



Mar Vista Elementary

PARENT NEWSLETTER

761-6177

www.marvista.pvusd.net



CHRISTOPHER HERTZ, PRINCIPAL
January 29, 2009

OFFICE HOURS: 7:30-4:00
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CALENDAR

Mon	2/9	Lincoln's Birth Date / School Closed
Wed	2/11	MVP'S Meeting / 6:30 – 8:00pm
Wed	2/11 – 2/13	Mar Vista Science Fair
Thurs	2/12	Science Fair Parent Night / 6:00 – 7:30pm
Mon	2/16	Washington's Birth Date / School Closed
Tues	3/3	4 th grade STAR Writing Assessment
Thurs	3/5	District Parent Survey Results Released
Fri	3/6	End 2 nd Trimester / End 2 nd AR Goal Period
Fri	3/13	Report Cards Sent Home with Students
		Open Enrollment Deadline (see article below)
Fri	3/20	Honor Roll Assembly
Wed	3/25	Visitation Day 1 of 2
Sat	3/28	MVP'S Auction Dinner Dance / 5:30
Wed	4/1	Visitation Day 2 of 2
Tues	4/7	Kindergarten Registration Day



Principal's Message

Thank you to the many parents/guardians who completed the 08/09 Parent Survey. The survey was sent home Thursday, Jan. 15th. I will read each and every survey and attempt to address your areas of concern and/or areas of improvement with the Site Council and through personal contact. Thank you for being a committed, supportive, and caring community! The staff and I appreciate everything that you do, and everything you give to our wonderful students. You are an outstanding community.

As you have probably read in the newspapers, we are experiencing serious budget problems. Our school budgets are now frozen to cover delays in payments from the state. Money that had been set aside by the Site Council to keep supply shelves stocked is no longer available. The proposed cuts for next school year will be devastating to our school, as we are already highly dependent upon fundraising. Fortunately our MVP'S have run several successful fundraisers to benefit next school year. The Site Council is beginning the difficult process of developing next year's budget plans. Both the MVP'S and the Site Council will set budget plans at year's end. I'll keep you posted as information comes my way.

While visiting classrooms this week, I have been impressed by the incredible teaching and learning

that goes on in our fine school! The teachers help our students strive for excellence by weaving discovery, enthusiasm, caring, and perseverance into each lesson. What a great atmosphere!

Together for students,

MarVista Afterschool Enrichment Classes

An updated Afterschool Enrichment Brochure has been created and will be sent home. There are two new theater production class offerings (in lieu of the Improv class). The High School Musical Dance Camp is now open to K-6 grades. All classes are scheduled to begin the week of Feb. 15 or later. There is a complete online course menu and online registration is fast, easy and painless. Check out the link on our school website. In addition, all instructors have agreed to a 15% sibling discount, applicable to each additional sibling enrolled in the same class. (Registrations must be done by phone, fax, or mail in order to receive the sibling discount, it is not available online.)

Student Council Recycling

The Recycling Task Force recently returned 57 pounds of PET plastic, 16 pounds of glass, and 4 pounds of aluminum to D&J recycling. These resources will be made new again and will stay out of the landfill. The second benefit is that Mar Vista earned \$64.00 that will be used to benefit all

students here at school. Thank you to all the families that have contributed CRV materials to the Mar Vista Recycling Program!! We will continue to accept CRV materials and would love help from a parent that has access to a pick-up truck. Let the Asst. Principal, Mr. Ertl, know if you can assist us.

STAR Testing Dates / 2nd – 6th grade

Mark your calendars now please!

- STAR test: May 4th-8th
(make-ups: May 11th & 12th)
- 4th Grade Only - STAR Writing Test:
Tues., March 3rd
(make-Ups: Wed. March 4th only)

Please plan ahead. Your child's regular, punctual attendance during this crucial testing period is very important. Please do not schedule any appointments, etc. during this week. We greatly appreciate your cooperation during this high-stakes assessment period.

Spelling Bee Champs

Congratulations to all of the students who were selected to participate in the Mar Vista Spelling Bee. Two students have earned the honor of representing Mar Vista at the North Zone and County wide Spelling Bees. These students are: Teagan Knight and Evan Weiss. Congratulations girls! Good luck at the upcoming contests!!

Open Enrollment Update

Approximately 33% of students at Mar Vista live outside of our attendance boundary. Students attending Mar Vista from beyond our attendance boundary are here at the yearly request of their parents/guardians. To avoid having to make yearly requests these parents may request "Open Enrollment". The last day that Open Enrollment requests will be received is Fri., March 13th. We must have all Open Enrollment requests in our office by this date. Please contact Barbara in the office for assistance.

Parent "Visitation" Days

This year we have reserved the two Wednesdays prior to Kindergarten Registration (March 25th and April 1st) for parents to visit classrooms. These two Wednesdays are intended to showcase our school to new incoming families and the focus should be on the students' overall learning environment and student achievement. Current Mar Vista families are of course welcome to see

classrooms in action too. Parents are reminded that the purpose of these two days is not to screen classrooms or select teachers for next year's classroom enrollment. Please limit visits to 20 minutes per classroom and allow the teacher to keep teaching rather than engaging the teacher in conversation. Thank you.

Fifth Grade Outdoor School Fundraiser!

The Fifth Grade class sells pizza and popcorn on Fridays right after school to raise money to reduce the cost of Outdoor School next year. Showtime Pizza in the Rancho Del Mar Shopping Center generously donates the pizza at their cost! Please help support this worthwhile fundraiser and have a yummy snack too! Pizza = \$1
Popcorn = .50 Drink = .50 Thank You

Science Boards Sent Home

Thank you to teacher Heidi Schacher for securing a grant to give every 4th – 6th grade Mar Vista student a 3' x 4' display board. These boards are free to our students and are to be used on their mandatory science fair project. Students have also brought home a packet (before winter break) describing the science fair parameters and dates. Visit: <http://science.santacruz.k12.ca.us> for more information on the science fair.

Save the Date: Wine & Roses Auction

You don't want to miss this fundraiser! The Wine & Roses Auction will be a night to remember. Come and enjoy a night of delicious food, wine tasting, silent and live auctions, live music, and dancing! The Wine & Roses auction will begin at 5:30PM on Saturday, March 28th. More details will be provided soon. We are currently looking for auction items with a value of approximately \$50 or more. If you have a good idea, or an item, please notify our auction coordinator - Janeé Del Colletti at 685-0362.



Mrs. Dellamaggiore update

Over the Winter break Mrs. D, 2nd grade teacher, was injured in an accident. She recently had reconstructive surgery on her wrist and is healing well. We are so thankful that she will make a full recovery. She says "Thank you" to all the teachers and families that have shown their support and caring. We are also thankful for the incredible job Mrs. Culver, retired 4th grd. teacher, has done with Room 5 in Mrs. D's absence.