

Pleasant Valley Elementary

PV Views

November 14, 2008

"Where Eagles Fly"



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Lunch Menu

Nov 17th - 21th
No Lunch Service due to early dismissal at 12:30

PV Event Calendar

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.](#)

From the Desk of Terry Gavin Brown

The theme for this month is giving and gratitude. In this wonderful month of Thanksgiving, we celebrate the bounty of the earth, we remember to be grateful, and we recognize the joy that comes with giving. Thank you to Michelle Roberts, mother of Madison and Jackson, for all her help with Giving Day. This holiday share program, a tradition at Pleasant Valley, is a great example for students to see how reaching out to others, especially in times of need, is so important. We thank our Student Council Officers, led by Cody Engle, for their help and participation with the Giving Day ceremony. We thank our teachers and students for their amazing Gratitude Posters and we thank our school community for their generous outreach to our community with food donations and gift cards. This truly is a Giving School.



Report Cards and Conference Week: Since the adoption of the standards-based report card in 2006, Pleasant Valley teachers have been working hard to increase its effectiveness as a parent communication tool. After two years of enthusiastic discussions, constructive parent input, and piloting, teachers agree that trimester grades best reflect students' progress on curriculum introduced to date. Thus, grades may fluctuate from trimester to trimester based on changes in the rigors of the curriculum, students' performance on assignments and assessments, progress toward end-of-the-year standards, participation in class, and so on. Please feel free to discuss the report card with your child's teacher at your appointed conference scheduled for the week of November 17-21. If a concept is not addressed during the trimester, grade level teachers will cross it out until the trimester it is introduced. Though conference week is a minimum week for students it is a "maximum" week for our teachers. Teachers spend many hours working on report cards and preparing for conferences. We thank our teachers for their hard work and the extra time required for meeting with all the parents. We look forward to welcoming all our parents to Pleasant Valley during our school conference week.

Grandmother's House: The schedule is set!!! Next week we will welcome grandmas, and some grandpas as well, to Pleasant Valley. Thank you to all our grandparents for volunteering for "To Grandma's House We Go". A schedule has been sent out and we look forward to your visit and your help next week. Thank you to Lisa Casey, Julie Spaan and Sherry Clark for all your help with this new program. Thank you also to our Pleasant Valley Bakers who will be providing "Thanksgiving treats" for the students.

Parent/Teacher Conferences: Remember our special conference week schedule of early dismissal: 12:30 p.m. We look forward to seeing you at Conference Week. As you walk to and from your student's classroom, please look for tables in the breezeway that will be covered in all of our "Lost & Found" items. Check for lost and lonely clothing articles that may belong to your students. Unclaimed items will be donated to the Good Will on Friday, November 21st.

Direct Funding Update

The Direct Funding Prize Drawing occurred prior to the Halloween Parade last week and PTA is pleased to announce the winners:

- 1st Prize (Cannon Camera)**
Lloyd Bridler and Kathy Minthorne
- 2nd Prize (Magellan GPS)**
Joe and Michelle Roberts
- 3rd Prize (Digital Picture Frame)**
Jay and Natalie Mulligan

Thank you to everyone who sent in their contributions and congratulations to our winners! The Direct Funding Program has gathered \$18,370.00 as of 10/31/08. This amount was contributed by 61 PV families, which is just a little over 20% of our school community that has pledged their support. With the turn of the year approaching, please consider making a FULLY TAX DEDUCTIBLE contribution in support of our school - we need your support!! Our PTA will spend over \$85,000 this year on school programs that aren't funded through NUSD and we need the support of every family in order to continue to provide this level of programs for our children. Contribution forms can be picked up in the front office or found on our website at www.pveagles.org.

Book Fair Safari Update

BOOK FAIR SAFARI BEGINS MONDAY!

Yes, that's right...Book Fair Safari begins Monday at 8:00 am in the multi-use room! Come join us to see the wonderful book selection, festive decorations, and what the excitement is all about. The kick-off party will begin promptly at 12:30 on Monday when school gets out-please join us!

WE STILL NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS !!! If you can volunteer for one the following shifts, please contact Tracy Kreling at 898-4680 as soon as possible!

- Tuesday, Nov. 18: 10-12, 12-2
- Wednesday, Nov. 19: 10-12
- Thursday, Nov. 20: 10-12

Classroom Walk-Through Schedule: Your child will have a chance to walk through the book fair on either Monday or Tuesday during school hours with his/her class. Please check today's Friday Folder for the schedule (if there are any last minute changes that occurred after the printing of the schedule, the teacher will inform your child).

Wacky Khaki Day is Wednesday, November 19! Have your child wear a safari-inspired outfit and they will be entered in our contest to win a book fair gift certificate. Winners will be announced during the school day on Wednesday. (Gift certificates can only be used at the book fair and are not redeemable for cash.)

Contact our head Safari Guide, Leslie Resnick, at 898-3623 if any questions.

Book Fair Safari Dates/Hours/Events:

- 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

Visit Scholastic's web site at <http://www.scholastic.com/bookfairs/books/elem.asp> to see some of the wonderful elementary-level books which will be sold at the book fair!

TRICK OR TREAT FOR UNICEF UPDATE

Calling all Treat or Treat Unicef boxes!! We are still collecting your donation boxes. Last year our goal reached \$500. We are still shy of the goal for this year. Please bring in your boxes up thru Friday 11/21/08. You can turn them in to the office! Thank you all trick-or-treaters!

REMI NDERS FROM THE FRONT OFFICE

A Special Thank-You: To all the "behind-the-scene" parents who helped today with the "Giving Assembly", the office staff sends out a huge thank you. We couldn't have done it without you! Thanks go to Michelle Roberts, Joe Roberts, Heather Sargent, Tina Becker, Wendy Cendak, Sung Girtler, Holly Ramani, Danielle Buoncristani Without your help all of the food collected would not have reached their destination of the Novato Human Needs Center. From putting up reminder signs, stapling flyers to grocery bags, gathering up the food from the playground, loading up vehicles, and delivering it to the final destination. PV is so lucky to have such wonderful, and giving parents!

Sloat Garden Fundraiser: The Sloat "Growing Up Green" is still going on through this weekend. Remember that anything you purchase from Sloat, they will donate 10% back to PV. You can go to www.pveagles.org to print out the coupons. Happy Fall Gardening!

Mr. Mahoney's Super Sports Camp: Don't Sit, Get Fit! Mr. Mahoney will be holding a 3-day Super Sports Camp over the Thanksgiving Break. Dates: Nov 24-26, at the Novato Teen Center, 10:15 - 3:00 p.m. Register with Novato Parks & Rec - class code = 12587

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.