

MATSUYAMA ELEMENTARY

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March 2015

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The foundation of Matsuyama Elementary School is parent involvement and volunteerism. Close to 50% of our student population is here by choice, either through open enrollment, permits, or Program Improvement transfer. Parents choose to send their students here for the academic program as well as the level of parent involvement. Based on my own experience as a parent, teacher, and administrator I can tell you the single component of a school that tips it from good to great to exceptional is parent involvement!

If we wish to keep Matsuyama a distinguished school we all need to do our fair share. Matsuyama receives \$112 per pupil in categorical funds that pay for our librarian, instructional aides, and after school tutors. We count on PTA to provide funds for field trip scholarships, after-school activities, crossing guard, books for our library, technology, assemblies, physical education equipment, and classroom enrichment. These are the very things that make every child's school experience memorable. Just imagine what Matsuyama would look like without the programs and resources provided by the PTA. We would just be ordinary! Let's all strive to be extraordinary so we can keep our school extraordinary.

Answer the call for volunteers when PTA asks. Do your part, nothing is too little, every bit helps and is greatly

appreciated. There is work that can be done at home, we always need help with clean-up and set-up, and donations help increase our profit. Many of our PTA board members have children that will soon be leaving Matsuyama, so we need people to step into leadership roles while those seasoned parents are here to train and educate families just starting out on their school journey. Next year we are in dire need of a PTA president!

I am challenging all Matsuyama parents to find one event or position they will commit some time to. Imagine how great we could be if we all just lent a hand to help lighten the load a bit? All of us must be willing to do what it takes to keep Matsuyama extraordinary!

Speaking of extraordinary people, I would like to publically thank a few incredibly generous families and people that have gone over and above for our school. Miss Sachi who volunteers her time making copies for teachers, donating office supplies, and supporting all of our fundraisers; the Lim family who have donated close to 300 reams of papers; and Mr. Pettipaw who has donated cases of hand sanitizer. These are just a few examples of the generosity displayed by so many at our school every day. I know none of these people expect anything in return, as their actions are from the heart. We just think they are perfect examples of extraordinary!

Thank you to zPizza for hosting Matsuyama's restaurant night fundraiser. And a special thanks to the families that went out to support it. Thanks to your support we raised \$282 while Matsuyama families enjoyed zPizza's great food and atmosphere.

The results of the ReUselt Clothing Drive are in! Our school brought in a total of 4,665 pounds during the drive which equals \$466.50. If you have items that you cannot keep until the next drive, consider dropping it off to their mobile unit. It is located in the parking lot of our post office at South Hills Shopping Center, 5930 S Land Park Drive. We share proceeds with 5 other schools in our area.

On Friday, March 20th will be our 15th Annual Cherry Blossom Festival. It is a lovely time to celebrate the coming of spring and the rich culture of Japan with exciting performances, crafts and delicious food. We need parent volunteers to make this event happen. Please sign up on volunteer Spot if you are able to donate a few hours that day. <http://vols.pt/59a1Wj> or contact us at matsuyamapta@gmail.com.

3/16 Lunch with a Scholar
3/20 Cherry Blossom Festival
3/28 – 4/5 Spring break
April Mixed Bags Fundraiser
4/13 Week of Jog a thon
21st Lunch with a Scholar
***4/28 PTA General Meeting
(elect new board)

1. Thank you zPizza, 2. Buddy classes, Ms. Gravitz and Ms. Z on Valentine's day, 3. & 4. Animal Expert Boxes in Ms. Gisler's Class, 5. Mr. Albert's class playing a Chinese New Year Game, 6. Mad Science comes into Celeste's class



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Student Staff Spotlight

Meet Ms. Jeter by Josie Landeck & Citlali Silva

Here is a "little" bit of information about Mrs. Jeter, a second grade teacher at Matsuyama Elementary School. Mrs. Jeter wanted to be a teacher because she likes working with kids. She enjoys being with her students five days a week. She loves to teach the kids about writing. When the kids are behaving, Mrs. Jeter gives the kids marbles that will fill up a jar to earn a prize. The average amount the kids fill it up is 3 or 4 times each year. She also enjoys doing art projects with her students.

During her summer vacation she likes to spend her time with her family. Mrs. Jeter's favorite time of the day is night. She enjoys parent teacher conferences, because she likes to meet the parents even though it is a lot of work to get ready for them. At the end of the year Mrs. Jeter gets sad when the kids leave, but she loves to get new kids the following school year.

When she was a child, she went to Caroline Wenzel Elementary, Sam Brannan Middle School, Kennedy High school and Sacramento State College for her degree. When she was a child she was shy, a little goofy, a good student, she loved to read, write stories and write poems. And that was a "little" bit of information about Mrs. Jeter.



Student Staff Spotlight

Hi Mr. Billingsly by Ashlyn Reynolds



Mr. Billingsly is the new Plant Manager at Matsuyama Elementary. Mr. Billingsly has worked here since June 1, 2014, and has worked for the school district since 2010. Mr. Billingsly does not just clean the school, he also cleans his house. He says he enjoys cleaning his kitchen because he enjoys cooking! Mr. Billingsly grew up here in Sacramento, and his dream would be all his family coming together from all the different states.

Mr. Billingsly's favorite celebrity is the actor Johnny Depp. Mr. Billingsly said that if he was a celebrity he would be a professional snowboarder. Mr. Billingsly says that if he was the president he would not change any laws, because he is not presidents so he doesn't know the laws enough to change them.

Mr. Billingsly says the best part of being the plant manager at Matsuyama is giving back to the community and keeping the school clean. Two other facts about Mr. Billingsly is that his favorite food is tacos and his lucky number is 9!

So, Mr. Billingsly is a great person, oh, and don't forget to always remember to say hi to him!



Ms. Brunson's First

Ms. Brunson's class created watercolor masterpieces of Mt. Rushmore. These students were asked, "What do you love about our country?"



Ethan-"I love we have freedom."



Evah- "We have beautiful nature in our country."



Evie-"I love that we can have a wonderful family life."



Stephan-"We are lucky we can see things like Mt. Rushmore."



Anna-"I love we can have fun."



Kokoro-"We are lucky we can go to school."



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