

The Balboa Beat, 9/01/13

The following is a copy of the September 1, 2013 issue of The Balboa Beat. To subscribe and receive a copy of the Balboa Spirit Club's newsletter on the first and fifteenth of each month, visit our website at <http://www.balboaparents.org/balboa-beat.html>.

The Balboa Beat, Volume 6, Issue 2
September 1, 2013

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The Balboa Beat



The bimonthly newsletter of the Balboa Spirit Club



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The Balboa Beat, Volume 6, Issue 2

September 1, 2013

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Calendar

9/02: Labor Day (No School)

9/05: No School

9/06: Earthquake Kits due;
Stop, Drop & Recycle; First
Fridays in the Garden

9/11: Restaurant Fundraiser
@ Yogurtland - 11 am-11 pm

9/12: BSC Meeting - 7 pm

9/22: Fall Picnic - 3-6 pm

9/25: Restaurant Night @
CPK - 11 am-9 pm

9/30: SSC Meeting

10/02: BSC Meeting - 8:30
am

SDR SCHEDULE:

8/28-9/10 (Holidays
excepted): Mr. Brescher
(Rm. 8)

9/11-9/20 (Holidays
excepted): Ms. Convirs (Rm.
9)

9/23-10/1: Mrs. Brownell
(Rm. 10)

Science Instructor

All-New Science Lab Turns Concepts Into Concrete Learning Experiences

Science just got a lot more hands-on at Balboa this year, thanks to a partnership between the school and the Balboa Spirit Club!

Our brand-new Science Lab is staffed by Mrs. Susanna Chong, who has been a secondary math and science teacher for 12 years. Her teaching experience has included five years of teaching high school integrated math, and three years of teaching engineering courses for elementary students with the UCLA Science Project. In April, Mrs. Chong received the "Science and Technology Teacher Award" from the Chatsworth Chamber of Commerce for her work as an elementary science lab coordinator at Porter Ranch Community School. This summer, she worked with the UCLA Science and Math Project to coordinate and design the curriculum for the highly successful Balboa STEM Summer Program.

This year, Mrs. Chong plans to take the science curriculum taught by Balboa's teachers into the Science Lab, and turn it into hands-on experiments to cement those concepts in students' minds. Each grade level is on a different schedule to best serve the material and the children's needs.

The Balboa Spirit Club pays Mrs. Chong's salary with financial contributions from parents and the community. Help keep this amazing program going by

CORRECTION

In the last issue of the Balboa Beat, we mistakenly reported that there would be no school on September 13. In fact, school will take place on its regular schedule that day. We apologize for any inconvenience.



Donate Now to Support Programs

Ever wondered how Balboa Magnet could offer its wide variety of enrichment programs to all of its students? The answer is the generosity of families like yours.

The COMPASS Fund, formerly Direct Appeal, is the

donating to the [COMPASS Fund](#) today!

Cool Off at Annual Fall Picnic On September 22



Get ready to get wet at the Balboa Spirit Club's first event of the year -- our annual Fall Picnic on **September 22, from 3-6 pm!** It is a great way for families to come together, make new friends and reunite with old ones, while cooling

off with water games and activities.

Make it even more fun by getting involved! Volunteers are needed to help plan, setup, staff game stations, sell food, and clean up. All help is welcome and appreciated. Sign up to volunteer at <http://vols.pt/9V1hU4>.

If you have any questions, email Crissy Thomas-Taylor at crissy.thomas-taylor@nbcuni.com.

Balboa Spirit Club's annual giving campaign. One hundred percent of the donations made to it go to the salaries of our Computer Lab, Vocal Music and Science Lab instructors and our Physical Education coach.

We welcome donations at any amount, and rewards (including the car magnet pictured above) are offered at the \$350, \$500 and \$1,000 levels. Visit our [website](#) for details.

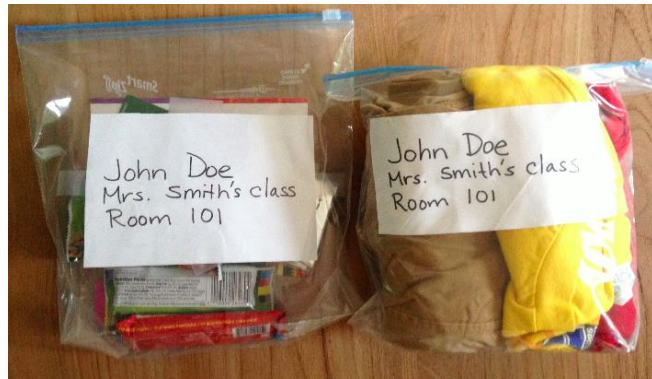
DONATE NOW!



Sweet Fundraiser Supports Balboa

Beat the heat, and raise money for Balboa! Please join us for our first Balboa Restaurant Fundraiser of the year at Yogurtland!

**Wednesday, September 11
11 am-11 pm
at two locations:
* Northridge - 9225 Reseda**



Have You Sent In Your Child's Emergency Kit?

Our Earthquake Preparedness Kits are designed to keep your child warm, fed, and as comfortable as possible in the event of an emergency. While not mandatory, we encourage you to make one for your child. (Remember to stick to the list sent home through [E-Backpack.](#)) The last day to turn them in is **September 6.**

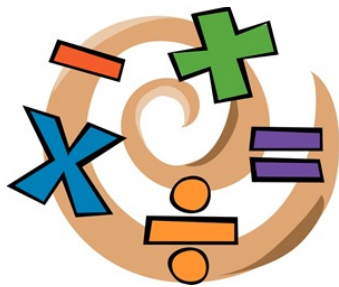
For additional help, visit our [website](#) for an instructional slideshow.

Green Team Gets Rolling With First Fridays on September 6



**Blvd. (north of Nordhoff)
* Reseda - 6400 Tampa
Blvd. (corner of Victory &
Tampa)**

Don't forget to bring the flyer!
(The flyer will be available in
the 9/04 E-Backpack, in the
office on 9/11, and on our
[website](#).)



Save the Date for Math Fun

Mark your calendar for
Balboa's Math & Family
Game Night on Friday,
October 18, from 5:30-8 pm.
This is a fun, family event
that you won't want to miss!
Want to help? Sign up on
our [website](#).

You are invited to Stop, Drop & Recycle on the first Friday of every month! Our next event will be **September 6** at the morning carpool drop-off lane. In order to avoid any delays, please put your recyclables in a bag that can be handed to one of the parent volunteers. Check out our [website](#) for more details and a list of what we recycle.

The Green Team will also help keep our school green this year by hosting "**First Fridays in the Garden.**" Stop by the Balboa Discovery Garden (located behind the school library) on September 6, and the first Friday of every month from 8:30-10:30 am. We will tackle the weeds and help keep our garden looking beautiful. Tools and gloves will be provided.

For more information, please contact Kelly Mitchell at kelly@neatline.net

BSC General Meeting Set

Please join us for our first Balboa Spirit Club Parent Meeting of the school year on Thursday, September 12, at 7 p.m. in the Auditorium.

Babysitting will be available. If you are interested in childcare, please RSVP to Christina Yu at clockming@hotmail.com, so that we can provide your children food/snacks.

We look forward to seeing you there and hearing your ideas!

Host Families Appreciated

Thank you to all our wonderful Host Families who reached out to welcome our new Balboa students and their families. I heard from many new parents who were delighted with the personal connection and who truly appreciated having their questions answered and their concerns addressed. We have a terrific group of teachers, administration, staff, and parents working together to provide the best possible education for our children, and parent involvement is an important part of that. Wishing everyone a terrific school year!
- Robin Irvine, Host Families Chair



Directory Goes Online for 2013-2014

Each year, the Balboa Spirit Club publishes a school-wide directory with a class-by-class contact list, as well as other useful information.

It's a great resource for parents who want to send out invitations to parties, arrange a get-together with friends, or just check on a homework assignment with a classmate.

This year, we are using an online process to collect the information to put in the directory. Please go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2013-2014BalboaDirectory> by **September 10**, and fill out a short online survey, telling us what you want to include in the directory and classroom contact lists. You will have a chance later to check your information before it is published. For any questions, contact Carla Cross at crossm43a@gmail.com.



Brain Teaser

Shop and Contribute!

Now is the time to re-register your Ralphs Rewards, Target Red Card and Vons eScrip accounts, so that Balboa benefits from your purchases. For details, please visit our website at <http://www.balboaparents.org/shop-and-contribute.html>.

Question: *How can you throw a ball as hard as you can and have it come back to you, even if it doesn't bounce off anything? There is nothing attached to it, and no one else catches or throws it back to you.*

If you know the answer, submit it [here](#) by September 30. Readers who send in the correct answer will be entered into a drawing to be held at the Balboa Spirit Club meeting on October 2. Please, only one entry per person. You need not be present to win.

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We acquired your e-mail address through the Balboa Directory or you signed up to receive our emails.

Our mailing address is:

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Northridge, CA 91325

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