

# THE WARRIOR CHRONICLE

Walters Middle School \* Fremont, CA \* October 29, 2021

## Dias de los Muertos takes a special place in everyone’s heart

Angel Villalobos Reporter

Día de Los Muertos, or The Day of the Dead, is a celebration of life and death. While the holiday originated in Mexico, it is celebrated all over Latin America with colorful *calaveras* (skulls) and *calacas* (skeletons).

Día de Los Muertos is when people think about their relatives who have passed. It’s a way to celebrate the life of ancestors, focusing on the positive and death not being something to be feared.

“It helps me think and reflect about the loved ones who have passed away,” Mr. Medina, the Spanish teacher, explained.

There are many different ways to celebrate Día de Los Muertos, like placing an altar inside the home, visiting loved ones at the cemetery, and gathering in a celebration. 8th grader Julian Cruz said, “I go to the cemetery with my family to remember my grandparents who are dead.”

“I think it is very important to celebrate "El Dia de Los Muertos" because you keep those people who have passed away alive when you talk about them. It is actually a *celebration* of people who have passed away.” Mr. Medina stated.

However people celebrate this holiday, they all demonstrate love and respect for their loved ones who have passed, and for remembrance of their ancestors.



Photo from Google Images

Dias de los Muertos, (Day of the Dead), is celebrated to honor the family members and relatives who have passed away. Dias de los Muertos is from November 1<sup>st</sup>- November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## Students create projects as the MESA club restarts after school

Shrinidhi Ivaturi Reporter



Photo from Google Images

The MESA Club gives opportunities for students to perfect their math, engineering, and science skills.

The MESA club has started again! The MESA club is a place where students can make projects to compete in competitions that go past regionals. The advisers are Mr. Kuhlmann, 8th-grade honor science, and Mr. Bae, 7th and 8th-grade science and robotics. The

two advisers help the students create projects for competitions to be sent to be judged.

The students who join the MESA club have a wide variety of competitions to choose from: Cargo Gliders, Coding Solutions, Crime Scene Science Plot, Math Escape Challenge, Mesa Machine, Moon Base, and Think Tank.

Each student has to be in a team of 2-3 students to be able to participate in the competitions. There is also a limit of two competitions per team. It is unspecified as to when the competition will be held. Rules and other information will be sent to the public on November 3rd.

According to [mesa.ucop.edu](http://mesa.ucop.edu), the competitions will be held both in-person

and virtual due to the pandemic. The competitions vary, but as only two competitions are allowed per team, some competitors are conflicted as to what competitions to do.

Mr. Bae said, “I would probably do the Mesa Machine...I would probably have the most fun doing that if I was doing the competitions.” He also explained that he would especially like to make a machine similar to the Rube Goldberg machine.

Aarna Gupta, 7th grade, added that her group is doing the glider. Although she doesn’t have a specific reason for choosing the glider project, she stated that she joined because this club was the chance to try and learn something new.

# Girls volleyball players gain more than volleyball skills on the court

Katherine Reed Reporter



Photo from Ms. Weber

The Girls Volleyball team wrap up the volleyball season

Top: Aaliyanah Mamea, Chloe Buchner

Middle: Diara Rain Refuerzo, Vienna Canale, Addison Lewis, Lily Spivey, Sahar Kazemi, Izabella Velazquez, Kalin Brannon, Siran Kuppanda, Alayna Lonerio, Araceli Jauregui, Allison Miranda

Bottom: Jasmine Faith Johnson, Lauren Rice, Caitlin Bautista, Tanvi Sheth, Isabella Ponce, Suvania Iosefa Afoa, Ruby Wilson

Playing on a sports team has a positive effect on people. For some athletes, being on a team improves physical and mechanical skills for the sport being played.

Araceli Jauregui, a 7th-grade volleyball player said, "I feel more skilled and advanced than I was before. I feel this way because my coach helps me with things that I struggle with and so do my teammates."

Being on a team and playing sports can also enhance your personality and the way you think about yourself. For example, after participating on a sports team some athletes might feel more confident about themselves, more outgoing, and less shy.

"Yeah, I feel more confident and talkative," stated Vienna Canale, 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

Ms. Weber, math teacher, is the coach at this year. She believes that being a coach has not changed her personality but has enhanced it more.

Coach Weber said, "I don't think that being a coach has changed my personality, but I think that my personality really shows when I am coaching. I am competitive and enthusiastic, and I really try to instill that in my players during our games!"

# U.S.S. Hornet in Alameda gears up for Halloween night

Tate Ailing Reporter

Halloween is just around the corner and people are decorating their houses, telling spooky stories, and going to spooky places in celebration of the holiday. One of these places is in Alameda, California, at the former Naval Air Station. docked there is a grey *Essex* Class aircraft carrier, built-in 1943 during World War II. It is called the U.S.S. *Hornet*.

The U.S.S. *Hornet* was built in 1943 and served in WWII, Korea, and Vietnam, and picked up the Apollo 11 and 12 space capsules that went to the moon. But, some say that the *Hornet* is haunted.

No one knows for sure when the sightings started, but there are countless stories and paranormal TV series that have done episodes onboard. According to *eastbaytimes.com*, a family was sleeping over onboard, and a man in a seaman's uniform came up to an occupied bunk and said, "I used to sleep there," walked away, and was never



Photo from Google Images

The U.S.S. Hornet is a place you can visit this Sunday night on Halloween

seen again. Another story from the *Hornet* goes like this: A couple had entered a dark area that looked abandoned near closing time, and an officer walked by without noticing them, and they followed him. He disappeared. They left the ship, but say they saw a ghost.

Even the docents see them sometimes. According to *Kalw.org*, in an interview with Bill Fee, a veteran

docent who served on board a sister ship, woke up at 2:30 when something woke them up and heard footsteps and the red night lights go on.

Another docent, Mike Gordon, went into the medical bay and couldn't go any further when trying to enter a room. A story from *its.caltech.edu*, says that a person was sleeping in a bunk area, and another staff member said that a ghost that wears pilot gear nicknamed "flyboy" who liked to open and close doors and hatches, talk and laugh, but watched over the crewmembers.

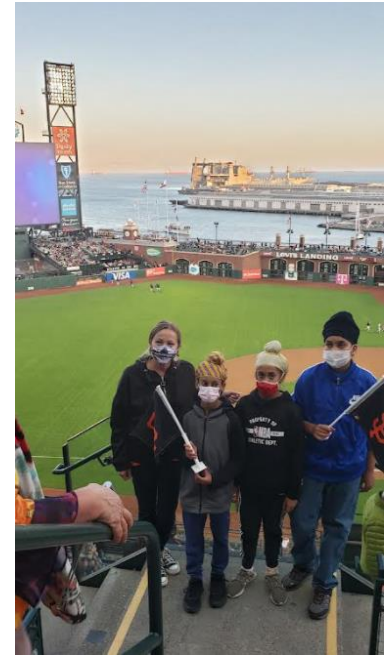
The person woke up at night because Flyboy was opening and closing a door. He then got annoyed at him, and shouted, "Hey, flyboy! Keep it down!" The noise stopped and he opened the hatches he was closing and opening. But even as spooky as it sounds, the *Hornet* staff do tours to try to find ghosts. They have K-II meters, thermometers, flashlights, and more.

# Mrs. Pasternak offers opportunities to attend Giants games in San Francisco

Roger Gonzalez Reporter

Some people love to watch baseball games on television, but some people buy tickets to see the games. Even so, some people think that the tickets to the game are very expensive. However, Mrs. Pasternak, 7th grade math teacher, got free tickets to the Giants game and offered them to her students.

Mrs. Pasternak was able to get tickets to the Giants game and she decided to give them to her students. Mrs. Pasternak said, "I get tickets to the Giants game every year from my friend who works at the stadium." So, Mrs. Pasternak now gives tickets to her students every year to go and watch the Giants game with her.



Photos by Ms. Pasternak  
Alayna Lonero, Ms. Pasternak, Sukkot Singh, Amrit Singh, and Gurtej Singh (her students) enjoy their day at a Giants game at the AT&T Ball Park in San Francisco in September.

# PTSA plays an important role in school activities

Charles Olivas Watts Reporter

PTSA stands for Parent Teacher Student Association. The PTSA is a nonprofit group of teachers, students, and parents. The PTSA is led by Gina Roberti. Gina Roberti is a mom whose son, Gavin Crum, goes to Walters.

Things the PTSA does is support the ASB events, fund teacher grants, plan teacher appreciation activities, and volunteer on campus. Ms. Roberti said, "Being a PTSA leader is tough especially during a pandemic! What keeps us going is that we are being innovative and doing what we can to support our staff, help create memories for students and build community!"

If you want to join the PTSA and help the school and community, it's \$12 for adults and \$10 for students.



## WALTERS MIDDLE SCHOOL PTSA 2021-2022

Great things are happening at Walters Middle School! And your membership is vital in supporting programs and classroom needs which enhance the educational experience at our school.

Your donation supports the following:

- School supplies & equipment
- Reflections art program
- Teacher grants
- Student special activities, dances, and assemblies
- Campus beautification
- Staff appreciation
- 8th grade celebration
- Health & safety supplies & SO MUCH MORE!

### JOIN THE WARRIOR PTSA TODAY!

**MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE \$12 PER ADULT AND \$10 PER STUDENT. EVERYONE CAN BE A MEMBER!**

**1** SCAN QR CODE TO BECOME A PTSA MEMBER



**2** CLICK HERE TO DONATE TO WALTERS PTSA

Donations are gratefully accepted as well as membership dues and help us meet our big goals.

Every member will receive an exclusive collectible sticker!

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING WALTERS PTSA!**  
All membership dues and donations are 100% tax deductible. Tax ID# 94-2904675

### WHAT'S NEXT?

- STAY CONNECTED! Join our Private Facebook Group- Search for WALTERS MIDDLE SCHOOL PTSA
- VOLUNTEER with PTSA, every hand helps! Email us at [waltersptsas@gmail.com](mailto:waltersptsas@gmail.com) to get involved
- ENJOY your child's middle school years, they go by quickly!

# RED RIBBON WEEK

SHOWING OUR SPIRIT AGAINST DRUGS



Photos from Publications

Students engage in fun activities and dress based on unique themes for Red Ribbon Week the week of October 18, earning spirit points for their homeroom.

# Mrs. Anderson's service dog, Chloe, helps her check her health

Rishi Pal Reporter

Mrs. Anderson is a speech-language pathologist who started working in 2005 and has a service dog named Chloe. Mrs. Anderson helps students in room 17a with their communication skills. She helps the students by assisting them in reaching their individual speech and language goals.

Mrs. Anderson explained that she has a service dog because she has diabetes. Diabetes is a health condition that affects how your body turns food into energy.

Chloe helps Mrs. Anderson with her diabetes by smelling her sugar level to see if it's too low. If her blood sugar is too low, Chloe will alert Mrs. Anderson about it.

Since Chloe is getting old, Mrs. Anderson said that she is looking for a new service dog. Unfortunately, she has not had Chloe with her at school this year.



Photo from Mrs. Anderson

Ms. Anderson's service dog, Chloe, helps Ms. Anderson with her diabetes, as seen from a Spirit Week from a few years ago.

# Editorial: Walters should get a soccer team

Ashley Hernandez Ayala Reporter



Photo by Sana Kamlesh  
Students who enjoy playing soccer during P.E. and lunch hope that Walters gets a soccer team.

There should be a soccer team because kids at lunch like playing soccer and get really competitive against each other.

You'll see kids cheering for each other and getting mad at each other, but that's how sports are played. Students get to have fun, play with friends, and go against friends.

When they get really competitive going against each other, they feel like they're actually playing in a stadium and that a lot of people are watching them. Sometimes, it's free for all and they have only one goalie.

They all have fun playing

anything that has to do with soccer, teams, and a ball. 7<sup>th</sup> grader, Bryan Ayala, explained, "Walters should have a soccer team. Why? Because there's other schools around and they get to play soccer. It's pretty boring, like, we only have volleyball and basketball, but why not soccer?"

Heidi Lopez stated, "We only have volleyball and basketball. There should be more, like, soccer. It's a really good sport. A lot of people here at lunch like playing it."



# Teacher Feature: Mrs. DeMars

Jayden Van Syckle Reporter

In 2019, Walters added a 6th grade class. This meant that 6th grade teachers from elementary schools were able to work in a middle school, including Walters. One of the teachers who started working at Walters at that time was Mrs. DeMars.

Mrs. DeMars is a 6th grade math and science teacher in room 39. Before she came to Walters, she worked at Millard Elementary School for two years.

According to Mrs. DeMars, she was able to give a preference on which subjects she would teach. She chose math and science because it was what she mainly taught back at Millard, so this would make her job easier than if she taught English and history. She began training to become a teacher in the University of Hawaii, in Oahu, Hawaii.

Mrs. DeMars has enjoyed teaching at Walters. "I like the school community and the independence of the students. I think this makes students more



Photo from Walters Website  
Ms. DeMars is ecstatic to teach at Walters.

mature and responsible," stated Mrs. DeMars. She also thinks that Walters has greater opportunities than elementary

schools do. She mentioned that she likes that she is able to better prepare her students for the future now that they are in middle school.

Some students who were in her class when she first started working at Walters thought that she seemed like she had been working there longer than she actually has.

Issac Chang, an 8th grader who had Mrs. DeMars in her first year at Walters said, "I think that she was good at being a middle school teacher considering she had never been one before."

"She made middle school less stressful than I thought it would be," stated Arvin Khadka, an 8th grader. According to most students, Mrs. DeMars and the other new teachers made the middle school experience more comfortable.

## Ms. Weber raises funds for cancer research

Ara Bolourchi Reporter

Ms. Weber, 8<sup>th</sup> grade math teacher, is doing a fundraiser for breast cancer. She is running for the Iris fund, which is an organization that researches on why women have babies or go into labor too early. Ms. Weber is running with 15 other people, including her close friends. She started training in July, and has had a marathon before in the past, but wasn't in running shape at first.

Ms. Weber does 4 runs per week and 2 cross training per week. She usually does volleyball for this. She has been training in the East Coast and in California. She is running with a few of her best friends as well and has trained with them.



Photo from Ms. Weber  
Ms. Weber is running to raise funds for breast cancer research on November 7 in New York City.

**October Calendar:**

**October 28 – Lunchtime Mummy Wrap**

**October 29 – Lunchtime Costume Contest and Halloween Social**

**October 31 – Halloween!**

**November 4-Diwali**

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