



# Mar Vista Elementary

## PARENT NEWSLETTER

761-6177

www.marvista.pvusd.net



CHRISTOPHER HERTZ, PRINCIPAL  
Thursday, November 5, 2009

OFFICE HOURS: 7:30-4:00  
VOLUME 45 Number 5

### Calendar

Thurs	11/5	PVUSD Community Budget Input Meeting @ Aptos High / 6:00pm
Fri	11/6	End 1 <sup>st</sup> trimester / End 1 <sup>st</sup> AR Period
Wed	11/11	Veterans Day / No School
Fri	11/13	Report Cards sent home with students
Sat	11/14	Student Council Skate Night @ Roller Palladium / 7:30 – 9pm (\$6.50 inc. skates)
Tues	11/17	Site Council / 4:30 – 5:30, ELAC / 6 – 7pm
Tues	11/17 – Fri 11/20	Sixth Grade Outdoor School / \$192 per student
Fri	11/20	H1N1 Vaccination Clinic Day (Consent form required.)
Mon	11/23 – Fri 11/27	Thanksgiving Vacation
Tues	12/1	MVP'S / 6:30 – 8:00pm
Fri	12/4	Bingo Night Fundraiser for the MVP'S @ cafeteria / 6:30pm

### Principal's Pen



We have completed our formal parent conferences with an outstanding percentage of parents able to attend. Thank you for your participation. Please continue to speak with your child about her accomplishments and continued efforts to achieve goals. Please stay in touch with your child's teacher(s) through the weekly folders, and look for your child's first report card on Friday, Nov. 13. Back to School Night, parent conferences, and weekly folders all serve to inform you about your child's educational program and help you support learning at home. If your child appears to need more challenge or to be a little overwhelmed, please communicate your concerns to our teachers so that they may work with you to make subtle accommodations to help your child to be engaged and feel successful. With families and teachers working as partners each child can have an outstanding learning experience.

Community involvement is way up! Back to School Night kicked it off with a very high number of participating parents. Family Fix It Day, The Harvest Festival, and Twin Lakes Share Fest day brought the larger community in to support our school. The fundraisers so far this year have gone well despite the faltering economy. Parents have been volunteering to lead events, fix things, build things, and raise funds.

This is an amazing community! Thank you for all your wonderful support.

In closing, I am concerned about stopping the spread of the H1N1 Flu virus. ***Please look for a letter from me about this topic in today's Thursday Folder,*** and note that in cooperation with Center of Disease Control we hope to set up a vaccination clinic here at Mar Vista on Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>. Vaccinations at school require positive, written parental permission. Please see my letter to this regard.

Together for students,

Christopher Hertz, Principal

### Understanding the Impact of State Budget Cuts on our Schools

Join Superintendent Dorma Baker and her staff as they present critical information about the ***impact*** of state budget decisions on our local schools. A community meeting will be held at ***Aptos High School – Cafeteria – 100 Mariner Way, Aptos – on Thursday, November 5 at 6 pm.***

## Policy and Procedures Reminders

### \* **Disaster Preparedness**

As we move into winter, this is a great time to review the emergency response information that is part of the parent handbook. We as a staff are well prepared for any sort of emergency that might happen. If there is inclement weather (severe raining, thunderstorms, power outages,...), you will be updated over the radio on KPIG FM107.5 and KSCO AM 1080 about possible school closures. If you have any questions about safety that are not in the parent handbook, please call Mr. Hertz. We can never be too safe!!

### \* **Medications at School**

On several occasions lately students have been found with medication that belongs to them, but that has not been brought to the office with proper paperwork. Even over-the-counter & "natural" remedies need to be accompanied by paperwork signed by the parent and the child's doctor. Please consult page 14 in the Parent Handbook for more information or call our Health Clerk, Jodi O'Shea in the office for assistance.

### \* **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.

### \* **When it Rains..**

We hate to see your children waiting in the rain after school, however, our pick-up and parking situation doesn't give us many options. The best solution we can think of is for you to send ponchos or umbrellas with your child on rainy days.

### \* **Lost and Found**

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, November 6.



## Accelerated Reader Goals Check In

We are now 99% through the trimester. This means that every 2<sup>nd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade student should have achieved 99% of his AR personal point goal by now. (some 1<sup>st</sup> graders have goals already too) If you don't know your child's goal number, reading level, or reading history, visit our school website and get access to this secure and individualized information now!

Follow these steps:

- \* Click on **Home Connect**
- \* Use your child's login password and ID #.
- \* Sign up to get emailed each time your child takes a quiz!

Check it out and help your child to succeed in reading! Each Mar Vista student needs to read everyday within their AR reading range. (Consult the Mar Vista Homework Plan in the Parent Handbook to know how many minutes your child should read after school each day.) AR will help your child to feel and be successful in reading.

## Six Computer Programs Mar Vista Students Can Use in 2009 – 2010



The following applications are available to Mar Vista students and teachers in our computer lab. Classes visit the lab at regularly scheduled times daily. Thank you to our MVP'S for supporting technology resources for teachers and students.

- Apple Works Word Processor
- Ultra Key Typing Program
- Accelerated Reader
- Success Maker - individualized math instruction
- Math Facts in a Flash - math speed program
- Lexia Individualized Reading Support
- Web Browsers (Fire Fox, ect.)

**Library News from Amy Anderson, Mar Vista Library Technician**

The Book Fair was a huge success! Thanks to the support of the Mar Vista community, we had higher sales than last year, with a total gross of \$7,842.95! The library keeps a percentage of this in cash, which will be used to purchase new books. In addition, we also received nearly \$500 in books directly from the Fair as a bonus for surpassing last year's sales. This selection of books includes everything from beginner fiction, beautiful picture books, higher-level novels, and non-fiction. Thank you to parents *Lucy Wilkinson, Sherrie McFarlane, Colleen Laurent, Donya King, Suzanne Randolph, Stacy Nail, Carina Reid and Susan McAnerny* for volunteering at the Book Fair. And a big thank you to our *former librarian Patricia Ullman* for all her time as well. I apologize if I've left anyone's name out; the volunteer support was huge and much appreciated!

The library has also added more than one hundred new books to the collection so far this year with funds generated from last year's Book Fair. Katie Kazoo, Just Grace, and the Vladimir Toad series are just a few of the new titles already being read by Mar Vista students. New books are being checked out as soon as they are put on the shelves. The enthusiasm for reading at Mar Vista is great, and new titles really keep the kids excited about literature. Please feel free to stop by the library to see what's new, or just to say hi.



**Veterans' Day Observed, November 11<sup>th</sup>**

As Americans, we have set aside November 11<sup>th</sup> to remember and honor those who have served in United States Armed Forces. Today, there are nearly 25 million military veterans living among us. Through their service, they have kept America strong, and they have protected our way of life for more than two centuries. Veterans' Day is a day to honor the brave men and women of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard.



**In Appreciation**

THANK YOU!!!! - to the following Mar Vista supporters who enrich our community life and help raise much-needed funds for our school.

- Barbara Di Puma – Cookie Dough and Wrapping Paper sales
- Andy Hewitt – Britannia Arms Night - \$4000
- Joe & Susie Kusler – The Harvest Festival
- Janet Kitelson – Drive for Schools - \$6178
- Michael Kirkpatrick – Share Fest Day!

***And a special thank you from Harvest Festival Organizers Joe and Susie Kusler...***

...to those of you who donated your time for a class booth.....

...to the Room Parents who lined up the parent volunteers.....

...to those who helped set up and clean up.....

...to those who donated goodies for the Bake Sale.....

...to those who helped make and put up posters.....

...to those who helped out behind the scenes.....

... BUT MOST OF ALL FOR THOSE THAT BROUGHT THEIR KIDS OUT TO ENJOY THE HARVEST FESTIVAL....THANK YOU!!! WE HOPE YOU HAD A GOOD TIME !

## MV Student Council News

### ***Spirit Days***

Hundreds of spirit pencils were awarded to all students and staff participating in last week's sports day! What fun it was to see all those athletes! Student Council Treasurer, Jill, commented, "It was a great day, because all of the kids had sportswear and could participate." The Student Council also wants to remind everyone that every Friday is School Colors Day. Wear blue and white or anything with a sea lion on it!

### ***Holiday Food Drive***

Under the leadership of our MV Student Council, Mar Vista will again participate in the Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Cruz County Holiday Food Drive from Monday, November 2 – Friday, November 20. Donation barrels are now in our school cafeteria. Please see the list of canned and boxed foods below for ideas. Food collected for Second Harvest goes to help feed 60,000 people per month during the winter months and throughout the year. You can visit the Second Harvest website at [www.foodbank.org](http://www.foodbank.org) to learn more about their generous efforts to help our county. Thanks for helping our student council make a difference in the lives of others in our school and surrounding community.

**Most Needed Food Items:** *peanut butter, beans, canned fruits and vegetables, tuna, canned meat, stew, soup, pasta, cereal, meals in a can, fruit juice, and canned foods with pop-top lids*



### ***Skate Night***

The next big event is Skate Night on **November 14th!** Come have fun as a family. The event costs \$6.50 per skater, the Student Council receives \$1.50 for each paying skater! Look at the calendar above. Show your spirit and have fun skating with your child and friends! You can bring your own skates or rollerblades or you can get rentals as part of your admission fee.



### ***Recycling Task Force***

Under the leadership of our Student Council President, Jacob Z., our recycling task force continues to manage and coordinate our recycling efforts. They are responsible for education, collection, and sorting of C.R.V. items. Please bring any CRV items: aluminum cans, plastic bottles, (but, please no glass beverage containers). The task force appreciates your support. Recycling materials can be dropped off in the big green bins that are located between the cafeteria and our new art storage shed.

## **News from Pajaro Valley Unified School District**

### ***Intra-District Transfers***

Our school district will implement its new Open Enrollment Intra-District Transfer process for the 2010-2011 school year **November 8 through December 18**

Open enrollment means that families living in PVUSD can apply for a transfer to any other school in the district for their children in all grade levels K-12. Parents can pick up an **application at their home school** (school of residence) and return the completed application back to the home school on or before the deadline, December 18.

### ***A Message from the Transportation Department***

At long last we have completed the process of entering and printing bus passes for all that have been sent in. We will begin checking for bus passes now but in order to ride the bus they will have to have a bus pass starting **Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup>**. As in years past, we will always take the students to school. However, if the student does not have a bus pass, they will not be given a ride home.

Remember that bus pass questions can best be answered by Christopher Bates, at 728-6324 X 204 or [christopher\\_bates@pvusd.net](mailto:christopher_bates@pvusd.net).