

# The Bear Facts

*Sponsored by the Parent Faculty Association  
of Jessie Beck Elementary School*

## PFA News

### Happy Holidays!

I hope everyone had a fantastic Thanksgiving and that you are all well-fed and happy.

November and December tend to be slow months in the way of events and activities. But there were a few things that I want to make mention of here.

#### Meetings

At the November PFA General Meeting, we proposed an amendment to the bylaws that would change the general meetings from monthly to a quarterly schedule. This proposal passed by vote, and the new meeting calendar will take effect now, until the end of the school year. The 2013-14 calendar will be determined by the new PFA board in May.

The new calendar is posted on the PFA web site, and I will send an e-mail reminder with the agenda prior to each meeting.

The general meeting schedule for the remainder of the year is as follows:

**February 12, 2013**

**April 16, 2013** (special meeting - election of new PFA board)

**May 21, 2013** (new board is introduced and takes over)

The reason for the change is to lessen the burden on parents who cannot attend monthly meetings. Each meeting will be limited to 15 minutes, where the agenda will be quickly reviewed and discussed, followed by a guest speaker or school tour.

We hope that this change will encourage more parental involvement in the PFA.

#### Events

The **New Opportunities Committee** assembled 25



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Thanksgiving baskets for some of Jessie Beck's deserving families. Special thanks to Lanny and volunteers **Susie Hobson, Lisa Romero-Camero** and **Erin Bergin**. Thank you all for your hard work!

**Fong Menante** and **Laurie Lough** are hard at work on the **Fund the Arts Auction and Dinner**, and they have some exciting things planned. Stay tuned for details.

#### News

**Faith Osgard** continues to work on getting the Science Coordinator program up and running. **Laurie Lough** and her committee continues the development of a nutrition program named FEED (Food, Enjoyment, Education and Discovery). Contact Laurie at [larsiel@gmail.com](mailto:larsiel@gmail.com) to get involved.

#### Fundraising and Thanks

Please remember to save your **Box Tops** and **Labels**, and turn them in. It means easy money for Jessie Beck. When shopping online, please remember to use **iGive** ([www.iGive.com](http://www.iGive.com)). And don't forget to use your **SaveMart** card and **Raley's Something Extra** number when buying groceries.

And please remember to say thank you to our generous partners **El Adobe, 775 Gastropub**, and all those who donate throughout the year, by buying their products and supporting their businesses.

I hope you all have safe and happy holidays. See you in 2013!

*~ Derek Vogel, PFA President  
[derek.vogel@gmail.com](mailto:derek.vogel@gmail.com)*

## From the **Principal**

November was amazing! We had classrooms learning about the sacrifice our Veteran's make, the history of Thanksgiving as well as our continual work on Common Core standards. We had several staff members attend a Saturday training given by the National Archery in Schools Program. We are working with the district to try to bring this opportunity to our building in an after school program for the intermediate students. We have also connected with a new indoor archery range called Wasting Arrows to team up and do a Jessie Beck Family Archery Night. Our first scheduled date is Wednesday, December 12th. If you have not yet signed up with Dr. Brock, the deadline is December 7th and the cost is \$12.00 per person which includes bow/arrow rental.



December is going to be over before we know it. Wow! We have a whole month of 5 day school weeks to look forward to. It feels like forever since we have had this much opportunity for instruction and learning at school. Ms. Walsh, our school counselor will be working to support and kick off 15 days of kindness. Students will be encouraged and recognized for doing random acts of kindness. As the winter break approaches, it is important that we try to keep our schedules as consistent as possible for our students. Discipline tends

to be on a rise around the holidays and consistency both at home and at school helps to maintain a productive learning environment.

I hope that you are able to have a wonderful winter break. School will be closed from December 24 – January 4th. Students will return on the 7th! Please remember if you are extending your break, we would greatly appreciate it if you fill out a form in the office prior to the absences.

Thank you for all that you do and Happy New Year!

~ *Jenni Anderson, Principal*

 **Like Us**

Like Jessie Beck on Facebook. Get school information, updates and fun ideas for family fun.

[www.facebook.com/pages/Jessie-Beck-Elementary-School](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Jessie-Beck-Elementary-School)



## Art to **Grow**

Last months clay work shop was a terrific success. Those in attendance learned first hand about the fundamentals of working with clay and did a great job creating their own coil pears. Special thanks to Ms. Harper for the use of her classroom and Lanny Hershenow for her wonder homemade treats. If anyone needs help or assistance with future projects or running the kiln, please contact me and I will happy to assist.

You won't want to miss our next hands on workshop! We will be learning all about Printmaking; Relief, Mono & Collagraph. This medium is great for all type of projects and can be easily incorporated in to any curriculum individually or collaboratively. The workshop is scheduled for Thursday, December 6th at 3:15 pm – 4:45 in Mrs. Hoffman's classroom and it is open to both faculty and art volunteers. Please RSVP so I know how many to expect.



As always, if you have questions, suggestions or just want to get involved with our art program, please contact me at [robinheywood@sbcgobal.net](mailto:robinheywood@sbcgobal.net).

Happy Holidays!

~ *Robin Heywood, Jessie Beck Art Coordinator*

## Parent Leaders

We encourage parents to get involved in improving education in the state by joining Parent Leaders for Education. This non-partisan group works with state legislators and leaders to influence policy decisions that directly impact your child's education.

[www.EducationPriority1.org](http://www.EducationPriority1.org)

# Thanksgiving Baskets

The New Opportunities Committee would like to thank all the students, parents and staff who helped make this Thanksgiving holiday brighter for 25 of our families. The donations surpassed our expectations this year. Thanks to those parents who donated money toward the items we had to purchase. A huge thank you to Wal-Mart on 2nd Street for donating the 25 turkeys (thanks Scott Nebesky for taking care of that for us). We hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving.



# Science Club

Get excited about science with Sierra Nevada Journeys afterschool science club! Fifth and Sixth grade students are invited to join us for 6 weeks of hands-on science investigations including:

- Chemistry: using household materials we will explore chemistry
- Engineering: learn about designing and building a bridge, tower, or catapult
- Use technology to observe the world around you
- Work with others to design your own investigation

**When:** Tuesdays, from 3:00-4:30

January: 15, 22, & 29

February: 5, 12, 19

**Where:** Dr. Brock's room- C6

**Cost:** \$75 per student (check made out to Sierra Nevada Journeys)

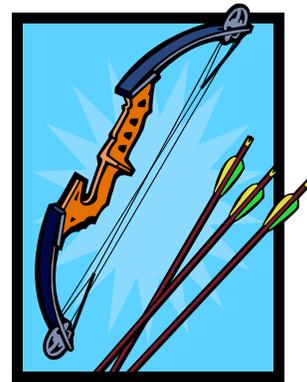
**Limit:** 20 students

See Dr. Brock or the office for the sign up form.

# Archery Night

Looking for a fun family activity to do on the dark evenings this winter? Introduce your family to the fantastic sport of archery, one of the oldest Olympic sports.

Jessie Beck Elementary School has teamed up with the new indoor archery facility Wasting Arrows (<http://wastingarrows.com>) and the Wild Sheep Foundation to offer a family night of fun!



**When:** 6:00-8:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>

**Where:** Wasting Arrows Indoor Archery Range  
8975 Double Diamond Parkway, Ste. A8 Reno, NV

**Cost:** \$12 per person  
(Cost reduced through partnership of Wasting Arrows and Wild Sheep Foundation)  
*\*cost is the same if you bring your own bow*

**Initial visit includes:** lesson, bow/arrow rental, range time

For every person who pays, \$2 is donated back to Jessie Beck Elementary.

## SIGN UP IN ADVANCE:

Participants must sign up in advance with Dr. Brock in room C6.

Simply make checks payable to Wasting Arrows for \$12 a person. Make sure to let Dr. Brock know the names of the people who will participate.



## Save the Date!

### May 17, 2013

If you are interested in volunteering, or if you would like to donate an item for auction, please contact **Fong Menante** at [fong@jpmenante.com](mailto:fong@jpmenante.com) or **Laurie Lough** at [larsiel@gmail.com](mailto:larsiel@gmail.com).

FUND  
THE  
ARTS

## Dates to Remember

Dec. 7..... Clinical Aide Appreciation Day  
Dec. 13 ..... 2nd Grade Winter Concert (2:15)  
Dec. 14 ..... 3rd Grade Winter Concert (2:15)  
Dec. 17 ..... 775 Gastropub Night  
Dec. 21 ..... Lost and Found Clean Out  
Dec. 24 -  
Jan. 4 ..... Winter Break - No School  
Jan. 7 ..... Classes Resume  
Jan. 7 ..... El Adobe Night  
Jan. 17 ..... End of Grading Period  
Jan. 21 ..... Martin Luther King Jr. Day -  
No School  
Jan. 21 ..... 775 Gastropub

Early Release - Every Wednesday at 2:15

## Volunteer of the Month

Jessie Beck events and activities are successful because of our amazing volunteers.

Each month, we will recognize some of those volunteers here. And when you see volunteers at school, please thank them for all they do.

**Susie Hobson,  
Lisa Romero-Cambero,  
Erin Bergin**

for New Opportunities Thanksgiving Baskets

**Thank you!**

## Box Tops & Labels

### NEW CONTEST!

Put your **Box Tops and Labels for Education** in the collection bag with your teacher's name on it in your classroom. At the end of each month we will collect the bags and count the total for each class. The class with the most Box Tops will get to have **Mr. Top Box** in their classroom for the month. The class with the most Labels for Education will get to have **Leo Label** in their classroom for the month.



Look for the **Box Top** on 100's of participating products from cereals, frozen products, sandwich bags, baking products, and more.

Each one is worth 10 cents for the school. Seems like a small amount, but if everyone collected them, it would add up to a significant amount for Jessie Beck. Cut them out, collect them and put them in the collection bag in your classroom.

Clip the UPC code with "**Labels for Education**" on Campbell soups, V8, Dannon, Glad, Emerald Nuts packaging, Swanson, Pepperidge Farm products and Prego; collect them and put them into the collection bag in your classroom. Each label earns points that can be used towards Arts, Athletic, or Academic supplies for the school.



**Don't forget to ask family and friends for their Box Tops and Labels!**

## Paper Opt-Out

If you would rather receive "The Bear Facts" via e-mail than paper copy, please follow these simple directions: Send an e-mail to [beckpfa@gmail.com](mailto:beckpfa@gmail.com) and put "opt-out of paper newsletter" in the subject line. In the body of the e-mail, include your name, your child(s) name and their teacher. Opting-out is a great way to save on paper and printing costs. Thank you.

~ Jessie Beck PFA

### Jessie Beck Elementary School

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