



# Rhino Roar

News for the Washington community

Published weekly (mostly)

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Links to [calendar](#) and past [newsletters](#) on [PTA website](#)

**Parent-Teacher Conference Week Early Release Schedule** October 24 - 27

**TK and Kinder 12:30 pm and Grades 1 - 5: 1:15 pm**

**NO SCHOOL on Friday, Oct 28**

EVERY STUDENT needs to have a Parent-Teacher conference! Schedule yours now!

**LET'S PLAY!** SUNDAY, OCT 23RD 10AM-NOON: come to a fun PTA association event at the Washington courtyard. Our beloved Coaches, Don and Matt, will share the school philosophy of play and strategies for bringing equity, inclusivity, and conflict resolution to sports and recess. This in-person event will end with a friendly kickball game between parents (kids can join, too). Childcare, coffee, and baked goods will be provided. Come as you are; bonus points if you show up in athletic wear! Agenda is [here](#). Please note that children must be accompanied by an adult to attend.

**MOVIE** You are invited to a free rough cut film screening of *The Right to Read*. The documentary shares the stories of those who fight for our youngest generation's ability to read. For more background, listen to the recent [KQED Forum panel](#).

- In-person **Monday Oct 24 6:15pm-9pm** at Oxford Elementary: [Free Tickets](#) (Registration required) hosted by the North Region SELPA CAC and BUSD

Doors open at 6:00 West Campus Theater at Oxford Elementary School, 1222 University Ave, Berkeley, CA. Masks encouraged.

6:30-7:45pm: The film

The Right to Read documentary shares the stories of those who fight for our youngest generation's ability to read.

7:45-9:00pm: Q&A Session Get your free tickets [tinyurl.com/R2Rfilm](https://tinyurl.com/R2Rfilm)

**Halloween** Parade Time for 1st - 5th grades: 8:45 am on the playground on 10/31

- Please consider the Cultures aren't Costumes checklist in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)
- TK and Kinder won't be participating in the whole school parade.
- Students should come to school in costume on 10/31 if they celebrate Halloween. No weapons or scary masks, costumes must be "school appropriate".
- Students who don't celebrate Halloween or don't wish to participate will be given an alternate activity and location during the parade.
- Students should bring clothes to change into after the parade if they won't be able to participate in recess/PE in their costume.
- Grades 1 - 5 will line up on the playground in a big circle at 8:45 am. We will parade once around in a circle and then go out the gate on MLK on the sidewalk to Channing, right on Channing to McKinley, right on McKinley back to the gate. By 9:20 am, we will likely be back in classrooms.
- Parents are welcome on campus and are invited to join the parade.

- After the parade, most students will choose to change out of costume, and be ready for PE/recess and to function in the classroom.
- Please don't send candy to school after Halloween.
- Please contact your child's teacher for more information.

**Walkathon pledges due** Oct 27. We're already halfway to the goal! [Click here](#) to see a [very fun short video](#) put together by parent volunteers, and get a sense of the great energy at Washington! Thank you volunteers!

**Emergency Preparedness committee - volunteers needed** On Saturday, Nov. 5, a group of volunteers from UC Berkeley will open up the emergency container to inventory supplies. If you're interested in joining the Emergency Preparedness Committee for this or other work, please email Principal Hazen @ [katiahazen@berkeley.net](mailto:katiahazen@berkeley.net)

**Tour Guides Needed** Do you have an hour or two on a Thursday morning to help your child's school? Washington needs you to be a tour guide for new parents who are looking at schools for next year. Tours start Nov. 10 and go through Jan 19.

Tours begin at 8:30 or 9:15 am and leave from the courtyard.

Tour guides are provided with a script and training, and Principal Hazen meets the tour at the end to answer questions.

Rhinos, please help if you have any time available!

If you can help, please [Sign up to be a tour guide here](#)

**Washington Library Update:** This fall, students have read stories about wrestlers, lowriders, beards, rotten days, volcanoes and more. We have found a missing mouse, listened to book-inspired mixtapes, predicted rhymes and mixed up words with a sneaky cat. Most importantly, students have borrowed books, lots of books!

Right now, there are over 500 books that are overdue. Please help your kiddo return library books so that we keep sharing the library love. Email reminders for overdues go out on Fridays so keep an eye out! Books can be returned any day of the week into any of my return bins plus the white bin out on the courtyard. If you happen to have books from last year too, you can still return them for other students to enjoy.

Thanks in advance for your support! Best, Ms. Jackie, [jackieoverlid@berkeley.net](mailto:jackieoverlid@berkeley.net)

**FOOD PANTRY** The Berkeley Food Network provides bags of fresh fruits and vegetables and also packaged dry and canned foods for all Washington families and staff every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month except for holidays when school is closed.

Our next food pantry days for October will be Friday, October 14th and then October 28th. There will be tables with the bags at the McKinley Street entrance in front of the orange gates at 1:00 pm.

In November and December, the schedule will change to the 1st and 3rd Fridays due to the holidays. Our food pantry days will be 11/4, 11/18, 12/2, and 12/16.

For more information, please contact Carol Perez, our Family Engagement and Equity Specialist at 510-849-7396 or [carolynperez@berkeley.net](mailto:carolynperez@berkeley.net).

**The Lost and Found** will be emptied VERY soon, please take a look and reclaim your lost jackets.

**COVID Testing** Tests are sent home when there has been a case in the classroom.  
Test results should be reported to the [BUSD Student COVID-19 Case Reporting form](#)

Calendar Reminders:

- ★ Oct 23 Let's Play PTA Meeting 10 am - 12 pm on the playground
- ★ Oct 24 - 27 EARLY RELEASE for Parent-Teacher Conferences
- ★ Oct 28 NO SCHOOL Parent-Teacher Conferences
- ★ Oct 29 Dia de los Muertos at Berkeley High 10 am - 2 pm
- ★ Oct 31 Halloween Parade @ **8:45 am on the playground**
- ★ Nov 3 & 4 Picture Day
- ★ Nov 11 NO SCHOOL Veterans Day
- ★ Nov 21 - 25 NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break
- ★ Dec 19 - Jan 2 NO SCHOOL Winter Break (First day back is Jan 3)

**If your child is absent for any reason**, please email [washingtonattendance@berkeley.net](mailto:washingtonattendance@berkeley.net) and copy your child's teacher. Thank you!

Questions or concerns? Please email Principal Katia Hazen at [katiahazen@berkeley.net](mailto:katiahazen@berkeley.net)