



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

Principal's Message

Paradise Valley Families:

The New Year provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the recent past, gaze into our present circumstances and to look forward to new possibilities in the coming year.

I have had the pleasure of serving the students, parents and staff of the Paradise Valley community for the past five months and there is truly no greater honor. Your children delight me every day. Their compassion, brilliance, laughter, spirit and tenderness continue to call me back to work each day after day. I receive constant rejuvenation from parents who lend countless hours making copies, sorting work for Friday folder, preparing lunches to honor the staff, organizing art activities, and more. Our teachers plan instruction that pushes students from their current levels of understanding into learning and mastering difficult concepts. Our non-instructional staff provide for our students by keeping the campus clean, filling hungry bellies and mending wounds with tender loving care.

In the coming year, we will continue our academic efforts while also nurturing the social and emotional needs of our students through **Project Cornerstone** and a program called **Expect Respect** for 30 sixth grade student leaders. Our computer lab will continue to be put to good use with **IXL**, **BrainPOP** and **Accelerated Reader**. The **What-I-Need Initiative** will be refined to

ensure that each and every student is truly getting what they need.

As you take time to look towards the past, the present and the future, ask yourself, "What can I do in the year 2013, to enhance the learning community for my child?" We welcome you and look forward to your contributions. Whether it be by attending one School Site Council meeting, driving students on a field trip, volunteering as a lunch time Funvisor or coming to the talent show to support our students...your presence is valued and we celebrate it. Come one, come all!

Happy New Year,

Erika Benadom- Principal



Thank You for Supporting 6th Grade Fundraisers



6th grade Poinsettia Sales were a great success! Students earned over \$2500.00 for science camp. Thanks to all the families and volunteers that helped with this new fundraiser!

*Our second annual **Cookies With Santa** event began the holiday season with cookies, crafts and smiles. It was great to see the **200+ members** of our PV community attend the event. **Thanks to all the 6th grade volunteers** who made this possible! Let's not forget to also send out a big **THANK YOU** to **Santa** for spending time with us before heading back to his workshop!*

Upcoming Events....

January

- 7 School Resumes**, Welcome back!
- 15 Home & School Mtg.**, 7:50 a.m. /Cafeteria
- 15 Talent Show Auditions**, 1:55 pm/ Cafeteria
- 18 Panther Den**, during 1st recess
- 21 NO SCHOOL**, Martin Luther King's B-day
- 22 Talent Show Rehearsal**, 1:55 p.m., Cafeteria
- 24 School Site Council Mtg.**, 2:15 pm/Library
- 29 Talent Show Rehearsal**, 1:55 p.m., Cafeteria

February

- 5 Talent Show Rehearsal**, 1:55 pm/ Cafeteria
- 7 Spell-A-Thon Test**
- 12 TALENT SHOW**, 6:30 pm/ Cafeteria
- 27 Spell-A-Thon Pledge Sheets due**



PV Yearbook

A "last chance" order form has been sent home with each PV student. **Deadline for orders is January 25th.** Can't remember if you have already placed an order? Each teacher has been given a class list of orders, so please check with them!



Spell-A-Thon

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

The schedule is as followed:



- **Fri, Jan 25th:** Spelling list and pledge sheets will be sent home with each student.
- **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.

Chess Club

The **Chess Club** is trying out a new 'ladder' program that calculates the skill level of Chess Club members by tracking wins and losses. Skill ratings are only rough guidelines but will be helpful in pairing more experienced players with those who are still learning.

Talent Show!!

Calling all singers, dancers, and general performers for our Paradise Valley Talent Show!

A flier recently went home in your child's folder regarding this fun event. **Auditions** will be held **Jan. 15th** after school in the cafeteria. A permission form was sent home on the bottom portion of the flier and is due back by **January 10th**. We must have this form by January 10th for your child to participate! The act can be done solo or with friends – have fun with it! Please review the **guidelines**, which must be followed, that are listed on the flier. If you missed the flier, don't worry! More fliers are available in the office lobby or on our school website. Questions? **Contact Nicole Chaisson @ 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*



Project Cornerstone

Last month, our volunteer readers read "**Say Something!**" by **Peggy Moss** to Grades 1 - 6. The book's message to say something is a call to action for all of us to move from the passive role of bystander to the positive, active role of UP-stander. This lesson promotes many opportunities bystanders have to safely influence either the target or person with bully behaviors. By moving from a role of **passive bystander** to **active UP-stander**, kids feel personal power in their ability to positively contribute to a safe and caring school climate.

"**Mr. Peabody's Apples**" by **Madonna** is the Project Cornerstone book for **January**. This book will help demonstrate the destructive and hurtful nature of rumors and gossip. It will also show how quickly a person's good reputation can be damaged and how hard it is to repair.

In November, the Kindergarten readers presented "**Talk and Work it Out**" by **Cheri J. Meiners**. In this book, peaceful conflict resolution is simplified so children can learn to calm down, state the problem, listen and think of and try solutions. In **January**, the Kinder Readers will read "**Accept and Value Each Person**" by **Cheri J. Meiners**. This book introduces diversity and related concepts: respecting differences and appreciating people just the way they are.

For more information on the Assets that each book promotes, please go to the **Project Cornerstone** file folder at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PVHSA/> or view the Project Cornerstone Binder located in the Paradise Valley Library.

For questions or comments on Project Cornerstone, please contact Diana Gill ddding@yahoo.com



Home & School Association

Hello Paradise Families,

*We hope you and your family had a wonderful Holiday Season. **Happy 2013!***

*We have many activities on our Paradise horizon. One of our next **fundraisers** will be **Parent's Night Out!** It is scheduled for **Friday, March 22nd** at Coyote Creek Golf and Country Club. This is an opportunity for Paradise Parents to get out and have some fun- all while raising funds for our school! We will have a **live and silent auction** as well as **art projects** made by our children, **dinner** and **dancing!** Our theme this year is going to be called **Black Ties and Boots!** We need **MANY** volunteers for this event. We are seeking people to help us go out in the community to gather donations for our event. If you are interested in participating, please email me at sue.i.stapleton@gmail.com.*

*The **Home and School Association** purchased three computer programs for our students to use! They are **Brain Pop, iXL** and **Accelerated Reader**. These resources are yet another great tool to help your child learn while using technology. These programs are available to your children to access during school in the **Computer Lab** and as well at **home!!** Next time you are on our campus please stop by and check out our Computer Lab!*

***PV's Home & School Association** has monthly meetings and we welcome anyone who would like to attend. This is a great way hear about all of the fun things that are going on at school and it's also a great way to introduce yourself to the many ways to volunteer your time or resources! Our next meeting is scheduled for **January 15th**, right after student drop-off in the morning!*

Sue Stapleton
Home & School Assoc. President
2012-2013



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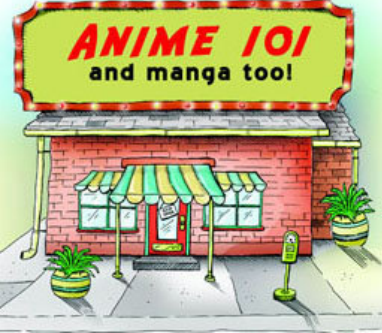


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