



# Montemalaga Elementary School

1121 Via Nogales • Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274 • (310)378-5228

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The opportunity for your child to participate in the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress, or CAASPP, state academic testing program will occur in April and May. Montemalaga Elementary, along with all of the PVPUSD has been consistently recognized for its excellence and continues to receive outstanding local, state, and national rankings based upon our students' performance on these state assessments, along with other measures. As the state, colleges, universities, and media continue to refine their processes to identify and recognize exemplary school districts, PVPUSD's participation in these assessments will continue to provide the opportunity for maintaining the exemplary local, state, and national reputation we enjoy today.

The assessments that comprise the 2015–16 CAASPP administration include computer-based tests in English-Language Arts and Mathematics in grades 3-8 and 11, as well as paper-based tests for science in grades 5, 8, and 10. One of the expected outcomes of the CAASPP is to provide information that ensures that all students leave high school ready for college and career. The CAASPP assessment also provides students with access to the Early Assessment Program (EAP) which provides an early indication of readiness for college-level coursework in the CSU system. A significant benefit for students who perform at Achievement Level 4 on the CAASPP examinations is that they will be exempt from taking the CSU and participating California Community College placement tests, and will be able to move directly into college-level courses upon enrollment. For more information on the EAP program, please visit <http://www.calstate.edu/EAP/>

This year, Montemalaga students will take the CAASPP tests from **April 18 – May 18**. To learn about the types of questions on the computer-based test, you and your child can view the practice test online at the California Department of Education (CDE) Smarter Balanced Practice Test Web page at [pvpusd.net/caaspp](http://pvpusd.net/caaspp)

Following the Spring, 2016 administration of the CAASPP assessments, individual student score reports displaying CAASPP results will be mailed home to parents. Student score reports will include an overall score and a description of the student's achievement level for English-Language Arts and Mathematics. The results of the statewide assessments support the efforts of PVPUSD administrators, teachers, students, and parents to determine the effectiveness of selected curriculum/programs, and to establish appropriate site and district goals to improve teaching and learning in all classrooms. Score reports for students in grades 5, 8, and 10 will include results of the Science test. Early Assessment Program results will be included on the score reports for students in grade 11.

As the parent or guardian, you have the option of exempting your child from any part of the CAASPP. If you would like to exempt your child from the test, you must submit your request in writing to the school administrator. [Education Code 60615.] We will honor your request. Please let the school know as soon as possible. An on-campus alternative activity will be planned for your student during all testing sessions. For more information on the exemption process, please visit [pvpusd.net/caaspp](http://pvpusd.net/caaspp)

If you have any questions regarding CAASPP, please contact **Mrs. Jody Pastell** at 310-378-5228 ext 200.

If you would like more information on CAASPP, please visit [pvpusd.net/caaspp](http://pvpusd.net/caaspp) or the Parent/Student tab of the California Department of Education (CDE) Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/>

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jody Pastell, Principal

*Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District*