

Pleasant Valley Elementary



PV Views

October 2, 2009

"Where Eagles Fly"

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PV Event Calendar

- Oct. 7th**
International Walk to School Day
- October 14th**
Pole Decorating Contest Begins
- October 19th-23rd**
Red Ribbon Week
- [Click here to view the full school calendar.](#)
- Lunch Menu**
- Mon-Oct. 5**
Chicken Breast
Sandwich OR Chicken Caesar Salad
- Tues-Oct. 6**
Pizza Stuffed Crust
- Wed-Oct. 7**
Egg Roll OR Taco Salad (chicken)
- Thurs-Oct. 8**
High Tech Burrito OR Oriental Chicken Salad
- Fri-Oct. 9**
Veggie Burger OR Fruit Salad

Quick Links

- [PV Eagles Website](#)
- [School Fuel](#)
- [First 5 Marin](#)
- [Superintendent's Newsletter](#)

From the Desk of Terry Gavin Brown

Dear Pleasant Valley Families:

It is October. I love October and the fall colors that are a part of it and the happy chatter of the kids excited about Halloween costumes and the cool crispness of the morning as I leave for school each morning.

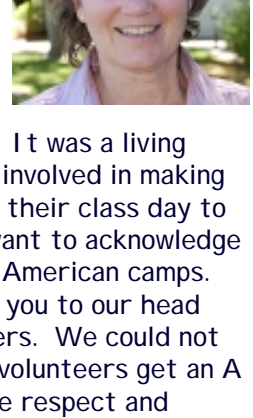
Our Native American Unity Day was lovely. It was a learning day based on the California Standards for Social Science - History - Grades K-5. It was a living history lesson for our students and I thank everyone involved in making it happen. I want to thank the teachers who adapted their class day to include Native American Day in their lesson plans. I want to acknowledge grade levels, three, four and five, who hosted Native American camps. It was lots of work but well worth the effort. Thank you to our head volunteer, Michelle Roberts, and her team of volunteers. We could not have made this day happen without your help. These volunteers get an A+ for a great job. Finally I thank the students for the respect and attitude shared throughout the day.

We are working on our student handbook reviewing policies. We hope to have a new updated handbook published and available for families in January. The Discipline Committee is currently reviewing all policies and we will be presenting them to our PTA, Site Leadership and staff for feedback. Once a policy is reviewed and approved I will be sharing updates with all of you.

Policy Regarding Student Birthdays:

- Student birthdays will not be celebrated in class with parties, decorations, foods, including sweets and candy. If parents would like to recognize a student's birthday they may send, at the beginning of the day, items such as pencils, notepads, erasers, or a class book or class gift such as a ball.
- Rationale: 1) Birthday parties result in lost instruction time. 2) Health risk due to student allergies. 3) The policy is in keeping with the District Wellness policy. 4) The policy is in keeping for not all families are able to provide treats for an entire class.
- Party invitations: Invitations for at home birthday parties/events may not be passed out at school. This includes the campus playground as well as the classroom.
- Rationale: 1) loss of instruction time 2) disruption in class - invitations often get lost or misplaced resulting in an interruption in teaching time. 3) Sensitivity issue - not all students are invited to attend birthdays or can afford to have birthday parties.
- Classroom Celebrations: Classroom celebrations are left to grade level and teacher discretion. Room parents will work with teachers to arrange for sign-ups for food, decorations and parent help. Teachers will set expectations for all events and activities.
- Rationale: 1) Ensures purposeful celebrations 2) This policy is in keeping with our District Wellness policy.

As we look ahead make sure to mark your calendars now and save October 30th for the Halloween Happening here at school. What a perfect night for a Halloween Eve event. We can use lots of help so if you are interested in joining the committee to plan the event let the front office know. It is sure to be a fun event for the entire family.



FROM OUR PTA PRESIDENT

LINDA BLUM

Our first PTA meeting of the year had a record attendance! Thank you to the families who joined us at the meeting and to Sherri Jewell for providing child care and art fun. Our 2009-10 PTA Budget was discussed, modified and approved with the help of all who attended. A copy of the approved budget can be found at pveagles.org.

We had an unexpected visitor during the meeting deliver us \$3,000.00 to the PTA. An Kevin Procknow of Wells Fargo Bank brought us this lovely surprise and explained that every loan closed through him with Wells Fargo Bank will generate a donation of \$300 from Wells Fargo to our school. Ten P.V. families have closed loans with Wells Fargo / Kevin Procknow in recent months and our school is receiving the benefit. Many thanks!

Our PTA has enrolled 282 members this year and we appreciate your support. Did you know that your PTA membership entitles you to discounts with a number of companies? Barnes & Noble, Southwest airlines, T-Mobile, MetLife, Medic Alert and Sharp and the HP Academy Store all offer discounts to PTA members. Our membership drive is closing soon and we will be issuing PTA membership cards on October 15th so that you may access these benefits. For more information, visit PTA.org/benefits.

Rock n Blues by the Lake 2009 was excellent entertainment! Blake Lewis, Luv Planet, the B-52's and Novato's middle school and high school bands braved the heat to perform for us. It was great to see so many families out on the lawn - visiting, dancing and having fun together. This community event requires the volunteer help of over 400 people and P.V. provided 26 sets of helping hands: Thanks to Dan and Kristi Steadman, Laura Bertolli, Linda Blum, Nancy Nilsen, Paul Perryman, Jackie Thoma, Terry Brown, Julie Spaan, Debbie Kendrick, Natalie Mulligan, Nancy Shephardson, Julie Duggan, Joe and DeMaur Herrera, Katie and John Lucey, Jenny Reid, Abby Koniaris, Lisa Cevolani, Stephanie Parivolaris, Ken Butler, Kate and Dan Mansergh, Leslie Loeber, Miranda Franks and Joanna Low for representing Pleasant Valley in support of this fundraiser for Novato schools. Pleasant Valley families bought 142 tickets and we would like to congratulate the prize drawing winners for the backstage passes for the "Meet and Greet" with Blake Lewis: Kim St. Hilaire and Marlene Bergo.

The Halloween Happening, P.V.'s first annual Halloween Carnival, is being organized by Mrs. Brown and we need helping hands. The event is "happening" on Friday, October 30th from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. at Pleasant Valley. If you'd like to help, drop a note to Mrs. Brown and we'll find a project to fit your availability. It will be an evening of frightening fun, so mark your calendars and watch for more information soooooon....

International Walk and Roll to School Day is Wednesday Oct. 7th

Join millions worldwide in finding greener ways to school by walking, biking, carpooling or taking the bus. Observe traffic levels drop and happy MarinCountychildren and their parents take to the streets to celebrate the 10th anniversary of this global event.

We will have a welcome table set-up on the morning of October 7th and all students who participate will receive an official Walk and Roll to School Day colorful patch. The patch can be hung on a bulletin board or sewn on your child's backpack to be proudly displayed all year. Please set your alarm clocks a little early on October 7th!

INNI SBROOK GIFT WRAP SALES OCTOBER 5th - 16th

Please come out and support the 5th graders and purchase gift wrapping paper, gift bags, chocolates and other goodies. Fifth grade students will be selling their products after school, Monday through Friday, for the next two weeks. This is a big fundraiser for all of them to help defray the cost of attending Walker Creek Ranch Outdoor Education in the Spring. You can view sample items in the office.

We welcome your purchases and support! Thanks!
--Walker Creek Fundraising Committee

RUNNING & WALKING CLUB UPDATE

Thank you to all the students who have already returned the PV Running and Walking Club permission slips. **Please remember to return the permission form and PTA waiver by Monday, October 5th.** If the PTA waiver portion has not been returned until completely, it will be returned to the student. It is imperative that the form is filled out thoroughly.

We hope that your pledge sheets for the October 22nd event are filling up and that you are having fun doing it. If the student body is able to raise \$1000 there will be a tricycle race between two surprise staff members. The kids are excited to see who will be entered in the race if the goal is met.

This walk/run-a-thon will help to support the weekly/bi-weekly program that we hope to begin in January 2010. Whether it is weekly or bi-weekly depends on financial and volunteer support. If you have any interest in assisting either behind the scenes or at the track please fill out the information on the form.

Important dates:
October 5 - PTA waiver and permission form due
October 22nd - Walk/Run-a-thon during lunch recess!!!!
(wear appropriate shoes and clothing)
October 23-26 - Donations collected from those who pledged to sponsor the student (checks can be made out to PV PTA or Pleasant Valley PTA)
October 26-29 - Donations to be returned to school

Flower Power for the PV Garden

Do you like Flowers? Now is the time to plant Spring Bulbs.

Please support the first PV Garden and Beautification Fundraiser by purchasing your bulbs on www.flowerpowerfundraising.com Once you're on the flowerpower site, click on "find an organization" at the top. Type in "PV Garden" and start shopping.

When you purchase bulbs through the flowerpower site, 50% of all sales come back to PV and will be used to support PV's garden and beautification. The fundraiser is open to everyone, so please pass this information on to your friends and family.

eScrip News

There is still time to turn in your Safeway receipts from Safeway's 10% Back to Schools fundraising program. If you are not yet registered with eScrip, and you shop at Safeway using your Safeway Club Card, there will be a redemption code printed until October 9th on the bottom of your Safeway register receipt. Please bring this receipt to the school office by October 9th and we will redeem it for you. Only receipts with a redemption code at the bottom of the receipt under the "10% Back-to-Schools" heading need to be turned in.

If your Safeway Club Card is already registered with eScrip, your donation is automatically sent to our school and you do not need to bring in your receipts.

Put education on your shopping list! Go to www.escrip.com (Group ID # 136915186) and 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. Thank you for your support!

PTA Notecard Fundraiser deadline has been extended!

Thank you to everyone who has already turned in their art and orders! Everyone's art has been so wonderful!

For those who have not participated yet, the notecard deadline has been extended. Please try to get your art, order forms and payment in early next week. These items make great, affordable gifts for family and friends, as well as cards, notepads, etc. for you to use.

Please consider participating in this fundraiser and helping out the PV PTA! If you have any questions, please contact Kristen McAndrew at 893-9518 or dog-lips@mindspring.com.

Thank You, Thank You, PV Volunteers!

You've been busy!

Thanks to the Picture Day Chair, Connie Blake, and her team for a super picture day this year -- the day's smooth efficiency produced lots of smiles!

Also, many thanks to the Notecard Chairs, Kristen McAndrew and Val Scheiner, and all the volunteers who helped make the Notecard Fundraiser successful. The notecards featuring student artwork were a big hit, thanks in large part to the highly organized ordering system administered by Kristen, Val and their crew!

Your hard work and dedication contribute greatly to our children and their school. Thank you!
-- Kathy Towey and Heather Sargent

Sloat/PV Garden Fundraiser

Thank you for participating in the Sloat/PV Garden Fundraiser. I'll report when I receive our distribution. There are more chances to help PV and get supplies for your garden in November and December. Stay tuned for upcoming dates.
-- Kristen McAndrew

Upcoming School Fuel Events

School Fuel Rummage Sale on October 10

Come to the School Fuel rummage sale in the Hill Middle School multipurpose room on **Saturday, October 10** from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. The proceeds will be used by School Fuel to help fund teachers and programs for all of the schools in the district. If you have anything to donate to this great cause, you can bring it to Hill on Friday, October 9 between 3:00 and 6:00 pm.

Donations are tax-deductible. Clothes, books, small appliances, toys, furniture, bikes and house wares are welcome - but NOT mattresses, computers, TV's or stuffed animals. For more information or to volunteer, contact Kim McClure at 892-5792 or kimberlymclure@comcast.net.

The Novato Foundation for Public Education presents....

Novato Grows Talent Telethon Re-Broadcast (Originally aired on June 5, 2009)

If you haven't seen it, you missed a wonderful experience. If you've watched before, you'll want to see it again. This is great entertainment for the whole family. Featuring students from every public school in Novato.

Friday, October 16th, 2009
Saturday, October 17th, 2009
7:00 to 10:00pm
Channel 26, 27, & 30 Novato's Public Access Television

For sponsorship or other information, or to make a donation, please contact: MJ Lonson, Chairperson.....(415) 898-8900 or mjlonson@msn.com

Monies raised will be used to provide music & enrichment classes at ALL of the Novato public schools.

School Fuel 2009 Bocce Tournament Registration

The School Fuel 2009 Bocce Tournament is open for registration! Put together your team and get ready for a fun day at the beautiful bocce courts in San Rafael on **Saturday, October 17**. The tournament will include instructions for beginners, round robin play, a delicious catered lunch, and prizes for the top teams. Players of all experience and ability levels enjoyed this great event last year. Registration will close as soon as 32 teams are registered. Only one registration form is required per team. For more information, contact Leslie Benjamin at (415) 897-4259 or lbenjamin@nUSD.org.

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 positive, long process that fosters effective thinking strategies, social responsibility and life-long interpersonal skills. We are committed to preparing Pleasant Valley students for the world that awaits them in the twenty-first century.