



Mar Vista Elementary

PARENT NEWSLETTER

761-6177

www.marvista.pvusd.net



CHRISTOPHER HERTZ, PRINCIPAL
Thursday, July 20, 2009

OFFICE HOURS: 7:30-4:00
VOLUME 45 Number 1

Calendar

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 MVP'S Meeting @ library / 5:30 – 7:00
Wed	8/12	1st Day of School! First Day of school for 09 – 10 school year / 2:05 dismissal Welcome Parent Coffee / 8:05 – 8:45
Fri	8/14	Welcome Back Family BBQ @ 5:00pm (pot luck & greetings)
Tues	8/18	Dismissal / 12:15 (PM students report to school @ 7:50, room 3) School Site Council Meeting / 4:30 – 5:30pm ELAC Meeting / 5:30 – 6:00pm
Thurs	8/20	Back to School Night / 6:10 – 8:00 Primary (K-3) 6:10 – 6:50 MVP'S Fair / Principal's Message 6:50 - 7:20 Intermediate (4 th – 6 th) / 7:20 – 8:00
Wed	8/26	Room Rep Annual Orientation & Exchange @ MUR / 8:15 – 9:15
Mon	9/7	Labor Day Holiday
Tues	9/8	Picture Day
Mon	9/12 – Fri 9/16	Parent Conference Week / 12:15 dismissal
Fri	11/6	End 1 st trimester
Tues	11/17 – Fri 11/20	Sixth Grade Outdoor School (Bussing Provided) / \$192 per student
Mon	11/23 – Fri 11/27	Thanksgiving Vacation



Principal's Message

In August we will be welcoming your children back to school! We look forward to helping our students to feel and be successful. We want to educate our students with engaging activities and at a level that is challenging and appropriate for each child. Please come to the MVP'S Welcome Coffee the first day of school, the MVP'S Welcome Back BBQ & Potluck on Friday August 14th, and definitely to "Back-to-School Night" on Thursday, August 20th. BTSN is an opportunity to learn how to work closely with your child's teacher to support your child's success in school. Until we see you in August enjoy your summer break together and take time each day with your child to practice reading, writing, and math skills. Practice is key!

Together for kids,

Chris Hertz

New School Hours / Tuesdays are Restructured Days

Kindergarten: 7:50am to 11:16am & 10:39am to 2:05pm*
(*PM Kindergarten follows AM schedule on Tuesdays)

Grades 1-6: 7:50am to 2:05pm
(On most Tuesdays grades 1 – 6 go home at 12:15pm. See the First Day Packet and Parent Newsletter for a thorough and updated schedule.)

Welcome Back Mar Vista Parents

Parent Club meetings are the first Tuesday of the Month in the School Library. Meeting times will be 6:30 to 8pm except for August 11 when the meeting will start at 5:30. Everyone is welcome and we really look forward to parent participation. The purpose of the Parent Club is to bridge the gap between what the School District supplies

and what the students need. This is done through fundraising and private donations. Our goal this year is to raise \$ 70,000.
MAR VISTA NEEDS OUR HELP!

Library Saved! (Again)

For the second year in a row the library program has been saved in the 11th hour! The Board of Education was able to fund all elementary libraries again this school year. With our library technician, Mrs. Patricia Ullman's retirement we are going to be welcoming a new library tech. Patricia plans to help with the transition and volunteer too! Students will be able to check out books within their AR range and have access to online quizzing. It is so exciting to have our library program back!

New Play Structure Here! / Thanks MVP'S

Dreams come true! The new structure was the greatest priority to parents according to our parent survey the last two years and now it is here. The MVP'S worked hard to raise the \$\$ and found a great deal on an almost-new structure. Come to the BBQ on Friday, August 14th and see the structure and enjoy being part of the ribbon cutting ceremony!

Lower Field Lawn Being Restored / Thank you Aptos Soccer / Lawn Closed

Our field is looking great thanks to the Aptos Soccer League. The lawn should be ready for use by August 12th, the first day of school. At this time the field is not available for any activities.

Outdoor Stage Update

The rotten exterior lumber on the Outdoor Stage has been dismantled. Many thanks are owed to the Lucia family (Joe, Dominic, and Sydney) and to Mr. Smithey, husband of teacher Linda Smithey for their hours of toil removing lumber. Soon other Mar Vista community volunteers will install new lumber (provided by the Maintenance Dept). A wheel chair accessible ramp will be added. Our school is getting ever better!

MVP'S Sets Budget

Highlights include much larger classroom

budgets and support for instructional supplies. They also funded a one-day a week computer tech to primarily support students' computers & the lab. They also paid for three additional student computers in the lab to accommodate larger class sizes. Our parent club spent over three hours last June making difficult budget choices and have developed an outstanding budget to support school improvement. Please your 09-10 Parent Handbook for a complete budget overview.

New Staff Welcome back Laurie Martin / Speech Therapist (after 20 years away from MV) & Welcome Jodie O'Shea, Health Assistant.

Regular Communication

Please look for this newsletter once or twice a month in the Thursday Folder. Important notes from your child's teacher and returned work will come home on Thursdays too. Please recall that all staff at MV have an email and voicemail account (new last year). See our website for emails and voicemail information. Let's stay connected!

Voluntary School Supplies

Any instructional supplies that your children bring to school are to be provided voluntarily. You are not required to donate any instructional materials to our school. A suggested donation list is posted on our website under "newsletters" and outside our office. We really need your support!

Emergency Cards

Please anticipate an emergency card coming home the first day of school, complete as thoroughly as possible, and return it immediately to school. It assures us, your child, and you that we can locate guardians, parents, daycare providers in case of an emergency. It is very important to provide us with accurate and legible phone numbers; this is how we will find you should something serious happen at school. Remember, no student can ever be released to anyone not listed on his/her emergency card. Thanks!

Accelerated Reader

Mar Vista is encouraging students to use the Accelerated Reader Program. This is a licensed software program to evaluate students' reading comprehension levels. First, your student must read a book that has a coordinating quiz. There are lists of books that we have quizzes for on our Mar Vista website. Next, your student may take a quiz from any computer with internet access. If they pass the quiz, they score points! We will be monitoring students to make sure they are reading and taking quizzes within their reading level. At the end of this summer we will be recognizing students who met their personal summer goal.

6th Grade Outdoor School

Outdoor school information will be provided at the beginning of the school year however the dates and cost are set. Due to the tremendous fundraising efforts of parents and staff the cost of \$240 per student for the week has been lowered to \$192! Outstanding! This includes bussing to and from camp. The dates are in the calendar above.

Walking Tour of Mar Vista

New students with their parents are invited to join Mr. Hertz on a guided tour of Mar Vista School on Tuesday, August 11 at 2:00pm. Meet by the Mar Vista sign in the front parking lot. See you there!

Important Dates for 2009 – 2010 School Year

August 12	First Day of School (2:05 dismissal)
Sept. 7	Labor Day – No School
Nov. 11	Veteran's Day – No School
Nov. 23 – 27	Thanksgiving Break – No School
Dec. 21 – Jan. 11	Winter Break – No School
Jan 18	MLK Jr. Day – No School
Feb. 8	Lincoln's Birthday – No School
Feb. 15	Presidents' Day – No School
April 2 - 9	Spring Break – No School
May 31	Memorial Day – No School
June 4	Last Day of School

Parking Lot Safety

A reminder to parents that for safety reasons, please refrain from using your cell phone in

the parking lot. The area along the front of the school (yellow curb) is reserved for parents who drive in to quickly drop-off or pick-up their children, so please do not leave your vehicle parked there.

Back - to - School Night: Thurs., Aug. 20

- Primary 6:10 – 6:50
- MVP'S Fair / Principal's Message 6:50 - 7:20
- Intermediate / 7:20 – 8:00

At 6:10pm the primary (K-3) teachers will begin their presentations in their classrooms. At 6:50pm, join our Mar Vista Parent and School Club in the cafeteria for coffee & treats and visit volunteer booths to mingle with parents behind the scenes here at Mar Vista and learn how to get involved! You'll be able to purchase spirit wear, yearbooks, Subaru Drawing tickets, Monte Fireworks Tickets, and more! At 7:20pm the intermediate (4-6th) teachers will start their presentations.

Please, Back-to-School nights are for parents to learn how to best maximize the school year for their child. Children should not attend if at all possible. If your child does attend, have him sit with you in the classroom and not unattended on the playground. This will allow every parent to listen carefully, take notes, and ask reflective questions. You may want to consider childcare arrangements with parents from other schools and reciprocate with them when they attend their child's Back-to-School Night. This investment of your time will pay-off in your enhanced understanding of your child's teacher's programs.

After School Enrichment Classes

Remember to access offerings through our school website. County Parks and Recreation manages all afterschool enrichment classes. Parks and Rec also run our afterschool recreation center. Checkout their website (see the afterschool link on our school website) to sign your child up. (See your child's teacher about afterschool classes to help kids who are a needing extra academic help.)