

From the Principal

Hello Wonderful Buena Vista Families,

It is good to be back and started into the 2005 school year. I hope everyone had a healthy, restful and warm holiday break. I have a lot of things to share with you.

First of all I want to thank you for your extreme generosity for our Giving Baskets. Because of the giving of the staff, families and businesses and presents, we were able to serve: 76 children with presents and 29 families with food baskets. Gracias!

Has your student mentioned Kids Helping Kids? Outside my office you will notice a fish tank being filled with dollar bills, dimes, quarters, nickels, and a lot of information about the Tsunami (Thank you, Nancy Kibbey!) Our students have an opportunity to contribute to the rebuilding of the communities destroyed by the tsunami. This is for students only, not adults. We have talked about how lucky we are to live in a warm home, go to school in a warm school with wonderful teachers, to have our families and our loved ones close by. Nancy is researching a place to donate that will directly benefit children. I'll keep you posted.

We have a student in kindergarten that is deathly allergic to peanut butter. I do not use the word deathly lightly. **Any** contact can cause immediate respiratory failure and death. Because of this, we need to think very carefully about whether any of our students should be eating peanut butter at school. The child's sensitivity is so acute that if a student eats a peanut butter sandwich, doesn't wash their hands then plays on the slide, our student with the allergies can have a reaction from touching the slide after them. As a community of learners, I think it is very important that everyone be aware of this.

A quick list of helpful do's and don'ts. Please do not allow your child to bring a cell phone to school. We have phone access for all students here at school and cell phones are very distracting. If you bring a dog to school, please make sure it is on a leash at all times. If you have any school related items you want to go home to other students, please have the information in the teachers' boxes by Thursday.

Just in case you want to get your June calendar started, Fiesta is scheduled for the evening of June 9th. This is a Thursday night, before a teacher grading day.

You might be wondering why the report card rating for Buena Vista this last year went from Exceptional to Strong. Two reasons. First the results of last years testing- when combining the test results for 3rd and 5th, 8 students out of the 100 who took the test did not meet the state requirements. The previous year, 4 students out of 97 didn't meet the state standards. The state uses this data in a formula that shows we got a rating of 114.9. 115.0 is an exceptional rating. Also, our attendance finally caught up with us. The 2 year average is at 95.9% and we need 96.00% to get an exceptional rating. If we had only one area that was in the strong range, we would have held on to our exceptional rating. If you want more details, please stop by to see me. I have all the pertinent data. Tardies and long vacations within the school year have effected our school attendance rating.

Speaking of tardies it is very important that we get our attendance in control. Being on time starts the students' day positively, allowing them to have a non-rushed, focused start of the day. Please do what ever it takes to get your student to school **no later** than 8:10 in the morning. This gives them time to get to their classroom, get unpacked,

January Calendar

- 17 NO SCHOOL-Martin Luther King Day
- 17 Cold Stone Ice Cream Fundraiser
- 25 BVPO meeting at 7 PM
- 27 Last Day of the semester
- 28 NO SCHOOL-Semester Grading Day

Class Trip 2005

is finishing up our fundraising efforts. Please help support our last two events.

Cold Stone Ice Cream on Jan. 17th & February 21st. 50% of the net profits go to help sponsor a scholarship child's trip to Spain.

COMING SOON: On the Town Raffle tickets, 5th graders will be out selling raffle tickets for our single **BIGGEST** fundraiser of the year. Over 100 prizes have been donated to this big event. You could even win a signed Duck Jersey #3 - yes Joey Harrington signed a U of O Jersey for us and we

From the BVPO

Happy 2005 BV Parents,

I hope everyone enjoyed their winter break. Buena Vista is kicking off the new year with much on the agenda:

1. Your school **directory** will be going to print soon. Be looking for it within the next week.
2. Thank you all who voted for your **Site Council** representative. BJ will count the votes Monday and an announcement will be made at the next BVPO meeting.
3. Our new **Computers** are in place in the lab and ready to use due, in-part, to the anonymous (**THANK YOU**) \$5000 donation to the technology fund we received in December. We will still be working on raising funds for a mobile lab that can be used in the classroom.
4. A **Talent Show** is still in the works. If anyone would like to help Kristi please contact her after school in Creative Care.
5. Got a knack with **marketing**?? The scrip team could **desperately** use help putting together flyers, etc. for the scrip program...our **biggest** fund raiser of all. Please contact Jodie Lawson at 681-9945.

Thank you to each of you that volunteer and support our school. Where would we be without you??

Lori Tokatly
345-6541 or tokatly@aol.com

SCRIP UPDATE

Through December our unofficial profit is just over \$10,000. Which means, we are right on target for our goal of \$20,000! Your small effort can make a huge difference. Consider this:

Each BV family spends \$100 a week on groceries and uses Scrip gift cards (Albertsons & Safeway) for the purchase.
One family = \$100 week spending on groceries.
150 families = \$15,000 week spending
5% profit = \$750 a week profit
Profit for 52 weeks = \$39,000
Profit for 40 weeks = \$30,000

See? The numbers could be huge! Help continue the momentum and get involved!

Stop on Norwood Street before and after school to buy these cards:

Albertsons Safeway Gap Old Navy
Mucho Gusto Hollywood Video Starbucks
Shopko Fred Meyer Walmart

Scrip Profits distributed 75% School Needs / 25% 5th Grade Trip

Scrip Questions? Want to be a part of the Scrip Team? We are currently looking for someone to oversee the E-Scrip portion of our Scrip Fundraising efforts. Please call Jodie Lawson @ 681-9945 or Kris Lewis @ 485-5206 to offer your help!

“Essential Technology Upgrade” and “First Grade Manipulatives” Funded!

There will be two new eMac computers, and more objects that students use to master mathematical concepts, thanks to grants recently awarded to Buena Vista.

These are two of 65 grants made possible by community gifts through the Eugene Education Fund. Grant support also went to district-wide activities such as hands-on science kits, which serve all elementary schools.

This \$1982 in grant support is in addition to donor-earmarked gifts. Earmarked gifts to Buena Vista are allocated by our site council.

Some of our dreams remain unfulfilled. If you have not already made a gift to Buena Vista this year, would you consider doing so now?

Make your check payable to “Buena Vista EEF” and mail it to EEF, P.O. Box 1015, Eugene, OR, 97440. Each such gift benefits all schools because 5% is used by the foundation to boost the number of grants. (None goes to pay overhead expenses.)

Every gift, of any size, is important. If you like, designate your gift to a specific activity.

You can also contribute by credit card or monthly bank transfers. For more information call **343-6877** or go to **www.eef.lane.edu**.

School Choice

The district's annual open enrollment (or School Choice) period runs from Jan. 4-March 4.

The Application Process

To enroll your child in a school other than your neighborhood school, follow this process:

- Starting Jan. 4, 2005, pick up an application at any school, at the 4J Education Center, 200 North Monroe Street, or online at www.4j.lane.edu
- Return the application no later than March 4 to the 4J Education Center
- When schools have limited openings, students will be accepted based on a lottery conducted at the 4J Education Center
- Parents do not need to visit a school for their child to be accepted at that school

School Choice Calendar

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| Jan. 20 | School Choice parent information meeting, Ed Center, 7-8 PM |
| Jan. 22 | School Choice parent information meeting, Ed Center, 9-10 AM |
| Jan 24-28 | School Choice Visitation Week |
| Feb 12 | School Choice parent information meeting, Ed Center, 9-10 AM. |
| Feb 14-18 | School Choice Visitation Week |
| March 4 | Last day to submit School Choice Applications |
| March 18 | Lottery results released |
| April 8 | Deadline for parents to choose and notify schools |

WEATHER-SCHOOL CLOSURE ALERT

With cold weather and possible snow forecasts you need to be alerted about what might happen.

If it starts to snow during the school day - please listen to your news station for broadcasts of possible school closures.

What are the implications for you and your child if school is closed during the school day? (This means an unscheduled EARLY release time.)

1. Children who are bused - will be bused home. (School will attempt to contact the parents of students being bused.)
2. Children who are driven to school - parents need to come and pick up their children as soon as they can.
3. Children who walk home - will be sent home.
4. Children who go to day care - will be released to day care personnel unless other arrangements have been made and the school has been notified.

What do you do if you wake up and see snow outside and your child has not gone to school yet?

Listen to your news station for broadcasts and school closure instructions. Stations: KRVM FM

