Pleasant Valley Elementary

PV Views
November 7, 2008

"Where Eagles Fly"

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Quick Links

PV Eagles Website
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Lunch Menu

Nov 10th - 14th
Monday
No School
Tuesday
No School
Wednesday
English Muffin Sandwich or Chicken Taco Salad
Thursday
Egg Roll or Mixed Green Salad
Friday
Bean Burrito or Tuna Garden Salad

PV Event Calendar

Nov. 7-16th Sloat Garden Fundraiser (see below)

Nov. 10th No School - Teacher Inservice Day

Nov. 11th - No School - Veteran's Day

Nov. 13th - Matt & Jeff's School Fuel Fundraiser

Nov. 14th - Giving Day Celebration at 8:45-9:15

Nov. 17th - PTA Meeting at 3:30 in the school library

Nov. 17th - 21st - Scholastic Book Fair

Nov. 17th - 21st - Early dismissal at 12:30 for parent teacher conferences. (Kindergarten will be on their regular schedule)

Nov. 20 - 21st - Grandma's House

Nov. 24th - 28th - No School - Thanksgiving break

Click here to view the full school calendar.

Sloat Garden Fundraiser

Sloat Garden Center is offering another fundraiser for PV gardeners. This is a perfect way to begin your holiday shopping! They will donate back 10% of purchases to the school in the form of a gift card. Go to www.pveagles.org to print out the coupon which you must bring with you. Fundraiser starts this weekend.

Thank You!!

Thank you to Sharon at Marin Color Service on Grant Avenue for kindly donating wallpaper samples for the art docent project in Mrs. Marshall's class this month!

From the Desk of Terry Gavin Brown

A Very Special Thank You: The staff and teachers of this school would like to thank Mr. Tim Davidson, our PTA President. This past week Tim painted the faculty room. What a difference a coat of paint has made to brighten the room and our teachers' morale. We can't thank Tim enough. This act of kindness, so generous, speaks volumes of Tim's willingness to help. Thank you Mr. Davidson!! You are a volunteer role model for us all.

Volunteer Responsibilities: Speaking of volunteers, we are lucky to have so many parents willing to donate time to help at school. In the interest of safety, all volunteers must sign in. It is important that we always know who is on campus. Confidentiality continues to be an important component of volunteering in the classroom. Volunteers are mindful of students' rights regarding privacy. Volunteers might hear or see privileged information and so they use discretion. Student misbehavoir is information that remains in the classroom and is not discussed with other parents. Work filed in student folders is not examined unless a teacher specifically asks that it be reviewed or corrected. Classroom teachers' space and time is respected so teachers are comfortable and don't feel watched or judged. Volunteers who have a concern speak directly to the teacher or principal to ensure privacy. For schools to provide the best environment for learning, everyone's privacy must be respected. The role of school volunteer is so important and we know it is a job our parent volunteers take seriously. Know that you are appreciated. Your volunteering does so much and we are grateful for your help.

More Volunteer news: I have heard from many grandparents who have signed up to volunteer for "To Grandmother's House We Go." We are putting together a schedule for our visiting grandmas and grandpas and will be sending the schedule out in just a few days. Thank you for your help with this program. The students are looking forward to their visit.

Building the spirit of volunteerism: This year our November Food Drive will look a little different but our new program will allow students to participate more in the food collection and as a result we believe they will connect more personally with the idea of helping their community. We will be holding our "Giving Day" ceremony on November 14th on the 4th & 5th grade blacktop. We will share songs and poems and welcome a guest from the community who will talk to the students about where our food donations will go. Students will bring food or gift cards to place directly into food bins so they are involved in the actual donation process. We will encourage students to wear red to represent a giving heart. We encourage parents to join us for this special morning ceremony on November 14th at 8:45 a.m. See Friday folder for more details.

Have a safe, happy, and long 4-day weekend!

From the Desk of Jan La Torre-Derby

To View this month's newsletter from our Superintendent, Dr. LaTorre-Derby, please click on the following link:
http://do.nusd.org/super/supenews.html

Giving Day is Next Friday

Pleasant Valley is helping Novato Human Needs kick off their annual Holiday Share food drive this season with a "Giving Day" celebration on Friday, November 14th from 8:45-9:15 a.m.

The event will include the entire student body, and we're asking each student to contribute in a meaningful way by bringing a designated food item that they will present during the ceremony.

Each classroom will be designing a banner for the ceremony. Additionally, students will participate by singing, reciting poetry, and presenting their food donation. A representative from Novato Human Needs will also attend the ceremony to talk to the children about how their contributions make a difference in the lives of those in need.

All parents are invited to attend the ceremony which will be held on the 4th/5th grade blacktop behind the school. Please remember to have your child bring the designated food item for their class next Friday:

Kindergarten - Cans of Yams or Fruit
1st Grade - Cans of green beans or corn
2nd Grade - Boxes of stuffing mix
3rd Grade -2 lb. bags of rice
4th Grade - Cans of gravy or broth
5th Grade - Boxes of Mashed Potatoes
All - $10 Grocery Gift Cards are greatly appreciated

Note: The traditional Holiday Share bags will be included in this week's Friday folders. Use this bag for all other food donations. If you cannot attend the Giving Day Ceremony, you can deposit additional food donations in the blue bins that will be set up along the loading zone in front of the school on Nov. 14th. However, be sure to have your child bring their designated item to the Giving Day Ceremony so they may experience the joy of helping those in need.

"E-Views" is Here

Last week, we piloted our first email version of PV Views to the 2nd grade class. We received a lot of positive feedback about the new format, and the distribution went off without a hitch.

This week, 90% of the school will receive their Views via email. If you're still receiving a paper copy, be sure to submit your email address to Julie in the office. Electronic delivery not only helps save time and money, it also enables us to distribute more timely and effective communications to keep you informed about PV events.

We'd appreciate your feedback about the new Views. Click here, to let us know what you like, what we can do better, and any other features or links you'd like added in future editions.

Book Fair Safari Update

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!! We need more help at the book fair. Volunteering at the book fair is fun and easy! We need help with all shifts each day (8-10, 10-12 and 12-2) and could also use help with tear down on the last day of the book fair beginning at 1:00. Please contact Tracy Kreling if you can volunteer at 898-4680.

Safari Kick-Off Party - Mon., Nov. 17: Come to our exciting kick-off party on Monday, November 17 at 12:30! There will be a contest, refreshments and lots of fun things to see at our Safari.

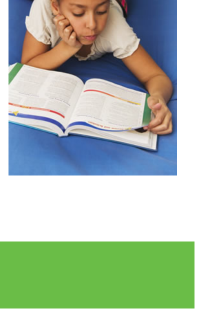
Wacky Khaki Day - Wed., Nov. 19: Wednesday, November 19 is Wacky Khaki Day! Have your child wear a safari-inspired outfit and they will be entered in our contest to win a book fair gift certificate.

Family Shopping Night - Wed., Nov. 19: Come shop with your family Wednesday, November 19 from 6:30-8pm. We will have music and refreshments while offering you time to shop with your whole family. Bring the neighbors, grandparents...all are welcome. Get a head start on your holiday shopping while benefiting PV at the same time!

Classroom Walk-Through: Your child will have a chance to walk through the book fair during school hours with his/her class. Look for a notice coming home soon outlining the schedule.

Book Drive Donations: Give back to our local community this year by purchasing and donating a book for our Book Drive. Books donated will be given to the Novato Human Needs organization for their upcoming Holiday Share Program. Look for our Book Drive Display at the book fair.

For all other questions, please contact our head Safari Guide, Leslie Resnick, at 898-3623.



Monday, Nov. 17 Open 8am - 2pm
Safari Kick-Off Party: 12:30pm
Tuesday, Nov. 18 Open 8am - 2pm
Wednesday, Nov. 19 Open 8am - 2pm
Wacky Khaki Spirit Day
Family Shopping Night: 6:30pm - 8pm
Thursday, Nov. 20 Open 8am - 2pm
Friday, Nov. 21 Open 8am - 1pm

To access the website for more information go to: http://www.scholastic.com/bookfairs/

E-Scrip News

ATTENTION ON-LINE SHOPPERS! If you shop or make travel plans online, please visit the following websites to make your purchases. PV gets credit for all orders or reservations you place through this website. Over 450 merchants are listed (Amazon, Gap, Red Envelope, Pottery Barn, Target, Oriental Trading Company, Hotwire, Expedia, 1-800-Flowers, just to name a few) Be sure to designate PV as your charity.
www.schoolpop.com - Pleasant Valley #0073832
www.escrip.com - Pleasant Valley ID #136915186

ATTENTION LUCKY SUPERMARKET SHOPPERS! Don't forget to save every register receipt when you shop at Lucky and bring them in to school. We will submit them to the Apples for the Students program to receive free teaching tools. This program continues until January 24, 2009, so save your receipts!

CONGRATULATIONS!!! Thank you to all the families that participated in the eScrip campaign/competition. There was a 3 way tie for the classroom pizza party winners! Congratulations to classes of Mrs. Heslip, Miss Yates, and Miss Strong. They turned in the most forms and will all receive a classroom pizza party!
Kudos to Lauren Houlahan, Matthew Baetkey, Connor Cevolani, Howie Fry, Nick Spaan, Tyler Nettelman and J.J. Breheney for signing up friends and relatives!

eSCRIP UPDATE: Pleasant Valley now has 301 eScrip supporters! That includes 48 new members this school year! Thank you for supporting this valuable program! For the month of September, we will receive a deposit for $540.22. This includes $278.29 which we earned through the Safeway 10% Back to Schools Program. Way to go! It's not to late to sign up. Visit www.escrip.com to register. Pleasant Valley group ID # 136915186.

Thank you to Heather Sargent and Angie Houlahan for helping with Safeway Club Card renewals and with the pizza parties!!!
Kathy Towey, eScrip coordinator

Mr. Mahoney's Thanksgiving Break Sports Camp

November 24-26
10:15 - 3:00
Novato Teen Center
For info contact Novato Parks & Rec
415-899-8200
Class Code: 12587

Reflections Program

It's that time of year again when the ARTISTS among us are able to express their free will in this year's REFLECTIONS. Reflections, for those of you new to the school, is the Nationwide program in the school system to celebrate the arts. There are 6 categories in which your budding artist can express themselves, pick one or pick all. Each entry is judged on its own merit and a person may enter more than once.

This year's theme is: Wow!

Categories are: Dance Choreography, Film/Video Production, Literature, Music, Photography, and Visual Arts

Rule packet/Entry: Friday folders November 14

Entries Due: Wednesday, December 3rd at drop off, 8:15 a. m. - 9:30 a.m. (must include signed entry form)

Entries Displayed: Week of December 8th in Multi-purpose room

Entries are judged by independent judges, not affiliated with Pleasant Valley School for creative merit and 5 winners in each category and age category will go on to the District Level. ALL participants receive participation ribbons!!!!

Last year we had such a great turn out with beautiful art from all grades. Everyone got into the spirit. Please remember that the student must create their own work of art or composition without assistance from anyone. This is based on their creative minds!!!

Art Docents, teachers or interested parents, please contact Shelly Bolton at Resolution4U@comcast.net to volunteer to help! You are welcome to call me, but e-mail is best so I can keep track of people in one location on my computer.

I need assistance in the following:

1. Obtaining judges for December 8th for each category
2. Announcements in the classrooms (art docents or parents) in the next 3 weeks on your schedule - 1 per class is preferred. 3. Check in of work on December 3rd for 2-3 hours (check to make sure properly catalogued and entry is signed by parent)
4. Posting of work in Multi-Purpose room December 5th. From 1 - 3 p.m.
5. Planning and hosting parent Coffee hour or Holiday cookie hour after school for viewing week of December 8th.

Thank you!

Shelly Bolton
Reflections Chairman

School Fuel Fundraising Event

On Thursday, November 13th, come shop at Matt & Jeff's Hand Car Wash at Vintage Oaks to benefit School Fuel.

Between 5 and 7:30 pm, there will be ENTERTAINMENT from Novato 's fabulous middle school musicians and REFRESHMENTS. The gift shop carries a really wonderful assortment of books, clocks, candles, jewelry, games, toys, cards, calendars, car care products, and many other fun items. Be sure to check out Jeff's recommended reading shelf!

Year-round, the very generous Matt and Jeff donate 1 cent to School Fuel for every gallon of gas sold. On November 13, they'll be donating an additional 20% of all gift shop purchases made ANY TIME THAT DAY!

Matt & Jeff's has donated $90,000 to School Fuel through these programs so far. Come by and say "Thank You" while you pick up some great gifts and hear some great music! And don't forget that you can save yourself 10 cents per gallon of gas by picking up a Matt & Jeff's discount card that comes free with the purchase of a car wash.

OUR MISSION: Pleasant Valley is dedicated to building a community of learners where students strive to reach their full potential academically, socially, and emotionally. Learning is a life-long process that fosters effective thinking strategies, social responsibility and positive interpersonal skills. We are committed to preparing Pleasant Valley students for the world that awaits them in the twenty-first century.