

Mar Vista Elementary

PARENT NEWSLETTER

www.marvista.pvUSD.net

CHRISTOPHER HERTZ, PRINCIPAL
September 11, 2008

OFFICE HOURS: 7:30 - 4:00
VOLUME 44 Number 4

CALENDAR

Now		eScript Contest continues through Sept. 26
Tues	9/16	Internet Use Agreements Due
Wed	9/17	Constitution Day
Mon	10/13 – Fri 10/17	Parent Conference Week / 12:05 dismissal
Sat	10/25	Fall Harvest Festival / Parent Club Event
Fri	11/7	End 1 st trimester
Tues	12/09 – Fri 12/12	Sixth Grade Outdoor School (Bussing Provided) / \$142 per student

Editor's Note: This year our parent club is putting together an email database of Mar Vista families in the all-new Directory. If you provide your email, then in a few weeks look for an email from Mar Vista about the E-Newsletter ready to download from the school website. Families who still need a paper newsletter will always have the opportunity to ask that one be sent home with their child. Our goal is to improve communication, lower operating costs, and to be a "greener" school. Please provide your email to the Directory to support your school.

Principal's Message

We are off to an outstanding start! Our students deserve real recognition for their ability to get back into school routines and for getting along with each other. They look like they are having a lot fun becoming reacquainted with friends and making new ones. Teachers seem really excited about the social chemistry in their classes. It's a strong beginning to launch a great school year.

Congratulations! Mar Vista students not only improved their score for the 5th year in a row but they also achieved their highest State Test score ever! This is great news. The Mar Vista students, teachers, and parents should be proud! (Parents of 3rd through 6th graders received individual test scores in the mail about two weeks ago.) The State released the preliminary API reports and Mar Vista's report was especially rewarding because we surpassed the State target for the 1st time!

The API (Academic Performance Rank) is the result of the Public Schools Accountability Act and is intended to measure school performance. The statewide API performance target is 800. **Mar**

Vista's Preliminary API for 2008 is 803! Although only 2nd – 6th grader students are tested, every grade should celebrate and take responsibility for the success of our students.

In addition to the positive opening of school and exciting test scores, numerous after-school programs are being made available to students and very important fundraisers are kicking off. It all seems so good. Thank you to our outstanding and caring teachers and support staff for making Mar Vista so special for our kids. Thank you to the parents and guardians who came out in record numbers at Back-to-School Night. Your support is appreciated. In approximately five weeks teachers will be contacting parents/guardians for a progress conference. In the meantime continue to assist your child with good study habits and maintaining healthy life styles with attention to getting enough sleep, getting to school by 7:40, daily exercise, and healthy eating.

Together for students,

Monte Fireworks Tickets on Sale

Support Mar Vista by buying your Monte Fireworks Show tickets at the Mar Vista office. \$10 of your \$15 purchase price comes right back to the Parent Club (MVP'S). You'll get 10% off on popular items at the local skate shop and deals at Baskin Robbins Ice Cream all year too! Our school depends on this fundraiser each year. Please support your school and have fun too! Call Barbara Di Puma and she can send the tickets home with your child. Thanks!

When is a student tardy?

For the sake of consistency and clarity the staff at Mar Vista will use the following definition to

determine if a student is tardy: A student is tardy and will be recorded as such when the student is not in class after the instruction bell has rung (7:50) and the rest of the class is inside with the door shut. Students need to line up for class promptly at their classroom-meeting place after the warning bell rings (7:48) and the whistle is blown. Students who are tardy need to go directly to the office and complete a "Tardy Slip" and bring a carbon copy to their teacher in order to be admitted to class. This has been our policy for the past three years. Thank you for making punctuality a priority. School is a cooperative endeavor and teachers need all students to be ready to go at 7:50.

Internet Use Agreement Forms

The Technology Department is sending home Student Internet Use Agreement forms today in the Thursday folder. If our office manger does not have the form back by Tuesday, September 16, then she will begin to block student access to the internet from PVUSD computers. Please look for the form today and return it by Tuesday. Your child's access to computers and AR depends on you returning this new form.

6th Grade End-of-Year Activities / Costs

In addition to outdoor school (\$142 each), our 6th graders will also be enjoying a fun day at the Boardwalk and a Completion Ceremony in June. The Parent Club (MVP'S) has allotted \$500 for the Ceremony, however a 6th grade parent will need to organize a light reception afterward. If interested, please contact Mr. Hertz. The Boardwalk trip will have costs too. 6th grade parents interested in helping students raise money to pay for the trip should also contact Mr. Hertz. Car Washes are good idea. Let's make great memories for our 6th graders!

BTSN % @ MV Through the Years

Below is the percentage of students represented by a parent/guardian by school year. Involvement is up! Involvement equals success.

05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10
?	65%	74%	80.7%	?

eScrip: An Effective & Easy Way to Support Mar Vista

If your Safeway card is signed up to donate to Mar Vista School, you're done! Mar Vista will benefit automatically!

If your Safeway card is **NOT** signed up to support Mar Vista School, then **BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 12th** you will receive a Register Receipt Tape from your shopping trip which gives a code that Mar Vista can redeem. Bring that receipt to your teacher for the contest to be turned in by September 26th.

eSchool Goals for Mar Vista:

- To make sure that all of our MVP (Mar Vista Parents) Safeway cards are signed up to donate to Mar Vista Elementary by going to www.escrip.com.
- To collect as many Safeway receipts beginning **September 12th** from NON-eScrip Safeway Shoppers (including those of us who have not registered our own cards yet to donate to our school). Turn in those receipts with the form previously provided to your teacher by September 26th but **not** before September 12th (receipts prior to this will not have the code we need to benefit). If you are just now registering yours or someone else's Safeway card you must get a register receipt so we can claim the donation.
- Make sure we get our family members, friends, and neighbors to register their Safeway card with eScrip and designate our school to benefit by going to www.escrip.com **Group ID #141570068**

Remember, you **MUST** re-register your Safeway Club Card **EVERY** year by going to www.escrip.com and designate our Mar Vista School to benefit.

Thank you for participating in this easy program that does not take any additional money out of your pocket to possibly raise thousands of extra dollars for our school each year. Many schools in our area have raised over \$10,000 per year! We believe we can do the same. The class that gets the most people to register their Safeway cards and/or collects the most **Safeway receipts (AFTER 9/12)** and turns in their forms wins an ice cream party!

**Janeé Del Colletti/eScrip Chair
#831-419-3465**