



Bel Aire Website

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A NOTE FROM MS. CALA

Dear Bel Aire Families,

We have some great parent events in the next couple days, and I hope I will see you all this Thursday and Friday.

Please join me in the MPR tomorrow at 6:00pm for Bel Aire's 2019-2020 **Back-to-School Night!** I am very excited to share some important messages with families to prepare us for another successful year. As we partner together to support student growth, it is helpful to have a shared understanding and common language. Parent attendance at Back-to-School Night is a perfect opportunity to launch this important partnership. Please remember that Back-to-School Night is a child-free event.

And, if you're new to the Reed Union School District this year, please join us in the Bel Aire library on Friday morning at 8:00am for our **New RUSD Family Welcome**. We will have a casual gathering with coffee and introductions. If you're interested, please plan to walk up to our MPR around 8:30 and join the **PTA Volunteer Sign-Up** event!

Sincerely,

Lexie Cala

Principal, Bel Aire Elementary

UPCOMING DATES

- **Thursday, August 29** | *Back-to-School Night* (6:00-7:30pm, MPR)
- **Friday, August 30** | *New Family Welcome* (8:00-8:30, Library)
- **Friday, August 30** | *PTA Volunteer Coffee* (8:30 - 10:00, MPR)
- **Wednesday, September 4** | *1st PTA Meeting* (8:30 - 9:30, Board Room)
- **Thursday, September 12**, | *5th Grade Outdoor Ed Parent information Meeting* (7:30-8:00am)
- **Thursday, September 12** | *Picture Day*

IMPORTANT SAFETY REMINDERS

Kindly review the following to ensure morning *drop-off* and afternoon *pick-up* are as smooth, stress-free, and as safe as possible for everyone.

- **Consider a drop-off and pick-up location that is a block (or more) away from school.** *This reduces neighborhood congestion while providing a little extra physical exercise for your student(s). There is very little space at the bottom of the hill on Karen Way. Drivers should not plan to pick up or drop off at the base of the driveway.*
- **Please be respectful.** *We would all prefer to avoid starting our day with a hostile confrontation - especially in front of students.*
- **Please understand our priority is safety.** *We are not trying to inconvenience you when we ask you to follow traffic and school rules.*
- **Please follow the signals and messaging from all staff and signage.** *This includes not driving*

up the hill for drop-off or pick-up.

- **Be safe.** Please do not stop, wait, drop off, or pick up in or near the crosswalk or in a lane of traffic.
- **Please do not beg staff to allow you to drive up the hill.** We cannot accommodate these requests. Staff attention needs to remain on students and traffic, and it slows the flow of traffic for everyone else.
- **Please do not wait until 8:00am to drive students up the driveway.** Students will still be considered tardy, and we need to keep the driveway clear for occasional late busses and other traffic.
- **Please share these safety reminders with others.** If you arrange for other drivers (tutors, baby-sitters, nannies, etc.) to pick up or drop of your student(s), please make sure they have this safety information as well.
- **Review the handbook information.** Complete drop-off and pick-up procedures are outlined in our handbook [here](#).

Best Routes for AM & PM

Please refer to the *Safe Routes to School* [map](#).

- **Motor Vehicles (AM & PM):** To ease congestion and prevent children from crossing the street in front of vehicles on Karen Way, we recommend: Blackfield → Cecilia → Leland → Karen Way.
- **Pedestrians (AM & PM):** Use sidewalks and crosswalks. The breezeway by Cecilia and Clair Way is best for pedestrians only.
- **Bicycles AM:** Blackfield → Karen Way
- **Bicycles PM:** Karen → Leland → Cecilia

When can I drive up the hill?

- Except in very few circumstances, we actually discourage families from driving up the hill at *anytime*. This includes for classroom events, school-wide celebrations, parent conferences, etc.
- Family vehicles are strictly prohibited on the driveway from **7:30 - 8:30 am** and from **2:00 - 3:00 pm** (1:00- 2:00 on Wednesdays).

Additional Reminders from *Safe Routes to School*

- Please plan your student's commute to school to help reduce traffic congestion and keep kids safe around campus.
- Walking and biking are recommended. It wakes up your child's brain and prepares them for a day of learning.
- If you live too far, consider parking a short distance away from school and walking from there.
- If you must drive, please carpool and obey all traffic laws.
- Back to School driving, walking and biking safety. Please refer to the **Safe Routes to School** [map](#) to ensure we are all doing our best to ensure student safety!
- Additional SR2S reminders can be found [here](#).

4th and 5th GRADERS: BEL AIRE MATH CLUB IS BACK!

Bel Aire offers a weekly math club for highly motivated math students who want an extra challenge. The club is run by Dr. Alan Gold and volunteer parents. The club is held on Tuesday mornings, 7:30-7:55am, beginning September 10, in the C Building classrooms.

The program provides a variety of math questions requiring logical reasoning and problem solving strategies. Students work together and should be fast and independent learners. The adults guide and direct students, as needed. Students have the opportunity to participate in contests prepared for with the weekly problems.

If your child is interested in joining the club (and/or you'd like to volunteer), please email Dr. Gold at agold@reedschools.org by September 7th.

Thanks so much for your interest! We look forward to a year of fun math challenge!

CHILDREN FOR CHANGE

Welcome back to school everyone! Children for Change is excited to announce that we will continue to focus on the environment for our first few meetings because Bel Aire is moving towards becoming a Zero Waste School this year! More to come, but please click the links below to see how you can pack a [Zero Waste lunch](#) for your child. Plus, Children for Change members will be assisting with this program. Our next unit will focus on hunger which ties in with our environmental unit quite nicely.

Our first meeting for the students will be on Wednesday, September 11th at lunch recess. All students are welcome to join us in the library to see how they can help Bel Aire in becoming a Zero Waste school! Also, don't forget to check our volunteer calendar [here](#). We are in need of a few families to make meals and dine with the homeless in San Rafael on September 10th. There are also more

opportunities to volunteer, but we would really love some families to help out with this meaningful family volunteer experience.

[How to Pack a Zero Waste Lunch](#)

Intro to Zero Waste Marin

Children for Change! Change for Good!
Sincerely,

Mrs. Carin Rhodes
Library and Digital Media Specialist
Bel Aire School
Specialist Team Coordinator
Children for Change Lead Coordinator
<http://belairemediacenter.weebly.com/>



BEL AIRE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA

FROM THE BEL AIRE PTA

PTA Volunteer Coffee is Friday, August 30, 8:30- 9:30 am
Please join us for coffee and sign up to volunteer in your child's classroom, special events, or help with school activities. Bel Aire spirit wear will also be available for purchase.

Save the Date, Picture Day is Thursday, September 12th
All you need to do is arrive to school ready to smile!

Hot Lunch volunteers needed. Shifts are once and month. Sign up now using this link: [BA Hot Lunch 2019 - 2020](#) For questions please contact [Tina Davis](#) or [Kathryn Ellman](#).

STUDENT COMFORT KITS - Please Return to Classroom by Friday Sept 27

Comfort Kit instructions and ZipLoc baggies will be sent home with your child on Friday. Comfort Kits are to be used in the event of an emergency that requires students to shelter in a place of safety for an extended period of time. The contents of the Comfort Kit serve the purpose of entertaining and reassuring your child while s/he awaits your arrival after an emergency. Refer to the Comfort Kit instructions for further details.

Please remember to write, in permanent marker, your child's name, teacher's name, and room number on the outside of the baggie.



JOIN THE PTA TODAY!

With your annual membership dues, the PTA helps provide assemblies, field trips, field days, parent education programs, teacher appreciation events, and so much more.
Please support the PTA and [become a member today!](#)

"Thank you, Bel Aire PTA, for the yummy staff appreciation goodies; you make our day."

Bel Aire Staff

CHOICELUNCH

You can also support the PTA by ordering lunch for your students from Choicelunch. A portion of every lunch purchased through Choicelunch is donated to the RUSD PTA. Order today at www.choicelunch.com

THE FOUNDATION FOR REED SCHOOLS



Welcome Back! From all of us at The Foundation for Reed Schools, we hope you had a restful and enjoyable summer! We would like to extend a sincere THANK YOU to our generous community of families for helping us to successfully meet our \$2 million commitment to RUSD for the 2018-19 school year!

Please look out for us at Back-to-School and New Family events in the coming weeks. There will be information about Foundation volunteer opportunities, the 2019-20 Family Giving Campaign kickoff and Pledge Week 2019.

In the meantime, please mark your calendars with these important dates:

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th @ 8:30 AM

Foundation for Reed Schools Welcome Coffee
FRS Office, Reed School, 1199 Tiburon Blvd., Rm 17

Join us for coffee and snacks as we share information on the Foundation for Reed Schools and opportunities to volunteer – there is something for everyone!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4TH

Run for Reed (R4R), Downtown Tiburon

Join us for the annual RUN FOR REED, the Foundation's 2019-2020 Family Giving Campaign Kick-off! R4R is a 1 mile and 5K race followed by a post-race celebration downtown. R4R is an opportunity for our community to come together to support our schools. Visit www.foundationforreedschools.com for more information.

OCTOBER 7-11TH

Pledge Week

Our goal is 100% participation in the annual Family Giving Campaign! Join our generous community and invest in our schools. Early donations and pledges save valuable volunteer time and reduce fundraising costs.



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