



# Paw Print

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Barbara Alford, Principal

## **Welcome Back to School!**

We welcome the many new families starting Portola this year and all of our returning families. Please remember that "attendance counts" as does arriving on time for school.

Please note the following reminders...

### **Back to School Night**

Thursday (August 31<sup>st</sup>) is Back to School Night at Portola from 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. The first session is scheduled with your classroom teacher from 6:00 p.m. until 6:20 p.m. Introduction of teachers is from 6:25 – 6:35 in the Multi-Purpose room, with the second classroom session beginning at 6:40 p.m. This is designed so parents with multiple children may attend both sessions.

We ask that you attend this important informational night *without* your children. This meeting is very important for you to get to know and understand classroom expectations for your children.

### **Emergency Information**

In the event of an emergency or disaster situation, it's critical for us to be able to contact you. Please help us to have good communication with you by notifying us of any changes in your telephone number and making sure you've correctly listed whom your child may be released to on the emergency form.

### **Rx**

All medications needed at school must be kept in the school office. Prescription medications and all over-the-counter medications (including cough drops and ointments) require a doctor's note (forms are available in the office).



A CALIFORNIA  
DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL

## Upcoming Events

### **Aug. 31**

Back-To-School Night, 6-7 pm  
Parents/Guardians Only  
**Special Book Fair Night!**

### **Aug. 31- Sept. 15**

Book Fair!

### **September 1 MINIMUM DAY**

### **September 4 LABOR DAY – NO SCHOOL**

### **September 14**

Portola PTA meeting 7:00 pm  
RSVP for childcare children 4 years and under

### **September 15**

Portola PTA BBQ 5:30-7:30 pm

### **September 28**

PTA Board meeting 6:30

### **October 5**

Movie Day sponsored by  
Grades 2 & 3

## Welcome New Staff!

Erika Ventura, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade  
Chris Dillie, Learning Center  
K-2 Music, Nicole Sumner  
3-5 Music, Carlyn Kessler

## **Parking Lot Safety**

We realize everyone is busy in the morning, but please treat others respectfully in the parking lot. The lane closest to the sidewalk is for dropping off/pick up only. Drive up as far as possible along the white zone when dropping off or picking up your student. The inside lane is for circling only. No stopping, dropping, or picking up students from this inner lane. Do not drop off students in the driving lanes and you must stay in your car in the white zone (loading area).

## **Music for Minors**

This year our music program will be supplied by Music for Minors. Every class will receive ½ hour of music per week. The Music for Minors program at Portola is funded by the San Bruno Education Foundation and the Portola PTA.

## **Support our Library**

The Book Fair starts on Back-to-School-Night, Aug. 31<sup>st</sup>. Come browse the new books and old favorites and support the library at the same time! The Book Fair will be open before and after school and at lunch recess from August 31<sup>st</sup> – Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>

## **PTA**

### **Membership**

Please be sure to sign up for PTA membership. It's a terrific (and inexpensive) way to support the school and your child. Envelopes will be sent home soon.

### **Hike-a-thon**

The Hike-a-thon "Kickoff" meeting will be in mid September. Stay tuned for more information! The Hike-a-Thon is the PTA's main fundraiser of the year and emphasizes participation as a show of strong support for Portola. The proceeds fund many important programs at the school including music, assemblies and field trips, and special STEM activities to name a few. Fundraising culminates with the Sweeney Ridge Hike on November 1<sup>st</sup> for all students. Corporate outreach has begun and we already have several donations!

### **Box Tops for Education**

It's never too early to start collecting those box tops. Drop off your box tops in the main office.

## **Around the campus— get involved!**

### **Show Your School Spirit**

*Spirit Wear for sale for children and adults.  
COMING SOON!*

*Remember, every Thursday is Spirit Day.*

### **Flag Salute**

*Parents, starting 9/1 join us for the Flag Salute on Thursdays at 8:15am at the flagpole in front of the school.*

### **Join School Site Council**

*Consider becoming a member of the Portola School Site Council. The Council is an elected group of staff and parents that works with the principal to develop, review, and evaluate school budgets and improvement programs. The group meets about 5 times a year after school. Contact the office or PTA if you are interested in running for SSC*

### **ELAC Committee**

*We also need parents for the Portola English Language Acquisition Committee. The ELAC Committee monitors EL programs and students in their effort to acquire and improve their English Language while at Portola. This committee meets approximately 3 times per year.*