



## Weekly Wildcat News

September 26, 2016

Happy Monday Wildcat Families,

As we begin our last week of the Redondo Beach Educational Foundation (RBEF) annual Investor Drive, I want to take a minute and thank our families who have taken the time to donate. On Friday, I had a fifth grade student come to the office with an envelope and asked me where they could donate. As I directed them to the RBEF donation box, I noticed the envelope was fairly beat up and was jingling. I asked the student about it, he told me that he was donating money from his own allowance because, "I really like going to band, and other kids should be able to have it too." I was moved by his passion to support the program that he loves and instantly knew that there was no better reason I could give our families about why they should invest.

RBEF provides our schools with programs that allow our students to explore their passions, interests and curiosities. To date, 10% of Alta Vista families have become investors, even though 100% of our students benefit from RBEF programs. I am a *monthly* investor, and so are many of our teachers and staff. If you haven't already, please consider supporting this important organization by going to [www.rbef.org](http://www.rbef.org). Every dollar is an investment in our kids, our schools and our community.

### ***Important Dates this Week:***

**\*\*The forecast this week is calling for warm temperatures. Please send your child in cooler clothing and with their own water bottle.\*\***

Monday, September 26th - Fifth Grade Science Camp Fundraiser - Fresh Brother's Restaurant Night - See attached flyer for details.

Tuesday, September 27th - 8:30am Room Parent Meeting in the AV Cafeteria

Wednesday, September 28th - 1:30-3:30pm Reflections Workshop

Thursday, September 29th - 8am Wellness Council Meeting

RUHS Back to School Night - See RUHS website for details

Friday, September 30th - Last Day of the RBEF Investor Drive



## Morning Running Club

Be on the lookout for information about our 2016-17 Running Club! We hope to get a construction update this week and will send our registration forms in next week's eblast.



Our Kids.  
Our Community.  
Our Legacy.

## The Redondo Beach Educational Foundation

Another school year is upon us, and we have much to be excited about for our kids and the upcoming year. We launch this week with the RBEF Investor Drive, designed to raise funds, awareness and volunteer participation for RBEF, without which our kids would be left without critical programs in areas such as college prep, world-class science, arts, music, counseling, and athletics.

Our world-class schools *rely* on RBEF to fund these programs. These programs are designed to create the most well-rounded kids in the South Bay, and they need your support. RBEF's *Investor* drive **is taking place NOW through September 30<sup>th</sup>**.

Across the district, much has taken place during the summer and many of our kids are off to achieve their big dreams (many made possible in part by RBEF). In the coming weeks, we will bring you these stories and ask if you have a story yourself of a child, teacher, alumnae or community member that is special or has had an impact. We'd love you to share these stories with us.

However, our focus for the next 2 weeks is on the Investor

Drive, and **WE ARE ASKING YOU TO PLEASE INVEST in OUR KIDS BY DONATING TO RBEF BETWEEN NOW AND September 30<sup>th</sup>.**

We need every family to invest in our kids and help RBEF provide programs that allow our kids the opportunity to access the world-class programs RBEF provides. We are asking you to please consider investing \$500 in our kids through RBEF to help achieve our goal of raising \$500,000 district-wide. You can make a one-time donation or pledge to make monthly contributions and any donation amount is welcome.

Go to [RBEF.org](http://RBEF.org) to make your contribution to our kid's future. If more convenient, you may also drop off a check at your school's office. Please join us in supporting RBEF.

Your support *today* will have an everlasting impact on Our Kids, Our Community, and Our Legacy. Thank You!

Remember, investments can be made as one-time contributions or in monthly installments and any amount is appreciated. For as little as \$20 a month, your family could make a significant difference for our kids, our community, and our legacy. To invest, come visit the school office or go to [www.rbef.org](http://www.rbef.org).



## Alta Vista PTA

### Last Call for Wildcat Gear Orders – September 30<sup>th</sup>!

This week is your last chance to order T-shirts, sweatshirts and other Wildcat Gear for delivery by mid-October. Go to <https://AltaVistaPTA.myschoolcentral.com> to place your order, or complete and submit the attached order form by Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>.

### Last Call for Emergency Kits

If you have not yet purchased or submitted your own emergency kit, now is your chance to purchase one for only \$5. A limited quantity of emergency kits are now available for purchase on our web store

at <https://AltaVistaPTA.myschoolcentral.com> while supplies last. The kits will be delivered to your classrooms.

### **Let's hear your ROAR! Join PTA Today!**

Our Donation and Membership drive is going strong, however, we need your help to reach our \$35,000 flat fee donation goal. Our goal is \$10,000 more than last year because there will NOT be a Fall catalog fundraiser this year, and the Fun Run is not until Spring! Join PTA today for only \$10 and make a flat fee contribution starting at \$50 and receive a FREE gift! (see attached flier for details). Your donations are critical because they help support over \$112,000 of funding for programs such as Hands on Art, field trips, assemblies, teacher educational funds, and much, much more! Free gifts will be delivered to your student's classroom by mid-October.

Donations can be made and PTA memberships, Wildcat gear and Yearbooks can be purchased at our web store at <https://AltaVistaPTA.myschoolcentral.com>, or by completing and submitting the attached 2016-2017 PTA Order Forms and returning them to our front office or your teacher.

### **Mandatory Room Parent Meeting – Sept. 27th**

All room parents are invited to join our mandatory room parent meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 27th in the cafeteria at 8:30 am. We'll be covering the most updated room parent guidelines so it is important that you please attend. If you are unable to make it, please contact our Room Parent Coordinator, Josie Herbert at [avpta.roomparents@gmail.com](mailto:avpta.roomparents@gmail.com) so that we can make other arrangements.

### **Reflections Art Contest Workshop - Sept. 28th**

Reflections is a National PTA art program. This year's theme is "What's Your Story" and there are multiple categories including visual arts, dance choreography, film production, literature, music composition and photography. See attached flyer, rules and entry form. PTA will be hosting a series of workshops to provide

information, materials and guidance for this great program. The first drop-in workshop will be after school on Wednesday, Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 – 3:30 in the cafeteria. Additional workshops will be held on Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> from 4-5 and Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> from 2:20-4. Please see attached workshop flyer contact our reflections chair, Jackie Brann at [Jackie@5branns.com](mailto:Jackie@5branns.com) with questions.

### **First PTA Meeting of the year – Sept. 30th**

Please join us for the 1st PTA Meeting of the year this Friday Sept. 30th at 8:00 am in the cafeteria. We will only have 5 Association meetings this year, so please don't miss out! This is a very important meeting as we will be approving the budget for the current school year. Coffee and refreshments will be served. Also, all PTA members will receive a FREE gift, compliments of the PTA!

### **Family Movie Night & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Fundraiser – Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>**

Join us for Family Movie Night on Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 for a free screening of Zootopia! 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents will be selling dinner and deserts to fundraise for 5<sup>th</sup> grade events. Bring beach chairs and blankets and come dressed as your favorite zoo animal for a chance to win movie tickets! Please see attached flyer.

### **Ways to Connect with Alta Vista PTA**

Check out our website at [www.AltavistaPTA.org](http://www.AltavistaPTA.org) and Like us on our **new** Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/altavistapta>

Stay tuned for upcoming new ways to connect with us!



### THE TEAM TO TURN IN THE MOST BOX TOPS WINS!

We've organized our school into teams to see who can turn in the most Box Tops the fastest. The winning team will receive free ice treats from Rita's. There are 7 teams for the 7 grade levels - from Pre K to 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

Bring your Box Tops into school labeled with your child's name and classroom so we can credit your team.

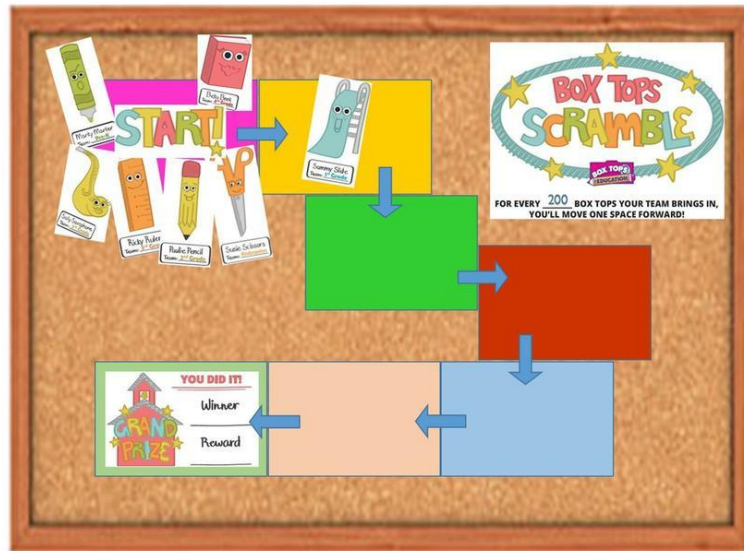
Your team will move forward a space on the board for every 200 Box Tops it brings in.

All Box Tops submitted since the beginning of the schoolyear will be counted toward this contest.

A shout out to the 1<sup>st</sup> grade team who already moved to the first space.

You can clip Box Tops from hundred of products. Each unexpired Box Tops clip earns 10 cents for our school.

Good luck... AND LET THE SCRAMBLE BEGIN!



## College-Going Culture Corner

### A 4-Letter Word That Everyone Is Talking About

The word is GRIT. It is a good word that is now associated with student success. GRIT is the habit of overcoming challenges, of learning from mistakes instead of being defeated by them. It has been described as that feeling of having a “fire in your belly.” College admissions officers and school counselors are saying that test scores and grade point averages don’t tell the whole story about a student or serve as the only predictors of student success. There is a growing interest in improving students non-cognitive skills in order to help students increase their resilience, persistence and ability to “get back up” when they fail. A persons IQ may not be enough to explain how one’s life may turn out. Conventional measures of achievement may not be enough to determine what is going on in a student’s head. When students struggle, it may not mean that they do not

have the ability, but rather that maybe they lack GRIT. Putting forth effort is hard, understanding when you are confused is hard, boredom is hard. How can we help our students stay the course when they face these challenges? If we can support them through these difficult learning obstacles, we may be building their emotional GRIT to keep that drive to succeed, even when the challenge seems insurmountable.



We are so excited to announce that Girls on the Run will be returning to Alta Vista for another fabulous Season! Whether your daughter is new or a seasoned Superstar, I guarantee she will have a fun learning experience and we would LOVE to have her join!

[Online Registration](#) has begun! Please be sure to save your spot by registering today! We are excited to offer this opportunity for the girls to participate right after school is dismissed! We hope it is also more convenient for parents too!

Here is a list of Fall Details you won't want to miss:

- **Where: Alta Vista Elementary School**
- **When: Tuesdays/Thursdays 2:45 - 4:15 pm**
- **The first date of practice is Tuesday, 10/4 and the last day on Thursday, 12/15**
- **5k Details: Sunday, 12/11 - with more details to come!**

We have an exciting, action-packed 10-week program planned with games, activities, and important lessons led by a wonderful set of enthusiastic coaches!

Topics covered include:

- . Weeks 1-4: Self-care, self-awareness, knowing self
- . Weeks 5-7: Connectedness: Selecting healthy relationships and keeping them healthy
- . Weeks 8-10: Celebrating and sharing our strengths

Each lesson consists of an introduction, getting-on-board activity, warm-up, workout and discussion, and wrap-up with a big Girls on the Run cheer! The lessons are set up so that the



workout gradually increases and the girls build up their endurance to prepare for their 3-mile walk/run over the 10 weeks.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [\(323\) 806 - 5130](tel:3238065130) or [stephanie@gotrla.org](mailto:stephanie@gotrla.org).

Thank you and we are looking forward to having your daughter join us for another amazing season!



**Join us for a fundraiser to support**

**Alta Vista's 5th Grade Science Camp.**

**20 % of all proceeds will be donated back to Alta Vista.**

**Monday, September 26th**

**11 am- 9 pm**

Fresh Brothers

407 N. Pacific Coast Highway

Redondo Beach

310-374-5678

*Flier applies to dine in, take out, or delivery. Be sure to bring in this flier, give to the delivery driver, or add a comment when ordering online.*

## **Growth Mindset Corner**

What is the Growth Mindset?

The beliefs children have about intelligence, effort, and struggle impact the choices they make about learning.

People tend to hold one of two different beliefs about intelligence:

- Children with a growth mindset believe that intelligence





can be developed. These students see school as a place to develop their abilities and think of challenges as opportunities to grow.

- Children with a fixed mindset believe that intelligence is fixed at birth and doesn't change or changes very little with practice. These students see school as a place where their abilities are evaluated, they focus on looking smart over learning, and they interpret mistakes as a sign that they lack talent.

Want to learn more? Check out <https://youtu.be/E4KEQzOW3ps>

## Student Absences

Just a reminder that all student absences need to be reported to our main office at 310-798-8650 every day that your child is going to be absent. Our office calls all of the families of absent students if we do not hear from you by 10am.

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Our district is happy to announce a new consolidated site for all district flyers featuring community events. Please [click here](#) to view all of the latest flyers available to families and our community. Looking for a flyer specific to Alta Vista and our after-school programs?

[Click here](#) to be directed to our home page that houses all of our latest flyers.

### Important Dates for the Next Few Weeks:

- Monday, September 26th - Fresh Brother's Fifth Grade Science Camp Fundraiser
- Tuesday, September 27th - 8:30am Room Parent Meeting in AV Cafeteria
- Wednesday, September 28th - Reflections Workshop 1:30-5:30pm
- Friday, September 30th - 8am PTA Meeting
- Monday, October 3rd - Local Holiday, No School
- Wednesday, October 5th - 5:30pm RBUSD State of Education at RUHS Auditorium
- Friday, October 7th - PTA Movie Night 6pm
- Wednesday, October 12th - Local Holiday, No School
- Thursday & Friday, October 13th - 14th - Hands on Art Training in AV Cafeteria
- Thursday, October 20th - 10:30am Great California Shakeout
- Sunday, October 23rd - Skechers Friendship Walk
- Monday & Tuesday, October 24th & 25th - School Pictures Day
- Wednesday, October 26th - LIFT Pupil Free Day
- Thursday, October 27th - MINIMUM DAY - Staff Professional Development
- Friday, October 28th - 8:30am Halloween Parade
- Monday, October 31st - NO SCHOOL, Teacher Professional Development Day
- Wednesday, November 2nd - LIFT Pupil Free Day, LIFT OFF Double Day

- Thursday & Friday, November 3-4 - Hands on Art Training in AV Cafeteria
- November 7 - 10 - Fifth Grade Science Camp
- Thursday, November 10th - Reflections Contest Entries Due
- Friday, November 11th - No School, Local Holiday

**Ways to Support Alta Vista:**

- Join the PTA!
- Consider donation to the Redondo Beach Educational Foundation. Go to [www.rbef.org/donate](http://www.rbef.org/donate)
- Student absences cost the school \$38 per day per child. Families are welcome to repay that cost directly back to Alta Vista if able.
- Do you shop Amazon as much as I do? Try Amazon Smile instead! Go to <http://smile.amazon.com> and designate Alta Vista PTA and a portion of all your purchases will go back to support our school.
- Looking to purchase a new lunchbox or lunch gear? Go to [www.mightynest.com](http://www.mightynest.com) where 15% of your purchases will go directly back to Alta Vista.
- Don't forget to collect and return your General Mills Box Tops for Education. Every boxtop is money for our school!
- Go to [mycokerewards.com/school](http://mycokerewards.com/school), enter your Coca-Cola product codes and donate to our school. Our school can redeem the points for much needed physical education equipment.
- Keep collecting your Galleria receipts! Just shop and log receipts from any South Bay Galleria stores and restaurants until December 31, 2013. Receipts can be logged at Guest Services anytime during the program. Remember to tell your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers to log their receipts. Anyone can support AV in the Galleria School Rewards Program!
- Stopping by Jamba Juice on a warm summer day? Just show the PTA Jamba Card when making a purchase.

Have a wonderful week,

Mrs. Wildes