

Rhino Roar



News for the Washington community

Published every Thursday (mostly)

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

Please email washingtonattendance@berkeley.net any time your child is absent and include the child's name, the date(s) absent and the reason for the absence.

If your child arrives at school between 8:16 and 8:44 am, they should go straight to the classroom, where they will be marked **TARDY** by the teacher. Students who arrive after 8:45 am must go to the office to get a **LATE** slip to be admitted to class.

Play First Lunch Schedule Begins! This year, students have recess *before* eating lunch. They have 20 minutes to play, then a 5 minute transition period followed by 20 minutes for eating in the cafeteria. Research has shown that kids eat more lunch and have more productive afternoons with this schedule. We have high hopes for this new schedule!

Got Questions? Your [Parent Student Handbook](#) has answers! Section 3.2 covers extended absences: *Please contact the principal if your child will be absent for a period of a week or more. Short-term independent study may be approved by the Principal, depending on the circumstances.*

Former Washington student discovers new planet! We tell our students to reach for the stars, and former Rhino [Elisabeth Newton](#) has done just that in her work as an assistant professor of physics and astronomy at Dartmouth College. Way to go, Rhino!

Back to School Night! Please plan to attend Washington's Back to School Night on September 5 from 6 to 7:30 pm. You will receive important information from your child's teacher about the year to come. We encourage all parent/guardians to attend on Back to School Night. This is an **adults-only evening**, so please make arrangements for your children to stay at home if possible. If you need childcare, you can email washingtonattendance@berkeley.net to reserve a spot in the cafeteria, where a movie will be shown and staff will supervise. A \$5 per child donation to PTA is requested. P.S. Please pick your child up from LEARNS by 6 pm!

Getting Involved: Is this the year you've decided, "I'm going to be more involved at school"? We need parent/guardians for the **School Site Committee (SSC)**, which meets just once a month. SSC *"serves as a sounding board, a hub of input for school committees and communicates with the broader community. We need a range of perspectives so that plans have a meaningful impact on school climate and student achievement."* Meetings are usually the 3rd Tuesday of the month from 6-8 pm in the library. Please email Principal Hazen if you are interested in serving on SSC this year katiahazen@berkeley.net

SW Berkeley Bike Train will be back on the roads starting this Friday.

We are delighted to invite everyone to join our twice weekly Southwest Berkeley bike train on Fridays and Mondays! A bike train is a group of kids and adults riding bikes together -- bike trains are one of the healthiest and best ways to get to school and help kids channel some energy so they can be focused and on task in the classroom. The bike train will run every Friday and Monday, mornings only, from this Friday, August 30th, onward. The bike train will leave from Ward & Acton at 7:50, pick up anyone interested along Acton as we ride, wait at Acton & Channing from 7:55-8:00, and then head up Channing to school, gathering additional riders on the way. Parents/family members should accompany their children unless other arrangements are made. If you're interested in joining, want to start your own bike train on a different route, or have any questions, text Sara at 510-333-4471... or just show up!

Would you like for your child to be more organized, independent and cooperative?

UC Berkeley offers a group that could be for you: PARENT MANAGEMENT TRAINING (PMT) is an empirically supported treatment program providing parents with skills and strategies for managing the behavior of children with attention and/or organization problems, including those who have a diagnosis of ADHD.

The end goal is to help children to be more organized, independent, and cooperative both in and outside of the home.

WHERE AND WHEN: UC Berkeley Psychology Clinic, Tuesday evenings 5:30-7pm, with an estimated start date of mid-September.

LENGTH AND FEE: 6 group sessions and 2 individual family sessions (8 weeks total) for a total cost of \$350. (scholarships are available!)

REQUIREMENTS: - Ability of at least one parent to attend every PMT session over the course of 8 weeks. - Child is aged 7-12 years old (2nd through 5th grade)

HOW TO REGISTER: **Please call our main clinic line at 510-642-2055** and be sure to indicate your interest in the "PMT Group". Please do not email us. We are located in a new building, 2121 Berkeley Way, situated on the corner of Hearst and Shattuck.

Events coming up:

Aug 29	Kinder and 1st grade potluck 5:30 - 7:30 pm in the courtyard
Sept 2	NO SCHOOL LABOR DAY
Sept 5	Back to School Night 6 - 7:30 pm
Sept 10	EQ/Fire Drill
Sept 19	4th & 5th grade potluck 5:30 - 7:30 pm in the courtyard
Sept 25	2nd & 3rd grade potluck 5:30 - 7:30 pm in the courtyard
Sept 26	Picture Day
Oct 1	Make up Picture Day

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