

A message from MALIBU MIDDLE SCHOOL

MONDAY MESSAGE: NOVEMBER 9, 2020

PRINCIPALS' MESSAGE:

Dear Malibu Middle and Malibu High Staff and Families,

As we come to the anniversary of the fires, it's a good time for us to take stock in how we are doing. An anniversary is a milestone, it's not a destination or endpoint. It is not a celebration. It does present a natural opportunity to do some self-reflection. And, now here we are in 2020, at another challenging time.

We recognize that our community, our families, and our students all continue to be impacted, albeit in different ways. As we sat down to write this message to acknowledge the two year mark of the Woolsey Fire, we found ourselves reliving similar thoughts and feelings from one year ago. The excerpt below is from a letter sent out to our school community this time last year:

We say it all the time, Malibu Middle/High is a great place to be and over the past year, we have been fortunate to witness so many examples of just how great our community is through the resiliency of staff, families, and especially our students. We know it is the people that make up our community that make this place so special!

One of the things we will be reminding our students is that community is built on the words and actions of the individuals in that community. Through this tragedy, we have seen first hand what community really is and we will encourage students to continue to look for ways to reach out, lend a hand, provide support, display kindness, be inclusive, etc.

We will remind our students that it is ok to not be ok. It's ok to have bad days and need time and space to work through what we have gone through. We want them to know that we have about 100 adults on campus who are here for them and they can go to any time. We also want them to be aware of the resources available on campus and in the community, and that reaching out to friends, families, adults or outside resources for help is never a sign of weakness.

We are optimistic with the current visible signs of recovery: houses are being rebuilt, the natural landscape is returning, students and families continue to overcome obstacles and display

tremendous strength. However, rebuilding is a long process, and so is healing. We are still healing. We are still navigating stress and anxiety. Whether a result of the last fire, fears for a future fire, or our current reality navigating the pandemic and school closures, this is hard. This is really hard.

We continue to believe that our schools are part of that healing process. As a school, and as an integral part of our community, we have continued to try and provide a sense of normalcy and connection. We want to recognize our teachers, staff, and students for persevering, working hard, taking care of each other, and staying focused on their personal goals through now three really challenging years. Our community is full of resilient people who have overcome significant devastation and we will navigate the current and future challenges together, stronger, and better.

This time has pushed us beyond what we thought we could handle. Even in the chaos of Zoom calls, this time has slowed us down a little and given us time to be with our families. And it reminds us, as we also reflected last year, to:

Lastly, while at the core of what we do is high levels of learning for all, tomorrow we will also ask students to reflect back on the true priorities that became evident through this disaster; namely, the importance of family, community, relationships, friendship, safety and well-being. We will remind them again that we love them, we care about them, we are here for them, and we want the best for them.

Stay together, Malibu!

Melisa Andino, Middle School Principal

Patrick Miller, High School Principal

Adam Almeida, High School Assistant Principal

MALIBU BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB WELLNESS CENTER:

We are still available to help with recovery after the fires. Even though some time has passed, you might still see behaviors in your student that might not make sense. It's important that your student has the chance to express themselves and talk about the trauma. We have interns on site that are highly trained and supervised around trauma. The Wellness Center is dedicated to providing you with excellent confidential care. Drop in support is available Wednesdays from 10-12pm and 3:30 to 5pm as well. If you have any questions please contact Randi Goodman at randigoodman@bgcmalibu.org or at 818-312-7107 or 310-457-6801 ext. 74-142. Visit bgcmalibu.org.

Additionally, school counselors are available by appointment or drop in every Thursday afternoon. Zoom links are available in the Counselors' Google Classroom.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

TIPS FOR TALKING TO CHILDREN ABOUT WILDFIRES:

- Wildfire Information and Parenting Resources on trauma
 - <https://www.nctsn.org/what-is-child-trauma/trauma-types/disasters/wildfire-resources>
- Parent Guidelines for Helping Children Impacted by Wildfire
 - <https://www.nctsn.org/resources/parent-guidelines-helping-children-impacted-wildfires>
- Helping Children After a Wildfire: Tips for Parents and Teachers
 - <https://www.sdcoe.net/student-services/student-support/Documents/Helping%20Children%20After%20Wildfire%20-%20NASP.pdf>
- Recovering from Wildfires
 - <https://www.apa.org/helpcenter/wildfire.aspx>
- Recovering Emotionally from a Residential Fire
 - <https://www.apa.org/helpcenter/residential-fire.aspx>

SCHOOL NEWS AND INFORMATION:

STUDENT WORK DAYS – NOVEMBER 12th and 13th: Similar to last Spring, we are providing students with additional asynchronous work time and allowing opportunities for teachers to plan and grade. Our MMS and MHS leadership teams met and decided to schedule two “Student Work Days.” Therefore, **On November 12th and 13th:**

- Students will “follow” a periods 2/4/6 schedule on Thursday, November 12th completing work from periods 2/4/6 and students will “follow” a periods 1/3/5 schedule on Friday, November 13th completing work from periods 1/3/5.
- Students will have a mandatory live check-in from 9:00-9:25.
 - Students will meet with their period 2 teacher/class on Thursday.
 - Students will meet with their Period 1 teacher/class on Friday.
- During the 9:00-9:25 sessions, students will participate in a schoolwide activity facilitated by their teacher.
- After that 25 minute session, the remainder of the day, the teachers will assign work/tasks/assignments for students to complete (totaling 240 minutes for each day) but no additional live sessions will occur and teacher availability will be limited.
- All assignments will be posted by 9:00am. Students are expected to complete all assigned tasks. Attendance will be based off of their completion and submission of this work.
- Teachers will be using these two days to grade and/or plan and prepare for the remainder of the semester. Students should use this time to complete asynchronous work assigned by their teachers and get caught up on missing assignments while not having live sessions.

Schedule for November 9th-13th:

- *Monday- Periods 1/3/5 regular block day with live Zoom sessions for each class (support period offered)*
- *Tuesday- Periods 2/4/6 regular block day with live Zoom sessions for each class*
- *Wednesday- No School, Veterans Day Holiday*
- *Thursday- Student Work Day 2/4/6 (details above)*
- *Friday- Student Work Day 1/3/5 (details above)*

PTSA REFLECTIONS WINNERS: Congratulations to all our PTSA Reflections Winners! All first-place entries have moved onto the contest at the SMMUSD council level. Thank you to the judges: Carla Bates, Ricardo Means, Dave Teel and Forest Roy!

- Visual Arts:
 - o First Place: Ava Niccol
 - o Second Place: Giselle Godbille
 - o Third Place: Simone Graup
 - o Honorable Mention: Sophia Graup
- Photography:
 - o First Place: Shane Perl
- Literature:
 - o First Place: Hudson Breese
 - o Second Place: Logan Epstein
 - o Third Place: Chloe Loquet
- Dance Choreography:
 - o First Place: Mikayla Muller
- Musical Composition:
 - o First Place: Bella Brown

PARENT TOWN HALL ON COVID-19 and SCHOOLS: On Monday, November 9 from 6 pm to 7 pm you are invited to join a virtual Town Hall with the Director of Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Dr. Barbara Ferrer, Dr. Dawn Terashita, Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Debra Duardo and Deputy Superintendent Arturo Valdez. The Town Hall will focus on steps being taken to protect children returning to school, the reopening process, school waivers and more.

Join the conversation [HERE](#).

Submit questions in advance [HERE](#).

41st ANNUAL BOOKMARK CONTEST: Students in Grades K – 12 are invited to participate in the Library's 41st Annual Bookmark Contest for a chance to see their bookmark design featured at the Malibu Library! For guidelines, visit <https://lacountylibrary.org/Bookmark-Contest/> Deadline for submissions is **November 15th**.

FREE ONLINE BOOK LIBRARY: We have subscribed to SORA, a free online book library. To be able to check out books there, please follow these directions:

1. Go to <https://soraapp.com/welcome/search>
2. Type in "Santa Monica " and then Santa Monica Malibu Unified School district will pop up.
3. Click on "This is my school."
4. Enter your id number.

MALIBU MIDDLE/HIGH OFFICE HOURS - The school office is closed, except for essential activities or by appointment. We will open for limited office hours primarily to answer phone calls between 9:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m. Monday- Thursday and 9:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. on Friday. Email continues to be the best way to reach our school staff during this time of distance learning. All visitors to campus must sign-in, wear a mask, and will have their temperature taken upon arrival.

Questions about:

Student Store: mslawter@smmusd.org

Textbooks: s.ryan@smmusd.org and acrilley@smmusd.org

Schedule Changes: enickerson@smmusd.org

Copy of Schedule: sanderson@smmusd.org

Registration Packet: sanderson@smmusd.org

Enrollment: bsoloway@smmusd.org

General Questions: taniajolly@smmusd.org

Technical Support: mmssupport@smmusd.org

Zoom link issues: Email the teacher directly. [Staff Directory](#)

INFORMATION: For the most up-to-date information, please visit our school website at [Malibu Middle / Homepage](#) and follow us on Twitter [@MalibuMiddle](#)

AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING: After school math and English tutoring are available virtually on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Here are the links and times:

MATH

- [Mondays: Cindy Smith 3-4pm](#)
- [Wednesdays: Brian Corrigan 3-4pm](#)
- [Thursdays: Nahla Seikali's Zoom Meeting 3-4pm](#)

ENGLISH

- [Wednesdays: Sarah Ryan 3-4pm](#)

LIBRARY HOURS: The library will be open **every Monday and Wednesday, 9:00-4:00** for students or parents to come get books or to exchange a non-working chromebook. Mrs. Ryan is also available by appointment (email at s.ryan@smmusd.org) and has online after school

English tutoring on Wednesdays from 3-4 pm. Links to zooms are on Mrs. Ryan's Google Classroom page. Please join her Google Classroom with code: 5xza3io.

ISSUES WITH CHROMEBOOK? NEED A HOTSPOT?: If you are having issues with your district provided chromebook, please email: mmssupport@smmusd.org and s.ryan@smmusd.org. If the issue is that the device does not power on or charge, please follow the troubleshooting directions at this link: bit.ly/SMMDLP. District Staff will be in contact with you by email/over the phone for troubleshooting. Additional in-person support will be available as-needed. If your family is need of a district provided hotspot for connectivity issues, please email: mmssupport@smmusd.org as soon as possible.

THIS WEEK AT MALIBU MIDDLE:

NO SCHOOL, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH – there will be no school in honor of Veteran's Day. Periods 1/3/5, normally held on Wednesday, will be made up on Friday, November 13th. However, both Thursday 10/12 and Friday 10/13 will be Student Work Days with only 1 required live session each day at 9:00am.

SSC: Please join us for our next School Site Council meeting on November 12th at 3:00 p.m. Agenda and zoom link will be available [here](#).

ELAC: Please join us for our next ELAC meeting on November 12th at 6:00 p.m. Agenda and zoom link will be available [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS:

UPCOMING HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:

- Thanksgiving Holiday – **Wednesday, November 25th – Sunday, November 29th** (return to school Monday, November 30th)
- Winter Break – The last day of class for this semester is Friday, December 18th. Monday, January 4th is a Pupil Free Day (secondary schools only) so classes will resume on Tuesday, January 5th.

MALIBU HIGH SCHOOL THEATER: Save the date! Friday and Saturday, December 4th and 5th the Malibu High School Theater Department will be presenting She Kills Monsters, live-streamed and followed by a Q&A. Tickets go on sale soon!

COMMUNITY RESOURCES:

MALIBU WOMEN'S CLUB HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE: Save the date - Wednesday, November 16th – for the Malibu Women's Club Holiday Boutique 2020. This is a fundraising event for MWC.

- Location: 24624 Blue Dane Lane, Malibu
- Time: 10:00 am – 6:00 pm
- RSVP to linda.euler@gmail.com

BUTTERFLY MAGIC FUNDRAISER - SAVE THE DATE! - Announcing "Butterfly Magic" - A Virtual Fundraiser presented by The Emily Shane Foundation:

- An Entertaining Evening for All
- Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020
- Time: 6:30 - 7:15 pm PST
- Featuring celebrity guests, musical performances (including a grammy award winner!), a magic show and more!
- A Virtual Art Gallery presenting children's or student's butterfly themed art (our foundation's symbol is a butterfly) will be exhibited at Butterfly Magic. Please encourage your child to submit their creation! Please send a photograph of the art to: Info@emilyshane.org and include the child's first name, age and or/grade and name of their school or area where they live.

Ticket information to come! Mark your calendar!

SUBSCRIBE TO THE CURRENT NEWSLETTER: Malibu High School's student newspaper *The Current* has gone digital! Subscribe to receive our weekly newsletter and read articles written by the students, for the students. Use this [link](#) to subscribe!

MEAL PICK UP: SMMUSD has resumed providing grab-and-go breakfast and lunch Monday - Friday, excluding holidays. Service is from 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. at four schools: Santa Monica High School, McKinley Elementary, Will Rogers Learning Community in Santa Monica and Webster Elementary in Malibu. **This service is free for all students through the end of the semester.** Adults may purchase breakfast for \$2.75 or lunch for \$4.25. For more information, visit the [Nutrition Services website](#).

ADULT EDUCATION CENTER: Learn about all the different offerings available through the Adult Education Center [here](#).

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF MALIBU AND THE WELLNESS CENTER:

In remembrance of the Woolsey Fire - The Boys & Girls Club of Malibu looks back on how we were able to come together & support our Malibu family. Did you catch BGCM on Fox 11 LA? Watch the video [here](#)!

The Boys & Girls Club of Malibu aims to provide a fun, safe, and creative environment for all Malibu youth to thrive, find support through positive mentorship, develop important life skills, and receive social and emotional support. We are currently offering virtual programs for teens to use as a social, developmental, and supplemental tool. Current virtual programs include:

- **"Power Hour" Free Homework Help/Tutoring (Tues/Thurs 2-3PM) Zoom**
Link <https://bgcmalibu.zoom.us/j/96705409501?pwd=eVozNzBhL2k4bmNRVTlwOEtMMmU1dz09> Passcode: 026892
- **Brent's Club** is an incentivized drug and alcohol prevention Club through weekly meetings, activities, challenges, and virtual "socials" to help teens live a healthy lifestyle. Email tylerhawkins@bgcmalibu.org for more information & Zoom info.
- **Leaders in Training (MHS) & Torch Club (MMS)** meet virtually to give students the opportunity to have fun, gain leadership skills, and serve the community while also gaining community service hours. Email ethanfarr@bgcmalibu.org for more information & Zoom info.
- **Wellness Center & Social Support Offerings** The Boys & Girls Club of Malibu Wellness Center operates remotely to provide social support & mental health counseling. Check out our **NEW Wellness Page!** We are supporting: SMMUSD students, families, faculty/staff, seniors, labor workforce, and the community at large. Servicios disponibles en español. *All services are offered at no-cost! Call 310-457-6801 ext 74141*
Email wellnessinfo@bgcmalibu.org

*To contact the Club please Email info@bgcmalibu.org Please be advised our phone system is currently down. **For updates on Club news & events, subscribe to BGCM E-Newsletter [Here!](#)**