

# BITNEY COLLEGE PREP NEWS

A Public College Preparatory High School where students are known, respected, and educated

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**December 2007**

The Bitney College Prep News is an electronic publication distributed to parents, students and the community. If you have information for an upcoming issue, please E-mail [janfishler@comcast.net](mailto:janfishler@comcast.net) or leave a phone message at 530-277-9173. The publication is also available at the school office and on the school website ([www.BitneyPrep.net](http://www.BitneyPrep.net)).

## **A MESSAGE FROM MARSHALL GOLDBERG, PRINCIPAL**

Greetings! As the first semester is quickly coming to a close – only two weeks left after winter break - I want to thank everyone for your continued support for our students and our programs. Our school's reputation and success continues to improve and is directly related to parental involvement and concern. I look forward to continuing this positive relationship. Thinking about our program, if you haven't met Susan Noble our new upper division math teacher, please take the opportunity to stop in and welcome her. Susan comes to us "highly" recommended, and as she puts it "born with a brain for math and the ability to teach." She has more than 10 years of teaching experience, most of it in Marin County and more recently at Nevada Union. In addition to her love of math (really), Susan is fluent in Spanish. Susan has two young children, a husband who is also a local teacher, and as she noted to me recently, so happy to be here at Bitney teaching these wonderful students.

The new year brings with it many interesting and exciting events. We'll once again have a visit from a group of Tibetan Monks, and share time with a local author, among others (see our school calendar). If you have the opportunity I encourage you to join us on these days. I'm also very pleased to say we will be having two, possibly three, foreign exchange students attending Bitney for the second semester. This is always a wonderful opportunity for all of us to make new friends, learn about other cultures, and expand our global consciousness.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, or something positive to share, please contact me. Have a wonderful and safe winter break! Marshall

## **PICKUP AND DROP OFF AT SCHOOL**

For convenience, many of us have been driving through the maintenance parking lot by the swimming pool. While this is a great short cut it was not designed as a public access and we have been asked by the facilities director at Nevada Union to refrain from taking this route. Alternately, please turn around and take the loop around the wrestling gym, past the soccer/ultimate Frisbee field and tennis courts. Thank you for your cooperation.

## **BUDGET DEFICIT**

Due to limited pledges from our families and lower enrollment than projected, the school is experiencing a severe budget deficit. If you are able to pledge or know students who might be a good match for our school, now is the time to take action. Remember, your donation to the school is tax deductible and funds a unique school and necessary program for our students. Checks should be made out to Bitney College Preparatory High School. Pledges/donations may also be made with credit cards (call the office for more detail.) If we are unable to rectify the budget, we will be forced to consider budget cuts.

## **BRIARPATCH: NEW PAINLESS FUNDRAISER FOR BITNEY**

The BriarPatch Community Market on Sierra College Drive has started a new voucher program to encourage healthy eating and support local schools. Vouchers, now available in the school office, earn 1% of all your purchases rebated to Bitney each month. Please take advantage of this and other painless way to support our school. *Prepaid Gift cards (giving a 10% discount on purchases) for students are also available at BriarPatch (must show student ID to purchase).*

## **BRAIN BUSTER CHAMPIONS – SPONSORS NEEDED**

On February 9, Bitney College Prep is hosting the second annual Brain Buster Champions – an exciting 1-day event where 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students come to our school to compete in various categories

(math, English, science/technology, history, the arts, music, pop culture and problem-solving), experience first hand what we have to offer, win prizes and more. To cover the cost of the event, we are currently seeking event sponsors—individuals and businesses who can donate \$250. All sponsors will be listed on T-shirts and on event advertising. If you can be a sponsor, please call Jan Fishler 277-9173.

### **HOST FAMILIES NEEDED – CAN YOU HELP!**

Bitney has a long and very successful history of hosting international students. They truly enhance the educational and cultural environment at the school. So far this year we have host families for two girls who will be joining us in January for the second semester—one from Belgium, the other from Colombia. We recently learned of a Korean girl, currently living in Folsom who needs a new host family ASAP. Interested? Please contact Bruce for more information (during the break he can be contacted at [bsherring@hotmail.com](mailto:bsherring@hotmail.com)).

### **SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM**

Thanks to several parent volunteers coming forward, the school lunch program will be open at least four days a week starting in January. This is an easy and fun way to make a big difference in your student's school day and get to know their friends. If you are interested in helping out please contact Kris Gardner at 432-9819 or 906-9173 for details.

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- December 24-January 4 - Winter Holiday Break
- January 7 - School begins again Monday
- January 8 - Charter Council Meeting, 6:00 P.M. at the school
- January 15 - 18<sup>th</sup> Midterms/Finals minimum days 8:20 A.M.-12:30 P.M. (Tuesday-Friday)
- January 18 - First Semester ends
- January 21 - No school. Martin Luther King Holiday
- January 22 - Second Semester begins
- January 25 - Mock Brain Buster Challenge
- January 30 - Tibetan Monks visit Bitney
- February 4 - Nevada County Reads: Jordan Fisher Smith, author of *Nature Noir*, visits Bitney
- February 5 - California High School Exit Exam for Sophomores
- February 9 - Brain Buster Challenge
- February 20 - Information Evening for prospective new Student/Family



### **WISH LIST**

Currently, the school is in need of: two small tuff sheds for the storage of art and P.E. supplies. newer computers, someone to install/build (or help) coverings over the lockers, portable self-contained sinks, counter/island for the lunch room, book shelves, storage shelves, 7-12 passenger van. If you can help, please call the office.

### **SUPPORT THE SCHOOL**

- Attend Parent Council meetings: usually held at **6:15 pm** at the school on the **first Monday of every month**. Contact Lisa Hooper for more information: [Lisa@ObjectiveInsights.com](mailto:Lisa@ObjectiveInsights.com)
- Participate in Painless Fundraising
- Pledge
- Recruit new students
- Be sure your student comes to class

### **WEB SITE: [www.bitneyprep.net](http://www.bitneyprep.net) HOMEWORK ONLINE**

Grades and homework are online. Access instructions have been mailed to all families. If you do not receive information on accessing these or need help accessing your student's grades (once you receive the instructions) please contact Mary in the office (477-1235).

# HOLIDAY



# HAPPY