



PV Views for October 30, 2009

From the Desk of Principal Terry Gavin Brown

Hello Pleasant Valley Families:



Congratulations, Olivia Wallace-Calabrese, Alyssa Maniscalco and Samantha McCabe, our three Pleasant Valley spelling champs who represented PV in the County Spelling Bee on Thursday at San Jose Middle School. The girls joined 32 district finalists in the event. Though PV did not take home the trophy, we are proud of our finalists and thank them for representing the school so grandly. I look forward to next year's spelling bee. Contests are great motivators for kids. Thanks again girls for your hard work.

We had a great Halloween school parade. The majority of students followed the request to leave scary masks at home. I want to acknowledge this and recognize that I understand for many students it was a disappointment not to get to wear their scarier masks but they followed the rules because we have a grade K-5 parade. Our upper grades are sensitive to the perceptions of the younger students who might be frightened by some of the masks. Yes, some masks did slip by, but I believe out of confusion, not defiance. This was a year of transition to stricter rules and as I stood looking at the students I was pleased with what I saw. It is evident that we are trying very hard to make a change. An added benefit is actually seeing the kids. Last year I saw 20 power rangers all in plastic white masks march past me. I didn't know who was who. This year the face makeup, very creative I might add, made the parade more fun to watch. So thank you students who left scary masks at home so little ones could share the parade with you.

Halloween Happening. Where do I start? The Monday Night Crew. Without you, the Happening wouldn't have happened.

Thank you Jennifer & Mo Bernales, Krystie & Rich Nettelman who lived in the science lab for three days and three nights and turned it into a "goulish" masterpiece. The "spooky lab" was a hit with everyone. They created, hosted, ran and the station and then the scariest part was on Saturday, when they came back to break down and clean up. They went above and beyond in their donations, time and dedication. We thank you for your wonderful imagination in making the science lab come alive for the students.

Thank you to all the people who helped set up. Thank you to the teachers and students for the wonderful Halloween pole decorations which added to the evening.

Thank you to Cindy and Mike Harris who made Halloween Fishing a spooky and ghostly adventure. How fun!!!! Thank you to Jen De Laura for the witch's cauldron which bubbled and brewed all night. Thank you Alice Parker and Sally Landis for the wonderful face painting and to Cecilia Perez for your craft table keeping little ones busy making trick or treat bags. Thank you to Ali Steadman for the donations of bags. Thank you to Kindergarten parents, Gary and Christine Scoma who took on the Trick or Treat Booth; a great success. Thank you to Jonathan and Shelly MacLean for the donation of toothbrushes.

Thank you to Tara and Blaine Johnson for serving up the food nonstop. The line was endless. So was your patience. Thank you Alison Holloway for monitoring the cake walk, not an easy job and you did it all night!!! Thank you to the Steadman Family for the decorations, including all the hay which set the fun mood. Hats off to the Parker, Landis and Hadfield families for their help with the face painting. Thank you to Mike Hadfield for leading the crew to bring the Tikki Bar in and out, not an easy job.

Thank you to Suzette Donnelly, and her daughters, Maggie and Annie, for putting together the "Lost Clothing Attic" at the last minute. It's always nice to find that favorite missing sweatshirt, and you displayed them so effectively!

Thank you to staff members Deborah Baraban, Lisa Heslip, Tracy Kreling and Martha Skiles for all the "gofer" work. Thank you Carol England, RSP teacher for coming back at the end of the night to help clean up. Thank you Ticket Sales Crew Val Scheiner and Deanne Harnett, who worked so hard at the ticket booth. Did you ever get a break? You two were great sports as I drafted you for this job at the last minute!

Thank you students: Thank you to all our high school and middle school students who came back to help including Drew Spaan, our DJ Wolverine and Madame Kelly Thoma who spent the night telling wonderful fortunes to our little ones. Thank you to Luke Heslip and friends, Sami Kreling, Maggie Donnelly, Kayla Casey. Thank you PV students and student council members for helping out with the booths. We could not have run this event without your help. Great job.

Thank you to our Photographers, Kate Mansergh, Mary Buerger and Simone Ingargiola who pitched in for Susan Roca who got sick and who we hope is feeling much better. Thanks to Deborah and Danielle for taking pictures of the event and capturing the evening for us on film. Thank you parents for the baked goods which made the cake walk a great success and kept the Johnsons busy selling baked goods all night. Thank you PV families for coming and supporting the event. It was old fashion fun.

Finally thank you to Mrs. Spaan who is the heart and soul of this school. Thank you for not running for the hills when I say "I have an idea" but for rolling up your sleeves and saying "let's hear it." Your help, participation, organization, contribution to this event was endless. Thank you for all the donations from everything from cups to Halloween lights. Thank you for giving up your Saturday to help me put the school back to order. It was hard work and a lot of hours and I can't even begin to thank you.

I look forward to the Halloween Happening next year but in the meantime it is November and we have lots to look forward to this month. We have conferences and book fairs and Over the River Days. By the way I have a great idea for Grandma's House which is coming up in about three weeks. It is still in the planning stages but start looking for some pictures of your kids with their grandparents. These will be pictures that could be sent to me by an e-mail. More details to come.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Brown

2010-2011 KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION BEGINS MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND

2010-11 Kindergarten Registration begins November 2, 2009 for the School Year. Registration takes place at each School Site. Parents are encouraged to register early at their Neighborhood School.

PLEASE BRING COPIES OF THE FOLLOWING:

In addition to the registration packet, you will need to provide copies of:

- Current Overall Health and Immunization Records, including Tuberculosis (TB) Test Results
- Birth certificate or Passport
- Two forms of Address Verification-utility bills, mortgage statement, escrow papers/ rental agreement, etc.

For more information, please refer to the NUSD.org website.

Lunch Menu for Week of November 2nd



Monday 11/2: Chicken Bites OR Chicken Cesar Salad
Tuesday 11/3: Pizza Stuffed Crust
Wednesday 11/4: Egg Roll/Rice OR Taco Salad
Thursday 11/5: HighTech Burrito OR Oriental Chicken Salad
Friday 11/6: Vege Burger OR Taco Salad

Upcoming PV Events

Thursday, November 5th: Make-up Picture Day
Tuesday, November 10th: Site Leadership Meeting at 3:15
Wednesday, November 11th: NO SCHOOL - VETERANS DAY
Monday, November 16th-November 20th: EARLY DISMISSAL 12:30 ALL WEEK Grades 1-5 (Kindergarten schedule DOES NOT change)
Monday, November 16th-November 20th: Parent-Teacher Conferences
Monday, November 16th-November 20th: Book Fair in the Multi-use room

[Go to the complete school calendar on the PV website.](#)

Kindergarten Thank You!

A BIG thank you from Kindergarten to Mr. O'Neil at Harvest Market. Thank you for donating 90 big, beautiful pumpkins to kindergarten for our pumpkin day. You Rock!

--Mrs. Heslip, Mrs. Correa, Mrs. Saysette, Mrs. O.K.

Destination Book Fair - Read Around the World

Book Fair Dates and Hours: November 16-20
 Monday - Thursday: 8am - 2pm; Friday: 8am - 1pm

Volunteers Needed: If you can work one or more shifts at the book fair, or help with set up and tear down, contact Volunteer Coordinator

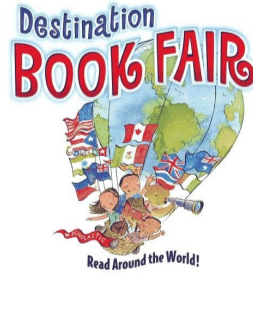
[Angie Houlahan.](#)

Classroom Walk-Through: Your child will have a chance to walk through the book fair during school hours. A notice will come home soon with more info.

Special Events: Kick-off party on Monday, November 16th at 12:30. There will be a contest, refreshments, and lots of exciting things to see. Family Shopping Night will be Wednesday, November 18 from 6:30 to 8:30. Get a start on your holiday shopping!

[Book Fair Website](#)

Book Fair co-chairs: [Pamela Fox](#) & [Jennifer Opegard](#)



Beginning German Classes At PV

The German School of Marin is interested in hosting a Beginning German class at Pleasant Valley. It would be one day after school and on campus. Please email [Josie Brandis](#) or call 415-897-9516 if you are interested.

PV Garden and Beautification Fundraiser

Please support the first PV Garden and Beautification Fundraiser by purchasing your bulbs on [www.flowerpowerfundraising.com](#). Once you are on the flower power site, click on "Find an organization" at the top. Type in "PV Garden" and start shopping. Fifty percent of all sales come back to PV and will be used to support our garden beautification.

NUSD Seeks Community Members for the Parcel Tax Oversight Committee

The Novato Unified School District is forming a new Citizens' Parcel Tax Oversight Committee for the parcel tax that was passed on June 2, 2009. It is looking for individuals to represent the business community, the real estate community, seniors, three individuals who have a currently enrolled student in one of the schools, and four individuals to represent the community at large. A description of the Oversight Committee and an Application to apply can be found on the [website](#).

Applications must be received no later than December 11, 2009. For further information, please email [Cyndee Cannon](#) or call (415) 897-4298.

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.