

February/March 2013

Volume 2 Issue 3

Panda xPress



B-W'S JOG-A-THON - BY HODA M., ROOM B2

Inside this issue:

Elks Lodge Awards	2
Library Essay Contest	2
Ben's Best	2
Amanda's Advice	3
Movie Review	3
Communication Celebration	3
Principal's Post	4
Message to Parents	4
Comics	4

Hey all you Pandas out there! Great job on the Jog-a-thon! You brought in a lot of money which helps support our school. There were many students out there running and also Ms. Patton, teachers and parents were spotted participating! Many of you will receive a really cool Jog-a-thon t-shirt and some will receive top prizes such as an iPad, Xbox, net-

book computer or \$100.00 cash! Isn't that great? Congratulations to our winners. Please don't forget to thank our volunteers for donating their time and effort to help make Benchley-Weinberger the best! Everyone received awesome water bottles too. Please re-

member to thank Mr. Jon for everything he does for our school to make it shine and for giving us great music to help keep us going! We are very lucky to have such nice people that help support us. Saying thank you means so much and after all, we are a school with heart!



Students from China Visit B-w - by Brooklyn P., Room B2

On Tuesday, January 29, we had special guests from China. Students in 3rd through 6th grade came to visit our school. Students visited many classrooms, played with us at recess, and had lunch with us. After lunch, B-W's 5th graders played softball with

them and boy, were they good at softball! I thought it was really cool that they knew how to play and knew the rules too. Some of the students got to come to drum/music class with B2. They also got to see our Kindergarten Communication Celebration and then

the students from China performed their Martial Arts. Some of the students spoke English but some did not. Adults from China came with them and helped to translate.

The students were able to visit because of the friendships Ms. Patton made during her visit to China last year.

Elks Lodge Award - by Jayden B., Room B2

In January, the Elks Lodge of San Carlos, sent a request to nominate a student from Benchley-Weinberger for the Elks Lodge Award. Ms. Patton and other 5th grade teachers had to think about which student deserves this award. Maya W. from room B8 was chosen because Maya has always shown respect, been helpful to other students and overall represents a "student with heart". When I interviewed Maya she said, "I was surprised I was chosen out of everyone in the school." But obviously Ms. Patton and the teachers knew what they were doing because Maya is an awesome student! When Maya got there, she found out that the Elks Lodge is an organization for community service. "Everyone there was really nice." She went to a dinner and awards presentation with her family, Mrs. Hasselbar, and Ms. Patton where she received a medal and a certificate for the student of the month. Congratulations Maya!



San Carlos Library Essay Contest - by Cami S., Room 4



Avery T., Room B1, Jacob C., Room B1 and Gianna M., Room B10 won the San Carlos Library Essay Contest. They all heard about the contest when their teachers announced it in class. There were three categories. Gianna chose "If you were to save a book, what would it be?" She chose the book Hatchet to save. Avery chose the same category but the book she would save is called Because Your Daddy Loves You. Jacob

Chose the "Universal Issues" category and the book he chose was Number the Stars Based on the Holocaust. If you were chosen you had to read the essay in front of the judges. They were also online. "When reading I was nervous" said Gianna and Avery. Jacob, on the other hand, felt good in the beginning. They received a certificate and a \$25.00 gift card to Barnes and Noble. They said they had treats at the celebration. This competition was open to 4th grade students. Congratulations!

Panda Ben's Best (Cyber Safety) - by Colin M., Room 4

The computer is a great and useful resource for learning and entertainment. There are unlimited possibilities that allow you to learn about any topic of interest, anything from printing out worksheets, to watching videos, to reading essays, and playing games. Some of my favorite things to look up are Steve Spangler Science videos. Sounds like nothing but fun, right? But beware! There are many

dangers lurking around every corner! However, it is not such a scary place if you know how to be safe. The first thing you should do is set up rules with your parents about going online. Another thing some families do is keep the computer in a central place so parents can monitor web surfing. One thing that could get you into real trouble is giving out personal information such as your name, ad-

dress, phone number, picture or passwords. Did you know computers can get viruses just like we can? A computer virus is downloadable software that can wreck your computer. Always make sure you have your parents' permission before you install anything off the internet. Finally, if you ever read or view something that makes you feel uncomfortable, talk to your parents immediately.

Amanda Panda's Advice Column - by Alexis P., Room B2

As you know, Benchley-Weinberger is a school with heart! Ms. Patton and our teachers have talked a lot lately about what that means but listed below are a few tips on how you can be a student with heart:

- ◇ Use good manners
- ◇ Use kind words
- ◇ Stand up for other students
- ◇ Lend a hand
- ◇ Welcome new students
- ◇ Be honest
- ◇ Be grateful
- ◇ Care about our school
- ◇ Take turns
- ◇ Walk away from an argument
- ◇ Don't exclude other students
- ◇ Try your hardest
- ◇ Remember everyone is different
- ◇ Try to make sure everyone enjoys your presence
- ◇ Treat everyone kindly

School is much more fun when everyone works together. If you use these tips you will help make Benchley-Weinberger a school with heart!



Movie Review – Natasha G., Room B8

The movie I reviewed is called Here Comes the Boom. I recommend this movie because it is about a teacher trying to make a school with heart, sound familiar? The school wants to get rid of the music teacher because they do not have the money to keep the class going. All the kids love the music class and the teacher wants to raise the money for the music class so he becomes a mixed-martial arts fighter to raise the money. To keep

the music class he needs to make \$40,000. He makes \$20,000 and says he will get the rest soon. Something happens to the money (you'll have to watch the movie to find out) and the only way to make the money is to make the finals and be the best for the grand prize of \$50,000!

This movie is rated PG and was chosen because it has an excellent message. With that said, this movie is rated PG (Parental Guidance suggested)

and parents may want to preview the movie first.



Communication Celebration - Madeleine M., Room B8

As every Panda knows, the kindergartners give their annual sign language performance to a big audience. After weeks of practicing with Mrs. Gleaves during classroom rotations, the kindergartners took the stage in the auditorium. On January 29, they performed for the B-W students including our guests from China. On January 31, they performed for their parents and

families. They signed as they sang "God Bless America," "Humpty Dumpty," "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star," "The Alphabet Song," and "The World is a Rainbow." After a wonderful show, I bet they have learned a lot of words in sign language and hopefully, the audience did too!



San Diego Unified School District

Benchley-Weinberger Communications Magnet School
Media Lab

6269 Twin Lake Drive
San Diego, CA 92110

Phone: 619.463.9271
Fax: 619.496.8716
www.sandi.net/bw

Panda Pride!



Principal Patton's Post

By Zyah C., Room B8

Ms. Patton wants to remind all of you that we are a **SCHOOL OF HEART** and a **NO PLACE FOR HATE** school. She also wants us to remember our promises that we made to use kind words and actions in and out of school. Also, another very important thing to remember is food is only allowed in the lunch area, please do not eat your snack on the playground. Thank you!

Special Message for Parents

Do you know what we (your kids) want from you more than anything else? It doesn't cost a penny! It is your time. Everyone's lives are very busy (including ours) but even carving out one hour of the weekend that is completely dedicated to us would mean the world. We could read together, do a puzzle, play a game, go to the park or walk the dog. I am growing up so fast and want to make special memories with you that will last a lifetime!

Pando and the Running Club - by Cole H., Room 4

