



Weekly Wildcat News

March 20, 2017

Happy Monday, Wildcat Families,

We hope that everyone enjoyed a wonderful long weekend and are ready to kick off our third and final trimester of the school year. As we begin this final push for the school year, remember that good attendance will help your children continue to do well here at Alta Vista, and on into high school, college and at work.

- Your children can suffer academically if they miss 10 percent of school days or about 18 days. That can be just one day every two weeks, and that can happen before you know it.
- It doesn't matter if these absences are excused or unexcused. They all represent lost time in the classroom and a lost opportunity to learn. Even if an absence is excused, the classwork still needs to be completed. Be sure to speak with your child's classroom teacher to help determine what you can do to ensure your child does not fall behind and that all missing work is completed.
- Attendance matters as early as kindergarten. Studies show many children who miss too many days in kindergarten and first grade can struggle academically in later years. They often have trouble mastering reading by the end of third grade.
- Preschool is a great time to start building a habit of good attendance. Studies show that poor attendance in preschool can predict absenteeism in later grades.
- By middle and high school, chronic absence is a leading warning sign that a student will drop out.
- Too many absent students can affect the whole classroom, creating churn and slowing down instruction

Important Dates this Week:

Monday, March 20th - Dental Screening

International Acts of Happiness Day

Tuesday, March 21st - World Down Syndrome Day (see below) - Wear Funny Socks!

Parent Night Out- Comedy and Magic Club

Wednesday, March 22nd - 5th Grade Field Day at RUHS - Buses leaves PROMPTLY at 8am. Field Day will be rescheduled in the event of rain.

Thursday, March 23rd - Hands on Art Training in AV Cafeteria

Friday, March 24th - Hands on Art Training in AV Cafeteria

Mathenge/Teran's 3rd grade classrooms' field trip to the West Basin Water Plant

Redondo Beach Council
PTA
everychild.ourvoice®



Redondo Beach Unified School District and the Council of PTAs Presents:

Keeping Our Kids Safe in Cyber Space

Wednesday, March 29
6:30 PM

Parras Middle School
200 N Lucia Ave
Redondo Beach, CA 90277

Bring your child and your device(s)!

Guest speaker Jon Moffat speaks about Cyber Safety

- What is the right age for my child to have a smartphone?
- How do I set up boundaries in the Digital World? How do I keep up?
- Learn about some of the latest phone apps that could put you and your teen at risk.
- Learn more about Instagram, Snapchat, Musically, and many more!!
- Learn some simple techniques to better connect with your child and the tech.



March 21st - World Down Syndrome Day



Why March 21?

3/21 was chosen because people with Down syndrome have three copies of the 21st chromosome. Down syndrome is also known as Trisomy 21.

What is Down syndrome?

Down syndrome is a naturally occurring chromosomal arrangement that has always been a part of the human condition, exists in all regions across the globe and commonly results in variable effects on learning styles, physical characteristics or health.

It is not a disease, disorder, defect or medical condition.

There are trillions of cells in the human body. They are so tiny you can only see them through a microscope. Inside these tiny cells are even tinier parts called chromosomes. Most people have 46 chromosomes in each of their cells. People with Down syndrome have 47, and because of that, they may look and learn differently.

Down syndrome causes differences in the way a person looks and learns. No two people with Down syndrome are quite the same, but they are often extra flexible in their joints, have eyes that slant, have small ears and a small nose and grow more slowly than other kids. People with Down syndrome also tend to learn more slowly than others.

Lots of socks!

People thought that the karyotype looked like socks. So began the tradition of wearing odd socks or funny socks on World Down Syndrome Day.

Join us **wearing odd or funny socks** which people will ask you about so that you can tell them all about WSD. To find out more, [CLICK HERE](#)



Elementary GATE Parent Coffees

Please join us to talk about outside GATE resources and the Honors & AP courses offered at Redondo Union on Wednesday, March 15, at Parras or Tuesday, March 28, at Adams.

Tuesday, March 28

1:30 – 2:00 pm

Library

Adams Middle School

2600 Ripley Avenue

Redondo Beach



Our Kids.
Our Community.
Our Legacy.

RBEF SPRING GALA TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE!!

Please join the Redondo Beach Education Foundation for our 2nd Annual Spring Gala in Celebration of 125 years of Redondo Beach!

Date: May 12, 2017

Time: 6:00pm - Midnight

Where: Portofino Hotel & Marina

260 Portofino Way, Redondo Beach 90277

\$125 per guest includes:

Dinner & Premium Wine and Craft Beer Tasting

Silent & Live Auction

Entertainment by Award Winning RUHS Jazz Band

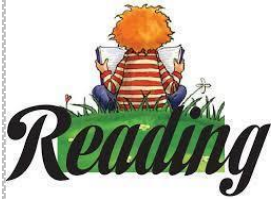
Identity Theft (80s cover band) Playing all your Favorite Tunes

All proceeds benefit

Our Kids, Our Community, Our Legacy

Last year this was a SOLD OUT event, so buy your tickets
TODAY!

FOR TICKETS, PLEASE CLICK
HERE: <https://rbef.ejoinme.org/springgala>



How to have a productive reading conversation with your child - prompts for supporting your reader

Productive Talk Question #21: Talk about how the character
felt in the book. How do you know? Why do you think the
character felt _____ or acted _____?



Alta Vista PTA



Tickets Still Available for Comedy & Magic Fundraiser – March 21st

Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets for this Tuesday
night's annual parents night out at the Comedy & Magic Club
in Hermosa Beach. There are still tickets left. Buy Tickets
ON-LINE at <https://altavistapta.myschoolcentral.com>. Ticket
Price is \$25.00 per person and all proceeds support Alta
Vista. Please contact Leslie Moody
at leslie.moody3@gmail.com with questions.

If you already purchased tickets, please RSVP directly to
Comedy & Magic Club at (310)372-1193 with your ticket
number by TODAY to confirm your seating. If you do not
RSVP, they will release your tickets to someone else. Doors

open at 6:30, must be seated by 7:30, show starts at 8:00. Tickets require 2 item minimum purchase per person, which can include drinks OR food.

Honorary Service Award Nominations Due March 22nd

Every year Alta Vista PTA recognizes an individual or organization that volunteers their service to our children and to our community. The Honorary Service Award (HSA) and Very Special Person (VSP) award program recognizes community service and honors the dedication of individuals and organizations who go above and beyond the call of duty.

All nominations will be reviewed by a committee and submitted to Redondo Beach Council PTA. The HSA recipient will be honored on May 22 at the Redondo Beach PTA Council Award night. Nominations are due by Tuesday, March 22. Please email nominations using the attached ballot to Melissa Moynan at melissamoynan@gmail.com or place completed ballots in the PTA lockbox located in the school's main office.

PTA Meeting: Board Elections & Special Guest Speaker – March 31st

Join us on Friday, March 31st at 8:00 am in the cafeteria for our next PTA meeting where we will be holding elections for next year's PTA Board. This a very important meeting as we need your vote for next year's leadership. The nomination slate has been posted in the front office and is attached. Nominations can also be taken from the floor.

Also, **breakfast will be served** and we will also be joined by, Andrea Archambault, an Integrative Nutrition Health Coach who will present *What's Up Gut? The Key to Reducing your Stress and Anxiety*. In this talk, Andrea will share how food you eat can directly impact your mood and stress levels. She will share strategies that you can easily implement to feel more energy and less overwhelmed.

The Great Room Café Fundraiser – April 3rd – 5th

Join us for dinner April 3rd – 5th between 3:00 and 9:00 pm for

South Bay's new premier chillin' station. Relaxing lounge for adults and play rooms for kids all ages (\$10 child, \$8 siblings). Bring the attached flyer and 15% of the food and beverage proceeds will be donated to Alta Vista.

Performers for the Family Carnival

Is your child a member of a dance troop, demo team, etc. and like to perform at the Alta Vista Carnival on April 29th? If so, please reach out to Shannon Lee (bfabt@msn.com) for more information. The Carnival committee has some open spots for teams to display their talents.



Box Tops Scavenger Hunt Contest

The latest Box Tops contest is here! How many of these items on the Box Tops Scavenger Hunt list can you or your child find? Find them, clip them, and turn them in with your child's name and teacher's name. Every 10 valid Box Tops turned in by 5/19/2017 will earn your child a chance to win one of thirty-three \$5 gift cards to Wanna Chill?, generously donated by Wanna Chill?. The Box Tops Scavenger Hunt list will go home with your child and is **also attached below**. Happy hunting!

Other Ways to Connect with and Support Alta Vista PTA

Check out our website at www.AltavistaPTA.org and Like us on our **new** Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/altavistapta>. Also check out our website for information on easy fundraising opportunities such as [Amazon Smile](#) and [Mabel's Labels](#).

SAVE THE DATE for These 2 Amazing Events!

The 4th Annual Alta Vista Family Carnival – April 29th

Save the date for this amazing event that has continue to grow over the years! We will have all of the amazing food and attractions that we've had in prior years, plus NEW food vendors, and NEW this year we will have live bands, dance & martial arts performances. Tickets go on sale April 3rd.

Back by Popular Demand – The Father Daughter Dance – May 19th



Volunteer for the Walking School Bus!

Just one hour a week can benefit you, your child and your school!

What is a Walking School Bus?

Walking School Bus is a group of children walking to school with one or more adults. There are 70 volunteers and 30 Walking School Bus routes in Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach and Redondo Beach with 400-900 children participating each year. Volunteer recruitment for the 2017-18 school year is open!

What are the benefits?

- **IT'S FUN!** Walking to school allows kids to spend time with their friends and explore the neighborhood at a leisurely pace.
- **IT'S HEALTHIER!** Kids who walk to school arrive more energized and better prepared to learn.
- **IT'S SAFER AND GREENER!** Fewer cars means less traffic and less pollution. Our ultimate goal is a safe school zone for everyone.

What does a volunteer do?

Volunteers will be responsible for walking a designated route at a scheduled time/day and "picking up" pre-registered children along this route and delivering them to school safely. Volunteers can choose their schedule! The time commitment is a minimum of 1 hour/week.

Where are the routes?

A route can start anywhere (even at your house), as long as it is a designated Safe Route to School.

STEPS TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER:

- Sign up at bchd.org/WalkingSchoolBus
- Participate in a mandatory Walking School Bus Volunteer Training (1 hour) that will take place in September
- Pass volunteer screening (background check and a tuberculosis test)
- Be ready to kick off routes on International Walk to School Day on October 4, 2017

Questions?

Contact francis.villalpando@bchd.org



To learn more, visit
bchd.org/WalkingSchoolBus



1200 Del Amo Street, Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310-374-3426



Growth Mindset Corner

8 Ways to Encourage a Growth Mindset in Kids

[Click here](#)



Prospective Parent Tours & Kindergarten Registration

Know a family with a prospective kindergartner or new student for the 2017-18 school year? Our informational tours and kindergarten registration dates are posted on our website. Please direct any interested parents to our website for details.

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:

Monday, March 20th - Dental Screening

International Acts of Happiness Day

Tuesday, March 21st - Comedy and Magic Night

Wednesday, March 22nd - 5th grade Field Day at RUHS

Thursday, March 23rd - Hands on Art Training in AV Cafeteria

Friday, March 24th - Hands on Art Training in AV Cafeteria

Tuesday, March 28th - GATE Testing

Wednesday, March 29th - LIFT Pupil Free Day

5th Grade Honor Band 3-5pm

6:30pm Cyber Safety Night at Parras MS

Thursday, March 30th - 5th Grade Honor Band 6:30-8:30pm

Friday, March 31st - 8am PTA Meeting

2nd grade field trip to Natural History Museum

April 3-5 - The Great Room PTA Fundraiser - Restaurant Nights

Tuesday, April 4th - 8am Wellness Council

Wednesday, April 5th - LIFT OFF Double Day

1:45pm Battle of the Books Competition

Friday, April 7th - 8:30am Prospective Parent Tour

April 10th - April 14th - RBUSD Spring Break, No School

Thursday, April 20th - 8:30am Flag Ceremony

Funky Hair Day

Monday, April 24th - Jump Rope for Heart

Wednesday, April 26th - District Battle of the Books

Thursday & Friday, April 27-28 - Hands on Art Training in AV Cafeteria

Thursday, April 27th - Parras Open House

Friday, April 28th - National Poem in your Pocket Day

Ways to Support Alta Vista:

Join the PTA!

Consider donation to the Redondo Beach Educational Foundation. Go to 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.

Shopping Online? Please help Alta Vista PTA by shopping through Amazon Smile. At no cost to yourself, Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase price to Alta Vista PTA. Remember to select Alta Vista PTA as your cause or use this link. (Tip: if you bookmark this link when it opens you can make sure you are shopping in Smile. <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/95-3154489>

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.

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.

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