



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 Report

Dear Paradise Valley Families,

Collaboration among teachers at Paradise Valley is leading the way for our instructional practices to improve. By design, this process can offer support and motivation to our teachers as they work to overcome the tight resources, isolation, time constraints and other obstacles they commonly encounter here at Paradise Valley. Our teachers are working collectively to set and enforce standards of instruction and learning. There are five critical elements that encompass our collaboration. They are: 1) reflective dialogue; 2) de-privatization of practice; 3) collective focus on student learning; 4) collaboration; and, 5) shared norms and values. As you are aware, we have re-structured many conditions in order to meet the requirements. We have time to meet and talk (every Wednesday) and we have improved the physical proximity as we all meet together in the library. In addition, we have created interdependent teaching roles, that is, we have recurring formal situations in which teachers work together (team teaching) and regular meetings, or a mail system that provides a network for the exchanges of ideas on instruction, curriculum, assessments, and other professional issues. Lastly, we are developing the flexibility that allows our teachers to respond to the specific needs they see in our students. More updates to follow.

On a final note, please reduce your speed as you proceed into the drive-thru at all times. Also, remember to continue being courteous by alternating with the car turning before you into the drive-thru. Remember, SAFETY FIRST!

Thank you,
Phil Duncan

Home & School Association

Welcome Back to School! We hope that everyone is adjusting nicely back into their school routines.

I'd like to introduce myself. My name is Sue Stapleton. I am excited about the opportunity to serve our school as the new Home & School president this year. I look forward to meeting many new families and partnering together on the activities and events that make our school great!

We have started this 2011-2012 school year with a Bang! Our **Back to School BBQ and Carnival** was a huge success. We hope that you were able to come out and have fun with your children and other PV families!

We have just finished up this year's **Scholastic Book Fair**.



Please send comments and articles to
Newsletter Editor: Tricia Ojeda at
triciaojeda@gmail.com

This year our theme was Outer Space. Each classroom was able to tour the fair and create a personal wish list. If you missed out, books may still be purchased on-line from Sept. 23 through Oct. 14, 2011, at the PV online store at: <http://www.scholastic.com/schoolbookfairs/2851777>
The proceeds of the fair will go to help support our school and classroom libraries!

We had a huge turnout for our **Back-To-School Night**. We hope you were able to make it and hear what your child will be learning in class this year! As well as get to know your teachers and how you can help out in the classroom. Our teachers really appreciate the help especially with the growing classroom size.

We are looking forward to our next big event, the **Panther Prowl!** It will be held on October 21st and will be our first annual walk-a-thon! We are looking for sponsors for this event.

During the month of October we will be launching our **E-Script Program!** This is a great way to do your everyday shopping and donate money right back to our school. We also have an E-Script program with Nob Hill Foods and Safeway. Please look for information, to come home, on how you can sign up!

The **school website** will be updated this year to serve as a central location to find information on current Paradise Valley news and events. We will also be setting up a **yahoo** group which will make communication a bit easier! Please help us by filling out an email contact form, which can be found at the Home & School club desk in the main hallway leading to the office. Please drop the completed form into the H&SA drop slot. Keep a look out, as we will also be sending notes home in the Friday Folders.

We have some vacant committee positions and many volunteer opportunities throughout the year. Please sign up and help out! We would not be able to host all of these events without the help of all our PV family members. We are looking forward to a fun 2011-2012 school year!

Sue Stapleton
Home and School Association President
PVHSApresident@yahoo.com
<http://www.paradise.mhu.k12.ca.us/index.htm>

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Upcoming Events

October 2011

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29

- 4 **NO SCHOOL- Furlough Day**
- 6 G.A.T.E. Parent Meeting/ 7:00 p.m./Library
- 7 Panther Prowl Kick-Off Assembly/
- 11 Home & School Mtg./ 2:10 pm/Cafeteria
- 21 **1st Annual Panther Prowl walk-a-thon/**
- 21 **NO** Chess club today
- 25 Picture make-up day
- 27 School Site Council, 2:15 p.m.
- 28 **Great Pumpkin Display**
- 31 **Halloween Parade/ 1:15 p.m.**



November 2011

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

- 8 Election Day
- 8 Home & School Mtg./ 7:50 am/ Cafeteria
- 10 End of 1st Trimester
- 11 **NO SCHOOL, Veteran's Day**
- 14 **NO SCHOOL, In Service Day**
(No school for Students)
- 15-18 **Minimum Days, 12:50 dismissal (Gr. 1-6)**
K 7:40 - 11:00 a.m. (conferences)
- 21-25 **NO SCHOOL, Thanksgiving Holiday**

BoxTops & Labels For Education

Happy Fall Paradise Valley! We kicked off our year with ONE family sending in over 3,000 Labels for Education (LBE) points for our school! Good job Taylor Wake! Our latest contest ended on Friday, September 30th. For every 10 BoxTops or Labels for Education your child receives raffle ticket for a chance to win a \$10 local gift certificate. PLEASE make sure that first, last name of student and teacher name are listed on entries. For every *Box Top* we get 10 cents. For every LBE we earn points which we redeemed for items for the school, Panther Den, etc. It's an easy way to bring FREE money into our school. With all budget cuts we need it! Last year we collected over \$1,500, well over our goal! Let's make this year even better! Turn in your entries from large Campbell soup cans in the school lobby or with your teacher. Safeway is running a bonus program of 500 LBE points, those certificates can be turned in too. Happy Collecting!



BoxTops/LBE Coordinator
Michawn Giovannoni
michawng@hotmail.com



NOW SEEKING YEARBOOK PHOTOGRAPHERS!

We are looking forward to an even better all-color yearbook this year packed with class memories and all of our special school events. In order to make that possible I need YOU to submit your great photos that you happen to capture. Make your class page stand out and join the yearbook staff. Now is the time to send in pictures you have taken on the first day of school and outdoor recess/P.E. It's easy! Just copy your photos on a CD or if it's just a few (under 20) you can email them directly to me. You or your child can drop the (labeled by class) CD off in the office. Volunteers are also needed for page design and end of year distribution. Contact me if you have any questions or concerns. THANKS!

Gina Girouard
gina_g@charter.net



An Apple Blossom a Day

Help keep our classrooms well stocked with needed supplies by buying an Apple Blossom for \$5.00 each. Forms can be found in your child's Friday Folder and be returned to the PVHSA mail slot.



Paradise Valley Spirit Wear

Show your Panther pride by ordering your Paradise Valley Spirit wear. Order forms can be found at the PVHSA desk or you can contact Mimi directly at mijrigo@gmail.com



1st Annual Panther Prowl

Coming October 21st!!!!

Our teachers have fun & exciting activities planned for our students this year!!! Now it is time to fund them through Paradise Valley's *first* ever walk-a-thon....

PANTHER PROWL!!!

With school budgets pinched tighter and tighter each year, the efforts we put into raising funds for this walk-a-thon are key to allowing the extras that our children so richly deserve. Your family & friend donations will enable the Paradise Valley Home & School Association to provide our children with the money needed for:

- **Technology Enhancements** **Safety Programs**
- **Playground Equipment** **6th grade Science Camp**
- **Field trips & Assemblies** **Chess Club**
- **Science & Art Enrichment** **And Much More!**

Times are tough. Every penny counts...especially in our children's classrooms. Not sure if you have the money to donate? Here's an idea – cut out one fast food meal a month and donate that savings to your child's school.

Together, we can make a difference!

PRIZES:

- Top Money Earner K-3rd grade.....**iPod touch 8GB**
- Top Money Earner 4th-6th grades...**iPod touch 8GB**
- In addition, each classroom will have it's own "class fundraising goal." If a classroom meets their goal, they will be given a pizza party.
- All students who participate in the Panther Prowl will receive a Panther Prowl key chain to attach to their backpacks.

The **Panther Prowl Kick-Off Assembly** will be Friday, October 7th. Panther Prowl pledge sheets will go home in Friday Folders, October 7th.

Volunteer help is needed to run the event on October 21st. Volunteers may sign up to help out online by visiting http://www1.mysignup.com/cgi-bin/view.cgi?datafile=pv_prowl

*Please help make our 1st Panther Prowl a **HUGE** success!*

Questions? Contact committee chairs:

Amy Oselinsky aoselinsky@yahoo.com 408-307-3177

Jill Moyer jbmoyer1@aol.com 408-221-2647



Panther Den

Our Home and School Association sponsors an incentive program for good behavior for all students at Paradise Valley. The program was initiated and implemented two years ago by Principal Phil Duncan. The goal of the program is to create a culture of safe, responsible, and respectful children. Students earn Panther Pride tickets from campus staff members when they are "caught" being safe, being responsible, and being respectful toward others. Once the students earn tickets, they have an opportunity to "shop" at the Panther Den. This store provides prizes in exchange for earned tickets. Parent volunteers keep the store stocked with prizes and schedule shopping times. This happens about every two weeks during the students' morning recess times, and will be held on Fridays.

The tickets that are being given out this year have been changed to a green colored ticket. For those children who have tickets from last year, they can exchange those tickets with their teachers or they can hold onto them and use them at a "one time only" Panther Den held on Dec. 16th.

This year's first Panther Den was held on Friday, September 30th. The next Panther Den's will be October 14th and 28th. We will have Halloween items along with our regular prizes.

We gladly accept donations (prizes) for all grade levels. Cash donations are also welcomed! Thank you for your support.

The Panther Den Committee

Joan Daniels jydc@charter.net

Farisa Van Der Velde fdvelde@hotmail.com

Back to School BBQ & Carnival

We had a GREAT turnout for our Back to School BBQ. Everyone enjoyed the many activities. Thank you to all who came out and supported this event and to all our wonderful volunteers that made this event a huge success. We raised over \$10,000! Great job PV!

Book Fair

Thank you for all the support of our annual Book Fair. Our book fair raises funds to purchase books for the library and the classroom. Thank you to all the hard working volunteers for their continued support!

Book Fair Committee

Michawn Giovannoni,
Marilyn Burke & Cheryl Ansbro



Paradise Valley Home & School Association 2011-2012 Executive Board

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