

a publication of the jessie beck parent faculty association

# The Bear Facts

december  
2020



Dear Jessie Beck Families,

We hope everyone had a wonderful and healthy Thanksgiving!

As our winter break approaches, we would like to take the opportunity to thank our volunteers, staff and community for the extraordinary work and achievements in the most challenging and unusual times.

Our next major event is Funds The Arts in April. It is one of our biggest events and we are always looking for volunteers to help in various tasks and capacities. Please reach out to Bri Sullivan at [Brianne.sullivan@moneytreeinc.com](mailto:Brianne.sullivan@moneytreeinc.com)

Our website [www.jessiebeckpfa.com](http://www.jessiebeckpfa.com) is updated periodically and is a great resource for information about the budget, meetings and the events calendar. Our website also has all the info needed to join our PFA...its never too late!

For up-to-date information please also check us out on our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/jessiebeckpfa](http://www.facebook.com/jessiebeckpfa).

As always, please contact us at [BeckPFA@gmail.com](mailto:BeckPFA@gmail.com) for various volunteering opportunities, inquiries, suggestions or feedbacks.

Thank you all for your support!

Edgard Hitti President

## Dates to Note

### *Natalia's El Adobe Night*

First Tuesday of the Month 4:00 to 8:00pm

### *Jessie Beck Night at Napa Sonoma*

Plumgate Shopping Center

Third Thursday of every month 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM

### *Spirit Fridays*

Wear your Jessie Beck attire every Friday!

### *Early Release*

Every Wednesday at 2:15 PM

December 17 *End of Grading Period*

December 18 *Teacher Work Day*

December 21 - January 1 *Winter Break*

January 5 *PFA Board Meeting via Zoom*

January 18 *MLK Day*

March 24 *Odis Spunkmeyer Cookie Dough Fundraiser Begins*



## *the Principal's pen*

Happy December everyone!

The Holidays and Winter Break will be upon us soon! Please, continue to do everything to keep yourselves and your families safe and healthy this holiday season! There will be no school on Friday, December 18th. This is a teacher work day and Winter Break is December 19th-January 3rd! We plan to see everyone back on Monday, January 4th!

A huge THANK YOU to all of our students and families who helped support our Thanksgiving Food Baskets. They were a great success and I know so many of our families appreciated these baskets and it was wonderful to see our school community come together to support one another!

These next two weeks leading up to Winter Break, all 1st-6th grade students will be MAP testing in ELA and Math. In January, our Distance Learning students and our Kindergarten students will be MAP testing. Our Kindergartners will take the Reading assessment only. More details will be coming for our Distance Learning students regarding how to test. For all students falling below the 40% in Reading MAP a reading/intervention plan will be made for that student. All RBG3 (Read by Grade 3) regulations must still be complied with for the 20'-21' SY.

Please make sure that you have done your on-line survey that is due December 9th, deciding what learning model you would like your child to receive next semester. This will assist in our planning, however, we may continue to see wait lists in some grade levels due to the 50% of fire code capacity guidelines that we must adhere to per Governor Sisolak's orders in our classrooms.

As we move into Winter Break, I would like to say thank you to all of our students, our families, our PFA and our wonderful staff for going above and beyond everyday to make this year as successful as it has been considering everything each and everyone of us is going through. We are all in this together and I know we will get through this together! I truly know how fortunate I am everyday to be leading such a wonderful school and school community! Hold your loved ones close and count your blessings! I look forward to the New Year!

2021.....Here WE come!

Thank you,  
Ms. Lane  
Principal





### *Counseling Update from "Mrs. C"*

Happy Holidays to all our students and families at Jessie Beck!!

It continues to be a very busy time of year for us all, and I am looking forward to the upcoming holiday season as we have a lot of fun activities ahead!


November's guidance lessons were all centered around safety and I taught the Better Safe Than Sorry lessons, which went great! Our students were great listeners, participated in the lessons, and shared some insightful input and experiences on the topic! Our faculty and parents go over safety skills and rules with our kiddos here at Beck as we strive for this topic to be of utmost importance!

During the month of December, I will be pushing into all 4th, 5th, and 6th grade classes to deliver lessons on "SHARE". Permission slips will be going home to each one of these students and MUST be returned in order for the student to participate in this lesson. All distance learners and families can access all SHARE PowerPoints/lessons/materials on our Jessie Beck website if parents choose to go over this with them. I will not be teaching any SHARE lessons to distance learners this year.

I also wanted to thank all the families, students, faculty, and members of the New Opportunities Committee who donated and helped organize/deliver Thanksgiving Baskets to families in need this past month!

We received an abundance of food and monetary donations and I was overwhelmed with the outpouring of love and thoughtfulness!! I will now be working closely again with the New Opportunities Committee here at Jessie Beck to organize and deliver Christmas gifts to families in need. If you or anyone you know are interested in sponsoring/shopping for a family, please do not hesitate to reach out to me!

Lastly, I wanted to remind all students and families that I have created a virtual counseling corner for anyone to access (in person or distant learners) that contains different resources, calming techniques, and counseling activities for all. You can find the links by clicking on the different labeled icons on the page and this can be accessed on our Jessie Beck Website.



# Art to Grow

## Season's Greetings!

What a wonderful time of year to share not only our love and kindness but our creativity with others. Given the extreme challenges we have faced in 2020, art is a great way to heal, bond and share. One of my favorite ways of expressing my creative side is in the kitchen. I always encourage students to get in the kitchen and cook. In doing so, they practice math skills with measurements, dabble in science with the how & whys and reap the delicious benefits of what they have made. Not to mention this is a huge life skill.

This year while in quarantine, we saw an explosion of interest in homemade bread making. Many of you may have made your own sourdough starter. The beauty of bread making is a wonderful tactile experience that can take on so many different forms in terms of artistry, from a fougasse to Focaccia bread art. Learning and sharing in the practice can take on old and new traditions. But it's much more than this, sights, smells, sounds and the tactile experience render therapeutic value physically, cognitively, socially, and interpersonally. It can also soothe stress, build self-esteem and curb negative thinking. So, why not try some bread?!

For a non-edible idea, try making cinnamon ornaments. These are so fun for children to make and can be a non-holiday gift given the lovely fragrance. Not to be confused with the overwhelming cinnamon brooms and pinecones that take your breath away at the entrance of Michaels. Ingredients include cinnamon, glue and applesauce. Children can practice rolling out dough, use cookie cutters or even roll out into long tubes and braid or twist for designs. Once baked the creations can be painted or left natural for a rustic look. Embellish with ribbons, raffia, bells, or paint to finish your creation. These make perfect ornaments for the tree or packages, or a great scented wall hanging. Overall, a great family activity requiring minimal materials with maximum fun!

Art can be found everywhere and in everything. What we take from it, how it resonates, what we question and what we share is up to us . . . or is reflection of us.

Wishing you all a joyous and artsy holiday season!

Keep creating,  
Robin



# Dual Language Program

Jessie Beck hand sanitizer is still available and makes fabulous stocking stuffers! **\$3 each or 2 for \$5**

The Dual Language Advisory Committee has sold more than 250 mini bottles of Jessie Beck hand sanitizer, donating \$876 to Jessie Beck to buy PPE for staff and classrooms.

Please email BeckDLAC@gmail.com to arrange for payment and delivery to your child's classroom.

¡El desinfectante de manos Jessie Beck todavía está disponible y es un fantástico regalo para llenar las botas navideñas!

\$3 cada uno o 2 por \$5

El Comité Asesor de programa de Dual Language ha vendido más de 250 mini botellas de desinfectante de manos Jessie Beck, donando \$876 a Jessie Beck para comprar equipamiento de protección para el personal y las clases.

Envíe un correo electrónico BeckDLAC@gmail.com para organizar el pago y la entrega en la clase de su hijo/a.

**This holiday season, whether you are wishing friends and family happiness and good tidings by saying:**

‘God Jul’ in Sweden and celebrating with a festival of lights...

‘Hyvää Joulua’ in Finnish and visiting a sauna on Christmas Eve...

‘Froehliche Weihnachten’, in Germany, the birthplace of the decorated Christmas tree...

‘Feliz Navidad’ in Mexico, from whence came the red and green Poinsettia plant...

‘Joyeux Noël’ in France, perhaps sharing a King Cake on the feast of the Epiphany...

‘Buon Natale’, in Italy, to commemorate ‘the birthday’...

May your season be bright.

Perhaps, you and your family will follow the Ukranian example, and await the appearance of the north star in the night sky to begin a traditional 12-course meal and wish each other ‘Srozhdestvom Kristovym.’

Perhaps, as in Greece, you’ll await the mischievous goblins during the 12 days of Christmas bidding each other a ‘Kala Christouyenna.’

Perhaps, like in Norway, you may be warming yourself with a toasty yule log. Or better still, devouring a tasty yule log cake, wishing one another ‘Gledelig Jul’. Or, like in England, perhaps you’ll break open a cracker to discover surprise treats.

Perhaps you wish you were in Australia, celebrating with a picnic on the beach?

Maybe your family will celebrate the seven nights of songs, storytelling, and dance of Kwanzaa.

Perhaps lighting Hanukkah candles for eight nights will be the focus of your season.

Perhaps you’ll find yourself under the mistletoe, inspired to give a loved one a kiss.

The Celts believed that mistletoe had magical power to ward off evil spirits, bring good luck.

Perhaps you’ll celebrate the Winter Solstice, when the short, dark days begin to lengthen and brighten again.

Perhaps you’re looking forward to removing your 2020 calendar and putting up a 2021 calendar, turning the page on one year and hoping for a better year to come.

For all of the wonderfully diverse ways you celebrate this time of year, the Dual Language Family wishes you a warm and joyful Winter Break.



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