

# Buena Vista Elementary School

# Tiger Times

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

## Mark the Dates!

### April

- 4 Class and Individual Picture Day
- 4 Family Fundraiser - Pizza Hut on W. Colo. Ave.
- 9 PTA Meeting, 6:00 pm in Lounge
- 13 Movie Night in Gym – 6 pm-7:30 pm
- 18 Family Fundraiser - Pizza Hut on W. Colo. Ave.
- 23 BAAC Meeting, 6:30 pm in Gym
- 26 K and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Transitional Tea – 3pm
- 26 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade Musical - Gym
- 27 No Students – Assessments
- 27 Kindergarten Registration Begins

### May

- 1 Skate Night at Skate City – 6 pm – 8 pm
- 2 Family Fundraiser - Pizza Hut on W. Colo. Ave
- 7 Band/Orchestra Concert – 1:30 pm and 6 pm
- 16 Field Day
- 16 Family Fundraiser - Pizza Hut on W. Colo. Ave
- 18 K Transition Celebration
- 22 5<sup>th</sup> grade Graduation – 6:30 pm
- 24 Last day of School

## Our last Family Skate Night... Tuesday, May 1st

Join us at 6pm on Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup> from 6-8 pm at Skate City at 1920 N. Academy Blvd. Cost is \$4 per person and skates are available for \$1 or \$3.50 for in-line. A free Skate City Fun Bus leaves BV at 5:30 pm or you can drive on your own. This evening is intended to be a **family** skate night for families to spend quality time together doing something active. Supervision of students is provided by parents attending with their children. Adult supervision is not provided by Skate City or Buena Vista.

Thus far, we have received \$330.50 from these skate nights! This money will go toward funding Field Day and recess equipment purchases/repairs. BV receives \$1.50 for every paid skater (with a minimum of 50 paid skaters). Call Carrie Delius (328-4125) with any questions.

## Transitional Tea

The Montessori teachers and students will be inviting parents of current K's and 3rd graders to our first annual transitional tea. The purpose of the tea is to inform parents of students that are transitioning from primary to lower elementary and from lower elementary to upper elementary of those things to expect in the classroom. Invitations will be sent to parents of children that will be transitioning on April 6th with an RSVP. The tea will be April 26th from 3-4:30.



## Dear Parents & Guardians,

Spring has sprung. I hope you have time to enjoy watching the bulbs that the children planted grow. They are just starting to open up as I write this note. With over 500 bulbs planted across the front of the building by the children, spring will be beautiful.

CSAP's are done and we are so proud of how well our students focused. This moment in time snapshot helps us determine where we are and where we need to go. We also appreciate how parents supported the school during this time.

We have many exciting events that will be coming up. It is our hope that you and your child will be able to participate in many of the activities of the spring. First, if you have a chance to run by the administrative building on Uintah, many of our children's art work is on display on the walls. Congratulations to our budding artists. Second, please remember to check out the calendar in the Tiger Times. We have graduation, our transition celebration, our transitional tea, Art & Pie night (with a silent auction) and field day all listed. I hope to see you and your family at these community events.

Sincerely,  
Brenda Smith Barr, Principal

## Read Across America



Dr. Bishop came and read to our students during a wonderful Read Across America day. We want to thank him for his time and the great job he did. We would also like to thank Evelyn McCort who always does an outstanding job of putting together this event.



Miss Lisa and her "train" of Read Across America students

## Phantom of the Music Room

The 4th- and 5th grade spring musical will be performed the evening of Thursday, April 26. Please come and join us to see all the hard work they put in for this wonderful presentation.

### Transition Celebration

Primary teachers are working with Lower El teachers on a transition celebration for K's transitioning to lower elementary next year. The celebration will be the afternoon of May 18<sup>th</sup>. Teachers will work with parents to make sure it is appropriate for their student to take part in the event and each child will receive individual attention to make sure that if a child will be returning to the primary class that they will not be affected in a negative manner. For those that will be moving on to the lower elementary this welcoming ceremony will be wonderful tribute to this transition in development.

### Jump Rope for Heart

A drawing was held on March 8 for those who participated in the Jump for Heart jump rope fundraiser. The following students won different prizes:

Jump ropes: Autumn Gerbo, Joseph Nunez, Samantha Lea, Makayla Bell, Ben Rush, Juan Gonzales, James Bartlett, Finn Studebaker-Willman, Bryce Stevens, Ernest Morris, Dalila Walker, PJ Williams.

Long Ropes: James Finsterwald, Faith Bogans

T-Shirts: Evie Hope-Goldman, Dorian Parker, Torrie Krantz

Sports Bottle: Ben Sutton

Propeller: Hayley Miller

Voice Changer: Morgan Elkins

### "I'm Bored, What Can I Watch?" (Love and Logic Notes)

I was raised in an era when kids knew that it was their responsibility to entertain themselves. When we got bored we asked, "What can we do?" If your kids ask this question, you are doing a good job of parenting.

Many kids today ask, "I'm bored. What can I watch?" This is difficult to combat in an era where television and video games can keep kids in an almost constant state of stimulation.

Research on the brain tells us that this constant excitement can wire a kid's brain to prefer activities that offer immediate stimulation and entertainment. As a result we see many children who cannot handle the slower speed of a normal classroom. These kids see school as boring and often stimulate themselves by acting out.

Our media-driven culture of constant stimulation through TV and video games contributes to the number of kids who need and demand instant gratification. Dr. Ed Hallowell describes these kids as attention-disordered.

Do your kids a favor and limit the amount of time their brains are connected to electronic entertainment. More than one-half hour per day is hurtful to your child's brain.

Learn more about hyperactive children in "Meeting the Challenge" by Jim Fay, Foster W. Cline, M.D. and Dr. Bob Sornson.

### The Backyard Project

Preliminary work has begun on the backyard project. Jen Estes, the chair of the facilities improvement committee, is acting as the lead and partnering with Ms. Smith Barr to work on the first steps of the project. A meeting was held with D-11 facilities to initially review the plan. A rendering of the project is being created and should be to the school prior to spring break. In addition, phases of implementation have been developed. Even though they are numbered they may be implemented in various ways. We will be working on grants, donations, and using site determined bond money to create the new playground. The phases are as follows and final costs have not been determined but approximated):

Phase One -- Preparation (approximately \$15,000)

☞ Dig out 8 inches of Soil to create a fall zone for equipment

☞ Move Sheds in back to another location to enlarge play area

☞ Paint foursquare, states, countries, hopscotch on hardscape behind East cottages

☞ Create hill with soil from digging for students to play king of the hill on

☞ Fill in dug out area with playground gravel

Phase Two -- Installation

☞ Purchase of spinning equipment (approximately \$25,000)

☞ Installation of equipment

Phase Three -- The Fort ( approximately \$20,000)

☞ Design fort, Materials for fort purchases/or play structure, Build fort/play structure

Phase Four -- Peace Pole & Labyrinth (will be used as fund raising, cost is time)

☞ Acquire pole, Layout Labyrinth, Brick fundraiser

Phase Five -- Greenhouse & Gardens (approximately \$30,000)

☞ Purchase materials for Zen/Rock Garden

Xeriscape plants, Boulders, Pour foundation for Greenhouse, Purchase Greenhouse

☞ Run water & electricity to greenhouse

Phase Six -- Soccer field with artificial turf

☞ Purchase & install turf

Phase Seven: Large Greenhouse and move basketball court

☞ Purchase & install large greenhouse, Move basketball court to east side of campus

Phase Eight: Raised Beds (vegetables and herbs)

☞ Create raised beds around the portable, Purchase railroad ties & soil

**Volunteer Corner; Grace Blea-Nunez, coordinator**

Spring is here and with it come two annual events that need parent help! On April 17th we have Art & Pie Night where students display their beautiful art throughout the school and parents come and view it and eat pie! Some whole pies will be available for purchase this year. We need folks to help Ms. Jessica mount and display the artwork for the show in the few days prior to the event as well as bake and serve the pie that night. Please contact me or Jessica if you can help out with this. On May 16th, Field Day is happening. Ms. Delius puts on an amazing event for the kids. She has different stations that are manned by parents and other community volunteers. This is a fun, end of year event. If you can spend the day at school, please consider helping with it. Contact Ms. D or me if you are interested. Finally, please consider your volunteer availability for next year. PTA and BAAC will be looking for new members/officers and we will need a new Volunteer Chair and Coordinator for next year as my two years are up! Some major events occur early in the school year so it's nice to know who is available for those. The Backyard Committee is in ongoing need of new volunteers and assistance. Thanks.

We will be celebrating our volunteers on May 21<sup>st</sup> so look for an update of the time and place in the Tiger Times.

**News from the Gym...**

During April, cup stacking will be winding down. I will be glad to place a group order for students wanting a set of cup stacks. With a group order (minimum of 10 orders), we get a discount price, and you pay no shipping costs. I will be sending home flyers in "Friday folders". Check out this website, [www.speedstacks.com/science/index.htm](http://www.speedstacks.com/science/index.htm), for more info on "Science and Stacking" the brain/body connection. Also in April, we will devote time to the climbing wall and climbing challenges for all students. Older students will work on some sport skills and teamwork challenges. Younger students will work on ball skills... throwing, catching, kicking, trapping, and rolling.

**BV Artists Displayed in District Admin Building**

Thirty BV artists from the primary grades were chosen to have a piece of artwork displayed in the District 11 Administration building for the month of March. After studying the color wheel and discussing the work of Paul Gauguin, the student's project was to warm up our winter blahs by painting a picture based on Gauguin's paintings of the island of Tahiti. Artists were only given the three primary colors of tempera paint (red, yellow, and blue) but were required to mix these to create other colors. The results of the project were bright and vibrant. Each student received a letter of thanks in the mail from D11 Superintendent Dr. Bishop.

**PTA Message, Ruth Roland, president**

Listed below are the PTA members who have agreed to be nominated as 2007-2008 PTA Officers. Thanks to these parents who have agreed to serve next year! Please come to the April meeting to vote in the annual election, Monday, April 9, 6:00pm.

- President – Ruth Roland
- Vice-President – Lynne Casebeer
- Secretary – Sue Spengler
- Treasurer – Priscilla Alston

At its March meeting, PTA members voted to donate 50% of all fundraising money we raise for the rest of this year to the Backyard Project with the remaining 50% allocated to other PTA programs like Field Day. The Backyard Project will probably take a few years to complete, but this year, we have the opportunity to purchase and install 2 or 3 "spinners" similar to those at the America the Beautiful (formerly Confluence) park.

Now there's another reason to plan to attend the Art & Pie Show on Tuesday, April 17th!

1. View original student artwork.
2. Eat pie (50% of proceeds donated to Backyard Project)
3. Bid in the silent auction for a homemade pie which might contain a cash prize! (50% of proceeds donated to Backyard Project).

**Program News**

**Art Club is Coming to Buena Vista**

There will be an after school art club for any interested students during the months of April and May. This will be a great opportunity for students to take part in activities that, due to time constraints, have not been covered during their normal art class. The club for 3rd through 5th graders will take place Wednesdays, from April 11th through May 16th. The club for kindergarten through 2nd graders will take place Thursdays from April 12th through May 17th.

Look for more information and a sign up form that will go home with students in their March 23rd Friday folders, or call Jessica Feis at 328-4144.

All supplies for both sessions of the art club have been provided by Frameworks Gallery and Picture Framing Studio, located at 2236 North Wahsatch Avenue.



## Classroom News

Ms Paula, Ms Carolyn and Ms Catherine's Primary:

The full-day kindergartners in the primary classes will be going to Fountain Creek Nature on April 17 and also in May we will be going to Farm Day at Union Printers. We are looking forward to beautiful weather for both of them.

We will have our pictures soon from our Montessori Workshop trip to New York. We took "Stanley" along, and he is in almost every picture. The children are excited to see them.

We will celebrate our traditional green shakes for St. Patrick's Day on Friday the 16th! Have a wonderful Spring Break!

Ms. Ruth's Lower El

In geography, our class has finished their reports about European countries. We celebrated our new knowledge with an international food day thanks to the help of many wonderful volunteers. In science we have been studying different kinds of rocks and the rock cycle. We will continue observing rocks and studying the minerals they consist of. We went to the Mining Museum on Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup> to learn more about rocks and their importance. In math, many students have resumed the study of triangles. First and second graders are still reading and writing in their Junior Great Book groups.

### Student Work

#### Outside

Burst of Red  
Blue, red, green  
Fireworks going off  
In the glistening  
Moonlight

There's a purple and  
Here goes a silver  
Now more blue and  
Green in the moonlight

Wow a giant  
Burst of red goes  
Up to touch the moon  
With a red cardinal  
By Audrey Carlson (Ms. Garsoe's class)



Ms. Garsoe's 5th grade

The Science Fair was a triumph, and the fifth graders even impressed themselves. It was a great day, getting to enjoy the hard work and showing the projects with beautifully designed science fair boards to eight classes of students, large and small, plus parents and teachers. The next big event is CSAP's and by the time you read this, we will have taken twelve (that's right, 12) tests in reading, writing, math and science. The whole school was involved with all the children taking CSAP's and we turned the tests into a celebration of our knowledge.

Now, April is upon us. We are looking forward to reading the Constitution, studying Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's Paul Revere's Ride, and continuing to work on our novels. We are revisiting geometry, adding 3-D shapes to our vocabulary. And speaking of vocabulary, have your student explain "Vocabulary" to you. Around the corner.....Golden Bell.

### Odds and Ends

Angeline Lillard

On March 16, 2007 a group of Buena Vista parents, teachers, and the principal attended a workshop with Angeline Lillard as a speaker. Ms. Lillard wrote Montessori: The Science Behind the Genius. Lillard discussed Montessori elements and compared them to modern day research on best practices in education.

#### Dress Code

With spring starting we just want to remind parents and students about the dress code at school and in District 11. Students may wear skirts and shorts that cover their legs appropriately (finger tips at the hem). Please be aware that in Montessori classrooms students are on the floor and, if wearing a skirt, students should wear shorts underneath or they should be of significant length for modesty purposes. Students may also wear shirts that have appropriate logos, language and shirts with at least capped sleeves (halters and thin straps are not appropriate).

Parents please help support safety at our school. With no less than thirteen sets of stairs, please help keep the "wheelie" shoes at home. These shoes are not safe on our grounds. If students wear the shoes the wheels must be covered or taken out. Thank you for helping your child stay safe.

#### Family "Fun" draiser Night

The PTA continues to host a family "Fun"draiser Pizza Night at Pizza Hut on Colorado Ave. the first and third Wednesday of each month from 4-8 pm. The PTA receives 20% of all proceeds.