

Mar Vista School Newsletter



January 2015

Richard Determan, Principal
Stephanie Monroe, Academic Coordinator
Barbara Di Puma, School Office Manager

School News:

A Note from the Principal, Rich Determan

I am happy to welcome you back for the second half of the 2014-15 school year. The staff and I are looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential. We recognize that in order to be successful in school, our children need support from both the home and school. We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children's success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities. We ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he/she:

- Attends school daily and arrives on time, ready for the day's learning experience
- Completes all homework assignments given by teachers
- Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills
- Knows that you expect him/her to succeed in school

Movement Performances

Friday January 23 come enjoy the SPECTRA Movement Culmination Performances. All K-3 classes will show some of what students work on and learned this fall and winter. The times are as follow:

- 8:20-9:05 1st grades and 3rd grade Ms. Silvergate
- 10:10-10:50 2nd grades and 3rd grade Ms. Rigen

Wednesday, January 28

- 9:20-10:00 Kinder

This experience was funded by our Mar Vista Parents (MVPs) and a matching grant from the Arts Council

Spelling Bee

Students in grades 4-6 recently participated in our school spelling bee (December 15th) to determine who will represent Mar Vista Elementary at the Santa Cruz County Spelling Bee. The contest will be held Saturday, January 31st from 12:00-3:00 on the UCSC campus. The countywide competition is open to two students from every private/public school in the County. The following students participated in the Mar Vista Spelling Bee: **Draco Hunt, Hannah Osbourne, Maya Sampson, Kayle Bartle, Conner Bailey, Jasper Cornier, Kayla Lui, Harlyn Cavanagh, Jenna Heller, Ava Manier, Kendrick Gettel, Rowan Bowyer, Travis Melton.**

Please join me in congratulating **Travis Melton** and **Jenna Heller** as the top spellers as well as **Ava Manier** and **Kaylee Bartle** as our alternate super Sea Lions spellers. Good Luck !!

News from the Health Office

I am very pleased to introduce Shannon Van Brunt RN, California Credentialed School Nurse, who will be joining the Mar Vista staff after the Christmas break. Shannon is a graduate of the BSN program at San Jose State University. As with all the school nurses in PVUSD, Shannon's goal is for all students to experience a productive, rewarding, and healthy school experience with a primary goal of providing the means for any student to attend school no matter what their health related issues may involve.

I would like to thank Michael Collins for his many years of taking care of our students at Mar Vista. Michael will be missed.

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Restructured Days-Jan. 14, Jan. 21 and Jan.28
- ◆ Martin Luther King Day Jan.19. (No School)
- ◆ Primary Movement Performances-January 23rd. Grades 1-2-3
- ◆ Primary Movement Performances-January 28 Kinder
- ◆ School Site Council-Tuesday January 13 4:30-5:30 in the Library
- ◆ ELAC meeting-Tuesday January 13 6:00 to 7:00 in the Library
- ◆ Mar Vista Parent (MVP) Meeting-Thursday, January 15 6:00 to 7:30 in the Library



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Parking and Traffic In and Out of School

We cannot stress it enough, plan to have your child(ren) to school by 7:50am every day. This will ensure that they will be in class on time and help prevent you from being stuck in the morning traffic. Also please remember never to leave your vehicle unattended in the drop off/pick up area at any time. Always pull your vehicle forward when in the drop off/pick up zone. If you wish to walk your child(ren) to class, please park your vehicle in one of the designated parking areas. It is ok to park in the short term parking and buses area- double parking is permitted in this area and to walk with your child(ren) into the school. Do not double park behind handicap parking at the end- this will block the flow of traffic.

When picking up in the afternoon, stay left in the express pick-up lane when entering the school. The right hand side is for the buses and parking only. Also when pulling into the school, it is imperative that we do not block access for the buses.

Unfortunately, our parking lot was not the best design. We need to be patient with each other and plan accordingly. Let's be good role models for our children. We are all in this together.



Sixth Grade Science Camp

During the week of December 15 our Sixth graders spent a week at Koinonia Conference Grounds, experiencing an Outdoor Science School, a school without walls or desks. Classes are conducted in the forest, at the edge of the creek, in the chaparral, and in the meadows. The subject area most emphasized in this hands-on learning experience is the science of ecology, the relationship between living things and their environment. A special thanks to Mr. Jacobsmeyer and Mrs. Ashworth for taking such good care of your children for this very special week. Fifth grade parents need to start planning now, for next year's trip. **Our wonderful MVP club assisted in providing scholarships to families in need.**



After School Drama Club Returns:

Enroll at: WESTperformingARTS.com or call 831-425-WEST