

# Buena Vista Elementary School

# Tiger Times

Vision: We will create a community where each child is safe to explore and learn.

---

## Mark the Dates!

### November

- 1 Permit Window Begins, Office open at 7am
- 3 Fall Carnival; 5:30-8:30 pm
- 8 Picture Retakes
- 10 No Students – Veteran’s Day
- 13 PTA Meeting – 6pm in Gym
- 17 Movie Night – 6pm in Gym
- 22-24 No Students – Thanksgiving Break
- 27 BAAC Meeting – 6:30 pm in Gym

### December

- 4 Band/Orchestra Concert, 1:30pm & 6pm
- 22 No Students - Begin Winter Break

## Inclement Weather Delays/Closures

You can check for delays/closures on the D-11 Web site at [www.d11.org](http://www.d11.org), on Adelphia Channel 16 or by calling 520-2300 for a recorded message.

You may also sign up to receive an e-mail notification about delays and/or closures! On the District website, click on D-11 Answers on the left side navigation bar or click the question mark on the top right corner of your screen. When you get into D-11 Answers, click on "My Account." If you already have an account, log in; if not, create a new account. Once logged in, you will see your "User Details." Under "Notification Groups," click "EDIT." Enter your contact information and select which notifications you would like to receive. Click "Submit" to save your changes.

## Buena Vista Fundraising

This year the PTA is using a new program called Adopt a Block Campaign. Students will get pledges from their neighbors in exchange for cleaning up the block on a monthly basis. Students will also participate in the Wal-Mart "Kids Recycling Challenge." Both programs were chosen to offer lessons in community service, taking care of our Earth, as well as an opportunity for family time. Information was distributed to students and will be posted on the school website at [www.d11.org/buenavista](http://www.d11.org/buenavista).

## Dear Parents & Guardians,

Fall is here and the chill is in the air. We have settled into school and finished with the first round of testing. Dibels is done. This reading assessment will be discussed with you at parent teacher conferences. Quarterly benchmark assessments have been taken and we are waiting on the results. Our Terra Nova scores are back and we will be analyzing them at our next Building Accountability and Advisory Committee (BAAC). Initially the results show we are doing well in many areas.

School is not all about assessments so we have also been busy with other facets of student learning. Most teachers have taken their students on various field trips and a large trip to the Philharmonic for 3rd through 5th is coming up. We are also in the process of planting 500 bulbs we received as an award for the school. We are looking toward spring and their beauty.

Thank to everyone for the outstanding 1st annual Arts-a-Palooza. If you were unable to attend or did not catch the news on Channel 5/30 then visit our website for great pictures of the activities our kids participated in. It looks like a new tradition has been born because the students loved it. I would also like to thank the PTA for the great birthday party. Buena Vista turned 95 in style and had alumni from as far back as the 30's in attendance. Dr. Bishop and Michael Merrifield were also in attendance.

I received overwhelming positive response to the Denny McLoughlin training for parents. It is our hope that we will have him again next semester.

Finally, please support us in keeping your students safe. ALL visitors to classrooms MUST check into the office prior to going to the classroom. All visitors MUST WEAR a name tag. Any adult without a name tag will be questioned and directed to the office. In addition, please have your students ONLY cross at a cross walk or an ADULT walk them across the street. It is all of our jobs to keep students safe and we appreciate your support.

Sincerely,  
Brenda Smith, Principal

### Permit Information

November 1st is the first day D-11 schools can accept permits for the 2007-2008 school year. Families who would like to permit into Buena Vista next school year, can stop by the office to fill out a permit form. This permit process places a student, from outside the BV boundaries, on a wait list for the Montessori Program.

Parents, we are sorry if you have experienced dropped calls or no phone service when calling the office this year. Thank you for your patience as the district works on correcting the problem.

**Building Advisory and Accountability Committee (BAAC) Flash, Lynne Casebeer, Chair**

District 11 has many district-wide opportunities for involvement. There is much to learn about how the District operates and the pressures they are under from government mandates handed down by the Colorado Department of Education. Having representation from Buena Vista on these committees is very important. Not only can members of district committees inform us about issues at the district level, they can give Buena Vista a voice in policy-making and really make a difference in the future of our school and its programs. The District Accountability and Advisory Committee's Accreditation subcommittee is one such group on which BV would like to have representation. These meetings are held monthly in the evenings. Please contact Ms. Smith if you are interested in helping Buena Vista in this way. The next Buena Vista BAAC meeting will be held Monday, November 27th at 6:30 p.m. - all are welcome to attend.

**Buena Vista Skate Night A Success**

Not only was Family Skate Night great fun, we also raised \$130.50 for recess equipment and Field Day. A total of 87 Buena Vista skaters attended. They skated non-stop for 2 hours, then went home sweaty, tired, and with a big smile on their faces!! Plan to join the fun at our next Family Skate Night on January 31st!

**Volunteer Corner, Grace Blea-Nunez**

Thank you parent volunteers who came and assisted with Arts a Palooza. It was a fun event on a wonderful, warm fall day. Thank you also to all those parents who are helping in classrooms and driving on field trips. You are greatly appreciated. Upcoming volunteer needs include the Welcoming Committee who will be beginning school tours for interested families and helping coordinate School Choice Permit Day and the annual Fall Carnival (Nov. 3rd).

This month we highlight Junior Great Books which is a language arts program that helps students increase their reading comprehension, develop stronger critical-thinking skills and improve their writing. Parents are needed to bring this program to all the classes here at BV. Small groups of students meet on a regular basis with a parent to read, discuss and write about classic stories from around the world. A training session will be held for parent volunteers and the program comes with a teacher guide including worksheets.

**PTA Message, Ruth Roland, president**

PTA has been having a blast this fall promoting BVES and providing student enrichment opportunities. PTA provided streamers, balloons and bubbles for 60+ students and parents who decorated bikes, scooters and skateboards and marched behind a new school banner in the Coronado High School Homecoming Parade with Travis the Tiger. We also provided cake, punch and publicity for the our 95th Birthday Party and began work on the 06/07 Student Directory. Thanks to Lisa Hyde for taking the lead!

The Fall Carnival is coming up on Friday, November 3rd at 5:30pm. Thanks to Vicki Robertson for organizing this event. Movie Night may be one of the best kept secrets on the west side: popcorn, soda, pickles and suckers all priced at a quarter, and a kid-friendly film for free! Bring your lawn chair, pillows and sleeping bags to the gym on Friday, November 17th at 6:00pm; movie title to be announced.

Please come to any of the PTA-sponsored activities and monthly meetings this year – they are designed for you! Our next meeting is Monday, November 13th at 6:00pm. Childcare will be provided. Please contact me at 471-1399 for any additional information you may need.

In closing, we are thankful for....

Jill Murphy, owner of Pita Pit restaurants for sponsoring a PTA fundraising night. We received 20% of the total cash register receipts for 4 hours, a total of \$125.

Derek and Brian of Cheyenne Mountain Martial Arts Center for donating the fees from students in their karate classes at BVES.

BVES Parents and PTA members Michelle Moore, Liz Kinney and Virgil Trembly for working with Principal Brenda Smith on the school's Crisis Plan.

Our professional educators and staff

**McCort's Musings:**

As I write this, I'm on the road. I've been thinking about the importance of reading aloud to children and realizing how much I enjoy someone reading aloud to me. There are the books on tape that are kept close at hand so the drive seems to fly by, there's the shared reading each evening and the poem that is meant to be shared at a special time with a group of friends.

How rich you are able to make the lives of your children by reading aloud to them. It can deepen your lives together, develops vocabulary, helps your child to visualize and deepens comprehension. If you haven't tried it for a while, try it tonight. Snuggle up with your child and make it a special evening, creating memories. Then stop by the library another day and pick up some wonderful books or audio books (CD or tape) to enjoy with your family. It's a magnificent way to bring the family together for shared literacy! Come by my office (Evelyn McCort) or give me a call (328-4138) if you'd like more information about reading aloud.

## Program News

### News from the gym...

Our fitness testing should be completed by the first part of November. Look for results of that testing to come home in Friday Folders. For more fitness related fun and information, check out: [www.kidshealth.org](http://www.kidshealth.org). It is a great site that has kid friendly games and information on a variety of health related topics. Sites specifically for "Parents" and "Teens" are also available. There is a good article on the "Connect With Kids" website about how Physical Education can Lead to Better Grades.

[http://www.connectwithkids.com/tipsheet/2006/300\\_sep27/thisweek/060927\\_exercise.shtml](http://www.connectwithkids.com/tipsheet/2006/300_sep27/thisweek/060927_exercise.shtml)

Please remind your children to wear appropriate shoes for PE classes. Inappropriate shoes can become a safety issue in class and at recess for the person wearing them, as well as for those who may be hit by a flying shoe.

We will use the remainder of November to incorporate our newfound fitness knowledge into movement. Fundamental movement skills become the foundation for the specialized sport skills needed to perform successfully in a wide variety of games, sports, dance, and recreational activities. These movement skills are generally divided into three categories:

- ☞ Locomotor movement skills (walking, running, jumping, hopping, skipping, sliding, leaping, climbing)
- ☞ Manipulative movement skills (throwing, catching, kicking, trapping, striking, volleying, bouncing, ball rolling)
- ☞ Stability movement skills (bending, stretching, twisting, turning, landing, stopping, dodging, balancing)

Movement activities play an important roll in overall development. The elementary years are recognized as the critical time for mastering these fundamental movement skills. Maturation alone will not account for this development. Younger children focus on mastering these movements with control, efficiency, and coordination. Older children refine their skills and develop mature movement pattern eventually combining and applying these skills in games, sports, dance, etc.

### Gifted and Talented Information

Parents who are interested in learning more about the gifted program at District #11, may want to attend an information meeting on November 2 at the Tesla Auditorium from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. Gary Marx, the district's GT facilitator, will be present and there will be opportunities for questions/answers. Topics will include characteristics, identification, program options, and social-emotional issues. If you have further questions about the meeting, you may contact the district's Gifted and Talented office at 520-2464.

### Art

Buena Vista's first annual Arts-a-Palooza festival was celebrated on Monday, October 2, 2006 from 12:15-2:30pm. This was a chance for students, teachers, parents, and the community alike to get together and celebrate all forms of the arts, from visual arts to music to creative movement. Groups of students and teachers moved through a series of five different stations, each lasting 30 minutes, where they were free to take part in hands-on arts experiences. There were a total of nineteen stations in all.

Buena Vista's staff and students would like to thank the following people and businesses for volunteering their time and/or materials and helping to make Arts-a-Palooza the success that it was: Grace Blea-Nunez, Suzanne Burkle, Heidi Cooper, Jen Estes, Angie Carlson, Jene Hanna, Catch Avion, Daisy McConnell, Jerilyn Winstead, Chris Alvarez, Satu Nurmi, Christine Colvin, Tom Burkle, Tim Davis, Pat Gulya and Dancing Hearts Studio, Debbie Joyous, Heather Raffiki, Gabe Locke, Paul Johnson and the Drum Academy, Kevin Mester, Marina Eckler, Cheyenne Mountain Martial Arts Center, Lisa Gonzales, and Sarah Hope.

### Buena Vista Adventure Club (BVAC)

BVAC welcomes new member, first grader *Jakob Sharp*. Jakob joins us as we continue our exploration of Ancient Egypt, folktales, and world geography. Coming in November, we will focus on the coming holidays, taking care of our pets and dental health. Parents and teachers, please remind your students to bring their homework with them to the Club. Each day students are given ample time to complete most or all of their assignments. If your child needs special assistance in a subject, please let us know so that we can support what is happening in their classroom.

The BVAC is open on all "school out days", unless they fall on certain national holidays. Please remember to sign your child up if you want him/her to attend. We often schedule field trips on these days. In October, we went bowling and roller skating. Several students made strikes and spares at King Pin Bowling Center, including Zach New with two back-to-back strikes. Allyson Stanley, an avid ice skater and competitor, also excelled on the roller skating ring at Skate City.

We want to extend a huge thank you for setting up our computer with easy access to learning software programs that we sorely needed!!!!

Pay Online for school meals with your credit card! You may use Visa or MasterCard by following the link at: <http://www.d11.org/fns/payonline.htm>. You will need your child's student ID number, which may be found on their Student ID card or by calling the kitchen at 328-4132.

## Classroom News

### Primary Classroom News (Miss Paula, Miss Catherine, Miss Carolyn)

A big thank you to all the Kindergarten parents who accompanied us on our field trip to Starsmore Discovery Center. The children had a wonderful time.

Make sure you save the date of Wednesday, Nov. 8 from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. for our next Parent Education event. Childcare and refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP to 328-4100 if you will need childcare so we can make adequate arrangements. Our presentation will be on Montessori Curriculum - the Practical Life and Sensorial areas of the classroom - and will include demonstrations of some of the materials the children use in class.

We will be having our annual Thanksgiving Soup Feast in November - more details to come in Friday folders!

We also want to thank all the parents for their understanding and cooperation as we continue to refine our routines for arrival and dismissal. The children's safety and learning are our first concerns and we appreciate your patience as we work to improve these procedures.

How fast times fly when you're having fun!!! This quarter has been action packed and exciting for **Mrs. Neuharth's 4<sup>th</sup>** grade. We are doing some fun graphing with numbers, whether positive or negative, wonderful writing and of course some great science. This upcoming quarter we will dabble in poetry. Please remember to check out the Friday folders every Friday and their homework planners nightly!!

It's easy to reach me by email me at [rickscl@d11.org](mailto:rickscl@d11.org) or 328.4141 for our classroom. Don't forget to come and check out what we've been looking at!!

### Did you know?

- ☞ The automated calling system will call you back up to 3 times if you hang up during the message?
- ☞ The automated calling system calls the main phone number listed on the student record whether it's a home or cell phone. Also, it can't complete long distance calls.
- ☞ If you have a tele-zapper or no solicitation message on your phone, the system won't complete the call?



As this goes to press, the **Ms. Garsoe's 5th** Grade is preparing for a Field Trip to Fountain Creek Nature Center. It's snowy outside, so I hope that everyone is bundled up for the day. We will be seeing the gorgeous sanctuary that protects many watery creatures such as turtles, great blue herons, beavers, shrimp, ducks, geese and all sorts of species. The students have made beautiful ecosystems with a terrarium on top (isopods and crickets live there) and an aquarium on the bottom (guppies and snails live there,) so we have had a first hand opportunity to study the way an ecosystem works. We had our first contribution to Golden Bell by Mr. Gene, and students earned over \$20 at Movie Night. November brings us the Colorado Springs Philharmonic trip on the 9th, and then Thanksgiving Holiday. In the midst of it all, we are learning metric measures; mean, median, mode and range; negative numbers and graphing. Parents continue to be our greatest support! Also, we want to thank our classroom aide from Colorado College, Stephanie Butler, who has spent the last two months with us. We are sad to say good-bye to her delightful spirit.

### PTA Fall Carnival

Friday, November 1

5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Invite your neighbor, come with your child  
and have a great time!

### Arts-A-Palooza - Art Images

It was a pleasure to teach the artful and enthusiastic BV students at the recent Arts-A-Palooza Day. In my classes they learned to design and construct their own rubber stamps. Watching them concentrate, use their imaginations, and carry out their designs, reminded me how important art had been in my own student life. The imagination, nurturing and skills I received in art class allowed me to be a creative problem solver, often using drawings to develop and explain my concepts in other classes.

Now, after a career teaching mathematics, I am a full time artist. My photographs can be seen at Rico's Cafe and Wine Bar in the Poor Richards complex downtown on Tejon Street, at the Pikes Peak Center on October 21 from 10 AM until 2 PM, and at Gunter-Wolff Gallery in Old Colorado City. Thank you for letting me work with your students during this special event.

Tim Davis, **Art Images**

website: [www.timdavisartimages.com](http://www.timdavisartimages.com)