



Weekly Wildcat News

November 9, 2015

Happy Monday Wildcat Families,

I hope everyone had a wonderful weekend! I will be out of the building on Monday and Tuesday of this week, as Dr. Joyce and I are traveling to Washington, D.C. for the 2015 National Blue Ribbon Award Celebration. The 2015 National Blue Ribbon Recognition Ceremony will be live-streamed. The individual school awards presentation will begin at 1pm EST/11am PST and can be watched by accessing the U.S. Department of Education channel at <http://liveeventaccess.com/blueribbon/>.

Important Dates this Week:

Wednesday, November 11th - No School, Veteran's Day Holiday

Thursday, November 12th - Foodless Food Drive Begins (See information below)

WATCH D.O.G.S. Program begins with our first volunteers of the year

Friday, November 13th - World Kindness Day

8:30am Student of the Month, Flag Ceremony

6pm PTA Meeting & Movie Night

Have a great week,

Mrs. Wildes



"Foodless" Food Drive for Friends

This year we will be collecting only Gift Cards for our annual Food Drive. You can choose any denomination for your Gift Card for the Food Drive.

You can purchase these at the following stores: Albertsons, Ralphs, Vons, Trader Joe's, Whole Foods, Target and Walmart. The Gift Cards for food will help our families at Alta Vista.

The Gift Card Food Drive will start 11/12/2015-11/19/2015. Please return your Gift Cards to your Teachers.

Thank you for your participation.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Dr. Joyce Stout and "Friends"



Interested in volunteering for the WATCH D.O.G.S. program? [Click here](#)

We ask that "Dads" volunteer for no more than 2 days per school year to allow all dads the opportunity to participate.

Please indicate your child's teacher's name in the comment section of your signup.



School Conversation Starter

Starter #11: Teach me some of the morning exercises from this week. (see our website at <http://altavista.rbusd.org/livewellkids> for detailed explanations and photos of each of the exercises.)



Math Superstars

This week starts WEEK FIVE of our Math Superstar Program.



The Blue Run – November 18th!

Fundraising for the Blue Run is underway! The 5th Annual Chase Stecyk Fun Run is the healthiest and most fun “funraiser” of the school year!

How’s your classroom doing? Ms. Meyer’s room is currently in first place! Check out the rankings at the Blue Run home page: <https://secure.eventsonline.us/reg/getmovincrew/pub/school/227>

The top classroom will win a Dance Party with Mrs. Wildes!

ALL students will get an awesome Blue Run T-shirt for participating and the kids are SO excited to run our new field! Our goal is \$35 per student and all students who meet this goal will be eligible for great prizes!

Get a Wildcat WOW for your child by using the new on-line registration tool. Go to: www.thegetmovincrew.com to register your student and start fundraising now. On-line registration will then allow you to add a photo of your child to their own secure pledge page and share the link to your friends and family everywhere! **See attached flyer for further details.**

Pledge envelopes went home last Friday, which can be used in addition to or instead of the new on-line pledge tool.

Interested in volunteering the day of the Blue Run or contributing prizes? Please use our Sign-Up Genius page to volunteer at this link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040849a8ac29a31-alta>



Happy 50th Anniversary PTA!

Today, November 9th, 2015, marks the 50th Anniversary of the PTA at Alta Vista Elementary. Thank you to the wonderful Alta Vista community and all of PTA members for helping to support our students and families for all of these years! Let's make it another 50 great years!

Family Carnival Planning Meeting – Nov. 10th

Join us on Tuesday, Nov. 10th in the Cafeteria at 8:15 if you are interested in participating in the Family Carnival Planning Committee. Our Family Carnival is scheduled for Jan. 23rd and will not be possible without a planning committee. We want your input on what you would like to see at this year's carnival!

Next PTA Meeting & Family Movie Night – This Friday, Nov. 13th

Mark your calendars for our next PTA meeting THIS Friday, November 13th at 6:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria, Family Movie Night directly following the meeting. We will be watching the Disney Pixar film Inside Out, and celebrating the Alta Vista PTA's 50th Anniversary which is Nov. 9th! FREE Hot dogs, popcorn, drinks and dessert will be served. Bring your blankets and/or beach chairs.

Details Announced for the Alta Vista's Blue Ribbon Family Picnic Celebration – Dec. 5th!

Please join us on Saturday, December 5th from 11:00 – 1:00 for a family picnic and National Blue Ribbon Flag Raising Ceremony at Alta Vista. See attached flyer for details!

Chicken Dijon Restaurant Week! – Nov. 16th - 22nd

Bring the attached flyer to ANY of the 3 Chicken Dijon restaurants (Redondo, Torrance or El Segundo) at ANY time the week of Nov. 16th – 22nd and Alta Vista will receive 20% of the proceeds! Thank you Chicken Dijon!



Mrs. Wildes App/Website of the Week

Do you have your children's app covering your fridge like I do? Do you worry about where you will put the "newest" masterpiece and what to do with the old ones? I am in LOVE with this solution. Store and share your children's precious artwork on **Canvsly**. This app allows you to capture and save those petite masterpieces for posterity while keeping home clutter at a minimum. Canvsly also makes ordering gifts featuring those priceless paintings, collages, and scribbles simple. You can pick up finished products at Walgreens or Duane Reade. If you provide access, family and friends can view the images and admire your offspring's natural talent.



The Great Thanksgiving Listen: A Living History Project Opportunity

From the California Department of Education, there is a fascinating living history project called the Great Thanksgiving Listen. StoryCorps, a national organization that promotes oral history, is encouraging your people throughout the nation to record interviews with grandparents and other elders about the historic events they have lived through over the Thanksgiving holiday.

This is a great opportunity for students to learn about history from first-hand accounts and to develop and strengthen relationships with members of older generations by engaging in meaningful discussions.

Students will be encouraged to record their interviews, using the free StoryCorps app. Then, they will be asked to upload them and the final produce will be archived at the American Folklife Center in the Library of Congress for future generations to listen to and learn from.

To download the program information, please go to the [StoryCorps toolkit](#). For additional information on StoryCorps and its historic project, please view the video of [Founder Dave Isay's Ted talk on the Ted Website](#).

Weekly Flyers

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:

- Wednesday, November 11th - Veteran's Day - **NO SCHOOL**
- Friday, November 13th - 8:30am Flag Ceremony
 - 6pm PTA Meeting, Movie Night/Cyber Ed Night
- November 18th - BLUE Jog-A-Thon
- Thursday, November 19th - **MINIMUM DAY**, Staff Development
 - Career Dress Up Day
- November 23 - 27th - Thanksgiving Break - No School
- November 30 - December 9th - **MINIMUM DAYS** - Parent/Teacher Conferences
- December 5th - Blue Ribbon Celebration Family Picnic and Flag Raising
- December 9th - Pretend it's Snowing Day - Wear White
- December 11th - 8:30am Flag Ceremony
- December 21st - January 1st - Winter Break - NO SCHOOL
- January 4th - School reopens
- Wednesday, January 6th - LIFT OFF Double Day
- Thursday, January 7th - **MINIMUM DAY** - Professional Development
- Friday, January 8th - 8:30am Flag Ceremony
- January 11-15 - GATE classes begin
- Monday, January 11th - School Site Council/ELAC meeting 3pm
- Friday, January 15th - 8am PTA Meeting
- Monday, January 18 - NO SCHOOL
- January 21-22 - Hands on Art Training in AV Cafeteria
- Saturday, January 23 - PTA Family Carnival
- January 25-29 - Great Kindness Challenge
- Thursday, January 28 - Wear Yellow Day to Show Respect

Ways to Support Alta Vista:

- Join the PTA!
- Student absences cost the school \$38 per day per child. Families are welcome to repay that cost

directly back to Alta Vista if able.

- Looking to purchase a new lunchbox or lunch gear? Go to www.mightynest.com where 15% of your purchases will go directly back to Alta Vista.
- Missing a new lunchbox or sweater already? Please encourage your child to check out our lost and found area. To purchase labels that can be used to mark all of your child's belongings and help give back to Alta Vista, visit www.altavista.mabelslabels.com
- 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, enter your Coca-Cola product codes and donate to our school. Our school can redeem the points for much needed physical education equipment.
- Do you have a **TARGET Red Card/Debit Card**? Don't forget to designate your card to Alta Vista Elementary to help our school earn 1% of your purchases directly back to our school. To add your Red Card, go to: <http://www.target.com/redcard/manage>
- 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