



# *Paradise Valley School Paw Print*

Produced for Paradise Valley Elementary School by the  
Paradise Valley Home and School Association, Inc.

[www.paradise.mhu.k12.ca.gov](http://www.paradise.mhu.k12.ca.gov)

## **Principal's Message**

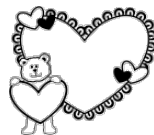
Paradise Valley Families:

At our **September Back to School night**, I spoke with you about "partnership; an arrangement where parties agree to cooperate to advance their mutual interests." I would like to revisit this theme as we continue progressing through the year.

**Teachers and students are partnering together in the effort to maximize learning.** Students are demonstrating their commitment to their education by coming to school on time, completing their homework with care and attention and giving 100% of their attention in class. Teachers are preparing lessons delivered to whole groups and small groups, as well as touching base individually with students. **This partnership is strengthened by the involvement of parents.** We are so fortunate to have a parent community that understands the importance of education and that joins in the effort rather than sitting on the sidelines.

In order to ensure that the relationship between each family and their teacher is strong, **please address any concerns directly with your child's classroom teacher before addressing the matter with me.** Our teachers are remarkable professionals and have the singular goal of doing right by your son or daughter. I have every confidence that when we work together to "solve problems" (a very important component of our school pledge), we model for our Paradise Valley youth productive and effective ways of handling conflict. As the school leader, I am always here to support conversations and facilitate solutions and will do so in partnership with our families and education staff.

On the topic of strengthening relationships, we held a very successful **Leadership Summit on January 17th.** One teacher from every grade level and seven parents participated in a full day session at the district office where we engaged in discussion reminding us of the focus of education, the need for



systematic implementation practices, information about the upcoming **Common Core Content Standards (CCSS)** and what is possible if we put our minds to it in partnership. We brain stormed an initial list of ways to ensure that community, excellence and innovation remain core to our mission. We will be meeting in February to follow up on next steps and commit to communicating with you all along the way.

One immediate outcome is a series of **parent workshops** that will be held in our library at **6 pm.** A flyer will be going home; but **save these dates.**

- **February 28th:** My Child's Benchmark Results (Grades 2 – 6)
- **March 28th:** Setting My Child Up for Success on the STAR Test (Grades 2 – 6)
- **April 25th:** How Parents Can Propel Early Literacy Skills (Grade K-2)

In closings, our new **Fire Marshall, Dwight Good**, stopped by this past week and asked me to emphasize some necessary expectations to ensure the safety of all children at Paradise Valley. Our **traffic conundrum** has become a bit more chaotic in the past month; perhaps due to the cold weather. However, I believe that together we can address it. **Please drop your children off as early as 7:25 am.** We have supervision and welcome your children to begin their day in a non-rushed manner. Please do not park or stop in red zones. Kinder parents, please **DO NOT stop in the drive through.** Please park in the lot or in the neighborhood. **Please do not block fire hydrants and please follow all traffic laws.** Marshall Good reminded me that when responding to an emergency, the success of the response may hinge on a matter of minutes and the fire engines need to be able to get the scene quickly.

It is a pleasure to serve you and your children. Thank you for your support and partnership.

*Erika Benadom-Principal*



**Upcoming Events....**

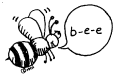
**February**

- 5 Talent Show Rehearsal, 1:55 pm/ Cafeteria
- 7 Spell-A-Thon Test
- 7 BRITTON Middle School Open House 6:30pm
- 11 Assembly- Theater of All Possibilities
- 12 6th Grade Panoramic Picture, 9:15 am.
- 12 TALENT SHOW, 6:30 pm/ Cafeteria
- 12 Home & School Mtg., 2:15pm/ Cafeteria
- 15 Panther Den
- 18-22 NO SCHOOL, Winter Break
- 27 Spell-A-Thon Pledge Sheets due
- 28 Parent Info. Night Mtg., My Child's Benchmark Results, Library 6 p.m.
- 28 School Site Council, 2:15pm/Cafeteria
- 28 ELAC Meeting, 1:00 pm/ Library



**March**

- 1 Panther Den
- 5 & 6 STAR Writing, Grade 4
- 6 End of Second Trimester
- 15 Panther Den
- 19 Home & School Mtg., 7:50 am/Cafeteria
- 20 Booksmart Book Fair Fundraiser- All day
- 21 School Site Council, 2:15pm/Cafeteria
- 22 PARENT'S NIGHT OUT, Coyote Creek
- 22 PV Sprint Plant Sale, after school
- 29 NO SCHOOL



**Spell-A-Thon**



**Mark your calendars!!** PV's annual Spell-a-thon is set for Thurs. Feb 7th.

- Mon, Feb 4th: Completed pledge sheets due back to teacher.
- Thurs, Feb 7th: Take spelling test.
- Fri, Feb 8th: Packets with corrected spelling test, pledge sheet and collection envelope are sent home with student.
- Wed, Feb 27th: All pledge sheets and money are due back to teachers.



**PVHSC Spring Plant Sale!**

Mark your calendars! PVHSC will be hosting a spring gardening plant sale. Immediately following school on Friday, March 22, 2013, come out to support our school and your home garden. All proceeds go directly to PVHSC. There will be a large selection of organically grown heirloom tomatoes of many sizes and colors ranging from cherry to beef-steak. Depending on growing conditions between now and the sale, basil and peppers are a possibility. Have questions about certain varieties of plants or growing techniques? Expert advise will also be available at the sale. Looking forward to seeing you there!



**PV Talent Show!!**

**Save the Date – Talent Show**  
Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria.  
**Free Admission!**

Our **PV students** have been working hard on their special talents, so please **come by and watch** as they showcase their acts for you! We also have word of a special **Closing Act** – it's one you won't want to miss! **Concessions** (popcorn, water, and candy) will be available for purchase. **Carnations** will also be for sale – don't forget to get one and congratulate your special performer on a job well done! See you there!

Questions? **Contact Nicole Chaisson @ [nicolec1313@yahoo.com](mailto:nicolec1313@yahoo.com).**

We look forward to seeing all the wonderful talent we have here at Paradise Valley!

**Nicole Chaisson**  
**Talent Show Coordinator**



Please send comments and articles to  
Newsletter Editor: Tricia Ojeda at  
[triciaojeda@gmail.com](mailto:triciaojeda@gmail.com)



## Project Cornerstone

We started the new year off with a wonderful story, *Mr. Peabody's Apples* by **Madonna**. This update of a 300-year-old story is a vivid reminder of the power of words. It teaches children that we must choose our words carefully every day to avoid causing harm to other people. We are reminded to take the time to understand the **truth**, to **know the whole story**, and to **be cautious about passing information on to others**. As their role models, we must remember that children learn to behave by watching everything we do and say. Show them how to find the truth, avoid passing on half-true information to others, and stop gossip.

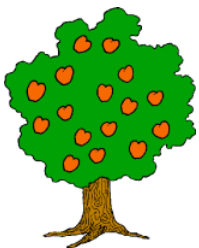
In **February**, we will be reading *My Secret Bully* by **Trudy Ludwig**. This story deals with **relational bullying**. Relational bullying refers to "acts of emotional bullying hidden among tightly knit networks of friends." Instead of using their fists to hit or feet to kick, relational bullying includes "under the radar" actions like spreading rumors, intimidating and humiliating, excluding and ignoring, as well as manipulating a victim.

For more information on the Assets that each book is trying to promote, please go to the Project Cornerstone file folder at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PVHSA/>

For questions or comments on **Project Cornerstone**, please contact **Diana Gill** [dlding@yahoo.com](mailto:dlding@yahoo.com)



## Apple-A-Day Fundraiser



It's time to support our classrooms by filling up the Paradise Valley **Apple Tree**, located in the office lobby, with **Red Apples**!!

**Red Apples** are only **\$5 each**!! All money collected goes directly to support our PV classrooms by keeping them well stocked with needed supplies! Show your support and buy one or more **Red Apples** today!!



## Box Tops Update



The box top program has been a great success these past few months. Congratulations to **November's gift card drawing winner Jade Guillard**, who turned in 800 box tops, and **December's gift card winner Emily Fitterer**. We are starting a new incentive box top program in place of the monthly drawing. A student will earn 1 Panther Pride ticket for every **25 box tops turned in**. The Panther Pride will be distributed to the student's teacher from the Box Top coordinator. **Please no expired box tops**. In order to receive a Panther Pride ticket all entries must include the **student's first and last name, grade, and teacher**. Start collecting and earn a Panther Pride ticket!



The *Paradise Valley SCHOOL CALENDAR* can be found on our school websites home page at: [www.paradise.mhu.k12.ca.us](http://www.paradise.mhu.k12.ca.us)

Visit our website and keep up with all the exciting things that are happening at Paradise Valley!

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