:  
[brightwood.hours@yahoo.com](mailto:brightwood.hours@yahoo.com)

1. Your Name
2. Event or Task Description (for example, Youth Fair or Classroom Helper for K-1)
3. Total hours
4. Your children's names and home rooms

Thank you,

Joanne Jen

BRIGHTWOOD PTA PRESENTS

DREAMWORKS  
**KUNG FU PANDA 2**

**Friday, 1/27/12**  
Dinner available at 6:00 p.m.  
Movie at 7:00 p.m.

**DINNER MENU at the MOVIE:**  
PASTA WITH HOMEMADE SAUCES  
CHICKEN SALAD  
SPAM MUSUBI  
DESSERTS & DRINKS  
POPCORN

**Brightwood Cafetorium Free Admission**  
This is a reminder that during all PTA sponsored events, a parent MUST be in attendance and responsible for all children in their care. This presumes that you will keep your child inside the Cafetorium/Brightwood Campus at all times. PTA and Brightwood School do not provide sitting services or have the insurance to do so.

**COME SUPPORT OUR FOURTH GRADERS!**