

September 2017

Vista Views

Alta Vista Newsletter

Larry Thomas, Principal

Denise Clay, Superintendent

Calendar

September 8:	Picture Day!
September 11-15:	Walk N Roll Week
September 12:	AVHSC Meeting @ 6pm
September 15:	Movie Night
September 27:	Family Night
October 4:	National Walk to School Day

Welcome to a new school year!

I am very excited for the adventures and learning that await us during this new school year!

My 28 years in education have taught me that communication is key to a successful organization. At Alta Vista, we support and foster home/school communication in a number of ways: newsletters, Wednesday Envelopes, email, the school website, phone conversations and personal meetings. In addition, there are a number of school events that promote a strong home/school relationship. I hope that you will take advantage, as your personal situation allows, and participate in as many school activities as possible.

What's Going on at Alta Vista?

The following is a list of ways you can keep up with all the things happening at Alta Vista Elementary School:

Remind: I will use Remind as a way to text out quick reminders. I have a Remind group for each grade level.

If you would like to sign up for Remind, please text the following message to **81010**:

Kindergarten families text: **@av2023**

1st grade families text: **@av2022**

2nd grade families text: **@av2021**

3rd grade families text: **@av2020**

4th grade families text: **@av2019**

5th grade families text: **@av2018**

Twitter: I use twitter to send out quick pictures of things going on. Follow us: @TeamAltaVista

Wednesday Envelopes: These contain information about the classroom, school, and our Home and School Club.

Newsletters: The Vista Views comes out via email and is posted on the website

School/Teacher Websites: The school website is located at: altavista.unionsd.org. Many teachers also have websites posted.

Email/Voicemail: From time to time, we will send a voicemail or email updates.

After School Program Start Dates

District practice no longer allows us to send home flyers for after school activities. All after school activity information can be found on our website under "Activities".

Sign up information for all of the following programs is posted on the website.

Golf: Begins September 11

STEM with Legos: Begins September 15

Tennis: Begins September 19

Chess: Begins September 19

Getting To and From School Safely

Every morning, more than 650 students make their way to Alta Vista; and every afternoon, more than 650 students make their way home from Alta Vista. **The safety of our children is a community responsibility.** Daily, we place cones out on the streets around Alta Vista and we have 5th grade Safety Patrol students posted in the driveway. These have helped slow traffic, but they are only part of the solution.

The biggest risk to our students is the number of cars on the road. Walking, riding and carpooling will increase the safety of all of our children...and it is good for our health and our environment. Here are some safety tips for walking or riding to school:

Be Alert:

Whether you are walking or riding, watch out for cars turning left or right, or cars coming out of driveways.

Be Predictable:

If you are walking, cross at corners and use crosswalks. Do not make sudden moves that put you out into the roadway. If you are biking, obey all traffic signs and signals. Bikers are expected to yield to pedestrians and follow the rules of the road.

Make Eye Contact with Drivers:

Do not assume drivers see you. Whether you are walking or biking, make eye contact with drivers at intersections when you are crossing or turning.

Do Not Do Things That Will Distract You:

Bikers, of course, should not carry anything in their hands. Even walkers should not be doing things that will distract their attention from the surroundings.

Wear Your Helmet and Buckle it Every Time:

It is California State Law that people under the age of 18 wear a helmet when riding a bicycle, scooter or skateboard.

Driving Reminders:

If you must drive, please remember the following:

- Be aware of pedestrians and bicyclists.
- If using our drop off lane, only drop off students along the red curb. You may not park in the drop off lane.
- If using our drop off lane, you must turn right out of our parking lot.
- Please do not stop in the middle of the street, pull into neighbors driveways, or make illegal U-turns as this causes both traffic and safety problems.

Solar Glasses Donation

If you have decided that you do not want to keep the Solar Glasses that we gave you on August 21, please bring them to the office and drop them in the collection box. We will be donating them to Astronomers without Borders. They will be donating undamaged glasses to students in Asia and South America for eclipses occurring in 2019.

Annual Notice of Physical Education

Union School District strives to provide the highest quality educational experience for our students. Included in that is a high quality physical education (P.E.) program in our elementary schools. California Education Code governs how much PE is taught in each classroom. As per California Education Code 51210(g), first through sixth grade teachers are required to teach 200 minutes of physical education over 10 instructional days. It is at the discretion of the classroom teacher as to how and when these minutes are distributed over this time frame. We are providing this notice to inform parents/guardians that, if they have questions regarding P.E. minutes, they should first contact their child's teacher or principal. If they are not satisfied with the school's response, they may contact the Director of Learning & Innovation. If there is an interest in filing a formal complaint with the district regarding P.E. minutes of instruction, parents are to use the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures. Forms are available at each school, the District Office and on the www.unionsd.org web site. We in Union School District encourage a well-rounded educational experience, and physical education is a strong component of that experience.