

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

2	Fall Carnival, 5-8 pm in gym
6	PTA Meeting, 6 pm in Gym
12	No School – Veterans Day
16	Movie Night – 6:30 pm in Gym
21-23	No School – Thanksgiving Break
4	PTA Meeting, 6 pm in Gym
12	Band/Orchestra Concert, 1:45 pm and 6:30 pm
14	Movie Night, 6:30 pm in Gym
22	No School – Winter Break (through Jan. 6)

Job Openings at Buena Vista!!!

We have several openings for School Crossing Guards and Lunchroom Assistants. We would also like to create a cadre of moms and dads who are available during the day to become subs on call for our school with training provided at the school. Please contact the office at 328-4100 for more information.

New Programs

Details will be coming home soon about the new Spanish Club we are coordinating. Mrs. Maria Goñi, a professor of Spanish, has arranged for a local college student to teach students after school. Information will be sent home once all the details have been arranged.

The Buena Vista Staff have decided to focus on student eating habits as part of a Wellness Program. We are encouraging students to eat their main course before the sweet fruits, desserts and flavored milks. The cafeteria will begin selling sugar-controlled ice creams that meet strict dietary guidelines as part of this program. For those who eat consistently well, Dr. Amick will begin a Ice Cream Sunday Special once a month, and the treat is on her!

Inclement Weather Information

You can sign up to receive an email notification when District 11 schools are closed or have a delayed start due to inclement weather. It is a very simple process. Here's what to do:

Go to the District 11 Website and click on D11 Answers, Newsletters and then :”View” under inclement weather. Click on the link in the article to complete the required form.

From the Principal,

Well, it has been a very busy first month, but I am delighted to be here. I am slowly getting to know all of you! Just to let you know a little more about me, here is some personal information:

I am originally from Pennsylvania and lived there until around age 11. My dad was in the Navy, so we moved to Norfolk, VA. where I grew up across the street from the beach, went to school and college there, and then taught my first year in rural Gloucester, VA, right across the river from Jamestown and Williamsburg. Sometimes I feel as historical as these towns!

I started teaching 2nd grade; but that was a surprise. I planned on being a high school English teacher; but the job I was offered was 2nd grade, so that began my lifelong career in early childhood and elementary education.

I moved to Spain and lived there for over 12 years, except for one year in England, where I studied for my Montessori certificate. I began as a teacher and ended up as a principal and school superintendent of several Montessori schools. All of the schools that I lead were bilingual, and students studied in both English and Spanish all day long. That was a great experience. I hope to bring Spanish classes to Buena Vista as an after school club.

I was also a principal in Saudi Arabia during 9/11, which made for a very interesting experience. And yes, I had to wear the black abaya (the black robes all women must wear to cover themselves); I just wouldn't wear the face veil...naughty me. The Arabian people were very nice and my experience in a totally sheltered, Muslim country was worthy of a book, as you can imagine. I also taught at a university in Korea for a semester, and traveled to many places in Africa, as an educational consultant. Those were all wonderful experiences.

Most of my experience has been as a school administrator, but I also like being in the classroom to keep in touch with the teaching part of education and hopefully, to be a better principal, with real understanding of teachers' issues. I am a GT teacher and a Teacher Trainer for differentiated instruction, as well as a Montessori teacher trainer.

I hope to bring all of my travel, teaching and leadership experiences to Buena Vista. Some people have said to me: If you can't take children to all those world places, then bring the world to them! That's my aspiration here at Buena Vista Elementary School.

Dr. Jade Amick-Fulgenzi

Program News

News from the Gym – Mrs. D....

Our focus has shifted to Physical Fitness... the second state standard for Physical Education (in “kid language”) is “working toward a strong and healthy body”.

We’ve begun by measuring our own fitness levels with the “Fitness Gram”. All students will measure their cardiovascular fitness level (the ability to keep moving for a period of time). Additionally, older students will be measuring their flexibility, along with their muscular strength and endurance. Students will bring home a printed report of their results. We’ll be learning:

- ☛ about the different components of physical fitness
- ☛ how the ability to do these things leads to a healthy life, a longer life, and a better quality of life
- ☛ about setting goals to maintain and/or improve fitness levels
- ☛ how to incorporate fitness into everyday life (Here’s an area where we, as adults, should follow our kid’s lead... get outside and play more!!)

We will continue to devote a portion of our class to a fitness routine throughout the school year.

Media Center, Ms. Dohrmann

Happy holidays Buena Vista Family! October was a great month for the library with the Book Fair and the PTA gift of Colorado Children’s Choice award books! Thank you for all who helped!

Now, as we go into the holiday season, I would like to encourage you all to consider giving a gift of yourself and your time to the kids in the library. We would love to have you come to read aloud to a class as a “Royal Reader.” Our students love to hear “read alouds” from anyone, but it is always nice to see special guests and hear new voices.

November starts a special time for families and friends and I think it would be great to have you come share a book or two with your child’s class or even a different class. I will have the schedule open for the week of November 12th-16th (National Education Week) for Royal Readers to come visit.

You can choose what you want to read or I’ll choose something appropriate for the grade level if you would rather that. Please call (328-4124) or email (dohrml@d11.org) to schedule a time. Your child will never forget how special they felt when their relative came to school for them...Grandparents and other adult relatives are welcome too.

Gifted and Talented, MaryAnn Davidson

Thank you so much for helping your child prepare for the 3rd grade CoGat. With the help of the classroom teachers, the test was completed successfully, and I have now submitted them to the GT department for scoring. The results should be returned to me in December. I will have these results and would ask anyone who is interested in how their child did, to contact me through your child’s school.

The select 4th and 5th graders are going to be tested on the CoGat in early November. I will be sending home a permission form and parent survey for you to fill out. Please complete these and return them to school with your child as soon as possible. In some cases, your child may have taken this test last year. If they didn’t score high enough to be considered for identification, I would like to give them another chance to score at a high enough level. As soon as I am able to score them, I will submit them to my supervisor for consideration. You will receive a letter in the mail letting you know the results..

If there are ever any questions, please let me know.

Art, Ms. Feis

Buena Vista students celebrated their second annual Arts-a-Palooza festival Monday, October 1, 2007 from 12:00-2:30pm. This was a chance for students, teachers, parents, and the community alike to get together and celebrate all forms of the arts. Groups of students and staff moved through a series of four different stations, each lasting 30 minutes, where they were free to take part in hands-on arts experiences. Each child had at least one experience in visual arts, music, and creative movement or dance. In addition, each child participated in a whole-school tile painting art project which will be assembled soon and hung in the school.

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, Colorado Springs Children’s Chorale, Colorado Springs Conservatory, Studio 101, Derby Dance and Music Arts, Synergy Dance Academy, Catch Avion, Marina Eckler, Alison Parker, Tim Davis, Judy Sharp, Natasha Walker, Chris Alvarez, Helen Sobek, Sue Spengler.

Parent Activities and Committees

Volunteer Corner; Grace Blea-Nunez, Coordinator

Thanks to Doreen McKnight for organizing the Health Screening and keeping volunteers Lynne Casebeer, Helen Sobeck, Judy Sharp, Karen Kight, Gail Mayne and Grace Blea-Nunez in line. Thanks to Karen Kight, James Wiseman, Sandy Richardson and Doreen McKnight for helping with school pictures. Thanks to Ali Parker, Chris Alvarez, Sue Spengler, Suzanne Burkle, Judy Sharp, Natasha Walker, Helen Sobeck, Catch Avion, and Marina Eckler for helping with Arts a Palooza. We were very fortunate to have many of the premier dance and music groups in the city with us that day.

Volunteers are being lined up for School Carnival, Holiday Workshop and ongoing committees like the Backyard Project. Please contact PTA or me through our mailboxes outside the office if you want to volunteer for any of these events and did not put them down on your Volunteer Form. If you completed a Volunteer Form, leaders of the events should be contacting you to request help when the event approaches. Teachers always can use a hand with classroom materials, field trips or classroom assistance. Please let them know personally of your availability. A few teachers still need Room Parents for their classroom. Room Parents help organize other parents when needed for the class and are often involved in classroom party plans.

Volunteer Chairman and Coordinator positions need to be filled. If you like to organize and are comfortable with email groups and/or online input, please consider one of these positions for Buena Vista.

PTA Message; Lynne Casebeer, President

Wow! What a great start to the school year. Open House was a sell-out crowd thanks to Mrs. Darpino and the wonderful performance all the students turned in with their patriotic songs. The Dutch Mill Bulb fundraiser was a real winner, raising over \$2,500 for PTA programs and the BackYard Project. Congratulations to the Pizza Party Winners - Ms. Natalie's class, which sold the most bulbs, and Mrs. Garsoe's class, which had over 70% class participation. We also had a fun Root Beer Float social in October to welcome Dr. Amick, our new principal, and to say goodbye to interim principal Dr. Rasmussen. A huge Thank You to Grace Nunez, Beth Roalstad, Johanna Wolfe, & Angie Carlson for helping with that. The BV Garage Sale was also a big success, raising over \$500 dollars thanks to the hard work of Kathy New and Ruth Roland, plus numerous volunteers, donors and buyers. Thank you for supporting Buena Vista!

BV Tiger Logo Wear is still available for order. If you did not turn in your order form on October 11, you may still do so, but your shirts will not be delivered with the first order - which, hopefully, will be delivered before November arrives!

The Annual Fall Carnival is Friday, November 2nd from 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. You'll be able to buy pizza for dinner and enjoy a lot of fun games and activities. We look forward to seeing everyone there for a great time!!

Also, please be on the look-out for information on further planning meetings for the BackYard project and join us in creating a great outdoor space for our children!

Stay-At-Home Parent? Retiree? Want to Increase Your Income?

School District 11 is looking for qualified people to join our Food & Nutrition Services team to work service positions with varying hours around the district. Enjoy bonus pay incentives, a great team, and convenient schedules...no weekends or evenings. Plus have the summer and holidays off! We'll start on-the-job training very soon! You'll feel great that YOU helped a child in school through serving a quality, nutritious meal!

We're committed to exceptional customer service. Must be 18 y/o or older, have HS diploma/GED.

Interested? Apply today at School District 11 Division of Human Resources, 627 E. Uintah St. or call 520-2188 for more info.

Drop Off and Parking Rules

Parents, please help us to make morning drop-offs go smoothly. We are reserving the north side of Bijou Street, at the front of the school, for drop offs from 7:40 am to 8:15 am. If you need to park, please use the south side curb or the other side streets for this purpose. This will help us to keep students safe as they won't have to cross the street without an adult and will keep traffic flowing in a continuous movement.

Please note the yellow curb with the No Parking signs in front of the school. This is for bus parking and drop off only during school hours.

Your assistance with these rules will make the morning drop off go more smoothly. For the safety of your children, please try to redirect your traffic flow. Many thanks.

Classroom News

Ms. Kathy, Ms. Catherine and Ms. Paula – Primary Classes:

We are having a wonderful year. We continue to experience the beautiful fall colors, talking about the changes in the seasons. It has been a wonderful time to introduce the Botany cabinet and the different science booklets, (parts of the flower, leaf and tree)!

We had a hands-on experience on our field trip to Starsmore Discovery Center on October 11. The children learned about the senses through the outdoor activities.

The experience was informative and exciting for everyone. A big thank-you to all the parents who volunteered their time to go with us!

We hope to schedule a puppet show through the Zoopeteers offered by the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo. This would be held at the school. This would hopefully happen in November or February.

The children continue to enjoy their experiences at school and the Primary staff thanks you for sharing your children with us!

Miss Gutierrez's 3rd grade

We have been studying Space this quarter. The children have drawn a model of the solar system. They converted millions of miles into centimeters. One of the models is on display outside of their classroom. The students also built paper rockets and launched them using Alka-Seltzer tablets and film canisters.

The class has been working hard on core subjects as well. In Math, the children have completed a time and money chapter and are working on 3-digit addition and subtraction. Their expository writing and story writing is improving. In addition to Math and writing, the students are reading a story a week, combining grammar and spelling related to the stories. The class is having a wonderful year so far and Miss G. is looking forward to watching the continual growth!

Ms. Garsoe's 5th grade

As this goes to press, everyone is playing with Levers and Pulleys, figuring out where the fulcrum, load and effort go in all different kinds of tools and machines that we use every day. The school received a whole series of supplemental science books, including books about simple machines, that we have enjoyed reading. We are raising money for Golden Bell through selling food at Movie Nights, and are planning some surprises for the holidays. The students made beautiful scientific drawings of snakes, fantasy drawings of a tall tale about Davy Crockett, and depictions of what it feels like to be content in school. On November 1, we will join Ms. Leigh's and Mrs. Carpenter's class to go to Fountain Creek Nature Center to study creek, woodland, meadow, marsh and pond life.

Student Work

Miss Gutierrez' 3rd grade:

When I go to school, I study my two favorite subjects. My most favorite subject is Math. In Math I like to learn 4-digit numbers and times. My other favorite subject is Science. In Science I like to do experiments and building rockets. If I get an A+ I'll be happy. By Sara

When I go to school, I study my two favorite subjects. My most favorite is Science. My other favorite is math. I like Math because it has two digit numbers. Also, because it is fun. Whenever I do these subjects, I'm really happy. By Ahmad

When I go to school, I study my two favorite subjects. My most favorite subject is Math because I love to use calculators. I also love to add. My other favorite subject is Reading because I love testing. I also like to read books like Hanah Montana. When I do Reading or Math I feel happy. By Torrie

Thank you to the following Arts-A-Palooza Donor



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Attention BV Moms!
2 Left Feet Dance Studio is offering Wed. morning cardio Bellydance followed by coffee at our south downtown location. Yoga will also be offered. Times will be 8.30 am. Call Catch at 471-FEET for info.



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