

Mar Vista Elementary School

PARENT NEWSLETTER

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www.marvista.pvUSD.net

CHRISTOPHER HERTZ, PRINCIPAL
March 13, 2008

OFFICE HOURS: 7:30 – 4:00
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March Character Theme: Integrity & Honesty

CALENDAR

Fri	3/14	Report Cards sent home with students Deadline to order yearbooks
Sun	3/16	Car Wash @ Mar Vista to support next year's 6 th grade camp / 11:30 – 3:30 Musical Madness Show / 2:00 – 3:00pm
Mon	3/17	5 th Grade Family Life Orientation for parents @ library / 6:30 – 7:30pm
Wed	3/19	Kindergarten Registration Day (Make your appointment now!) 6 th grade Completion Planning Meeting @ library / 6:30 – 7:30pm
Thurs	3/20	Student Council Spirit Day "Rock and Roll Day" Honor Roll Assembly for 4 th – 6 th graders / 10:15am
Fri	3/21	Begin Spring Break (21st-30th)
Mon	3/31	School resumes
Tues	4/1	Spring Photos
Thurs	4/3	MVP'S Community BBQ & Pot Luck 20 th Birthday Party for the Play structure / 6:00 – 7:00pm
Tues	4/8	MVP'S Meeting to Elect New Board / 6:30 – 8:00pm
Thurs	4/10	Pages & PJs Night / 7:00pm
Fri	4/11	Book Fair Begins (supports future book purchases) (until 4:00pm daily)
Fri	4/18	Book Fair Ends
Mon	4/28	STAR Testing Begins (do not schedule doctor/dentist appointments)
Sat	5/3	Family Fix It Day 2 of 2
Mon	5/12	STAR Testing Ends
Thurs	5/22	Open House (Spaghetti Feed @ 5:30 & classes open at 7:00pm)
Fri	6/06	Last day of School
Mon	6/16	Summer School begins at Bradley (July 4 Holiday)
Fri	7/18	Summer School Ends
Wed	8/13	First Day of School

Principal's Message

We are now in the most critical portion of the school year and we must be completely focused on teaching and learning. Every minute of instruction counts as we focus seriously on the high-stakes STAR tests, retention decisions, and summer school enrollment. Please use the feedback on report cards, corrected work in Thursday folders, and homework assignments to support your child's specific academic development. However, please don't ever hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you are unclear about curriculum goals. It takes a coordinated effort to help our students achieve their best.

Together for kids,
Chris Hertz

Principal Chris Hertz' March Wish List

(Call me for details!)

- Parent help at lunch with students
- Parent help with fundraising
- Reams of canary-colored copy paper
- Recycle help for Student Council (see article below)

Thank you / Parents Come Through!

Thanks to the Del Colleti family for donating five reams of yellow paper for our Parent Newsletter! You rock! (Due to budget cuts schools may no longer purchase colored paper so thank you to our families for helping us out!) Thank you to the Tyler family for donating Kleenex. (We had temporarily run out.) We needed help and the Tylers came through!

Security Begins by Wearing an ID

ALL VOLUNTEERS and VISITORS ARE REQUIRED TO SIGN-IN AT THE OFFICE AND WEAR A NAME TAG. THIS IS FOR THE SECURITY OF OUR STUDENTS. SIGN-IN IS PART OF OUR SCHOOL AND DISTRICT SAFETY PLAN! IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO REGISTER YOUR VISIT AND WEAR A TAG, THEN YOU MUST NOT PASS BEYOND THE PATIO WAITING AREA BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 7:20 TO 2:05.

Aptos Baskin Robins Supports Reading

Thank you to Aptos Baskin Robbins and owner Mr. Lee for your generous support of the AR Reading Program. Each year Mr. Lee donates hundreds of certificates valued at hundreds of dollars in support of student AR reading achievement. Students earn certificates at the end of each trimester when they make it to a point club. Please let Mr. Lee know that you appreciate his support of our school's reading program by patronizing his store located at 100 Rancho Del Mar or by giving him a call at 688-3166.

Thank You for Dictionaries / Aptos Grange

Recently all third graders at Mar Vista received their own personal copy of a new dictionary from the Aptos Grange Society. Former PVUSD librarian Barbara Giger and her husband came last week to present each child with a dictionary to take home as part of a nation wide effort by the Grange to improve literacy across America. This is an example of American civics at its best. The Grange society is over 130 years old and strives to support families and communities and is headquartered in Washington D.C. Many thanks to the Gigers and the Grange! We love our dictionaries!

Mar Vista Receives Attendance Award

On average 94.97% of Mar Vista students came to school everyday last month. This was the best of ANY PVUSD school! We were recognized with the Green Banner Award and a check for \$100 from Dr, Mayes,

Superintendent of Schools. We are to use the money to further support excellent attendance so we ordered recognition pencils to give to every student with perfect attendance for the month of March. If our school is top in Aptos this month, Dr. Mays is offering a juice bar party for the whole school. We won last year and we can do again!

After School Enrichment / It's Happening!

This year Mar Vista students have been offered a variety of After School classes. Currently, Ben Jammin is back working with students on a musical review in *Musical Theatre Madness*; watch for this performance on March 16. Kristine North is building Lego's with 4th and 5th graders in *Robotics*. Irvin Linsey is wrapping up his *Science* program for the 2007-2008 school year, but watch for his return in the Fall. Jenni Ward taps into the creativity of our 1st – 3rd grade students in *Imagination Creation* and Roberta Dallimonti is teaching *Ceramics*. These programs offer a variety of opportunities and experiences to students and each student is welcomed and encouraged to sign up for classes that interest them. Along with these programs, this past year Mar Vista has offered *Performing Arts* (Willy Wonka), *Tennis*, *Chess*, and *Guitar* taught by Mar Vista's own Jenner Werling. Scholarships are available for each program and are provided by funds raised by YOU... the MVP'S. Do you have an idea for a class you'd like to see offered or feedback for a class your child participated in? Please, feel free to drop a note with your idea/input in the office attention: Susan McAnerney.

Musical Madness Show Sunday

Come enjoy some musical theater this Sunday, March 16 @ 2:00pm in the Mar Vista cafeteria. The show is approximately 45 minutes long featuring Mar Vista students. There is no entrance fee but a request for donations will be made to help off set the tuition cost of the program. Enjoy and applaud our kids!

Car Wash Supports 5th Graders

The car wash this Sunday supports 5th graders going to Outdoor School next October. They need to raise funds to help off-set the \$15,600 cost of sending 65 students and their 3 teachers. Please support the kids by bringing your dirty car to our parking lot between 11:30 and 3:30. You can also support the 5th grade class by purchasing pizza on Fridays after school and by eating at the Spaghetti Feed this May. Thank you to parents Zana Kirkpatrick and Jim Wasson for organizing the car wash.

Fundraiser: Box Tops for Education

Students may redeem Box Tops at the Student Store open Monday's and Friday's, and/or turn them into their classroom anytime.

Box Tops collected from the classroom are tallied and the class collecting the most Box Tops by May wins a popcorn party! Currently, Ms. Risa's 2nd grade class is in the lead. With pending budget cuts, Box Tops are a simple way for Mar Vista to earn funds which help pay for programs from our General Fund. Box Tops submitted in December earned Mar Vista \$268 and our recent submission will bring in approximately \$100 before the end of the school year. This may not seem like a lot of money, however, did you know this amount can fund Fun & Fitness day? Or provide scholarships for After School Programs and supplies in a teacher's classroom. So the next time you see a Box Top, although it seems like a small amount of money, collectively they add up and benefit our school. Keep on clipping!!!!

Cambell's Soup Labels for Education

Thank you for collecting labels and sending them to school. In the past we were able to redeem them to get Spin N Glow Ball Hops and Sport Fun Pogo's. Last year we ordered two packs of 8.5" Voit playground balls. Please continue to collect UPC codes and caps from Campbell's soups, Pace sauces, Pepperidge Farm (Goldfish), V8 products. Values range from 1 to 5 points and there is no expiration date. Thanks for clipping! Thanks to parent Susan McAnerney for coordinating this program.

Consider Kennolyn ~ It's like scrip for summer camp!

Kennolyn Day Camp supports Mar Vista school, and many other local schools, through a generous rebate program. In exchange for passing out their brochures, we receive a portion of the camp's fees for every one of our students that attends Kennolyn. So when your child brings a Kennolyn brochure home, that's why. In this time of budget cuts and declining enrollment, every penny counts.

Kennolyn is a traditional family-owned outdoor day camp that has been around for more than 60 years. You'll find the traditional songs, games, horseback riding, swimming instruction, etc. There is even an opportunity to sleep under the stars at "Outpost" if your child so wishes. And they have "Family Night" so you can see your child in action and chat with their counselor over a BBQ dinner. The camp is located on 300 acres of redwoods in Soquel and offers daily bus transportation from all over the county.

A free open house at the camp is planned this spring to give families a chance to visit and learn more about Kennolyn – April 26 & 27 from 10am-3pm. Kennolyn raffles off a week of camp each month so check out the open house and try your luck. The pool will be open during the open house too! Many thanks to Kennolyn Camp for its ongoing support of Mar Vista School!

Last year, Kennolyn gave over \$11,000 in tuition rebates and donated sessions and has

given over \$80,000 since 1996. It's time for Mar Vista to get in on this opportunity so please check out Kennolyn Camp. You can reach Kennolyn Camp at 479-6714.

Fundraiser: Walk a Thon Coming in May

The MVP'S biggest fundraiser is the Walk-a-Thon this May 16th! We want Mar Vista families to embrace this 100% profit fundraiser and encourage their children to get pledges. This will be the last major fundraiser by the MVP'S this school year. Look for details soon.

Spring Photos / Tuesday April 1st

Volunteers are needed to support this annual tradition and office fundraiser. If you would like to volunteer to help shuttle students past the cameras, then your child's photos are complementary. Please contact Barbara in the office to volunteer. Money earned from the photos will help to maintain or replace office equipment as needed. Recently we had to replace our fax machine and this fund pays for things such as this.

Fundraiser: Target Red Card

Currently 50 families have registered with Target to support Mar Vista with their Red Card. So far this year Target has rebated the MVP'S \$180.33. Please visit the Target.com website to get going!

6th Grade Completion Planning Meeting

This is a reminder that parents interested in assisting with the Completion Ceremony and related events are invited to attend this meeting. At the meeting various ideas will be shared and plans will be made celebrate our kids completing elementary school.

GATE Testing / Parent Requests

This year parents may refer their children in grades 3-6 for GATE (Gifted and Talented Education) testing by notifying their child's teacher *and* notifying the GATE office at 786-2144 or by email lyn_olson@pvusd.net

Student Council Update

We will be having another spirit day on Thursday, March 20, the day before spring

break. The theme is "Rock and Roll" day. Every student who participates will receive a spirit pencil. The Student Council is still looking for a parent volunteer to regularly take recyclables to the recycle center and bring the check back to school.

Order Your 2007-2008 Yearbook Now!

Order forms went home last week but more are available in the office. Place your order now! The cost is \$16.00. Don't delay! If you don't get your order in now, you may not be able to purchase one in June since limited number of yearbooks will be available. Last year only 10 extra books were available to purchase. Don't miss your chance now to order your yearbook. Last day to order is Friday, 3/14.

MVP'S Officers Needed for 08-09

Our current elected board will be ending their term in June. This means we will have several vacancies: president, VP, secretary, and two treasurers. These are one-year positions. The treasurer positions are considered to be the most demanding and require several hours each week. Please come to the MVP'S meetings, get involved in supporting our school, and consider being an officer. You will be able to make a huge impact on the lives of hundreds of children and our community. You are truly needed.

There will be a large poster outside the office for parents to write down either their own name or another parent's name that they would like to be considered for elections. The current board will contact nominees to see if they would like to run for office. If multiple parents express interest in the same office, then there will be a paper ballot. If only one parent expresses interest, then there will be a hand vote at the April MVP'S meeting.