

Pleasant Valley Elementary

PV Views

December 19, 2008

"Where Eagles Fly"



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PV Event Calendar

[Dec 22nd - Jan 2nd - Winter Break](#)

[Monday, Jan 12th - Joint PTA/SLT meeting - 3:30 P.M.](#)

[Tuesday, Jan 6th - School Board - 7:00 P. M.](#)

[Wednesday, Jan 7th - 12:30 dismissal, grades 1-5](#)

[Click here to view the full school calendar.](#)

From the Desk of Terry Gavin Brown

Hello Student Families:



Looking back on this week I can only think WOW! We accomplished so much and made some great memories in this last school week of the year 2008.

Monday was Polar Express Day for first grade students. Children dressed in pajamas and teachers in train conductor outfits. Classes drank hot chocolate and read "The Polar Express" and wrote stories on train template paper. The rooms were decorated with lights and snow capped mountains; a childhood memory to last a lifetime. Monday's PTA meeting was productive as we said goodbye to 2008 and focused our attention on our programs for the upcoming year including afterschool classes and our May 9th Gala Event. Tuesday night, fifth grade student body officers, Cody Engle and Maddy Gelleri, spoke to the Novato Unified School Board about Character Building Education at Pleasant Valley. They did a terrific job and will be featured on the district web site. The presentation included information about Giving Day and Holiday Hope as well as Manners' Month and October's visit from motivational speaker Michael Pritchard. The Superintendent sent us a letter saying the presentation was "outstanding." I agree.

Wednesday morning we held our Holiday Hope Assembly. We collected almost 400 new toys for children in need. We sang, danced, and share a lovely time. Student Council did a great job leading the assembly. Thank you to Mrs. Sherry Clark for the beautiful decorations. Mrs. Clark was in the Multiuse Room long into Tuesday night to create a special holiday theme for our Wednesday morning assembly. She works tirelessly for our students. Thank you to parents: Heather Sargent, Tina Becker, Wendy Cendak, Sung Girtler, Robin Alper, Joe Roberts, Carmel Poydessus, Kristen McAndrew and Debby Kendrick for the help with the assembly. A special thank you to Michel Roberts for overseeing the event.

Wednesday evening was a time for teachers and staff to gather together at my home for our annual school holiday party. It was an evening to relax and enjoy each other's company. We had a fun holiday gift exchange and lots of laughs. Celebrations like this are important in building team unity and community. We are a strong team and a strong team equals a strong school. Thursday and Friday was a flurry of activity that included everything from classroom holiday parties to cleaning out desks to prepare for the New Year.

GOOD NEWS: Our Study Island is here. The purchase is complete and we have met with District Technology who have been working with us to get the program up and running. BAD NEWS: We are not finished setting up user names and passwords for all of the students. Rather than rushing and making mistakes we will use the break to make sure we create correct class lists and register students correctly. We will begin Study Island the first week we come back. We hope you understand our desire to wait and not rush the program. We are so excited about Study Island but it is important we introduce the program when it is ready and available for all students to use.

I will be attending a special Emergency training January 12th through the 16th at Fireman's Fund. This is a community event and people from all areas of Novato have been asked to participate. As a resident of Novato and also a school leader, I have been asked by the District to attend. Kandee Adams of Rancho will also be attending this emergency training with me. This is an excellent opportunity for me to bring the best in safety training back to Pleasant Valley.

Do not forget that the first week back we have a minimum day on Wednesday due to a special in-service science training for teachers. **Wednesday, January 7th our students will be released at 12:30.** Kindergarten will be on their regular Wacky Wednesday schedule. Please update your school calendars with this information.

My best to you and your families this holiday season. I will see you in the New Year.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Brown

Holiday Concert

HOLIDAY CONCERT THANK YOU!!!

Another successful Holiday Concert with many thanks to Jonathan and Madison Cain for taking over the musical direction and giving of their time and commitment at rehearsals and the night of the concert! They are both incredibly talented. A big thank you to Robert McIntosh for videotaping the production and producing the DVDs for purchase. Thanks go to the wonderful volunteers who helped out each week at rehearsals, set up, and during the concert. These individuals are Michele Ruberto, Leanne Young, Emily Morris, Lovisa Wagner & Teresa Hakes. Thanks to Julie Spaan and Juan Navarro for helping out in many ways. Let's keep our fingers crossed for it to happen again next year.

Deb White - Holiday Concert Coordinator

Program Updates

Apple for the Students Update: Over \$9000 worth of receipts have been turned in so far. Way to go! Continue to save and bring in your Lucky supermarket receipts until January 23, 2008. Pleasant Valley can receive free teaching tools in exchange for register receipts. Ask neighbors, friends and relatives!

Lucky S.H.A.R.E.S. Cards are still available. If you ever shop at Lucky Supermarket please pick up a card from the office and present it every time you make a purchase. PV automatically earns money. It's that easy! Pick yours up today!

If you receive a new iPod, cell phone or laptop this holiday season don't throw out your old one. Bring them along with any used inkjets, laser/toner cartridges to the eScrip Recycling collection bin located in the school office. These items will be sent in to be reconditioned and used again instead of ending up in landfills. Help the environment and earn money for Pleasant Valley!

Reflections Winners

Reflections was a great success once again this year, due to the efforts of the Pleasant Valley students, teachers and art docents that helped announce and set aside class time. The theme was WOW and the kids really all had different and creative ideas of WOW as depicted by the many works of art and literature in the Multi-purpose room.

We were blessed to have three local artists judge the art and though they had a difficult time, they were able to decide on winners that will go on to the District Level in the following categories (in no particular order):

- Visual Arts Primary:** Ruby Gonzalez, Olivia Marvier, Hannah Bergo, Elise Jonas Delson, Willem Brabbee
- Visual Arts Intermediate:** Kenny Blum, Nicholas Low, Rachel Barnett (for 3 works of art)
- Photography Primary:** Rebecca Mansergh
- Photography Intermediate:** Samantha Kreling, Katherine O'Neal (for 2 photographs), Natalie Mulligan
- Literature Primary:** Erin Citarella (for 2 compositions), Taylor Boothe, Morgan Boothe, Matthew Baetkey
- Literature Intermediate:** Olivia Gonzalez, Jane Williams

There were so many fabulous entries that one of the judges, Marne Jaye decided to give each of the participants a color poster of her artwork to simply thank everyone for participating. Each entry will receive a beautiful poster and a participation ribbon.

Please visit the District office on January 16th to see all of Pleasant Valley's Reflections winners as they participate in the District show. Generally the office is open for viewing by 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Art will be returned to the teachers for distribution with the exception of those going on to the District Level.

Operation Warm Coat (Indian Valley 4H)

Hello,
It is that time of year for additional feel good community service. Clean out your closet! Indian Valley 4H 2nd Annual Operation Warm Coat will be collecting coats or jackets with zippers this weekend at Delano's Market - Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st from 10am - 2pm.
Note: 4H is sanctioned under the University of California and the California Department of Agriculture

Happy Holidays, The Puppo Family

Book Fair Safari Update

The 2008 book Fair Safari was huge success. It was our best year ever! Our sales were 12% over last year and we made \$3,500 for the PTA. With our teacher wish list and gift certificate program we expanded our classroom libraries and our school library is going to receive \$250 in need books and supplies. We also donated 15-20 books to Novato Human Needs for their Holiday Share Program.

The Book Fair Committee would like to thank all of the parents, grandparents and teachers participated in the program and purchased books.

We would also like to thank the many volunteers for the event: * denotes last of many years of support for the event.
Book Fair Committee members:
* Tracy Kreling Volunteer coordinator and Wacky Khaki Day
* Cindy Roncaglia Publicity and Popsicle Giveaway
Alicia Watson Teacher Wish List and Gift Certificates Program
Natalie Mulligan Decorations
Kirsty Steadman Decorations
* Sara Sudlow Coloring Contest Coordinator
Refreshment Staff- Lori Marston, Sherry Ross, Heather Sargent, Julie DeRuvo, Michelle Abell, Julie Spaan, Alison Hadfield, Bridget Minutoli,* Anne Bridges, Jennifer Reid Dawn McCue.
Takedown Staff- *Jim and *Liana Fewell,* Dede Cerruti.

We would also like to thank the school Principal, Terry Gavin Brown, Office Manager, Julie Spaan, and custodians, Juan and Cesario for their support.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who worked shifts at the fair especially those 5th grade parents who have volunteered for many years. Thank you for your years of support. Also, thank you to parents who helped during setup, takedown or during classroom walkthroughs. Lastly, I would like to thank Tracy Kreling and Cindy Roncaglia and Brenda Pfeifer for years of dedication to all it takes to put on this memorable event. It has meant a lot! Thanks Everybody.

After School Enrichment Programs

Thanks so much for all the responses on the after school enrichment classes. We are working out the details and will have more information when we reconvene in January.
Josie Brandis, PTA Vice-President

PV STUDENT DIRECTORY

The PV Student Directories are here! If you joined the PTA at the beginning of the school year, you should find your student directory in your child's Friday Folder. We have additional directories if needed, for the small price of \$5.00. Please contact the office if you need one. Thank you to Dee Hickey and Lorena Garbarino for working so hard on this project!

Event Name

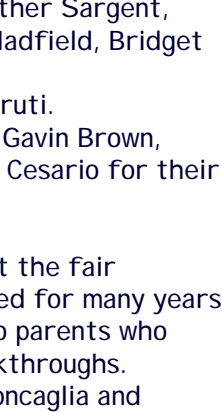
Month/Year

Event Day - Event Name, Event description

Event Day - Event Name, Event description

Event Day - Event Name, Event description

(Add a link to your Event description to provide additional event information and to drive traffic to your website)



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.