

# From the Principal

Hola Buena Vista Families,

We have had a fantastic two weeks. The book fair was a huge success. Thank you to Brenda Large for all the hard work in organizing this truly delightful event. Thank you to the legions of volunteers from both BV and Meadowlark that make the book fair possible. It is one of my favorite events. I get to see whole families in our school, talking and being together with other families. The camaraderie between parents from both schools is heart warming. And it also benefits our library! I love win-win situations and the book fair is definitely win-win.

Speaking of library and volunteers, thank you to those quiet volunteers who are constantly at work making our library a great place for our students and teachers. You are all busy updating the labels on hundreds of books, adopting a shelf to keep the shelf in order, fixing magazines, updating the inventory, creating a mural for a blank wall, re-shelving books, checking out books to our students and so much more. It's a constant blur of activity and I appreciate you.

Thank you to everyone who made donations to our giving baskets. We are helping over 20 families in our combined school community. We so appreciate those of you who adopted families and donated food, presents and money. The ML/BV school community is wonderfully giving and caring. A huge thank you to Laurie Brody for organizing the giving baskets. You all have made a difference.

We now have a complete herd of COWS. Evergreen Roofing has donated six laptop computers to bring our portable laptop (Computer On Wheels) collection to 26, enough to cover an entire class. They will be here (hopefully) by the first of the year. A huge thank you to Evergreen Roofing! Can you believe it?! We now have two full labs of computers... one on wheels, one in the lab. We've come a long way in 3 years... thanks to the generosity of BV families. ☺

Did you get a chance to see our wonderful choir concert? What a great performance. More students than ever are participating in either the boy, girl or jazz choir and after only a few practices, they were ready to perform. Wow! A huge thank you to Chris Dobson, our music teacher, for taking on the extra task of being a choir director as well as a music teacher. Also, thank you to Mary Holo and Alice Lin for their undying support of our choirs. We couldn't do it without you. But most importantly, thank you to all of you for your financial support, through the City Levy, of our music program. Without that City Levy, we would not have a music teacher. Music, in every way, enhances brain function for learning. Thank YOU for helping our students learn!

Some clothing requests. Please make sure your child has a coat at school. We go outside to recess, even when it is very cold. We do not have an inside alternative to outside recess for cold weather. Also, if your child likes to play on the monkey bars and wears a dress to school, please make sure they wear shorts under their dress.

Tour sign-ups for both Buena Vista and Meadowlark will begin on January 4th. If you know of a family who is interested in attending Buena Vista or Meadowlark and would like more information, please have them call our office starting Jan. 4th to sign up for a tour. Tours are being held the weeks of January 23-27 and February 13-17. The district is quite strict about doing tours ONLY during these weeks, so it is important that people who want a tour and information get signed up.

Finally, have you heard about our own wonderful Ruth? She has taken a job at the 4j computing department. She will be collecting and analyzing data for state reporting. We are going to miss her. But, this is a dream job for her and she assures me she is only a phone call away. We will be hiring for the position very soon so Ruth can get the new person trained and up to speed.

Muchos Gracias, Sra. Blake

December Calendar	
19th	Winter Break begins

January Calendar	
3	Inservice . NO SCHOOL.
4	School Resumes
6	Coffee Chat
16	MLK Jr. Day-NO SCHOOL
31	BVPO Meeting @ 6 PM

## Buena Vista's School Directory Coming Soon!!

If you would like to help defray the cost of this year's directory, you can submit an advertisement for the publication.

Costs are as follows:

Business card size \$25

¼ page ad \$40

½ page ad \$75

Please turn in your business card or ad along with a check to the box marked "Directory Advertising" inside the main entrance of the school.

OR you can email it to Kim at [kim.strahm@tcmscorp.com](mailto:kim.strahm@tcmscorp.com).

We are about to go to print so please act soon!!

Ads are due by Friday, December 15th, 2005.

Checks should be made to BVPO

## Library News

The book fair finished up on Wednesday afternoon. What a great success! Thank you for supporting the library. If you see **Brenda Large** in the hallway, be sure to give her a pat on the back for a job well done. Many thanks to all of the *dozens* of volunteers who made this book fair happen.

Thanks go to **Linda Hansen** who helped secure two library grants from **Selco** (one for Meadowlark and one for Buena Vista). We received a total of \$200 to purchase new books. The library will use the funds to purchase Spanish *Arthur* books and also chapter books for the schools' advanced readers.

**Julie Testi**, with the help of **Jolene Steppe**, has nearly finished an original painting for the library. We hope to have it on the wall in the new year. Thank you Julie and Jolene!

Your help in getting your child's books back to the library in a timely manner is very much appreciated! Students who have books that are more than one month overdue will receive a call home and a letter. Be sure to ask your child what he or she is reading from our fabulous library these days. Thanks to our supportive parent groups, we have a great collection. Contact Mary at 338-4380

## From the BVPO

Happy Holidays!

The Cartridges for Kids- Please keep your recyclable items coming in. The school receives money back. If you own or know of someone who would be willing to donate printer cartridges and other items, contact Leann Holley at 541-915-9239. She will register the business, pick up and ship the items.

Come by the next "Coffee Chat" in the outside hall by the cafeteria on January 6<sup>th</sup> after child drop off and celebrate the new year by meeting some new parents and enjoy some coffee.

Volunteer Help Needed:

Traffic control- We are seeking help in expanding coverage for traffic shifts. This is a great way for Dad's to get involved without a huge time commitment, one or two shifts a month. *Remember, drive safe, pull forward and don't leave your vehicle unattended long the front while dropping off or picking up your child.*

Technology-We are posting BVPO and school info on the bulletin board outside of the Principals office and online at <http://schools.4j.lane.edu/buonavista/index.htm>. These are great resources for getting involved, finding contact info and monitoring events and schedules. Take a look!

"FULL IMMERSION SPANISH" FUNDED  
a message from EEF

Teachers get immersion-style Spanish language instruction, thanks to a grant recently awarded to Buena Vista.

This is one of 55 grants made possible by community gifts through Eugene Education fund. Grant support also went to district-wide activities such as hands-on science kits, which serve all elementary schools.

This \$2000 in grant support is in addition to donor earmarked gifts. Earmarked gifts to Buena Vista are allocated by site council.

Some of our dreams remain unfulfilled. If you have not made a gift to Buena Vista this year, there is still time for '05. Every gift of any size is important. If you like, designate your gift for a specific activity.

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

You can also contribute by credit card or monthly bank transfers. For more information call 343-6877 or go to [www.eef.lane.edu](http://www.eef.lane.edu)

Michael Caprai [michaelcaprai@cmfsg.com](mailto:michaelcaprai@cmfsg.com) or 541-349-9330.