

THE BERKELEY SCHOOL

October 9, 2009

Dear TBS Families,

Our Elementary and Middle School teachers, Zaq, and I have been talking about our desire to expand our classroom libraries with books at appropriate reading levels for our students. We have already ordered a number of new sets of fiction, non-fiction, and reference books to support our literacy program.

In a recent discussion about our classroom libraries, we talked about our core values of practicing sustainable principles. One of the important principles has to do with the reuse of materials: not always purchasing everything new.

So, in an effort to model this core value, I am writing to parents to enlist your support in adding to our K-8 classroom libraries. If you are like I was as a parent of growing children, you probably bought many, many books. But, after a short time, my children would already be at another level in reading, and these new books would become 'barely used' books.

I am sure many of you have quality, 'barely used' books as well. We would love for you to consider reusing/recycling those books by giving them to TBS. We even have a name for this initiative: Book Harvest.

To facilitate your donations of quality books, we are placing donation boxes outside Zaq Roberts' office, which is located next to the door to the Depot. We will go through the books to determine their appropriateness. (Although we know many children enjoy them, space in the classrooms does not permit the inclusion of books like Captain Underpants, Disney stories, books based on superheroes or television characters, etc.) We will also affix a 'donated by' sticker with your child's name in each of the books that get placed in classroom libraries.

We thank you in advance for your participation in Book Harvest.

Best,



Janet Stork
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