



Mar Vista Elementary

PARENT NEWSLETTER

761-6177

www.marvista.pvusd.net



CHRISTOPHER HERTZ, PRINCIPAL
Thursday, June 4, 2009

OFFICE HOURS: 7:30-4:00
VOLUME 44 Number 17

Calendar

Fri	6/5	Last day of School / (PM kinder come early) / school dismissal / 11:00
Mon	6/8 - 6/12	Office Open / Hours: 8 to 3:30 Play Structure Installed! (Hooray!)
Tues	6/9	Lost & Found to Charity
Fri	6/12	Office Closes for Summer
Mon	6/15	Summer School Begins @ Rio Del Mar (ends Fri 7/10) (7/3 Holiday) (7:30-1:30 daily)
Wed	6/24	Board of Education @ Board Room / 7:00 (sets Budget Plan)
July		Check the school website for updates for 09-10
Sat	7/4	4 th of July Parade (meet at the Aptos Public Library) / 9:00
Fri	7/31	AR Summer Session Closes (Students strive to make their summer reading goals!)
Mon	8/3	Mar Vista Office Reopens
Fri	8/7	Class Lists posted @ office / 5:00pm
Tues	8/11	New Family Walking Tour / 2 – 3pm Meet Your Kindergarten Teacher / 3:00 – 4:00
Wed	8/12	1st Day of School! First Day of school for 2008 – 2009 school year / 2:05 dismissal Welcome Parent Coffee / 8:05 – 8:45
Fri	8/14	Welcome Back Family BBQ @ 5:00pm (pot luck & greetings)
Thurs	8/20	Back to School Night / 6:15 – 8:00



Principal's Message

Our year has rushed to a close. This week was packed with important events that celebrate our students' achievement of goals. Notably we honored students who had perfect attendance for the last trimester and for the entire school year. We recognized students who made their individualized trimester AR point goals and made it to a new "Point Club" level. We recognized students in grades 4 – 6 who made Honor Roll and we recognized student citizenship, improvement, and achievement of goals for students with special learning needs.

This has been an exciting year of achievement in other areas too. We have telephones in our classrooms with voicemail. Our theater arts program now has real theater lights. All teachers have email accounts. We have an all-new computer lab. Teachers began using an automated assessment program called Data Director to instantly score assessments. Our State API score hit an all time high and we predict that it will be even higher next year. Many students placed in the County Science Fair. Several students placed in the County Math Competition with one team earning second place and one individual earning an honorable mention too! Our students read over 170,000,000 words at their level, more than 30,000 over last year's record! We have begun to landscape the front hillside through a special grant! We developed our first parent/student telephone directory. We raised enough money to install a modern play structure coming this summer! It's been a year of big results.

Our MVPS club raised over \$20,000 and big thanks are owed to Officers Joe DelColletti, Joe Kusler, Julie Stoffel, and Kim Marks for the many hours they put forth to help our school. These parents have been so incredibly supportive the past year and it just isn't possible to thank them enough. Our Parent Club is fantastic!

Our Student Council held many spirit days, three Skate Nights, and a movie night. They bought hundreds of dollars worth of balls and jump ropes for the playground and four soccer nets. They maintained a moneymaking recycling program. The Council's achievements have made our school more spirited and supportive for students. It's been an outstanding year for the Student Council.

We have many goals in place for next year (including keeping our library open for our kids) and we are already working on them; however, it is important to acknowledge our achievements as the year closes. Our Mar Vista community has so much to be proud of as we look back and reflect on the tremendous effort our amazing teachers and parents have put forth to support our wonderful students.

Have a safe summer filled with family fun. (I'll look for you at the Parade!) Remember to help your children keep their academic skills fresh with daily practice. Below are some ideas to help you. Remember, practice is key!

Together for student achievement,

Summer Session AR @ Home Program Begins

This is the best summer reading program possible because it is leveled to your child's independent reading ability and your child's teacher individualizes the point goal. You can quiz from any location online! Kids who practice academic skills over the summer retain and even grow, whereas kids who don't regress or lose academic skills. Don't let your child slip! Log on now! AR Summer 2009 began Saturday, May 23! Your child's 3rd trimester goal is now their summer goal unless your child's teacher sets a different goal. When students log on during the summer they will view their summer goal and see their progress. Remember, your child should be reading within their "zone" or "AR reading level". Our students know their level but parents should be monitoring selection choices. When school starts back up in August we will find a way to recognize students who meet their personal goal.

AR "Home Connect"

Parents can keep connected to their child's AR reading through a wonderful new online tool available from AR. It's called "Home Connect". You can find the link at the Mar Vista website. It shows students' overall progress and has a tab called "bookshelf." From there you and your child can see all the book covers read in FULL COLOR, as if you were looking a book case! It's just one more motivational tool available to you.

"Math in a Flash"

Please have your child practice math speed online. You may have to check your system's software, but if you play around you'll be prompted to download software and your child should be able to practice their speed at home. It all begins at the AR home page.

Good Bye Staff

Mrs. Ross (ELS teacher), Mrs. Baker (classroom aide), Mrs. Delucchi, (office assistant), Ms. Peterson (6th grade teacher), Mrs. Foxworthy (nurses' assistant), Ms. Donlin (1st grade teacher), Mrs. McConnell (classroom aide), Ms. Thomas (speech teacher), Mrs. Ullman (library technician), Mrs. Miller (campus supervisor), Ms. Laurer (counselor), and Ms. Miske, (3rd grade teacher) are off to new adventures and will be leaving Mar Vista. We offer heartfelt thanks to them for their years of service and innumerable contributions to our students. Best wishes for the future. You will be missed.

Open House Fundraisers Successful

Thank you to everyone who came to the spaghetti feed; our 5th graders earned \$1,500 to off-set outdoor school costs for next year. The MVP'S earned \$280 for the general fund through the parking spot drawing and auction!

Walk-a-Thon Earns over \$6,000

The MVP'S would like to thank the Mar Vista Community for their support of the Walk-a-Thon. The top earning upper grade classroom was Mrs. Nunes'

and the top primary class was Mr. Pushnik's. In all over \$6,000 was earned to support next year's programs! Please look for other exciting fundraisers when we return in August such as the Toyota Camry Drawing and the Monte Fireworks Show! Donations are always appreciated. Contact Principal Chris Hertz to discuss where financial support is needed. Thanks for supporting our school.

Mar Vista Earns Bronze Medal

Team Ireland, our Mar Vista International Games team, once again ROCKED. The team was very prepared and in great condition and several of the team members walked away with multiple medals. The entire team scored enough points to place 3rd over all, just behind two middle schools, New Brighton and Scotts Valley.

It was great to have so much support. We had lots of parents in the stands and the entire 6th grade and half of the 5th grade came to cheer us on with that wonderful Mar Vista school spirit. A big thank you goes to all the parents who volunteered to drive as well as Coach Winterburn and our "honorary" Coach Kusler who helped to train and organize the athletes for this event... Congratulations to all the athletes!!!! Great job!!!!Coach Lemke

Sixth Grade Car Wash Successful

Thank you to everyone who came and had their car washed. The kids earned over \$700 to support end-of-year activities and scholarships. The 6th grade class is having a memorable time at the many special events that mark the end of elementary school and the big change to Jr. High. Thanks again!

Hill Side Project / Federal Grant

Due to a special grant received we were able to add irrigation to a large portion of the upper hillside and add native trees. Thank you teacher Colleen Rigger who helped to secure this grant over a year ago. Colleen is thrilled to have the project begun. Student will later be able to add other natives throughout the next school year.

4th of July Parade

Please celebrate of country's birthday and show your school pride by joining Mr. Hertz in this year's parade. It all begins at 9:00am at the public library. Balloons and banners will be provided. All students and their families are encouraged to parade!

