

Buena Vista Elementary School

Tiger Times

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

Mark the Dates!

May

- 1 Skate Night at Skate City – 6 pm – 8 pm
- 2 Family Fundraiser - Pizza Hut on W. Colo. Ave
- 7 Band/Orchestra Concert – 2:00 pm and 6 pm
- 7 BAAC meeting – 6:30 pm
- 11 Conference Day – No Students
- 15 4th & 5th grade Musical – 2:00 pm and 6:30 pm
- 14 PTA meeting – 6:00 pm
- 16 Field Day
- 16 Family Fundraiser - Pizza Hut on W. Colo. Ave
- 18 K Transition Celebration – 1:00 pm
- 21 Volunteer Appreciation
- 21 5th grade Graduation – 6:30 pm
- 23 Last day of School

Family Skate Night... Tuesday, May 1st

Join us at 6pm on Tuesday, May 1st from 6-8 pm at Skate City at 1920 N. Academy Blvd. Cost is \$4 per person with BV getting \$1.50 per skater with 50 paid attendees. 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 to spend quality time together. Adult supervision is not provided by Skate City or Buena Vista.

Thus far, we have received \$330.50 from these skate nights which goes toward funding Field Day and recess equipment purchases/repairs.

Transition Celebration

Primary teachers are working with Lower El teachers on a transition celebration for K's transitioning to lower elementary next year. 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.

Lost and Found

The Lost and Found box on the gym stage is overflowing with clothing items and miscellaneous items from students. Please stop by after school to see if something belongs to your family! Anything not claimed by the end of school will be donated.

Dear Parents & Guardians,

With the end of school closing in on us quickly, I want to direct everyone to our calendars. We have our events posted on line at the Buena Vista website, we have many listed on our marquee on 17th street, in the Friday folders, and our telephone messages home. There are so many events including: transition teas, transition celebrations, plays, musical, concerts, field trips, field day, and so much more that we are trying to keep it all straight. These are great fun-filled events for our students and we hope that you can attend as many as possible.

Summer is almost here and I want to remind everyone about opportunities for learning that continue throughout the summer. Make your vacations educational, explore the world, and just have fun with your children. We look forward to hearing about their adventures when they return in the fall. Don't forget to encourage your child to continue to read during the summer and maybe you can even remind them to keep a journal of their adventures.

Have a great summer and thank you so much for making Buena Vista a wonderful community.

Sincerely,
Brenda Smith Barr, Principal

Kindergarten/Primary Montessori

We are accepting neighborhood five year olds for the free Kindergarten program. The primary Montessori program is 3, 4, and 5 year olds.

The three and four year old program tuition is \$269 per month for ½ day and \$ 400 a month for the full day program (8-2:30). This is a five day program and tuition will not vary from month to month or be reduced for absences. There will be no wrap around service for the 3 and 4 year old students after 2:30 p.m. Your child's position will be guaranteed when we receive your non-refundable first month's payment indicating a ½ day or full day status. This payment will not be refunded without approval of the principal and will serve to pay the last month of your students' attendance in the program. Tuition payments will be due on the 1st of each month. An instructional fee for practical life will be assessed at the beginning of the school year. The fee will be a part of the registration process. At this time we don't have scholarships or a sliding scale available for these fees.

Student Safety

We encourage parents to park and pick your children up by the curb/street. We have noticed some students getting picked up in the staff parking lot. This area has limited parking availability and very small area for cars to turn around which makes it dangerous for students to walk through. Please help us to keep our students safe and encourage students to stay out of the staff parking lot.

The Path to Positive Self-Concept (Love and Logic Notes)

Over the past three decades, psychologists have placed huge emphasis on the importance of having a positive self-concept. Rightly so! How we feel about ourselves may be the single most important factor affecting how motivated we are to succeed in school, the types of friends we select, the person we marry, etc.

Due to its undisputed importance, people have spent tremendous energy trying different approaches to give kids good self-concepts. Listed below are just a few of the many tactics that have created selfish kids rather than ones with a good sense of self:

- ✍ Constant praise
- ✍ Ensuring that they are always the center of attention
- ✍ Making sure that they never encounter any hardships
- ✍ Buying them everything they want
- ✍ Rescuing them from the consequences of their misbehavior
- ✍ Setting no limits so that they can "express their creativity"

There's only one approach that really works, and it's based on the following age-old truism:

The best way to feel good is to do something good.

When parents place a high emphasis on good and respectful behavior, children look at themselves and think, "I act pretty darn good and responsible. I must be pretty darn good and responsible."

True self-concept is developed when children encounter struggles, are taught how to overcome these struggles, and see themselves acting in respectful and responsible ways. Stated quite simply, self-concept is an inside job.

New Immunization Requirements

Incoming kindergartners and 6th graders have new vaccine requirements for school children starting next year. Kindergartners will now be required to have a second dose of varicella (chicken pox) vaccine. History of having had the disease must be provided in writing from the physician. Sixth graders must have an additional Tdap vaccine. Vaccinations are available through your family doctor or the El Paso County Department of Health and Environment at 301 S. Union Blvd.

Beautiful Babies!!

The beautiful baby contest was a huge success! The fifth graders earned \$454.00 to help support their annual trip to Golden Bell. Thank you to all the parents, students and

families for filling up all those cans! The top votes went to Nic Ferrier, Amy Romero, Matthew Bogans, Miette



Hope-

Goldman and Cassie Ruggaber. Thank you again. We will continue this wonderful tradition in the years to come.

Student Work

Mystery

By Malcolm, Ms. Garsoe's 5th grade

What is this bird
You speak of
From this hemlock
Tree?

I know they're charming
But I don't know
The bird named
Crow.

Our Field Trip to Muller State Park

By Alexis, Ms. Clarice's Lower EI

Our field trip to Muller State park was great! We went Snowshoeing and got to go on a hike. We saw scat and bear tracks! There was lots of snow and one of the groups saw a den! In the display room we made animal track rubbings! Also in the display room we saw different kinds of rocks to look at. We also got to listen to elk, bears, and eagle calls and a pioneer conversation! We were very good in the cars too!

Our Field Trip to Fountain Creek Park

By Grace, Ms. Clarice's Lower EI

Our field trip to Fountain Creek Park was a huge success. It was cold and rainy. We saw bunnies, deer and geese. We saw one fawn, a red-winged black bird, mallard-duck and squirrels. It was very fun. We took a walk and saw some scat. We saw a little waterfall when we walked over the bridge. We also saw cattails. We learned that red-winged black birds lay their nests in the cattail. And we rode the bus home. The end.

Volunteer Corner; Grace Blea-Nunez, coordinator

A big thank you to all parents, community and other family members who have volunteered in the classrooms, on field trips and at school events. Volunteers Make a Difference!

As the end of the school year draws near, several major events occur for which volunteers are needed. Please check with your child's teachers to see if help is needed for end of year field trips. Field Day is May 16th and many parents are needed for this event. End of year musicals are also in need of help with sets, costumes, choreography, and props. At least 2 new volunteers are needed to take over Volunteer Chair and Volunteer Coordinator for next year. Finally, the Backyard Project that you all read about in last month's Tiger Times will continue work/planning over the summer. Please drop a note in my box (by office), email me at bleanunez@comcast.net or call me at 630-7953 if you can help with any of these events.

BV Volunteers! In appreciation of all the time and effort this year, teachers will be handing out thank you flowers before school begins on Monday, May 21, in front of the main building. Please stop by and receive your thanks and a beautiful flower.

News from the Gym...

May is filled with exciting events. **Fifth graders** are preparing for the **Ron Hein Memorial Track and Field Festival** at Garry Berry Stadium on May 17th. This track meet, in its 27th year, includes 5th graders from all District # 11 elementary schools. The meet is sponsored by the district's Physical Education Department, and is complete with opening ceremonies, traditional track and field events, and ribbons that are awarded to the top 8 finishers in each event. Parent volunteers will be needed to drive and to supervise students in the stands. Please call or email me (328-4125 or deliuc@d11.org) if you would like volunteer.

Field Day will be held on May 16th. Again this year, all students will participate in "Survivor" type challenges on "Tiger Island". Teams will work together to complete various challenges during the day. At the end of the day, teams that have successfully earned 10 "tiger's teeth" will receive a special award! We will need parent volunteers to help with set-up/clean-up, running the various events, and accompanying teams on their journey. Any, and all, help is appreciated!

Call or email Carrie Delius (328-4125/deliuc@d11.org) to volunteer.

Have a great summer!

PTA Message, Ruth Roland, president

Art & Pie Night was a great night! About 200 people attended to view student art, eat pie and see plans for the Backyard Project. Students had their faces painted and did art activities. We had a great intergenerational connection with one guest who attended the school during the 1920s and won a chocolate mousse pie. He said that he wanted to attend more school events! The school also looks magnificent with the art work. Students have beautifully shown their desire to create and make sense of their environment, and nurturing this desire is essential to our mission to help develop life-long learners.

A heartfelt thanks to Miss Jessica, parent volunteers and staff who worked to make Art & Pie Night a success! Thank you also to Doug Lindberg "D-Car Guy" who baked the pie with the \$25 cash, Denny's Restaurant, King Soopers, Wal-Mart, *Westside Pioneer* and the *Gazette*.

Field Day is coming up on Wednesday, May 16! Let's make this 2nd annual Tiger Island a huge success – contact Ms. Delius to volunteer.

Plan now to attend the Welcome BACK!yard event, tentatively scheduled for Friday, August 24th. We are planning a great kick-off with food, music, information and fun for the entire family. Please contact me at 471-1399 if you would like to join the planning team.

Program News

McCort's Musings

With this printing, spring is upon us and summer falls closely on its footsteps. Summertime, time for the 3F's: fun, frolicking, freezer pops. We cannot, however, forget about the 3R's: reading, 'riting, 'rithmetic. There are lots of fun ways to keep those going together!

Summer, for me, brings back memories of reading under a tree in the backyard or park on a hot summer day. Joining the library is probably the most fun part of summer. They offer many programs daily along with the Summer Reading Program which encourages children's reading for enjoyment. Check their website at www.ppld.org to access program calendars and links to community happenings and watch for a booklet with summer reading tips!

Writing letters or notes to friends and loved ones is an enjoyable way to keep up writing skills and designing cards for summer holidays is a worthwhile activity. Keep a journal handy to log the day's events or special thoughts.

Math can be made fun by comparing prices of items in those unwanted catalogs you get in the mail or ads from the newspaper. Geometrically speaking, go for a summer hike, look for specific shapes in nature.

There are all sorts of ways that the 3R's can blend with the 3F's to make for an enjoyable and yet learning summer. Above all, take time for you and your child/ren to enjoy the magic times of summer. As always, if there is some way I can be of assistance prior to the end of school, please call 328-4138. Happy summer to all and to all great days!!

Classroom News

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

The school year is winding down fast and we are busy finalizing all that we want to learn. Our field trip to the Fountain Creek Nature Center was a great success! The children (and teachers, too!) learned about our native wildlife, habitats and the magic word, "water." We learned that what we do as people has a huge affect on our animals and environmental surroundings.

On May 4th, we look forward to our final field trip to a "Farm Day" event, where we will learn about farm animals from local 4-H experts.

Mrs. Weakland's Class

We have been super busy this past month. We have been very fortunate to have Mrs. Millikan, our student teacher, help us in our class this past quarter. We just want to thank her for all the wonderful new things she has taught us. Her last day is May 4th and we will miss her a lot. In science, we have been exploring mealworms and butterflies. We had 5 butterflies hatch but only 2 survived and we set them free a few weeks ago. We just finished the Terra Nova tests, we worked very hard and did our best.

Family "Fun"draiser Night

The PTA will continue to host a family "Fun"draiser Pizza Night at Pizza Hut on Colorado Ave. through May. Please join us May 2nd and May 16th 4-8 pm. The PTA receives 20% of all proceeds.

Adventure Club

We have had a wonderful year here at the Buena Vista Adventure Club. Enrollment has doubled from the original 12 students, grades K-5, to 25 students. Now, we have plans for a full day Summer Camp, opening May 29th, and will be back with our regular before and after enrichment program on the first day of the 2007-2008 school year. Plans for the Summer Camp includes swimming and two field trips every week during the summer months. Field trips include: Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, Sangre de Christo Children's Museum, Money Museum, a train ride at Buckskin Joes in Canyon City, the Dinosaur Center in Woodland Park, Art Sports, Pump It Up, nature hikes, and many more adventures. Stop by the Adventure Club (Room M-2) by the front office to get registration and scheduling materials. Spaces are limited so sign up no later than May 11th to be assured of a spot for your child!

Mrs. Neuharth's Fabulous Fourth Grade:

What a wonderful year this has been!! I am so proud of the achievements our students have made. A few things we will work on together for the last quarter will be the human body in science and study the history of our great state, Colorado. The children have worked hard on their pioneer 'wagon train' and I believe you will be very impressed with what they have done. Soon they will be displayed in the library. We are continuing our understanding and practice of ARFF both in our classrooms and through out the school. I am looking forward to a fabulous fourth quarter!!

Ms. Garsoe's 5th grade

It's May. None of us can believe how fast the time has gone, especially since Spring Break. We spent April getting ready for Golden Bell, and we will be at camp May 2-4. We will be swimming, hiking, boating (if the ice melts!) running the zip line and eating great Golden Bell food. I think it's my favorite fifth grade event, and I know it will be memorable for everyone.

May 21st is the date of the Great Egg Drop from the Art Room window. Come at 10:00 AM to see who has the best egg-zample of protective packaging.

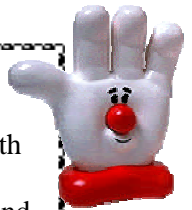
Graduation is that evening at 6:30, and we hope that the whole community will turn out to send us off. All the fifth graders should be proud of their hard work at Buena Vista. Some of our graduates have been here since Kindergarten, and while we are happy for them, we are sad to lose such wonderful students. Bon Voyage to all.

Tiger Mural in Gym

The Tiger Mural in the gym is special to many people at Buena Vista. It was originally donated by the family of Carla Keeter but has some extensive damage that will require it to be removed. We will be reproducing it in the hall for future students to enjoy.

On-line Grant Help Needed

We have submitted a request to Hamburger Helper's grant program for funds to help with the Backyard Project. Please go on-line to www.myhometownhelper.com, click on "Find a Project" to add your support to this request.



Paper Recycling Bin

Buena Vista's blue recycle dumpster that was out by the gym will no longer be available for drop-off of paper products.