



Paradise Valley School Paw Print

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Principal's Monthly Message

Dear Paradise Valley Families:

Spring has sprung at PV! Our campus has a renewed sense of jubilation thanks to the **blacktop painting** efforts that **Amy Oselinsky** coordinated. A group of parents and staff members descended upon our school over spring break and a subsequent Saturday to paint our United States map, the four square games, hopscotch, the centers of the basketball courts, our tether ball circles and the new dodge ball circle. A student sought me out during recess and shared, "**Mrs. Benadom, wow, Paradise Valley really does look like paradise now.**" Thank you for this gift!

The month of May, will be focused on ensuring that students are prepared for their transition to the next grade level. **Instruction will remain strong and focused** through our very last day, **June 6th**. Although we will celebrate the culmination of our hard work in a variety of ways, we still want our Panthers to remember there is much academic work to continue in the weeks ahead. Teachers will participate in cross grade level conversations to articulate common practices for the coming year and as a staff we will finalize our goals for 13-14 so that we are ready upon return in August.

Here are some very **special events** to keep in your sights for the month of May. Our sixth grade students will be at **Science Camp** the week of **May 13th through the 17th**. All **second grade** students will be putting on a performance in our cafeteria on **May 22nd**. Our **Open House** will take place on **May 23rd from 6:30pm – 8:00pm**. After all of that, let's take the day off on **Monday, May 27th to recoup!** (It's Memorial Day, No school.)

Please keep the following reminders at the forefront of your minds. **Student supervision** is available in the morning **starting at 7:25am**. To ensure your child's safety, please do not drop your child off before this time. **After school there is no staff supervision of students**. Please make certain that you supervise your children as you exit the campus. **Also, parents, please do not park in the staff parking lot during**

the day. At times teachers need to leave campus during their lunch time and when they return there are no parking spots. We appreciate your support in this area.



Finally, I would like to address the **classroom placement process for students** next year. During late May, teachers will undergo a thorough process of creating new classes for the 13-14 school year. For the purposes of this explanation, I will utilize a 3 classroom per grade level scenario. Teachers will take their current classes and divide those students into groups of 3 that are balanced by gender, reading level, math ability, and behavior. We will then take one-third from one class and pair it with one-third from each of the remaining classes so that the new class contains approximately 10 of the same students from their previous year placement. Once this initial formation takes place, teachers will re-examine these lists to determine if there are conflicts in regards to any of the balancing parameters that we are considering. As principal, I have a list of students that require special placement due to a variety of circumstances and I will work closely with the teachers to ensure this carries through. Once lists have been finalized, they will remain under lock and key until they are posted prior to opening day in August. **I share this with you because parents have been reaching out to me with requests for teachers for the upcoming school year. Please understand, I cannot equitably honor such requests and will therefore not accept specific requests for teachers from parents.** Our staff understands that it is very important that your child spend their year in a classroom where they will receive the best education possible. We will be very thoughtful and diligent in our placement process.

I appreciate your continued commitment to your children and our school community!

In your service,

Erika Benadom

Principal



UPCOMING EVENTS



May

- 2 **2nd Gr. Fieldtrip** to Machado School
- 3 **STAR Testing ends**
- 3 **Chess Club Tournament/Cafeteria/2:10pm**
- 6-10 **Staff Appreciation Week**
- 8 **Twin Day-** Show your PV spirit!!
- 9 **Staff Appreciation Luncheon**
- 9 **DELAC Mtg/ 6:00 pm/ District Office**
- 10 **Panther Den**
- 10 **Chess Club Awards/ Library**
- 13 **6th Graders leave for science camp!**
- 15 **Spring Open House/ 6:30-8:00 pm**
- 16 **School Site Council, 2:15/Cafeteria**
- 16 **ELAC Mtg/ 6:00 pm/ Library**
- 17 **6th Graders return from science camp!**
- 21 **Home & School Mtg., 7:50 am/ Cafeteria**
- 22 **2nd Grade Performance**
- 22 **Neon Day-** Show your PV Spirit!!
- 23 **Open House, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm**
- 24 **Panther Den**
- 27 **NO SCHOOL, Memorial Day**
- 30 **Volunteer Tea**
- 31 **Panther Den**
- 31 **PV Book Swap**

PV Staff Appreciation Week **May 6- May 10th**

Staff appreciation week is coming up! Please remember to show our teachers & staff how much you appreciate them! Have your child send in a heartfelt note, drawing, card or flower that lets our staff know how much they are valued!!



June



- 3-6 **Kinder early release time**
- 3 **Kinder BBQ,**
- 3 **6th Grade- Aquatic Center**
- 4 **Hawaiian Sunglasses Day**
- 4 **Field Day, Grades k-3**
- 5 **K-5 Awards Assembly/ Cafeteria**
- 6 **6th Grade Promotion/ 9:00am/ Cafeteria**
- 6 **LAST DAY OF SCHOOL, Minimum Day/ 12:50 pm release!!**



May's Checklist

- Please locate and return any **PV Library books** to your child's classroom.
- Current 6th graders: Get your required **Tdap booster** before the 1st day of 7th grade.
- Have your children redeem their tickets for great prizes at the **Panther Den** by May 31st.
- Turn in any **Box Tops** or **Labels for Education**. Don't forget to label them with our child's Name and name of their Teacher.
- Purchase all of your end of the year **teacher or graduation gift cards** through PV eScrip program. www.shopwithscrip.com
- Attend PV's **H&SA** last meeting of the school year on May 21st.

PNO Art Auction

The **Annual Paradise Valley Parent's Night Out** just does not happen; it is put together by a group of dedicated volunteers and a team of amazing parents that take on a wide variety of jobs and responsibilities. One major component of the evening is the **Classroom Art Auction**. This year, a great number of parents stepped forward to put their creative talents to the test and some truly unique pieces of art were created. **The parents** that bid on and took home these masterpieces are truly thankful. **The teachers** are appreciative of the help you provided their students in making the art pieces this year and the school at large is grateful for the money that was raised. **The PNO Art Auction Coordinator is beyond impressed and proud of your efforts. Cheers to you parents!**

A special thanks to:

Amy Lara, Amy Oselinsky, Becky Adams, Becky Oswald, Brenda Sandoval, Cristy Geig, Debbie Hernandez, Denise David, Gino Borgioli, Isabel Villa, Jill Moyer, Jin McGarvey, Joan Daniels, Joanna Murray, John Kovac, Julia Raia, Karen Fitch, Kathleen Nguyen, Kathy Tom, Kelley Chimienti, Kimy Martinez, Marciel Ibarrola, Maria Sjolund, Melissa McMorro, Mimi Beauchesne, Nicole Burke, Nicole Chaison, Nicole Weeks, Niki Taylor, Peggy Faz, Piper Dietz, Raelene Spisak, Rowena Shuma, Sheena Lloyd, Tara Miller & Tracey Nguyen.

School Blacktop Goes Multicolored!

What a difference color makes! A **BIG Thanks** goes out to our volunteer PV families, teachers, and staff for taking time out of their busy schedules to help paint our school blacktop. If you haven't been out to see it yet, please do! It really is quite remarkable! It took two long days of painting and another long day of re-stripping by our custodial staff to get the project done.

Another **BIG Thank You** goes out to our local **ACE Hardware store**. ACE was wonderful in fulfilling our paint needs and offered a discount on paint and supplies. **Please support our local ACE Hardware store** as they have supported Paradise Valley.

Amy Oselinsky



Project Cornerstone

Last month, our Project Cornerstone Readers read the book ***Chrysanthemum*** by **Kevin Henkes**. *Chrysanthemum* is the story of a young child who **loves her unique name** until she goes to school and discovers not everyone thinks her name is as wonderful as she does. Her classmates **tease her with put downs and make fun of her** unusual name. With the help of her supportive parents and two caring teachers, **she learns that her name is special... and so is she!**

Teasing and making fun of people is known as **verbal bullying**. It is very hurtful for children. The Project Cornerstone program is hoping to greatly reduce verbal bullying at our school. Research shows that children who are victims of this type of behavior don't do as well academically as those who feel safe and cared about by their peers.

One of the techniques taught to the children is to use **I messages**. An *I message* empowers students being teased by giving them a way to assert their feelings, without *taking the bait* of the teaser. The format of the *I message* is:

1. **I feel...**
2. **When....**
3. **I would like...**



For example: "**I feel upset when you tease me and call me four eyes. I would like you to stop.**" The message should be delivered with eye contact, good posture, and in a calm, clear voice.

By encouraging your child to **practice** their new social skills, **reviewing** the Project Cornerstone Activity on the back of the Parent letter, **empowering** them to make a difference by treating each other kindly, and by you **being the adult he/she can tell and make a report**, you become that **all important adult role model** for your child. Thanks for your help!

For more information on Project Cornerstone or to find out how you can be a Project Cornerstone Volunteer at our school, please contact **Diana Gill, Paradise Valley Project Cornerstone Coordinator** at diding@yahoo.com



Send any comments and articles to
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