

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

1	PTA Meeting, 6pm in Gym
8	BAAC Meeting, 6pm in Conference Room
11	Art and Pie Night, 6pm
17	Spring Musical, 4/5 grade, 1:30 pm & 6:30 pm
18	Movie Night, 6:30 pm in Gym
25	Kindergarten Registration
25	No Students – Assessment Day
28	Band & Orchestra Concert, 1:45pm and 6:30pm
29	Skate City Night, 6-8 pm

May

5-9	Scholastic Book Fair – Library
6	PTA Meeting, 6pm in Conference Room
7	Field Day
9	No Students, Conference Day
13	BAAC Meeting, 6pm in Conference Room
22	Last day of School

Tiger News from the Principal:

Welcome back from a nice spring break. I hope you all had a wonderful little vacation, or just hung around the home resting and having fun kicking balls around. It could not have come at a more timely part of the year....

Whew! They came and went, thank God! CSAPs of course!! Not the leprechauns, who may have left us with a pot of gold...well, maybe just new shiny gold-colored dollars, but oh well, the kids deserve that too, for all their hard work. And thank you parents, for getting kids to school on time, getting them to bed early, having them eat a nice breakfast (the most important meal of the day) and giving them all the support they needed to feel good about, ahem, not the world's most favorite activity. I know our students did well, and please tell them for me that DR. AMICK THINKS OUR KIDS ARE THE GREATEST!!!

Now, on to fun things. *The Emperor's New Clothes* is our book for the month, which is already circulating around your homes each night. Then, on April 21st, the PTA has arranged for the entire school to have a professional drama group come and put on the play of the same name, which the kids are going to love. Between the book for reading and the play, all of our students will have a great theme to talk about at lunch and dinner tables! We hope you discuss it a lot throughout the month; that is one way of supporting a love for literature, and getting the kids to talk about what they read and what they think. Maybe you can even have them put on impromptu plays at home with the same theme, and they can make up the words as

they go along. You will all have fun AND encourage more reading.

For next year....

Just a reminder to all of you that if you have not notified the office of your students' intent to return to school for 2008-09, you may not have a guaranteed place. Two things are happening:

BV will have its submission about the magnet status before the school board on April 23, with a deciding vote in May; and the school will definitely offer an extended preschool child care program from 6:30 AM to 6:00 PM next school year to go along with our enrollment drive of adding 45 new preschool children to our Montessori Primary Program. The Adventure Club will continue to offer extended care for K-5 grades, but in a different classroom than this year, which will be announced later.

I encourage all of you to register your new students for next year before May, so if the decision is to make BV a school without any boundaries, then you will be sure your students are accepted beforehand, just in case there is a need for a lottery process. It is simply a way of ensuring your student a place before there is a lottery. There is not yet an official deadline for registration however, so this is just a "word to the wise" to avoid taking any chances. We have limited places left in elementary school, both traditional and Montessori. Our 4th & 5th grade traditional classes will continue to be part of BV's offerings. These two classes will remain with Mrs. Carpenter and Mrs. Garsoe teaching them again. All of our presently attending students are guaranteed places so long as you let the office know you intend for your children to return. If we do not hear from you by May 2, we will assume they are not returning and offer those slots to students wanting to permit in. As quickly as a slot comes open, it is filled with a permit application student.

I hope all of you will be returning next year as you are wonderful parents with great kids. I also hope that April is full of sunshine as well as spring showers, and sprouting preschoolers coming to our school next fall.

Fondest regards to all you great parents,

Dr. Jade Amick

Tiger Bulletin Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Registration day is Friday, April 25 from 8:00 to 3:00. If you, or anyone you know, lives within the Buena Vista boundary area, this is the first day to complete enrollment for all kindergarteners for the 2008-2009 school year. Students must be 5 years old by October 1, 2008 to enter Kindergarten next year. Required information that parents must bring in are:

- Proof of Residence
- Birth Certificate
- Social Security Card
- Record of Completed Immunizations (including 2 chickenpox)

Please call the office if you have any questions at 328-4100.

Scholastic Book Fair

Hello B.V. families! Guess what?! It's almost time for the Spring Scholastic Book Fair! Hooray! We will be arranging it much the same as we did in the fall. The book fair will be set up in the library and students will come in with their whole class on Monday and Tuesday, May 5 and 6. They will get to view the books, see the special author video and get a pamphlet to take home, in three rotating centers. All students will get a turn to look at what we have for sale and enjoy the other activities. Then on Wednesday through Friday, students will be welcome to come back if they have money to spend and a hall pass from their teacher (or a grown up), to shop for books to take home and keep! It is a special event to help raise money for the library, and it's always a lot of fun for everyone!!!

Also, Parents, those Monday and Tuesday schedules get a little difficult for me to work alone. If any of you could spare some time on those days, I could really use some volunteers! Please call me at 328-2124 to set up a time that would be convenient for you! Thanks ☺

Field Day is coming!!

Buena Vista's Field Day will be held on **Wednesday, May 7th**. Once again, all students will be stranded on Tiger Island... participating in "Survivor" type challenges. 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 at 328-4125 or deliuc@d11.org to volunteer.

Jump For Heart

On February 29th, we held our Jump Rope for Heart event. Students came together to accomplish three goals:

- Non stop jumping for the entire class period
- Raising \$2,800 for the American Heart Association
- Teaching the warning signs of heart attack and stroke to 5 people

Many thanks to everyone... a fantastic team effort that achieved more than individuals alone could do! Students had a terrific time showing off their new jump rope tricks and skills, we were able to give the American Heart Association \$1,865.82, and maybe we'll save someone's life because we know, and have taught, the warning signs! This was a great opportunity for us all to think about the importance of giving, as well as an opportunity to make our world a better place.

Dancing Is My Life!

All students came together in the gym for two weeks to do some dancing with Mrs. Darpino and Ms. D. We all had a great time moving to the beat, and learning a variety of dances... from folk to hip hop! Students were able to show off their "new moves" during special's class time on Friday, March 21st.

Music Matters, Ms. Darpino

We're so proud of all of our students at Buena Vista. They just completed a two week unit in applying steady beat to moving with instructed moves and moving to Music in their own way, but most importantly moving to the beat and having fun doing so. Our entire school danced their socks off on Friday, March 21st, in every class, showing their parents what they'd learned and then, put the parents on the spot and asked them to come and join us. What fun we all had! Wow! Great job students, parents, families, friends, and even little brothers and sisters. What can I say, but "dancin' is our life!"



This not all that students did last quarter. Oh no. They also worked hard on their Music notation unit, started our Spring Musical with all 4th and 5th grades, auditioned for parts and studied like crazy over Spring Break to be ready for our upcoming program. (All of this happened during CSAP testing too! Wow! Just look at what you can do if you apply yourself.)

Speaking of the Spring Program, - just a quick reminder about our upcoming program on Colorado History featuring all 4th and 5th graders. Our performance is on, Thursday, April 17th at 1:30 p.m. and also at 6:30 p.m. All are invited to come. We could sure use help with scenery. Please call Mrs. Darpino. 328-4162, if you can help! Have a Great Spring, everybody!

PTA Teacher Appreciation Week

To acknowledge teachers, the National Education Association and Parent Teacher Association are building the Nation's Largest Thank –you card. All submissions will be compiled into a larger than life card that will be unveiled in Spring 2008 and travel to major cities throughout the year.

Visit www.teacherthankyoucard.org to personalize one of the designs on the site or mail your card to: The Nation's Largest Teacher Thank you Card, c/o NEA/PTA; P.O. Box 66458; Washington, DC 20035. Please include your name and mailing address, the teacher's name, school name, city and state. Be sure to let your teacher know that he/she is being honored. Tour dates will be posted on the website when they are confirmed.

Volunteer Corner, Grace Blea-Nunez

Please consider helping with the following activities for the rest of the school year:

- ♦ Publicity Committee - urgent need for members to develop a marketing plan for the school
- ♦ Backyard Committee - ongoing need to help with the gardening project and other playground improvements
- ♦ Art, Pie & Silent Auction - help needed on 4/11 with set up, clean up, table monitors and cashiers
- ♦ Field Day - volunteers will be needed to man the stations during Field Day

For next year, help is needed to plan the back to school party and volunteers are needed for Volunteer Coordinator and Volunteer Chair. Contact Grace at 630-7953 to volunteer or for more information.

The Food Timeline

Ever wonder what the Vikings ate when they set off to explore the new world? How Thomas Jefferson made his ice cream? What the pioneers cooked along the Oregon Trail? Who invented the potato chip...and why? Food is the fun part of social studies! The tricky part is finding recipes you can make in a modern kitchen, with ingredients bought at your local supermarket and bring into school to share with your class. This page is for you! Visit www.foodtimeline.org for information on all this plus much, much more.

Breakfast/Lunch On-line Information

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. Kitchen phone numbers may be found at:

http://www.d11.org/fns/phone_list.htm

Pack 24 Cub Scout Activities

Cub Scouts Pack 24 is currently recruiting current kindergarten students for the Tiger Program. Kindergartners who join now will be able to participate in summer pack activities including day camp. This year it is being held at Turkey Creek Ranch and Tiger Day is on Friday, June 27. If you are interested in joining this

program, please contact Kathy New at 634-7342 or newkl@d11.org.

Pack activities include crafts, service projects, special tours and a hiking program.

During spring break, the pack went to Red Rocks Canyon Park and learned about using compasses, maps, geology and taking care of the environment.

**Crystal Apple Cards for Teacher Appreciation Day**

Would you like to show your appreciation to a District 11 teacher, teacher's assistant or volunteer? For a donation of at least \$5 to the Crystal Apple Awards Program, Honoring Teaching Excellence, an appreciation card will be sent during National PTA Teacher Appreciation Week, May 5-9, 2008, to the educator you select. The card will say:

In appreciation and recognition of your professional excellence, a donation has been made in your name to the Crystal Apple Awards by (donor name). This gift helps honor excellence in the teaching profession.

Your honoree will also receive a Crystal Apple teacher appreciation button. Names of those honored are included in the program of the D-11 Crystal Apple Awards banquet, which will be held May 6, 2008, at the Sheraton.

Donations may be made anytime until April 30, 2008. Donors should include their names and the names and locations of the persons they want to receive the cards with a \$5 donation for each person designated. Checks should be made payable to El Paso Council PTA and sent to: Crystal Apple Awards Committee, 6026 Wisteria Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80919.

You may also pony your names and donations to Tom O'Bryan, Volunteer Services Office.

For more information, please call Sandra Griffith, 266-8116, or Tom O'Bryan, 520-2202.

Classroom News




Ms. Garsoe's 5th Grade

There is SO much going on for fifth graders in their last months of being at Buena Vista. The mind is boggled! When you read this, we will have completed twelve (that's correct) TWELVE CSAP exams. Everyone was upbeat, rested, and did a fabulous job of reading directions and carefully answering the questions. I was proud to be with them. Ms. Leigh's fifth graders joined us for this time, which was fun. Now, we are looking forward to Art & Pie Night, the Spring Musical, the Band and Orchestra Concert and Golden Bell, April 30 – May 2. The Beautiful Baby Contest will run the first two weeks in April, so come in and vote for your beautiful fifth grader. All proceeds go to the Scholarship Fund for Golden Bell. Hold on to your hats. The end of the year fast approaches!

Congratulations!

We would like to congratulate Buena Vista Tiger Faith Bogans, who performed a clarinet solo on March 3 at Lincoln Elementary. Well done, Faith!

BV Club Schedules

-  Spanish Club –Thursdays in the staff lounge.
-  Space Club – Monthly on the 3rd Wednesday in the gym.
-  Garden Club –Tuesdays in the west building art room

Student Work

These are introductions for songs that the Fourth and Fifth Graders will sing for the Spring Musical. Colorado and The Iron Horse were written by two fifth graders from Ms. Garsoe's class, with some editing and embellishing by the entire group. "Gold Rush" and "The Columbine" were written by students in Ms. Leigh's class.

"Colorado" – by MiKayla

Our first song is "Colorado" about our state, which is a tremendous place to live. It has many great sites like the Garden of the Gods, Pike's Peak, the cog railway, and that's just a few to name! But this song tells about everything we can soak in and gaze at. We love Colorado!

"The Iron Horse" – by Chelaine

Our last song, "The Iron Horse" is about a big, black and shiny train that rolls down the track with white clouds puffing for its big smokestack. The train's tracks spread all over the West. If you listen closely, you can hear the wailing whistle in the mountains and plains, and you can see the headlamp shining through the snow and the rain.

"Gold Rush" -- By Zoe and Marissa

When gold was discovered in the United States people started to realize that their fortune could be in a piece of gold. Families sent the man of the house to go find the gold. These people were called the fifty-niners. The miners said, "Pike's Peak or Bust!" They left their hometowns and headed for Colorado! The gold rush had begun! People from all over the U.S. and different countries came to Colorado in search of gold. They came by foot, on a mule train, by horseback, or by ship. The work was very hard. Many people got frustrated. They wanted gold and they wanted it now! Some were fooled by Iron pyrite that looks like gold. There were two types of gold to be mined: placer gold (in the stream) or lode gold (in the rock). Gold was hard to find. Many men went home because they became poor or because they now thought that there was no more gold. But some were lucky to find gold and stayed in Colorado. Some families moved out of their hometowns and came to live in Colorado so they could see their relatives. Today, you can still mine gold!

"The Columbine" -- by Pauline

The Columbine is a gorgeous flower that blows like the cracking wind. The blue color is as strong as the flowing ocean. It grows on the hills of giant Rocky Mountains.

ON SALE – BV Tigers Printed Shirts

Order forms for BV Tiger Shirts and Hoodies are available on the table in the foyer of the Main Building. All orders will be processed immediately. Please submit order forms, along with full payment, to the office in an envelope marked PTA - Shirt Order.

