



# Mar Vista Elementary

## PARENT NEWSLETTER



761-6177

[www.marvista.pvUSD.net](http://www.marvista.pvUSD.net)

CHRISTOPHER HERTZ, PRINCIPAL  
4:00  
December 4, 2008

OFFICE HOURS: 7:30-

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### CALENDAR

Tues	12/9	Site Council / 4:30 – 5:30 ELAC / 6:00 – 7:00
Thurs	12/11	Baskin Robins Appreciation Night (Aptos Center) / 3:00 – 7:00pm
Tues	12/09 – Fri 12/12	Sixth Grade Outdoor School (Bussing Provided) / \$142 per student
Fri	12/19	Lost and Found to Charity / 3:00pm
Mon	12/22	Winter Break begins
Tues	1/13	School Resumes
Mon	1/19	Martin Luther King Jr Day / Holiday
Wed	2/11 – 2/13	Mar Vista Science Fair
Thurs	2/12	Science Fair Parent Night / 6:00 – 7:30pm

### Million Word March / Who is on Target?

Students in grades 4 through 6 are expected to read 1,000,000 words through AR each school year.



Students in grades 1 through 3 are expected to read and quiz 25 books through AR each school year. You can track your child's progress through "Home Connect" on our school website. Since we are about 1/3 of the way through the year, your child should be about 1/3 of the way to the goal. Please log on and check in on your child's progress. This is a rigorous expectation and your child needs your support to get there.

### AR Student Achievement

98.9% of all 2<sup>nd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> graders participated in AR during the 1<sup>st</sup> trimester. 50.3% (140 / 278 students) 2<sup>nd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> graders made their individual AR point goal during the 1<sup>st</sup> trimester! Currently 40 Mar Vista students are on pace to make the Million Word goal. Eight students have already surpassed it! Well done. We hope to see at least 80% of our students achieve their reading goal this trimester.

### Baskin Robins Supports Reading

Thank you to Baskin Robins franchise owner Keang Lee for sponsoring Mar Vista's Accelerated Reading Program. Mr. Lee has

donated about \$600 in ice cream certificates to Mar Vista to encourage AR reading. Please consider patronizing Baskin Robins this Thursday, Dec 11<sup>th</sup>. This might be a great time to redeem a coupon your child may have recently earned! This is the third year Mr. Lee has sponsored reading at Mar Vista.



### HM Math On Line (New)

We recently began using a new math program from Houghton Mifflin. The program has exciting online features for students and families. Enrichment activities are available for high-achieving students, extra support is available for under-achieving students, and demonstrations for how to complete math activities are available for parents. Parents are encouraged to visit and bookmark this website to help support your child's growth. Below is the website address. We hope to add this link to our school website soon. (Make sure you select "California" and "Math" when you logon.) There is a lot there! Enjoy.

Website Address: [www.eduplace.com/](http://www.eduplace.com/)

### More Web-Based Support for Students/Families

The school web site offers several resources for families. There is a link to "AR" and "Math Facts in a Flash" so your child can practice

and quiz from home. There is a link to “AR Home Connect” in which parents can review their child’s progress towards reading goals and even sign up to receive an email every time your child takes an AR quiz! (Awesome) There is a link to each teacher’s email. There is a link to district calendars. There is a list of all fundraising events for the school year. There is a lot there to help parents support their child’s growth.

### **Mar Vista Sports Tournaments**

We have over 160 kids who have signed up on a team and are involved in lunchtime tournaments. The tournament is open to any student (1<sup>st</sup> grade through 6<sup>th</sup> grade) who wants to play. Currently we are midway through our flag football tournament. After winter break we will begin our basketball tournament. Ask your child if they participate and if not, encourage them to do so. The tournament is focused on learning good sportsmanship, teamwork, physical conditioning, and good clean fun! As Mr. Ertl says, “If you had fun, you won!”

### **Family Vacations During School Time**

Parents and students need to be aware that “work packets” will not be provided ahead of time for a student who is going on vacation during the school year. We would like to discourage this type of absence because sending a “packet of papers” without the teacher’s guidance will in no way duplicate the classroom experience. Teachers will assign your child to write a Daily Journal of the vacation events. Students will be expected to make up all assignments upon returning to school after vacation. Our school loses \$40 a day for each student not in school. Please consider sending \$40 to Mar Vista when your child is on vacation during school days to off set our losses.

### **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 (7:50am) 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 (7:48am) 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.

### **Computer Lab Open!**

We are pleased to announce that students are now visiting the all-new computer lab twice weekly. The lab was paid for through the Cookie Dough Fundraisers conducted the past two years and from generous donations from parents, community members and district departments. The applications available to students and teachers are: Ultra Key (Typing), Word (word processing), Success Maker (individualized math), AR, Math Facts in a Flash, and web browsing. We did it!



### **Head Lice? Please Call Us**

We want to stop the spread of head lice. When we receive a call that a child has head lice, we check the entire class and send home exposure notices. Students with live lice are excluded from school. If parents don’t call us and tell us, then we don’t know to check. If you would like further explanation of how we work stop the spread of lice, please call Health Assistant Deborah Foxworthy at extension 4980 or email her at [Deborah.Foxworthy@pvusd.net](mailto:Deborah.Foxworthy@pvusd.net).

### **Is Your Child Being Challenged?**

This is a good time to contact your child’s teacher if you feel that the curriculum is too challenging or that your child is under challenged. Please call or email your child’s teachers. We want to keep in touch with families about this import issue.