

Mar Vista Elementary School

PARENT NEWSLETTER

6860 Soquel Drive, Aptos, CA 95003 (831) 688-5211

www.marvista.pvUSD.net Radio Mar Vista: 1630 AM (in the parking lot only)

CHRISTOPHER HERTZ, PRINCIPAL
August 16, 2007

OFFICE HOURS: 7:30 – 4:00
VOLUME 43 Number 2

CALENDAR

Tues	8/21	School Site Council Meeting / 4:30 – 5:30pm ELAC Meeting / 5:30 – 6:00pm MVP'S Meeting & Community BBQ & Welcome new AP Mr. Ertl / 6:00 – 7:30pm
Wed	8/22	Board of Education Meeting @ District Office / 7:00pm
Thurs	8/23	MVP'S Volunteer and Fundraising Fair / 6:15 – 7:00pm Back to School Night / 7:00 – 7:30pm & 7:30 – 8:00pm
Mon	9/3	Labor Day Holiday
Thurs	9/11	Picture Day
Mon	10/15 – Fri 10/19	Parent Conference Week / 12:05 dismissal
Sat	10/20	Family Fix It Day #1 of 2 / 9:00am – 1:00pm
Tues	10/23	Sixth Grade Outdoor School Begins (Bussing Provided)
Fri	10/26	Sixth Grade Outdoor School Ends (Bussing Provided)
Sat	10/27	Fall Harvest Festival

Principal's Message

Welcome back to school. We are very excited about this school year and have many goals to make this the best year ever for your child. Please read the articles below and review the first-day-packet to know what is going on this school year and please feel free to contact me if I can help you or your child get off to a great start this year.

Sincerely,

First Day Packet Contents to Return

Please review, sign, and return as appropriate the following six items from the first-day packets:

- Superintendent's Annual Notice to Parents/Guardians (parent retains booklet)
- Mar Vista Student and Parent Handbook (parent retains booklet)
- Student-Use Internet Agreement
- Emergency Card
- Permission to Take Books Home Agreement
- Three Way Pledge (parent retains pink copy)

Back-to-School Night: Thurs., August 23

6:15pm – 7:00pm, MVPS Social in the cafeteria
7:00pm – 7:30pm, Intermediate Teacher Presentation
7:30pm – 8:00pm, Primary Teacher Presentation

At 6:15pm, join our Mar Vista Parent and School Club 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, Monte Fireworks Tickets, and other fundraiser items too! At 7:00pm the intermediate teachers will begin their presentation in their classrooms. At 7:30pm the primary teachers will start their presentation. 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.

Community BBQ & Welcome New AP Mr. Ertl

Our Parent Club is inviting all families to their first annual Welcome Back BBQ on Tuesday. Please come with a side dish and enjoy a BBQ meal with our MVP'S. There is short meeting at 6:00. At 6:30 we will introduce our new AP Mr. Ertl and

enjoy a BBQ meal together. Please come and build community spirit!

Changing Your Child's Classroom / "Complaint Window"

On Sept. 4 we will be closing our three-week window to request a different classroom for your child. As you know, all elementary schools in the North Zone of PVUSD ask parents to wait for three weeks before we begin making any changes. After Tuesday, Sept. 4 the Mar Vista office will no longer accept such requests for consideration, so please let the principal know now by writing him this week. On Tuesday, Sept. 4 Mr. Hertz will contact each parent and let him or her know if he will honor the request. All changes will go into effect on Wed., Sept. 5 after the parent has spoken to their child about the move and teachers have had a chance to coordinate between classes. Please, we do not encourage requests, nor will we be able to honor many requests, but we recognize that we do not always understand the "whole picture" and want to hear from you in writing to determine if a change of placement may be a sound decision.

Congratulation Summer AR Readers

The following students made their summer AR reading goals by reading and logging on to the school website to quiz :

- Brennan Parkin
- Ruth Mendoza
- Nayeli Herrera Mendoza
- Jordan Nakanishi-Rodriguez
- Gregory Wilkinson
- Kathryn Bockman

The following students demonstrated a commendable effort toward meeting their summer reading goal and deserve an "Honorable Mention":

- Morgan Miller
- Ross Carver
- Brandon Fiero
- Peyton Spencer
- Tanisha Babic
- Jakob Chavez
- Sydney Livingston
- Lorien Kahn
- Dylan Helms
- Kasie Tyler
- Hannah Meyers

- Nandi Nivens
- Riley Nichols

We are proud of all our students who practiced their on-line AR reading this summer!

STAR Reports Coming to Parents/Guardians of 3rd – 6th Graders

Soon parents/guardians will receive their child's STAR Student Report via the US Post that provides your student's 2007 test results for the California Standards Tests (CSTs). These tests are an important part of the California Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program. The purpose of the CSTs is to determine how well students are achieving California's content standards.

Students answered the multiple-choice questions on the CSTs by selecting one of four options as the correct answer. For the CST in English-language arts, students in grades four and seven also were required to write a response to a writing task. Scores on the multiple-choice questions and the writing task were combined to determine the overall score for the CST in English-language arts.

The state target is for all students to perform at the proficient or advanced level on the CSTs. If your student's performance is at the basic, below basic, or far below basic level in one or more subject areas tested, you are encouraged to schedule a meeting with your student's teacher(s) to discuss assistance the school can provide to help your student improve his or her academic progress. Along with the STAR Student Report for the CSTs, you also will find a guide designed to help you understand your student's scores.

It is important to keep in mind that information on the STAR Student Report for the CSTs is one source of information about the progress your student is making in school. Classroom work, grades, and other test results should also be reviewed for a more complete picture of your student's academic progress.