

# Pleasant Valley Elementary

## PV Views

September 4, 2009

"Where Eagles Fly"



### Contact us

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### PV Event Calendar

**September 7th**  
Labor Day  
No School

**September 8th**  
3:15 Site Leadership Meeting

**September 16th**  
PTA Spaghetti Dinner

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

### Lunch Menu

**Mon - Sept. 7**  
LABOR DAY

**Tues - Sept. 8**  
Pizza Stuffed Crust

**Wed - Sept. 9**  
Egg Roll OR  
Taco Salad (Chicken)

**Thur - Sept. 10**  
Deli Sandwich  
(Turkey & Cheese) OR  
Oriental  
Chicken Salad

**Fri - Sept. 11**  
Hot Dog (Turkey)  
Tiny Twist Pretzels  
OR Fruit Salad

### Quick Links

[PV Eagles Website](#)

[School Fuel](#)

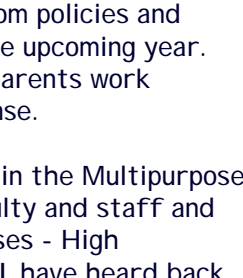
[First 5 Marin](#)

[Superintendent's Monthly Newsletter](#)

### From the Desk of Terry Gavin Brown

Dear Pleasant Valley Families:

Back to School Night was a great success. The classrooms were packed with parents; a positive sign. High attendance at Back to School Night is a strong indicator of success for the upcoming year. BTSN is our opportunity to share with parents our expectations and hopes for our students. On Thursday night teachers were able to explain classroom policies and procedures and to outline events and activities for the upcoming year. Research supports the fact that when teachers and parents work together students benefit. It just makes a lot of sense.



Thank you parents for attending the general meeting in the Multipurpose Room. This was our opportunity to introduce our faculty and staff and to share the district and school vision for "No Excuses - High Expectations - High Hopes" for the upcoming year. I have heard back from a number of parents who enjoyed my "college" story so much that they are now planning their own family "hot chocolate talk" and college tour.

Former PV students, Melanie Spaan and Tommy Ruben's brother and sister will be coming to the school to inspire our students with college stories. We are looking for more former PV students to share college stories with our students. Remember, if we wait until high school to start talking about college and careers with our kids....we are waiting too long.

My own...education will tell you that one thing was clear in our home from early on...education was a priority. My three daughters are now in their twenties. Nichole is a teacher in Burlingame. Loren is in business and completing her Master's at Northwestern. Noelle will graduate from San Francisco State University in December with a BA and all nursing pre-requisites completed. It has been a journey, and as a young widow, one, I did alone. I share my story with you because I know the doors that have opened for my children because I was "No Excuses" about school. My kids will tell you they had to really be ill in order to stay home and vacations were never taken during the school year. I was no nonsense about "half efforts in class" and strict about bedtime, curfews and no televisions or computers in the bedroom. I was, as they so often told me, "the meanest mom in Pacifica." Now they thank me for not backing down and for being the best. I look back on those days with fondness, joy and pride. They were not easy....raising kids is hard work, even in a two parent home, but well worth the time and effort. At the end of the road, yes a degree is just a piece of paper, but it is the lifelong habits, study skills, work and determination that it took to get that piece of paper will open the countless doors of opportunity and success for our children.

Safety: Last week there was an incident outside of Rancho School where a man in a car outside of school made an inappropriate remark to a mom and her child. Police were called, the incident investigated, but no arrests were made. Please know that the district is adamant about student safety. When an "incident" occurs, school principals and staff are notified and put on alert. We receive instructions and directions from the district who work with law officials on how to proceed and if, and when, to alert local school or all district parents. You can be assured you will be alerted to any incidents that are considered threats to this campus. Student safety is our number one priority. This is why we mandate that all parents sign in at the school - even our regular volunteers. We must know who is on the campus at all times to ensure safety. As always, if an inappropriate behavior occurs on your child's walk to school please report it to the school office so we can begin immediate investigation.

Our character building word for September is Kindness. I love the word and what it represents. Point out acts of kindness that you see for your children. Role model and practice random acts of kindness. We will do the same at school. Our Character Building Program is a positive way to enhance good behavior and reduce teasing and unkind remarks and behavior in our classrooms and school playgrounds.

Have a good Labor Day Holiday.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Brown

### Spaghetti Night is September 16th!!

Our first PTA sponsored "community building" event is quickly approaching! Flyers were sent home last week about our Spaghetti Night at PV on Wednesday September 16th. Seating is limited, so please get in your order forms this week! It should be a fun evening of catching up with friends and classmates, while enjoying a scrumptious Italian dinner! The sign up form is available at [www.pveagles.org](http://www.pveagles.org) and also in the office.

### Chairpersons Wanted! Volunteer Today!

Thank you to everyone who attended the Back to School Coffee. Pleasant Valley is so lucky to have so many amazing volunteers! There are so many fun events happening at PV this year, thank you to all of you who have already signed up to help! Thank you to Jenny Reid and Michelle Taylor for organizing all of the yummy food and coffee. These ladies and their husbands carried in huge bags of bagels that morning! Thank you also to Creekside Bakery, Noah's and Peet's for their generous donations!

While many of our chairperson positions have been filled for the school year, we still have a few openings:

- Dinner/Dance Auction
- Walker Creek 5th Grade Fundraiser (Urgent! Needs to get started soon)
- Red Ribbon Week
- After School Activities
- Holiday Concert
- Variety Show
- 5th Grade Promotion Reception (4th Grade parent)
- Lunch Buddies (Volunteers needed)
- School Sign (Changed twice a month)
- Used Book Sale

Talk to your friends and sign up together! Many hands make light work! Please contact Heather Sargent [hesargent@yahoo.com](mailto:hesargent@yahoo.com) or Kathy Towey [towey@comcast.net](mailto:towey@comcast.net) if you can help!

### You Shop, Our Kids Win with eScrip

Sign up with eScrip and every time you shop at any of the more than 6,000 merchant locations, a percentage of your purchase will go to our group. It's so easy! Here's how:

- Go to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com)
- Click on Sign Up
- Enter our Group ID# 136915186

Register your Safeway Club card, Macy's card and credit/debit cards. It's fast, it's easy and Pleasant Valley can earn money all year long. If you have any questions, please contact PV eScrip Coordinator Nancy Shepardson at 897-0555 or [oneill.nlo@comcast.net](mailto:oneill.nlo@comcast.net).

### Safeway 10% Back to Schools

Pleasant Valley is part of Safeway's 10% Back to Schools fundraising program. Safeway donates 10% of the price on specially marked items (look for the School Bus logo) directly to Pleasant Valley for purchases of these items from August 12 to September 15, 2009.

If your Safeway card is registered with eScrip, the donation is automatically sent to our school. If you are not yet registered with eScrip, there will be a redemption code printed on the bottom of your Safeway receipt from September 18th through October 9th. Please bring this receipt to the school office and we will redeem it for you. Ask your friends, neighbors and family for their receipts, too! Thank you!

### Lunch Volunteers Needed

Miss Miriam, our PV lunch lady, is seeking parent volunteers to help with serving food and assisting students as they go through the lunch line.

Lunch time is between 11:45 and 12:45; help is most needed during the time of 11:45 - 12:15. See Miss Miriam during lunch hours or leave a note for her with Julie Spaan in the office (please include your phone number so Miriam can call you). You can also contact Katharine Johnson with questions at [katharinejohnson@comcast.net](mailto:katharinejohnson@comcast.net) or 892-0654.

### PTA Program Sign-ups

If you haven't already done so, please return the PTA Sponsored Programs form that you received in your child's first Friday Folder. It is the legal-size form that includes signups for the Directory, Memory Books, Library Book Club, etc. Please fill it out and return it to your child's teacher or to Julie in the office so we can get these programs underway.

### School Fuel Benefit at Rickey's

On Wednesday September 9, Rickey's Restaurant at Inn Marin is hosting a special evening to benefit School Fuel and the Novato public schools. There will be an open-to-the-public reception from 5-6 pm that evening for School Fuel supporters. In addition, the restaurant will be donating back to School Fuel 40% of the food and beverage revenue for all customers served on that day.

Please plan to join School Fuel for the reception and make a reservation to enjoy a dinner at Rickey's that evening. Have a great dinner and support a great cause! For more information or to make a reservation please call 883-5952.

### Rock-n-Blues By the Lake

**Saturday, September 26, 2009**  
**10am to 8pm**  
**at Stafford Lake in Novato**

Rock'n Blues By the Lake is an amazing day of entertainment for the whole family. This year's headliners include The B-52s and Blake Lewis, American Idol's 2007 "Beat-Box Sensation."

Tickets can be purchased in our school office, by contacting PV's Rock'n Blues Representative Linda Blum (415-898-3676 or [linda@balancingelement.com](mailto:linda@balancingelement.com)), or at the Farmer's Market in downtown Novato on Tuesdays. If you purchase tickets at the Farmer's Market, be sure to mention PV so we will be credited with the sale.

**Advance Ticket Prices**  
\$45 Adults, \$20 Teens (ages 12-18)  
\$15 Children (ages 5-11)  
Children 4 and under are free

### Volunteer for Rock-n-Blues

If you intend to go to Rock'n Blues by the Lake, please consider volunteering at the event. If you work a 3-hour shift, you'll get free parking and can purchase your ticket for only \$25. Pleasant Valley can receive additional money and other incentives if we sign up volunteers early in the beginning of the school year. Please join us for a day of fun and spread the word about this terrific event.

### Young Americans Workshop at San Marin HS

The Young Americans are returning to Novato Sept. 17-19 for a three-day performance workshop at San Marin High School. This song and dance company, consisting of forty 16- to 21-year olds, will teach singing, dancing and performance to Marin students. On Sept. 19 the entire company will perform a 2-act show, with the Young Americans performing the first act and all local students joining them for Act II.

In three days the students will learn approximately 65 songs as well as receive classes in voice, dance, performance, microphone techniques, auditioning and more.

The workshop is open to all area students in grades 5 through 12. The cost is \$58 for all three days and includes a T-shirt. Show time is at 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 19. To register or for more information, go to [www.sanmarinmustang.org/Images/Files/Music/youngamerican.pdf](http://www.sanmarinmustang.org/Images/Files/Music/youngamerican.pdf)

### SLOAT GARDEN CENTER FUNDRAISER

PV has a program with any Sloat Garden Store where during Sept 18-28, 10% of proceeds purchased by PV people will be donated back to PV in the form of a gift card from Sloat. This helps us with our school garden, butterfly garden and school grounds. This weekend, Sloat is having a sale. Please consider waiting for our promotion. Next week there will be a link to the flyer you can use at Sloat to give back to PV!

**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.

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