



Bel Aire News Flash

Visit our Website

Upcoming Events

- Nov. 5-9 - Parent-Teacher Conference Week - **EARLY DISMISSAL: 12:10pm**
- Nov. 7, 8:30-9:30am - Bel Aire PTA Meeting - BA SDR
- Nov. 12 - Veteran's Day - NO SCHOOL
- Nov. 13 - Bel Aire Play Reveal
- Nov. 14, 8:30-9:30am - Bel Aire Play Parent Meeting
- Nov. 15, 2:35-3:45pm - 5th Grade Percussion Practice #1
- Nov. 15, 6:30-7:30pm - Bel Aire Play Parent Meeting
- Nov. 21-23 - Thanksgiving Break (W-Th-F)
- Nov. 27, 2:45-5:15pm - 5th Grade Play Auditions
- Nov. 27, 5:15-6:00pm - **Optional** 5th Grade Dance Auditions
- Nov. 28, 1:45-4:15pm - 4th Grade Play Auditions
- Nov. 28, 4:15-5:00pm - **Optional** 4th Grade Dance Auditions
- Nov. 29, 8:30-9:30am - Parent Ed: Parenting in the Digital Age - BA SDR
- Nov. 29, 2:45-3:45pm - 3rd Grade Play Auditions, Group #1 (see article below)
- Nov. 29, 4:00-5:00pm - 3rd Grade Play Auditions, Group #2 (see article below)
- Nov. 30, 2:45-4:45pm - Play Callbacks
- Dec. 1 - Chorus Performance at Tiburon Tree Lighting

[Link to Calendar](#)



Crazy Hair Day
Thanks to all the participants!

A Note from Ms. Cala

By this time, you have probably read the district email communication about graffiti found at Bel Aire. This was upsetting for our community because at minimum, it was an act of disrespect committed on our campus. If you haven't read the email, I encourage you to take a look at it [here](#).

While the email communication covered a lot of information, I feel that it is worth restating that Bel Aire has no tolerance for insulting, discriminatory, hateful, or otherwise disrespectful behavior or language. I want to sincerely acknowledge the understandable unrest this graffiti caused in our community, but I refuse to give power to the perpetrator. I very deliberately look for opportunity in challenge and conflict, and the opportunity here is one of solidarity, support, and improvement.

Because students are continuing to talk about the graffiti, Dr. Gold and I prepared a message to send to all students on Friday morning as part of the Bel Aire TV show. Our goal is to clarify information, encourage conversations at home, as needed, offer our support for students wanting to talk with someone at school, and remind students that at Bel Aire, kindness and respect are always expected.

For those of you who have not heard me speak at Back-to-school-night events, PTA meetings, or board meetings, or if you have not read my messages about Bel Aire's annual areas of focus, I am vocal and passionate about cultivating community, civility, and tolerance. Many of our programs including our Second Step Anti-Bullying, our Common Sense Media Digital Citizenship, our work with the Mosaic program, Bel Aire Buddies at recess, and our partnership with Children 4 Change are in place to support the development of kind, upstanding, and responsible citizens. Recent events will only strengthen our commitment to these programs.

In addition, we will continue to reinforce a safe, supportive school environment in the following ways:

- Teachers will continue to hold regular class meetings to provide students opportunities to clarify information they hear, to reinforce expectations about behavior, and as a forum to talk about how events like these make them feel.
- Dr. Gold will continue to be available to meet with students who need additional support processing any unsettling event or experience. This includes helping children manage strong emotions and helping students channel their views and feelings into positive action.
- I will increase my messaging to students about our commitment to respect and community which will include conversations during our school-wide meetings and on the Bel Aire TV show. These messages will promote kindness and communicate an intolerance for harassment, disrespect, and bullying.
- We have a revised protocol for graffiti reporting and clean-up which includes greater collaboration with law enforcement.
- We will strengthen our relationship with local community leaders to share resources, best practices, and support.
- We will continue to communicate our expectations that all members of our community model expected behaviors.
- We will continue to maintain a sense of normalcy for students in times of challenge or crisis and reassure students that adults will take care of them.

Finally, during recent collaboration with local community leaders, a lovely newsletter was shared with me from our neighbors at Kol Shofar. I have printed the following sentence and posted it in my office:

“We encourage a mindful intention to practice kindness and patience, and show our own children what the world can be with more affection, more love, more attention to well-being.”

Bel Aire staff will be modeling these behaviors for students to emphasize that we are stronger when we work together, we are better when we act with kindness, and compassion is necessary when we interact with our world.

Saturday, November 3rd, three Bel Aire spellers competed in the Marin County Spelling Bee. All of our spellers were so strong that they lasted until the rounds where high school words were being given. All Bel Aire competitors placed in the top 10.

Theo (who won the Bel Aire Spelling Bee two years in a row) came in first place at the Marin County spelling bee. Claire placed 9th and Reyes placed 6th.

This is the first time in over 15 years that a Bel Aire student has won the County Spelling Bee.

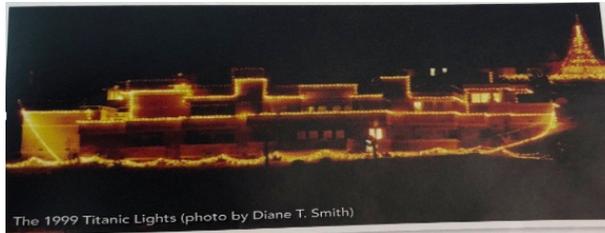
Theo now advances to the State Spelling Bee along with the second place finisher.

Parent Ed: Parenting in the Digital Age

Join RUSD Director of Technology, Evan McKay, and school psychologists Dr. Gold, Dr. Maya Van Putten and Dr. Kover, for a discussion of parenting in the age of computers and iPhones. They will discuss the research on kids and technology, and offer some tools that you can use to monitor and manage your child's technology use. Parents will have the opportunity to discuss some of the challenges they have faced with their own kids' technology use and brainstorm solutions together.

When: November 29th at 8:30am

Where: Bel Aire SDR



Kashani Holiday Lights: Young Designer Contest.

You know that house by Blackie's Pasture? The one on the corner that's lit up with a different design every holiday season.

Students have a chance to design this year's image!

The contest rules are simple:

One design per person.

Designs must be simple enough to actually be re-created with lights.

To enter:

Make a drawing of your design.

Be sure to put your name on your work.

Attach a submission form (available in the Bel Aire office.)

Submit in the Bel Aire office by November 20th.

See your work in lights!



FROM THE BEL AIRE PTA



The 2019 Bel Aire Play will be revealed on Wednesday, November 14!

Are your children interested in participating in the Bel Aire Play this year?

Please join us for a parent meeting to learn more:

Wednesday, November 14 at 8:30am

OR

Thursday, November 15 at 6:30pm

These Meetings are designed for those who are new to RUSD, or new to the Bel Aire Play, though all are welcome.

2019 Bel Aire Play Performance Dates: March 20-24

Stay tuned for additional details on the [Bel Aire Play website](#).

Volunteer Opportunity

Do you love sports, kids and are looking for something to do between 12:00 and 12:35? We are looking for some volunteers to help guide the "ball games" taking place on the lawn during lunch recess. A game of kickball? Baseball? Three Flags Up? Soccer? The choices are endless and we have a Bel Aire student body that would love it! Please contact Jacqueline at jacqueline.jaffee@gmail.com if you are interested!

Birthday Books - Ordering Deadline is January 31

Don't miss out on the chance to celebrate your child's birthday and support the Bel Aire Library with a Bel Aire Birthday Book! You can still participate even if the birthday has passed, but the deadline to order is January 31. To place an order or learn more about the birthday book program [click here](#).

FROM THE RUSD PTA

THANK YOU!

A big thank you to all of our wonderful Book Fair volunteers! Because of your dedication and hard work, our Book Fair was a great success, and all three school libraries will be receiving funds to buy new books. Thank you so much for your commitment of time and energy to this event. We so appreciate it!

[Join PTA! Sign up here](#)

[Follow us on Instagram: @RUSDPTA](#)

FOUNDATION NEWS



PLEDGE DAY IS FRIDAY!

THE FOUNDATION
FOR REED SCHOOLS



Thank you to all the families who have participated so far! Look for our Pledge Day tables and teams on each campus during conference week! Our goal is 100% participation in the annual Family Giving Campaign!

This year, we have, once again, made a \$2 million commitment to RUSD, \$1 million of which is due in January! With a continued decrease in the number of families living in the district, emphasis on family participation is critical. This year it will cost RUSD \$1,450 per student to fund 20 of our 90 teachers.

Tomorrow night, district dads will be making calls at our semi-annual Dads' Phone Bank! Come down and join us from 6-8 pm at the Tiburon Lodge, OR save a fellow parent a call and donate or pledge today!

Remember, families who pledge or donate on or before Friday will automatically be entered into our Pledge Day Raffle!

If you have specific questions about your donation or are interested in participating in our Scholars' or John Reed Circles, please visit our website or contact the following individuals:

Scholars' Circle: Sherrill Lybrook lybrooksm@gmail.com or Katrina Sent katrina.sent@gmail.com
John Reed Circle: Trish Jacob trishjacob3@gmail.com

Thank you for supporting the Foundation and know that early donations and pledges save valuable volunteer time and reduce fundraising costs. Join a Community of Givers and invest in our schools!

Bel Aire Elementary School | Reed Union School District | 415-388-7100 | Inazarian@reedschools.org
[Bel Aire School](#)

STAY CONNECTED

