



Ormondale Press

A monthly newsletter to connect with our community.

Be Respectful! Be Responsible! Be Safe! Be Kind!

Dear Families,

We have a lot to be proud of here at Ormondale School.

Today, was Viajando en Espanol and what a day we had at Ormondale! Our enthusiastic Spanish teacher, Senora Covotta and her dedicated crew of parent volunteers organized a festive day of food, dance, pinatas and fun! Over the course of the last few weeks during Spanish class the children have been making pinatas and fans to decorate the MUR for this day-long event. Each classroom at each grade level became a Spanish speaking country and children at each grade level visited all of the classes in their grade to learn a bit about that country and to participate in a cultural activity. The day culminated with a flamenco dance demonstration and a performance by our first grade students. I cannot even tell you how fun the day was - you just have to take my word for it - it was GREAT!

Then there was the first grade PBL - America the Beautiful. Darling little first grade students dressed in costume making a speech about the American icon or symbol that they chose to study. Amazing! This is a huge project for them and for their teachers and they did not disappoint!

Our TK/K students just completed their unit on insects and they are ENTOMOLOGISTS! They learned about all different insects through poems and songs and they capped off their learning by building a Bagel Bug with their dads or a special friend. All of the adult attendees had a wonderful time seeing the kids recite their poems and learning from them about the insects they studied but for the little ones, the best part was eating the bagel bug!

Flat Stanley spent some time in second grade. It was so fun for the kids to receive letters and postcards from near and far. They are learning all about geography so this was a perfect activity to introduce them to the world of maps and charts. They also just served everyone Avocado Smoothies (avocado was the super food for March). They take their survey taking job very seriously when they ask for opinions from the other students about whether they liked the taste of their monthly creation. FYI - most first through third graders were not too hot on the Avocado smoothie! The survey got a lot of "It tastes yucky!"

Third grade is preparing for statewide testing in the beginning of May as well as their final PBL here at Ormondale, the Pioneer Days. Each class has now visited the Woodside Store to get a taste of what life was like back in those days. I had a chance to join Mr. Rickert's class on this trip and what a wonderful local resource. I have lived here my entire life and had no idea that it was even there!

Rehearsals for Alice in Wonderland are in full swing. Mr. White, the cast and parent volunteers are working hard to bring us a first class show on May 24.

Finally, I hope that many of you are planning to attend the PVSF gala - FANfare under the stars at Corte Madera on Saturday, April 22. It is sure to be a great event!

Happy Spring!
Lynette Hovland

Calendar Reminders

*This month our Life Skill is **FRIENDSHIP**
April's Super Food is **SPINACH***

Monday, 4/3 - Monday Morning Meeting
8:15-8:25 a.m. on the Blacktop; Ms. Pellegrini's class leads the school song
- PVSD PTO Night at Amici's in Menlo Park

Tuesday, 4/4 - Grade 2 Field Trip to Full Circle Farm - Mrs. Bouman and Mrs. Wong's classes

Wednesday, 4/5 - Third Grade Parent Coffee
8:30-9:30 a.m. at Corte Madera School

Thursday, 4/6 - Grade 2 Field Trip to Full Circle Farm - Mr. Ahlback and Ms. Grech's classes
- PTO Bingo Night 6:00-7:30 p.m. in the MUR

Friday, 4/7 - TK and Kindergarten Field Trip to Elkus Ranch

Monday, 4/10 - Friday, 4/14 - Spring Break

Monday, 4/17 - School Resumes
Monday Morning Meeting
8:15-8:25 a.m. on the Blacktop; Mr. Rickert's class leads the school song

VTP Outreach Meeting/Parent Education Night
6:00-8:00 p.m. at the East Palo Alto Academy

Tuesday, 4/18 - PTO Founder's Day Event
4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Town Center

Saturday, 4/22 - PVSF FANfare Fundraising Event
6:00-10:00 p.m. at Corte Madera School

Monday, 4/24 - Monday Morning Meeting
8:15-8:25 a.m. on the Blacktop; Ms. Trefero's class leads the school song

Tuesday, 4/25 - School Site Council Meeting
3:15-4:15 p.m. in the Library

Wednesday, 4/26 - Grade 2 PBL Presentation - "Playground of Heroes" from 8:30-9:15 a.m.

School Board Meeting
6:00-8:00 p.m. at the District Office Annex

Thursday, 4/27 - Curriculum Overview and Tour
Incoming 1st Grade Parents - 8:30 - 9:05 a.m.
Incoming 2nd and 3rd Grade Parents - 9:15 - 9:55 a.m.
Meet first in the library.

Friday, 4/28 - CMS Maker Faire
12:00 - 4:00 p.m. at Corte Madera

CMS Maker Faire

The Makery Club at Corte Madera School will be hosting the PVSD's 1st Annual School Maker Faire on Friday, April 28 from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. at CMS.

A school Maker Faire is a showcase of projects created by students - inventors, tech enthusiasts, hobbyists, crafters, artists and DIYers. During the faire you will have the opportunity to talk with students and other presenters about their passions.

If your child would like to present a project that he/she has made in our STEM Lab or created at home with or without parent help, the CMS team would love to have them come and present. Please see the attached flyer for details.

CMS is looking for a few adults to help run hands-on activity stations. If interested in volunteering or sharing your passion, please contact Maker Coach, Sarrie Paguirigan at spaguirigan@pvdsd.net

Principal's Book of the Month

The life skill for March was COOPERATION. After our celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday, our classrooms received their monthly "gift" from Ms. Hovland. The March Book of the Month was An Operation of Cooperation by James McDonald. Written in prose it is a story about a brother and sister who learn that working together makes for a much brighter day. There is a discussion question at the end of the book that sparked conversation in many classrooms about cooperation.

The life skill for April is FRIENDSHIP. Classrooms will be receiving the book, Bad Apple - A Tale of Friendship by Edward Hemingway. This is one of our Counselor, Mrs. Miller's favorite books so she will be using it as a part of her SEL lessons during the month of April.

Kindergarten Registration

Registration for Transitional Kindergarten (TK) and Kindergarten for the 2017-2018 school year began at the end of January. While the unofficial "deadline" for registering is April 1, we will continue to take registration for TK and Kindergarten throughout the rest of the spring.

Calling All Incoming Fourth Grade Parents!

"What goes on over there at CMS?" "What is the Gold Rush trip?" "How about those Cocoa Breakfasts?" "Where do kids sit at lunch?" "How can it be possible that my child is ready for moving on to Corte Madera School?"

Incoming Fourth Grade Parents, please join us at CMS in room 303 (Mrs. Hartman's classroom) for a coffee and chat on Wednesday, April 5 from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Superintendent Eric Hartwig, CMS Principal Cyndi Maijala and Ormondale Principal, Lynette Hovland will be in attendance as well as "seasoned" parents of students who are currently attending Corte Madera School. Come and have a chat. We will be there to answer your questions about all things big and small. Our aim is to make your child's transition from Ormondale to Corte Madera as smooth as possible. So, let's meet over a coffee and learn more about CMS at this relaxed and informal information session. See you there!

Action Needed! Intent to Return

We are at the time of year when we are preparing our staffing for the upcoming school year. It is crucial for the district to have an idea of how many students we anticipate being enrolled for the 2017-18 school year.

If your child is a TK - 2 grade student and will not be attending school in the PVSD next year and will be enrolled in another school outside of the district (private, charter public) or you are moving out of the area, please inform our school office by April 28.

If your child is a 3rd grade student who will not be attending Corte Madera but will be enrolled in at another school outside of the Portola Valley School District (public, private, charter), please email Ms. Hovland at hovland@pvdsd.net by April 5 so that this information can be shared with the Corte Madera administration.

Students who are leaving at the end of the year do need to be withdrawn. This is a simple process that you should do prior to the last day of school.

If you will be continuing at Ormondale or moving on to Corte Madera, there is no action required.

In order to be eligible for Kindergarten, a child must be five years of age by September 1. Children born between September 2 and December 1 are eligible for Transitional Kindergarten.

The following documents are required for registration:

- Proof of residency (copy of Property Taxes or Notarized Lease)
- Birth Certificate
- Immunization Record to date

Parents of eligible students should bring the above listed documents to school and will receive paperwork to fill out. Once paperwork has been turned in, parents will receive instructions on how to start a registration account for their child in order to complete online registration.

“Parent Talk and Tours”

It has been a tradition here at Ormondale to open classrooms to current K-2 parents for a tour to see what the next grade looks like. This year, we will be doing this a little differently. On Thursday, April 27, current kindergarten through grade 2 parents will be invited to a curriculum overview/talk and tour with Ms. Hovland. The brief overview of the grade level will take place in the library and then a short tour of grade level classrooms will take place so that you can see the work being done at the appropriate grade level.

The schedule of “Talk and Tour” will be as follows:

8:30 - 9:05 for **Current** Kindergarten parents

9:15 - 9:55 for **Current** First and Second grade parents

Traffic Safety Reminders

As the weather gets better we hope to see more children and parents walking and biking to school. With the possibility of more children (and adults) on foot or bicycle around our campus, please be reminded of some basic safety guidelines provided by our School Resource Officer, Deputy Ron DeRespini.

The Sheriff’s Office recognizes the traffic/safety concerns in and around both PVSD schools and is partnering with the Town and the school district to make sure children maintain their safe routes to school.

1. The Sheriff’s Dept. will ramp up speeding, stop sign and crosswalk enforcement in the area; not only in the area of the school but also extending into surrounding areas.
2. Drivers should remember to come to a complete stop at all stop signs and take particular care in looking in all directions before driving into any intersection.
3. The law states that if a pedestrian is in the process of walking in a crosswalk, no vehicles shall travel into the crosswalk until the pedestrian has completely cleared that crosswalk.
4. Do not stop in the crosswalks.
5. Do not try to speed up around the pick-up line.
6. Remember that you cannot turn left onto Shawnee Pass between 7:45 a.m. and 3:15 p.m.
7. Parents should not use the back parking lot/bus turn around as a drop off or pick up location due to the bus turn around. This is dangerous for children and for drivers attempting to get out of the lot on to Shawnee Pass.

Please share this information with your caregivers and others who may be dropping off and picking up your child(ren) from school.

Thank you for considering the safety of all members of the Ormondale community.

PTO BINGO PARTY!

It is time to get ready for that annual Spring rite of passage in Portola Valley, the BINGO party!!!

Thursday, April 6th in the MUR here at Ormondale. Starting at 6:00 p.m. with \$2.00 pizza slices and free sparkling water and juices, with the LIVE ACTION kicking off around 6:45 p.m! Plan ahead to attend with the whole family, \$10.00 for a family pack of 24 cards. Fun stampers available. Popcorn and Red Vines complimentary.

BINGO is a PTO fundraiser..... But mostly it is just FUN! Big prizes this year, mark our shift from candy prizes to fun healthy alternatives. Our featured prize is a GoPro package, and there are many more amazing gifts to choose from each round.

If you have a fantastic unopened gift at home that you would like to donate to the gift table this is an excellent opportunity to clear out that fondue set you got for Christmas that you are never going to use! Volunteers are welcome to join us for setup and break down.

DON'T MISS THIS GREAT FAMILY EVENT, it is very lively, and a terrific opportunity to spend time with your school community while getting carried away in the fun!

Questions, donations and volunteers - please contact Rebecca Dawson at booandpo@mac.com or 415-948-9515.

PVSF FANfare

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 22 for the PVSF FANfare to be held from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. at Corte Madera School. This casual, fun-filled adult only event will feature farm to table cuisine, live music for dancing under the stars and an array of our ever popular sign-up parties for kids and adults. The event culminates in a paddle raise for EngageSpace.

EngageSpace is this year's Fund-A-Need or "FAN" the special project that we are raising money for at FANfare 2017. This need is identified by looking at the gaps in both schools' facilities in light of research showing that students don't just crave physical activity, they actually learn better when they're more engaged in their school's outdoor spaces and become more positive about school overall. These spaces will be natural, organic and modular upgrades to both schools' outdoor facilities.

This year FANfare has changed to give it a more relaxed feel while still offering our families and the community a festive event. From wine pulls to raffles, fresh food, a hosted bar and a seat for everyone who purchases a ticket, FANfare keeps the best of our previous fundraisers while adding some new elements to make it engaging and fun while raising funds for our schools.

To purchase tickets go to: www.pvschoolsfoundation.org/how-we-raise-funds/benefit/