

Mar Vista Elementary School

PARENT NEWSLETTER

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CHRISTOPHER HERTZ, PRINCIPAL

OFFICE HOURS: 7:30 – 4:00

November 29, 2007

VOLUME 43 Number 8

November Character Theme: Thankfulness and Caring

CALENDAR

Mon	11/26	Cookie Dough Fundraiser ends
Thurs	11/29	Honor Roll Assembly / 10:15
Fri	12/7	Harvest Food Drive Ends
		MVP'S BBQ and Potluck / 5:30 – 7:30pm
Tues	12/11	Site Council / 4:30 – 5:30
		English Language Advisory Committee / 5:30 – 6:00
		MVP'S / 6:30 – 8:00
Thurs	12/13	Last Day of Homework Club
Wed	12/19	Cookie Dough Fundraiser Items delivered to students / families
Mon	12/24	Winter Break begins (AR Winter Break Program begins)
Tues	1/15	School Resumes
Fri	3/7	End 2 nd Trimester
Fri	3/15	Report Cards sent home with students

Message From the Principal

Home-school communication is critically important to our children's success in school. If you have not already done so, I am asking parents/guardians to review their child's report card that came home the Friday before Thanksgiving. Discuss the report card with your child. Make sure you identify something specific that you can praise your child for, and at least one specific area for improvement. If your child is achieving below standards in reading, writing, and/or mathematics; discuss with the teacher any specific plan of action that sets responsibilities for you, your child, and the teacher. Set high but realistic goals. Over the coming weeks and through the Holidays, keep charting your child's progress in school and reviewing homework. Continue communicating with the teacher about specific problems or changes in situations that arise throughout the year. As always if you have any questions, please keep in contact with your child's teachers. The level of our kids' success depends upon the level of our communication.

Sincerely,
Chris Hertz

MVP'S BBQ and Potluck Dinner / Dec. 7

Our parent club has decided to hold a community BBQ. Come to the cafeteria at 5:30 with a dish to share and enjoy delicious marinated skirt steak from the MVP'S! In addition to great food and company there will be a 15-minute budget overview and opportunity to give input into next year's spending plan! Everything should wrap up by 7:30pm!

Raising Funds / Parent Lead Fundraisers

The school staff greatly appreciates the efforts of parents to raise funds for school projects. It is important that all fundraising be done properly to make sure details are communicated and to avoid common problems. Anytime a parent would like to raise or collect money in excess of \$50.00 for any purpose, the fundraiser idea must receive prior approval from the principal. The principal always reviews the idea with the office manager and parent club president prior to approval. Fundraiser request forms are always available in the office and thank you for your support!

Homework Club Ending Thurs., Dec. 13

Today students in the after-school Homework Club will bring home letters to parents/guardians that the program is ending. We hope the program made a difference for kids. There is some discussion among teachers of starting the program back up at a later date.

Honor Roll / Student Achievement

Students in grades 4 through 6 have the opportunity to make the “Honor Roll” should they meet the following criteria. Best wishes to all students as they strive for excellence in the second trimester!

- Students must have all A's and B's
- No “N's” anywhere on the report card
- PE counts, but Art does not

H&R Block School Rebate Program

Local H& R Block Tax Preparation Offices are offering Mar Vista Families a 10% discount on service fees and \$25 to our MVP'S for each first time client. Here is yet another way to bring funds to your child's school! Income Tax filing needs to be done by April 15th and rebate checks will be mailed to our MVP'S on April 30th. Brochures with local H&R Block phone numbers are available in our office! Thanks for considering this program.

Help Wanted—Lunch Supervisors

Our kids need to be looked over at lunchtime, but we don't have enough parents at this time helping with this fundamental need. We are still hiring parents to work at lunch from 11:20 – 12:50. We pay \$7.50 an hour. Even if you can only work one day each week, we'd still love to have you. We're also looking for a “Games Coordinator.” This adult will organize games such as kickball or basketball during lunch recess. Even if you're not interested in the paid positions, please consider volunteering your time once each week to help supervise children during lunch. If you are available, please contact Mr. Hertz in the office.

Your ILL Child Needs You

This is the beginning of the cold and flu season. When children get ill at school, they must go home. Please be sure that we have current phone numbers for both parents and for people who can pick up your child if you cannot be reached. Please inform your employer that when our office calls about your ill child, you expect to be reached immediately. Your ill child needs to be picked up promptly.

Bully Prevention Update

This year teachers and administrators have identified our bully prevention rules and created consequence guidelines. Each month at about the same time as our character assemblies we have held class meetings in each classroom to talk about bullying behavior and bystander behaviors. We want our kids to feel and be safe and know what to do when incidents occur. Parents are an important component to our students' successes. Speak with your child about our rules and about their experiences at school. If you believe your child is being bullied, please call the principal. Together we can make elementary school safe and respectable place for your child. More ideas to help your child: help your child develop and be aware of their talents and positive attributes, develop friends from school, and get to know new kids in their classes.

Send New Board Games to Patricia in the Library

Upper grade children enjoy being able to go to our library at lunchtime to play board games. However, our lunchtime games are showing wear and tear. Please consider donating a new (unwrapped) board game to our library. Thank you to our parent club for providing \$100 to this project! Thank you to our librarian Mrs. Ullman for donating her time to supervise the boys and girls.

Cookie Dough/Catalog Fundraiser Update

The fundraiser ended 11/26 and we expect the delivery will be Wed. Dec. 19th. This fundraiser is to specifically support the overhaul of our computer lab. We hope to add up-to-date computers by next school year and create a more aesthetic and functional lab either this school year or this coming summer break. Thanks for your support! Families can always make cash donations and earmark the donation to specifically support this project. Please alert the principal if you wish to do this and your donation will be carefully managed. Questions about the Cookie Dough Fundraiser should be made to our office manager.

Character Assembly – Students Recognized

At our October Character Recognition Assemblies students were recognized for demonstrating: “Pride and Uniqueness”.
Congratulations to the following students and their families:

Ms. Britton –

Alexia Alariz
Sunshyne Brechler
Michael D’Amico-Garza
Sydney Lucia

Ms. Clark-

Chase Cardoza
Kassandra Molina
Antonio Sanchez
Kelsey Valenzuela

Ms. McCarthy-

Erin deCastongrene
Hannah Mendoza-Mendoza
Jade Stoffel
Serenity Thomas

Ms. Donlin –

Star Granados
Daniel Hatcher
Matthew Lew
Moiria Zink

Mr. Pushnik –

Hannah Hocom
Mikaela Kirkpatrick
Vance Peeples
Emma Signorelli

Ms. Smithy/Tabasz –

Erik Lopez
Ashley Roman

Ms. DellaMaggiore-

Catherine Schaffer
Rashaun Wooden

Ms. Natcher

Annetoni Claire Asermo
Sierra Darton

Ms. Schwartz-

Asa Jarrett
Paul Nolan
Kasie Tyler

Ms. Miske-

Justin Lew
Jordan Nakanishi-Rodriguez
Hannah Vaughn

Ms. Rigger-

Dylan Happee
John Happee
Nicholas Happee

Ms. Silvergate –
Alex Pacheco
Colby Smith

Ms. Culver –
Tanisha Babic
Dakota Darton
Nathan Gurnee
Isabella Krause

Ms. Schacher –
Darcy Arzate
Jari Baker-Wills
Kiara Fishman
Morgan Irving

Ms. Nunes –
Brandon Martin
Mebin Skaria
Evan Weiss

Ms. Werling-
Michael Clancy
Alyssa Fox
Demond Maack
Ameia Weaver

Ms. Ashworth –
Ryan Branon
Ryan Dailey
Mariah Hall
Carl Worden

Ms. Fernald –
Vivienne Frear
Samantha Monjaraz
Zachary Stagnaro
Brenda Vargas

Ms. Keasey –
Tyler Gray
Sebastion Ochoa

Character Assembly – Students Recognized

At our November Character Recognition Assemblies students were recognized for demonstrating: “Thankfulness & Caring”. Congratulations to the following students and their families:

Ms. Britton –
Kaeden Fletcher-Vogel
Noak Harpe
Hailey McDonald
Samantha Ochoa

Ms. Clark-
Daniel Hettick
Truman Natividad
Abigail Osborn
Camille Thienngern-Bauerlien

Ms. McCarthy-
Vanessa Chanda-Torres
Madisyn Dannhauser
Jesslyn Zink

Ms. Donlin –
Ryan Foy
Luke Matthies
Madelyn Moseley
Raven Oxidean

Mr. Pushnik –
Grace Bockman
Garrett Cline
Laura Melton
Matthew Randolph

Ms. Smithy/Tabasz –
Emely Choto
Diego Rameriz
Moorea Smart
Isaiah Uribe

Ms. DellaMaggiore-
Briana Garcia
Malia Ortiz

Ms. Natcher
Sydney Bowdoin
Odalys Dominguez

Ms. Schwartz-
Jake Glaser
Lilian Harrison
Isabella Perez
Katherine Tapiz

Ms. Miske-
Danielle Austin
Jordan Nakanishi-Rodriguez

Ms. Rigger-
Kathryn Bockman
Nathan Borges
Emma Padalino
Nicole Plaskett

Ms. Silvergate –
Cheyanne Acevedo
Nelson Borges

Ms. Culver –
Daniel Govea
Jennifer Greene
Lauren McLernon
Frances Trengrove

Ms. Schacher –
Kyara Magua
William Schaffer
Bryley Wetzel
Gregory Wilkinson

Ms. Nunes –
Emma Artavia
Brandon Fierro
James Headrick
Jacob Signorelli

Ms. Werling-
Ryan Fish
Brenna Hatcher
Analeece Julien
Rocky Long

Ms. Ashworth –
Makaela Forcier
Lisa Ikeda
Jade Rogers

Ms. Fernald –
Tyler Ayers-Nusbaum
Sarah Colonna
Heather Grieves
Michael Vargas

Ms. Keasey –
D'antony Breisacher
Tyler Gray
Malachi Rodriguez
Lance Thornbrugh

Monday Morning Parent Coffee Socials

Each Monday from 7:30 to 8:10am Curbside Coffee will be vending deluxe coffees, frapicinos, and fruit smoothies to parents and staff. We hope you will come early or stick around after kids go to class to enjoy a beverage and mingle with other parents. This is a great opportunity to build community, network as parents, save time, and raise funds for our parent club. (15% of every sale goes directly to our parent club.) You don't have to make your coffee at home or stop at a store, because hot fresh beverages and good company are waiting for you each morning at the Mar Vista patio. (Students may purchase hot chocolates and pastries with their parent's permission.) We hope parents enjoy this new social venue and that our parent club earns a few more dollars for our kids.

eScript Safeway Cards Need to be Renewed

Did you know that at least 1% of every purchase you make or anyone makes at Safeway can come straight back to Mar Vista? Just register your Safeway Card with eScript online via our school web site. It's safe, quick and simple. Did you know that you must renew your membership each October? Again, just click the "renew" link at the eScript website. Another local school in our area raised \$11,000 through eScript last year. We can too! So far this year we have raised about \$750. Let's get going!

Nob Hill Script Cards Available

Nob Hill has its own Script Card that does not need to be renewed annually. Ask about the program at our local Nob Hill!

Parental Support for Students

Often, parents ask us how they can support their child's learning. The following tips may help answer this question:

- Send your child to school on time and everyday with breakfast and a good night's sleep.
- Praise your child's school effort.
- Ask your child to share what he/she has learned in school.
- Help your child through frustrations—they are a normal part of life.
- Provide a time, place, supplies, and support for homework.

- Call the teacher if you have questions about your child's progress.
- If your child is ill, allow him/her to stay home to get well before attending school.

ALL VOLUNTEERS and VISITORS ARE REQUIRED TO SIGN-IN AT THE OFFICE AND WEAR A NAME TAG. THIS IS FOR YOUR SAFETY AND THE SECURITY OF OUR STUDENTS. SIGN-IN IS PART OF OUR SCHOOL AND DISTRICT SAFETY PLAN!