



## Weekly Wildcat News

September 6, 2016

Happy Tuesday Wildcat Families,

What a successful first week of school! I was so excited to see all of your children again. Having worked the last few weeks at school without them made last week so much more special.

Morning exercises start again this week for our 1st - 5th grade students! Exercises begin promptly at 8:15am. If your child arrives to exercises after 8:15am, they will be directed to the front office for a tardy slip. Our eight minutes of exercise help your child to feel more energized and focused to start the school day, and your child's participation counts towards their physical education grades. In order to best support our students and model the movements, we need our teachers. We ask that all parents please clear campus at the onset of exercising, so that our teachers can give their full attention to your children in order to promote their participation and to ensure their safety. If you have an urgent need that you need to discuss with your child's teacher, please send an email or stop by the main office.

Just a few reminders for our families:

- If you plan to utilize our Valet system in the afternoon, you must have a placard hanging from your rearview mirror to assist the volunteers. Placards are free and can be picked up in the front office. The amnesty days of last week are over and cars without the placard will be directed to park to pick up your students.
- A big thank you to all of our Kindergarten families for sending your children with mindful snacks that are nut-free. For students in grades 1-5, if your child has a nut product in their lunch, they may NOT sit at our "Nut-Free" table. As a parent of children who love peanut butter, I understand how challenging it can be to find nut-free alternatives, but I appreciate everyone's help and support towards keeping our kids safe.

*Important Dates this Week:*

Wednesday, September 7 - Wildcat Wednesday Begins - Wear your favorite Wildcat Spirit Wear!

Friday, September 9 - First College Friday - Wear your favorite college gear

Thursday, September 15 - Elementary Back to School Night

Saturday, September 17 - Heal the Bay California Coastal Cleanup Day

## HEAL THE BAY CALIFORNIA COASTAL CLEANUP DAY

### Alta Vista Elementary School

Saturday, September 17, 2016

8:30 am—11 am

Come together with over 10,000 volunteers worldwide on Saturday, September 17th to clean up our beautiful California coastline. It will be a day of fun and community service as we clean up the Redondo Beach Pier and learn about the importance of keeping our beaches beautiful.

Students will need the following:

1. Garden gloves
2. Closed-toe shoes

**Where:** Redondo Beach Pier—140 Coral Way, Redondo Beach, CA 90277

**Email Ms. Ruvalcaba: [nruvalcaba@rbusd.org](mailto:nruvalcaba@rbusd.org) to confirm attendance.  
Use "Heal the Bay" in your subject line.**



## PLEASE DON'T THROW OUR DIMES INTO THE GARBAGE!

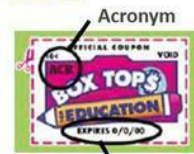


Earning money for your school with Box Tops for Education is so easy.  
Every Box Top you submit is worth 10 cents for your school.

Families simply need to cut, rip, or tear the Box Tops clips off the packages of many grocery and household products, save them in a Ziploc bag or envelop, and turn them in to your teachers.

\*\*\* Here's the important part \*\*\*

Each Box Top must have a product acronym and an expiration date.



Acronym

Expiration Date

Your submissions are tracked through out the year. There will be cool prizes awarded to the students and classrooms with highest submissions, so please include with each submission the following info:

**Student Name, Grade, Teacher, Classroom**

This school year, our school's earnings goal is \$1,250

For more information on the Box Tops for Education program, including a list of participating products, and our school's progress, visit [www.BTFE.com](http://www.BTFE.com) (our school ID 212323). Be sure to become a member to receive exclusive coupons, recipes, and learn about extra ways for our school to earn.

Thanks for your help!  
Alta Vista PTA Box Tops Chairs

Amelia Lee  
[amelia\\_m\\_lee@hotmail.com](mailto:amelia_m_lee@hotmail.com)

Thanh Diep  
[thanhtdi2002@yahoo.com](mailto:thanhtdi2002@yahoo.com)



### ONLINE BONUSES

Visit [BTFE.com/bonus](http://BTFE.com/bonus) for more chances to win Bonus Box Tops through your local grocers' websites and loyalty programs.

### E-BOXTOPS™ CODES

If families receive a 16-digit e-BoxTops code, it should be submitted electronically at [BTFE.com/bonus](http://BTFE.com/bonus). Do not include e-BoxTops with your Box Tops submission.

### BONUS CERTIFICATES

Bonus Certificates are like Box Top Boosters that are worth more money than regular Box Tops.

**YOU CAN FIND THEM:**  
In stores during special promotions



On specially-marked packages



At checkout, printed on your receipt



Bonus Box Tops certificates must be bundled separately from your school's standard Box Tops clips.



For those of you who have driven by Alta Vista going south on Prospect Ave this summer, you may have noticed the county construction that has been taking place. The county is drilling down 600 ft. deep, working on the sea water retaining wells. This helps protect our aquafer from sea water intrusion. RBUSD has been work with the city and RBPD to have additional crossing guards throughout the project to assist all of our walkers and ensure their safety. Unfortunately, the construction is out of our control and the latest updates from the county estimate work to be completed by the end of September. There will be traffic back ups, reduced parking along Prospect and limited traffic flow down to one lane in the southbound direction. We ask all of our families to plan to add 10-15 minutes to their morning routine to accommodate any traffic issues

this may cause.

### **8:15am Arrival Time**

Just a quick word about the importance of being on time for school. Even just 5 minutes late can start your child off feeling anxious and having missed important directions and instruction. Our school's report card is linked to attendance and tardiness. Please make every effort to have your child at school on time and ready to learn.

### **Parking Around Alta Vista**

Just a reminder that RBPD is strictly reinforcing "no parking" zones in and around the Alta Vista campus, including the south side of Knob Hill Avenue and all red zones on the campus. As a neighborhood school, illegal parking will often inconvenience our neighbors. Thank you for being mindful of all parking rules and helping us to be great neighbors.

### **Running Club**

Due to the construction and early noise, we will begin our morning Running Club in October after construction has completed. Be on the lookout for Running Club signups in the upcoming weeks.



## **The Redondo Beach Educational Foundation**

Welcome Back! RBEF hopes you had a wonderful summer and are looking forward to another great school year.

Our Investor Drive will take place from September 14th to the 30th. You can invest at your school during this time or anytime at [RBEF.org](http://RBEF.org). See attached flyer for details.



## **Alta Vista VALET Program**

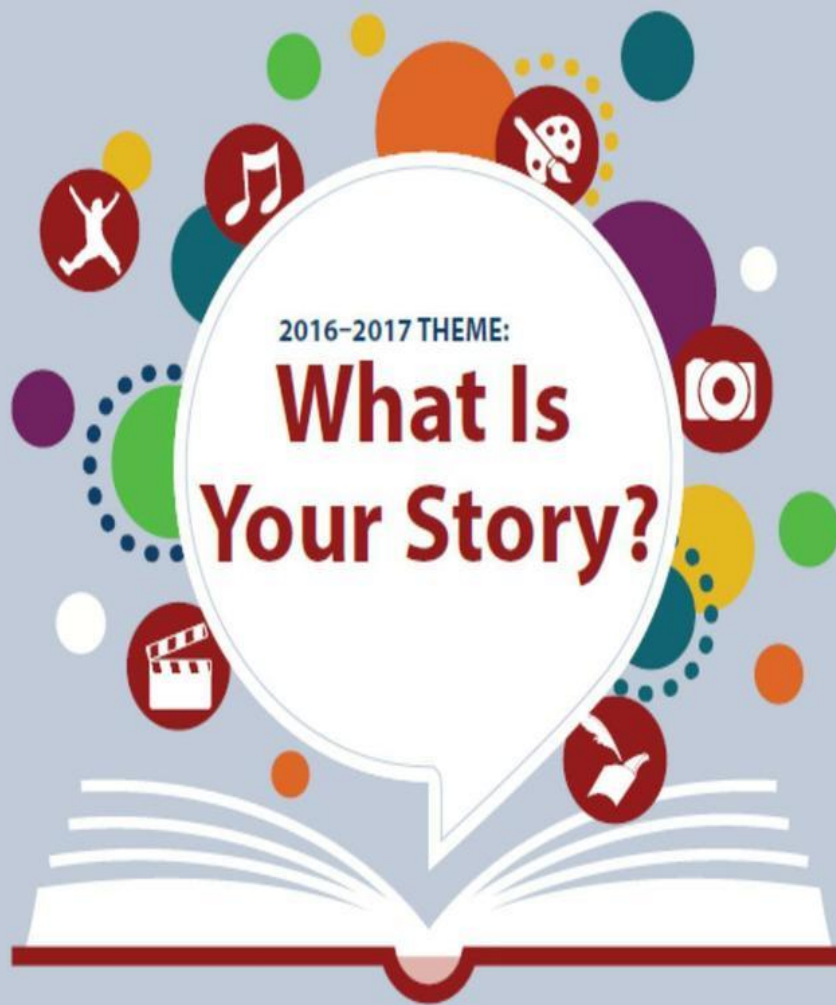
\*\*The Alta Vista VALET program is in desperate need of afternoon volunteers to assist helping students into their cars. If you have just one afternoon a week to help, we would love to

have you!\*\*Please contact Mrs. Wildes at [swildes@rbusd.org](mailto:swildes@rbusd.org).

Just a reminder to all of our families who plan on utilizing the Alta Vista VALET program in the afternoons. You must pick up a car placard at our Ice Cream Social. Vehicles that do not have a placard will be directed to park their vehicle and walk onto campus to pick up their student. The PTA will be offering VALET placards this week. Please remember the following when utilizing our VALET system;

- Have your AV Placard visible
- Registered vehicles approach the school heading WESTBOUND on Knob Hill, turning right into the driveway.
- Pull as far forward as possible and do not leave your car unattended for any reason.
- Students will be paged and loaded into the BACKSEAT of your car from the sidewalk side only.
- If your child's class is not present, you will be asked to drive around. Families of children in grades 3-5 are encouraged to arrive 5-10 minutes past dismissal.
- Any cell phone use/texting while in the valet line are strictly prohibited for the safety of our children and volunteers.

Be a Part of PTA's Reflections® Program



Entries from all grades and all abilities welcome.



## Birthday Celebration Policy

As we begin the year and September birthdays get underway, I wanted to take a moment to review Alta Vista Elementary's policy regarding birthday celebrations. Treats will not be a part of student's birthday celebrations. Children's birthdays will be celebrated in class with each teacher acknowledging birthdays in a special way such as a birthday crown, singing, allowing the child to share a special book or educational game with the class or in another manner appropriate for their age and grade. There are celebrations throughout the calendar to celebrate special times of the year.

We also ask for your help in NOT distributing birthday invitations at school in order to avoid any hurt feelings. Room parents will be distributing classroom directories soon.

**Students are not allowed to bring in food items for birthday celebrations, as many of the items brought to school do not follow the RBUSD Wellness Policy guidelines.**

**We appreciate your help with this matter!**



### **Thank You Teachers & Parents for a GREAT Start!**

Thank you to our wonderful teachers, staff and volunteers for taking time out of their already busy schedules to help out at the Ice Cream Social. Also, thank you to all of the families who attended the Ice Cream Social and Parent Welcome Back Breakfast. We had a wonderful turn-out at both events and it was a great kick-off to what is going to be a fun year of PTA events at Alta Vista!

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

Alta Vista PTA is excited to announce our 2016-2017 Back to School Membership Drive! 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 there will NOT be a Fall catalog fundraiser this year, and the Fun Run is not until Spring! Your donations help support over \$112,000 of funding for programs such as Hands on Art, field trips, assemblies, teacher educational funds, and much, much more!

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.

Free gifts (except T-shirts), for donations made by Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>, will be available for pick-up at Back to School Night on Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>. T-shirts and other Wildcat gear purchases made through Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> will be delivered to classrooms by mid-October.

### **Volunteer Opportunities: Alta Vista Needs YOUR help!**

Alta Vista has a variety of volunteer opportunities – there is something to fit every schedule. Our programs simply cannot exist without your volunteer support. Please see attached Volunteer Opportunity Descriptions and Sign-up form. Please either submit the attached form to your teacher, or go paperless and complete the school's online Google Forms Classroom Directory & Volunteer Sign-up at <https://goo.gl/forms/1J7yspq6WO2Mstjz2>

### **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!



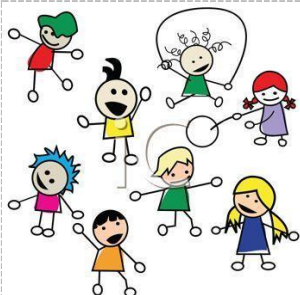
## **College-Going Corner -**

### **College Gear Friday**

**Because every student deserves the opportunity to prepare themselves for college- or a career – even at the youngest grades, RBUSD and Alta Vista Elementary work to promote a vibrant College Going Culture. As part of our school's mission statement to “preparing each student to be college- and career-ready,” we begin as early as kindergarten to start talking about college and bringing awareness to what's possible. Now, the mission is entrenched. Although every student may end up at a four-year university, there is no reason that any child, particularly in the elementary school years, shouldn't at least consider it. This is the philosophy behind "College Colors Day and College Fridays," an activity that focuses on making college more familiar and accessible to students. The fringe benefit of this forward focus? Thinking about education beyond high school may just make what happens today in the classroom a little more relevant for kids.**



On Fridays at Alta Vista, we show our school pride and spirit by wearing college gear; t-shirts, jerseys or gear. In need of college gear? Check out OldNavy.com, Target, Walmart and more. The more we raise awareness and our expectations for our children to go to college, the more excited and motivated they will become. Do you have an alma mater that isn't represented in our cafeteria wall on banners? We would LOVE to include it. Just send in a banner and we will proudly display it.



## Support Our Board Game/Recess Closet

We are looking to refresh the highly popular Recess/Board Game closet utilized by our kids as another option during recess and break times. Do you have new or slightly used board games to add to our recess closet? If you would like to donate a game (new or used) please drop it off at the front office.

## 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.

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, September 7th - First Wildcat Wednesday Spirit Day - Show your AV pride by wearing Wildcat gear or red
- Friday, September 9th - College Friday
- Wednesday, September 14 - LIFT SDC PK/K Pupil Free Day
  - First Kindergarten Double Day
  - RBEF Donor Drive Begins
- Thursday, September 15 - MINIMUM DAY, Elementary Back to School Night
- Wednesday, September 21st - Ruby's Restaurant Night
- 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

**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