

The Global Connection

A publication of the Global Education Program at Skyline School



COMMUNICATION

One of the cornerstones of the Global Education program is the importance of forming a team between children, parents, and teachers. There are several ways for parents to stay in the loop with current information:

- By reading the monthly newsletter, *The Global Connection*, sent home the first Friday of the month and posted on the Global Ed. website
- By looking at the Friday envelope sent home weekly that contains class newsletters, notices, and student work.
- By following us on Facebook
- By contacting teachers via email, phone calls, or notes
- Take a few moments to review the GE Community Agreement (page 3 of this newsletter)

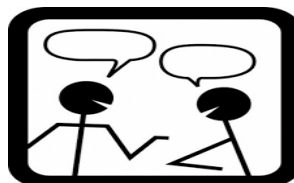
Please take advantage of the resources for communication so that we can work together effectively.

Global Ed Contact Information

<https://www.sbsd.k12.ca.us/Page/1387>

"SolanaBeachGlobalEd" on Facebook

858.794.3600



THIS YEAR'S BIG EVENTS

- **September 22nd**-
Indigenous People Museum
- **October 27th**-
Explorer's Faire
- **November 17th**-
Friendship Brunch
- **January 19th**-
Exploring Life in the 1700s
- **January 26th** -
100th Day
- **May 3rd** –
Gold Rush Day &
Family Square Dance
- **May 24th** –
End of Year Celebration



OH, HOW WE LOVE OUR PARENT VOLUNTEERS!

At Back- to School Night, you heard about multiple opportunities to volunteer to support Skyline and the Global Ed. Program. Please consider participating in your child's class, at the Halloween Carnival, as a room parent, as a weekly volunteer, or as any one of the long list of volunteers needed to make our school and our program so outstanding. Parent volunteers in the classroom are essential to maintaining the small group instruction and the individual attention teachers wish to provide. Consistency is key to maintaining effective use of volunteers' time. To this end, we encourage volunteers to participate on a weekly basis. Shared volunteer spots often lead to inconsistencies in attendance. We understand that a weekly spot isn't always feasible for parents, so we welcome parents who can arrange a consistent routine of classroom support. Remember, teachers and students count on your presence. If you are unable to make a scheduled volunteer time, please let the teacher know as soon as possible and send out an email to enlist a substitute parent volunteer to come in your place. We value and encourage your participation!



HELP WANTED!

Our fabulous Instructional Assistants are one of the vital components of small group instruction (especially in our primary classrooms). We are currently looking to hire an Instructional Assistant to be shared between Ms.

Courtney's and Mrs. Obie's classes. If you (or someone you know) might be interested in applying for this part-time position, please reach out to Mrs. Obie (brookeoberhauser@sbsd.net) or Mr. Klein directly for further information.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



As a reminder, the Solana Beach School District has adopted a wellness policy that no longer allows birthday treats to be sent to school. Please check with your child's teacher to see how birthdays will be recognized in the classroom. Also, please note that no birthday party invitations may be handed out in class. Please consider inviting a reasonable cross section of your child's classmates to any birthday celebrations to foster the feeling of community and to avoid hurt feelings as a result of exclusion.

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is a key component to success in school. So much of what GE teachers do in the classroom cannot be replicated in "catch-up" work when an absent student returns to school. We understand that kids get sick and that they have medical appointments. The school district allows for these excused absences. Unexcused absences are the main issue facing consistent teaching and learning. Please try to plan family vacations within the scheduled holiday breaks in the school calendar. Absences such as days off for family trips are considered unexcused absences. Ten or more absences in an academic year is recognized as irregular attendance. The bottom line is that we want your sweet kids in class! We care about offering consistent instruction and learning experiences.

Global Education Community

Agreement

Our mission as the Global Education Program is to provide a developmental, child-centered learning environment, which engages the whole child and empowers all students to be successful, contributing members of a pluralistic global society. We strive to foster a life-long love of learning where academic rigor and the essential skills of active citizenship, innovation, creativity, curiosity, problem-solving, and collaboration and teamwork are developed as the fundamental building blocks necessary to become a productive citizen of the 21st century.

As part of this agreement, we remind you that your child:

- will be placed into a multi-age setting
- will experience a balance of independent, small group (including flexible instructional groups and cooperative groups) and whole group learning.
- will participate in a three-year cyclical curriculum, which may not follow the traditional curricular sequence and that learning involves hands-on, project-based, integrated and thematic learning
- will receive instruction within his/her zone of proximal development (regardless of grade level); state standards are addressed within this context
- will participate in a variety of cross-age learning opportunities including weekly buddy interactions, classroom activities and large events
- will be paired with a cross-age buddy and that that pairing will remain intact for the entire school year
- will participate in all district and statewide assessments and that the program views these results as just a small snapshot of my child's overall progress
- will not be given homework solely for homework's sake. Relevant homework will be given on a developmentally appropriate level and may be an opportunity to discover more, explore a new topic and/or extend prior learning

As part of this agreement, we remind parents that:

- it is the parents' responsibility to read newsletters and emails, and that this information may be accessed in paper form, on the program website and via social media
- the Global Education Program is a seven-year program of choice





Primary Global Ed. News

WHAT IS TOPIC SHARING?

For those of you new to Global Education, you may be wondering what topic sharing *is*. Topic sharing occurs every other week and is considered to be a homework assignment. The work is due on your child's sharing day. Sharing days are posted in the classrooms. Please help your student by talking about what is due and helping him/her plan how to present his/ her information to the class. This is a wonderful opportunity to work on public speaking and presentation skills. The topics generally support the social studies topics and are always noted in the Primary News section of *The Global Connection*. Even though the teachers always model what is expected during topic sharing, it is very helpful if you review it once more with your child. If special paper is sent home as part of the topic sharing, please try your best to use it, as it usually means that the presentations are designed to be included in a class book, or displayed on limited wall space.

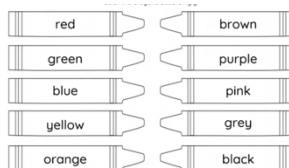
TOPIC SHARING SCHEDULE

8/21-8/25: Color survey
8/28-9/1: Open sharing
9/4-9/8: Primary color painting
9/11-9/15: Open sharing
9/18-9/22: Polar animal poster report

TOPIC SHARING: COLOR SURVEY

(August 21st- August 25th)

As part of our theme of "exploration", the younger children in Global Ed. will be exploring color until the winter break. This week the children are to gather data using the home color survey. Your child's teacher will send a color survey home on our next school materials pick up. The survey is to be completed at home and shared on your child's sharing day. These data will be used to create graphs in class.



TOPIC SHARING: PAINTING USING PRIMARY COLORS

(September 4-8)

By this time, you child will have explored the primary colors of red, yellow and blue. Now, it's your child's turn to create a work of art using these primary colors. Paints will be sent home with your child (on our next materials pick up day) to help prepare a painting for sharing day.

TOPIC SHARING: POLAR ANIMAL POSTER REPORT

(September 18- September 22)

The primary classes have been discussing the inhabitants of the polar regions and what is required to survive in this cold biome. Now it is time for each child to choose a polar animal and prepare a poster report. The poster should be done on the paper that we will send home. It should be no larger than 18" X 24" to accommodate a display of all of the posters. The report should include:

- The name of the animal
- A drawing or magazine or computer picture of the animal
- A description of what it eats
- A description of what adaptations the animal has that allow it to survive in the polar region e.g. fur, blubber
- A description of its predators and perhaps how the animal defends itself
- Any other interesting facts

The children will display their posters and give an oral presentation explaining their posters. It will help them greatly if you coach the presentation at home. The practice will give them an excellent opportunity to understand how to give informative presentations.

EXPLORATION OF COLOR

As the primary G.E. students embark on a study of color, each week we encourage the children to come dressed in the color of the week on Fridays. It is quite a sight to see an entire group of children dressed in one color. The big buddy classes love to join in too! Here are some of the dates of upcoming color weeks:

Week of:	Color:
August 21 st	RED
August 28 th	BLUE
September 4 th	YELLOW <small>(September 4th No School- Labor Day)</small>
September 11 th	GREEN
September 18 th	PURPLE
September 25 th	ORANGE
October 2 nd	BLACK
October 9 th	WHITE
October 16 th	BROWN
October 23 rd	SILVER
October 30 th	GOLD
November 6 th	RAINBOW <small>(November 10th No School- Veteran's Day)</small>