



Mar Vista Elementary

PARENT NEWSLETTER

761-6177

www.marvista.pvusd.net



CHRISTOPHER HERTZ, PRINCIPAL
Thursday, October 1st, 2009

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

Calendar

Sat	10/3	Monte Fireworks Show @ Sea Cliff Beach / 10 – 9
Thurs	10/8 – Fri 10/16	Book Fair @ Library 8 – 3pm
Mon	10/12 – Fri 10/16	Parent Conference Week / 12:15 dismissal After-school Extended Learning (AKA Homework Club) canceled all week
Tues	10/13	Mar Vista Night @ Britannia Arms Restaurant (all profits to Mar Vista!)
Fri	10/16	Drive for School Toyota Prius Fundraiser Ends
Sat	10/24	Harvest Festival (Costume Parade!)
Fri	11/6	End 1 st trimester / End 1 st AR Period
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

I am very pleased to announce that we have found our new assistant principal and she will join our school next week! Her name is Kelley Didion and she has an impressive background as a teacher and school leader. Please read her introduction in this newsletter and welcome her in the coming weeks.

Class changes and Back-to-School Night are now behind us and it feels like we are finally in high gear. BTSN attendance dropped somewhat and I can only assume it was because of all the delays. If you were not able to come to BTSN, please contact the teacher to be sure you know the expectations and how to support your child.

Congratulations! Mar Vista students not only improved their score for the 6th year in a row but they also achieved their greatest growth ever on the State Test! This is great news. The Mar Vista students, teachers, and parents should be proud! (Parents of 3rd through 6th graders received individual test scores in the mail about two weeks ago.) The State released the API reports and Mar Vista's report was especially rewarding because not only did we surge by 50 points to a rank of 855, but we are now in the Top Ten for all elementary schools in the county. Way to go!

The API (Academic Performance Rank) is the result of the Public Schools Accountability Act and is intended to measure school performance. The statewide API performance target is 800. **Mar Vista's API for 2009 is 855!** Although only 2nd – 6th grader students are tested, every grade should celebrate and take responsibility for the success of our students.

In addition to the positive opening of school and exciting test scores, numerous after-school programs are being made available to students and very important fundraisers are kicking off. It all seems so

good. Thank you to our outstanding and caring teachers and support staff for making Mar Vista so special for our kids. Thank you to the parents and guardians who came out in near record numbers at Back-to-School Night. Your support is appreciated. Today teachers will be contacting parents/guardians for a progress conference. (Please return your notice to the teacher asap.) In the meantime continue to assist your child with good study habits and maintaining a healthy life style with attention to getting enough sleep, getting to school by 7:40, daily exercise, and healthy eating.

Together for students,

Welcome New AP, Kelley Didion

Hello Mar Vista Families and Community,

I am so excited to join the outstanding team of students, teachers, families, and support staff at Mar Vista Elementary. I have heard wonderful things about your school! Your commitment to being involved in your children's education is evident from the success they have achieved. I am moving to the central coast after fifteen years working in an elementary school in Malibu, California to be closer to my family, and I am so fortunate to have the opportunity to be part of your extended school family at Mar Vista. I look forward to meeting you and hope you will say hello and introduce yourselves when you see me on campus in the next few weeks.

Sincerely,

Kelley Didion, Assistant Principal

BTSN % @ MV Through the Years

05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10
?	65%	74%	83.9%	76.4%

Book Fair Support Book Purchases

Our annual Book Fair will be held during conference week in the library, October 8th through October 16th. Interested in helping?

Watch for a sign-up sheet outside the office door, or email the chairman, Patricia Ullman (last year's library tech) at patricia.ullman@yahoo.net. Amy Anderson, our current tech., can be reached in the library during school hours if there are any questions. Thanks in advance for helping!

Internet Use Agreement Forms

Acceptable Use Forms went home in the 1st day packet inside the Superintendent's Handbook. Your child's access to computers at school depends on you returning this form. As of today students who did not turn in the form will not be able access computers in compliance with Federal Law. Your child will know if s/he is blocked and may request another access form from the office staff.

Mar Vista Students Reach Higher

As you know our State Academic Performance Index score hit an all time high! We are proud of our kids but know we must continue to focus on assessment results to see how we can help them achieve more. The best thing parents can do is to be excited about your child's growth. Go over their work and be enthusiastic. Look for reading errors, use our at-home AR program, and practice math skills on our school website. Review all homework and all returned work with your child and have fun! We are proud of our students' achievement!

Drive for Schools Fundraiser / 100% Profit

All students have received their allotment of drawing tickets to sell. We want to earn \$10,000 for school improvements and basics. If you know you will not be able to help with this fundraiser, please return all tickets by Oct. 9th so that another family can help sell them. Please support this fundraiser, you could win a new TOYOTA Prius. Many thanks are owed to TOYOTA of Santa Cruz and the Beach Boardwalk for providing the car and 100 other prizes to support local schools. See packet for details.

Mar Vista Britannia Arms Day & Night

Please join other Mar Vista families and staff at Britannia Arms in Aptos on Tuesday October 13th for a special fundraiser! Owner and Mar Vista parent, Andy Hewett is donating 100% of the profits from all sales that day to the MVP'S. We need volunteers for bussing, hosting and childcare. See Mr. Hertz to get involved. Students will be able to enjoy foosball, karaoke, and pool tables. Spirit wear will be for sale. Meet and greet other families, friends, teachers, & parent leaders. See britanniaarmsapotos.com for a complete menu & directions. No reservations needed. Please relax responsibly and many thanks are owed to Andy Hewett for his generosity. See you there!

6th Grade End-of-Year Activities / Costs

In addition to outdoor school (\$192 each), our 6th graders will also be enjoying a fun day at the Boardwalk and a Completion Ceremony in June. The Parent Club (MVP'S) has allotted \$500 for the Ceremony, however a 6th grade parent will need to organize a light reception afterward. If interested, please contact Mr. Hertz. The Boardwalk trip will have costs too. 6th grade parents interested in helping students raise money to pay for the trip should also contact Mr. Hertz. Car Washes are good idea. Let's make great memories for our 6th graders!

Halloween Costumes

As a reminder, there will be no costumes at school again this year. The Harvest Festival offers children a great opportunity to show off their costume. Don't forget about the costume parade @ 1:00pm!

Lost & Found Donated to Charity

Once again we are about to donate at least 80 sweaters/jackets and 20 lunch bags to local charity. Please take time now to write your child's name on the labels of sweatshirts/jackets. A volunteer will check the labels before delivering any items to charity. The Lost & Found will be emptied on Friday Oct 16th.

Don't Use Bunny's Shoes Parking Lot / Safety!

The owners and tenants in the Bunny's Shoes area are reporting many unsafe incidents so far this school year with students and autos. Please respect their signage and don't use their parking lot for ingress/egress to school. It is very unsafe and students are being put in harm's way.