



10.7.22

WELCOME BACK



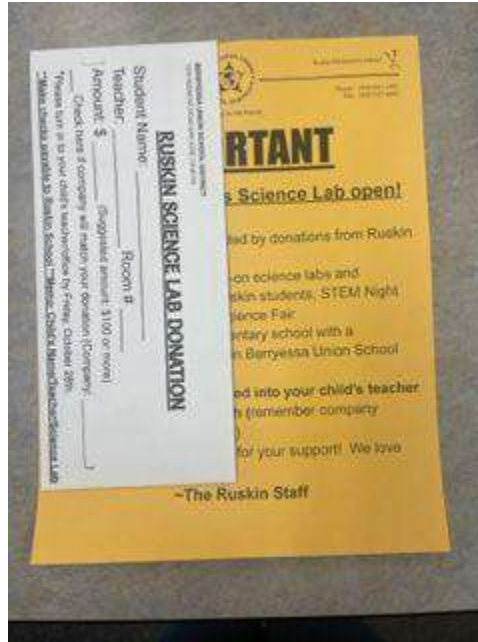
Happy Friday Ruskin Families,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful Fall break! I am loving hearing about all the fun adventures the students had... Hawaii, camping, New York... fun times. I had an amazing time myself in Mexico. The weather was amazing, the people were awesome and the food was delicious!!

Student Nutrition Services has provided an update for families regarding meals and services. Please see their latest newsletter [here](#).

As many of you know, Ruskin has a spectacular Science Lab, complete with two phenomenal Science teachers! This lab is unique to Ruskin; the only school in the district to have one. The lab is funded **COMPLETELY BY PARENT DONATIONS**. Throughout the years, parents have generously donated funds to keep the lab up and

running, even doing matching with some of their employees. Soon you will be receiving our annual donation letter, complete with an envelope. We thank you in advance for your generous donations.



Reminder: Parents are not to be inside the Building

For student safety, parents are not allowed inside the building unless. We have found parents leaving the multi purpose room in the mornings. Also, please remember that bathrooms connected to the classrooms or pods are for students only. You will see signs like the ones below. Any adult needing to use the restroom may come into the office and use the one located there. Thank you for your cooperation.



Hispanic Heritage Month

September 15-October 15



Our next spotlight for National Hispanic Heritage month is Ellen Ochoa. Ellen Ochoa was the first female Hispanic to go to space. Hear about how she accomplished her dream in this video [Ellen Ochoa](#).

Also, in honor of our celebration of the rich Hispanic culture, we will be having an assembly this Monday with the Los Laureles folk dancers and a Mariachi band. It should be a fun time for all! Keep in mind, the office will have limited services during that morning as the staff will be enjoying the festivities as well.

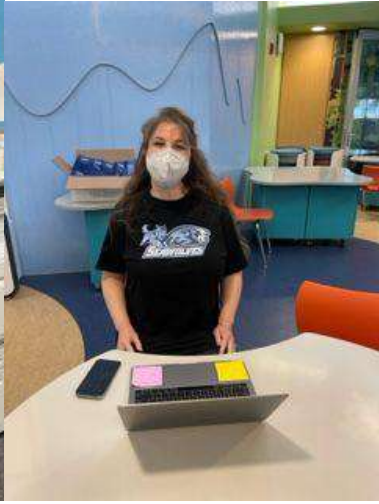


COLLEGE THURSDAY

(soon to be College Monday)

This College Thursday I am spotlighting Louisiana State University or LSU for short. This public land-grant research university was founded in 1860 and is located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana (my favorite state). It operates over 800 sponsored research projects funded by various agencies. It is one of eight universities in the United States with dental, law, medical, veterinary and a Masters of Business Administration program. They are the Tigers and are highly known for their successful sports teams.

Starting next week, College Thursdays will be changing to **College Mondays!** Come join us at the flag pole with your college gear!





PTA ICE CREAM SOCIAL TONIGHT!!! 5-7 PM

Join us tonight for some **FREE ICE CREAM** provided by the PTA. See the flyer below.





School Site Council

Do you want to be a part of how Ruskin Elementary School works? Do you want to be a part of decisions that are made, like the school budget, programs purchased, etc? If that interests you, come be a part of the School Site Council. We will meet this Wednesday, at 5:30, right before PTA via Zoom. Please see the link and meeting dates (6) below.

LaKeisha Blackshire is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: SSC Meeting

Time: Oct 12, 2022 05:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://busd-net.zoom.us/j/9837399834?pwd=aXRQUzIBc3RWa2FzYUtxVVFMUytRZz09>

Meeting ID: 983 739 9834

Passcode: ruskin1

Meeting Dates:

October 12

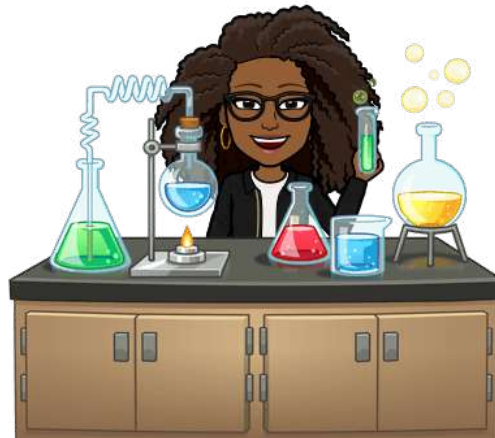
November 9

February 8

March 8

April 5

May 10



Science Lab

This week, the first graders in Mrs. Choi's combo were making some predictions and observations. They were following Ms. Tiffany's directions well and being effective little scientists.



Safety Patrol Students and Traffic Safety Reminders



Students will once again be doing crossing guard duty. It has been a while since we have had our students helping families and fellow students safely cross the streets. Please be kind and cognizant as you drive around the school. It is imperative that you are aware of your surroundings, drive safely and follow the directions of the crossing guards. We thank you for your cooperation.

Here are some traffic reminders:

- **There are no bikes or scooters allowed past the gates. Please wear a helmet.**
- Please **NO left turns** out of the horseshoe. There is a posted sign.
- Please do not leave your cars unattended in the horseshoe
- Please do not park in the bus zone in front of the school
- Please stop at **ALL** four corners of the crosswalk when you see the crossing guard holding the stop sign up



- Please have your child ready to hop out to minimize the wait time
- **Please do not cut off other cars to pull in and drop your child off**
- Please do not double park and let your students out in the middle of the parking lot
- Please don't walk across the parking lot
- Please be courteous and do not park in or block neighbor's driveways
- Come early, park on the Tulare side and walk in
- Walk your child to school, if possible (it is good quality time)

One again, we appreciate your assistance in helping us to keep our students, staff and school community safe. **If you would like to volunteer to help with traffic, please contact the office at (408) 923-1950.**

OLD NEWS & REMINDERS:

Truancy

Some of you may have received a truancy letter this school year. Truancy occurs when your child is late to school 31 minutes or more and/or they have an absence without a **VALID** excuse (one that is approved by the [CA Department of Education on Truancy](#)). The link explains the definition of truancy, list valid excused reasons for absences and list the policies and procedures we must follow in accordance with state law. **Please note, family vacations are not deemed as a valid excused absence by the state of California, even if you call the office and let us know. They will be marked as UNEXCUSED ABSENCES.**

Should you wish to take a family vacation during school time, you may want to consider applying for an **Independent Study Contract**. This contract allows you to miss a MINIMUM of 5 days of school and receive full credit of absences and school work if you follow these guidelines:

- Apply 2 weeks in advance in the office
- Must be in good standing with attendance
- Get approval from the Principal
- Be absent from school for 5-10 days
- Complete ALL the schoolwork assigned by the teacher
- Turn schoolwork in on time via contract
- Will not be granted at the start of school or the last 6 weeks of school

Updated Volunteer Forms

If you are interested in volunteering on campus, on field trips, with traffic or in any capacity, please make sure to fill out an **updated** district volunteer form. They are listed here, in the school office or district office [volunteer form 10 A](#) [volunteer form 10 B](#) [volunteer 10 C FAQ](#). Please keep in mind that you need to be fully vaccinated, have a current TB test and pass the criminal background conducted by the district in order to directly work with students. We welcome all interested volunteers!!!



COVID UPDATE

Starting this school year, at this time, the district will no longer be offering the weekly surveillance on site COVID testing. If your child has symptoms, we will be sending them home with a district provided home test kit. A negative test result must be uploaded into the system. **All District issued COVID-19 home tests results must be reported to Primary Health. You must re-register EVERY school year.** Please register at: https://my.primary.health//busd_2022 Then bookmark/use this link to upload all home test result(s) at https://my.primary.health/appointment_recoveries Masks are not required but strongly recommended.



For convenience, school breakfast and lunch menus may be downloaded from the [SNS Menu webpage](#). You can also sign up to receive them automatically by email by clicking [here](#) or on this image:



* menus are subject to change, depending on product availability

- Please email sns@busd.net or call 408-923-1875 or 408-923-1879 if you have any questions.



Have a spectacular weekend!

Sincerely,
LaKeisha Blackshire, Principal

Office Staff

- **Office Hours** 7:30-3:30 **Office Phone** 408-923-1950
- LaKeisha Blackshire, Principal 408-923-1950 LBlackshire@busd.net
- Melani Montez, Administrative Secretary mmontez@busd.net
- Kimberly Yee, School Clerk kyee@busd.net

