

CALL OF THE WILDCAT

Pomerado
Elementary School



A California Distinguished School
February 2008
Volume XVIII, Issue 6

Principal's Message, Lisa Danzer

As we settle into a new year, establishing good work habits for students becomes essential for continued school success. As the newness of the school year wears off homework may become more of a struggle for families. In addition to ensuring that your children get plenty of sleep and arrive at school on time, parents need to help students establish good study skills. These skills are important whether you are in kindergarten, fifth grade, or college. Study skills are learned through practice, just as students learn to read, write, and do math. As the amount of homework and new material increases through the grades, study skills begin to play an even greater role in a child's school success.

Here are some specific suggestions that you can do to help your child develop better study skills.

1. Establish a daily schedule for studying. Allow for playtime and frequent breaks.
2. Provide a quiet place for your child to study where few interruptions will occur.
3. Provide reference materials for effective studying. These should include a dictionary, thesaurus, computer access, etc.
4. Provide assistance when necessary. Be available to answer questions or explain an assignment.
5. Make sure that your child is the one completing the assignment, not you.
6. Make study time important for the entire family.

The effort that is made now to assist your child with developing good study habits can result in increased learning and a more successful student. Lastly, if homework is causing excessive stress or taking an unreasonable amount of time please talk with your child's teacher. Our intent is to promote good study habits for learning, not add family stress. Please remember that school will be closed from February 18-22 for the President's Holidays and District Recess. I hope you and your family enjoy the break. Don't forget to spend some of the extra time reading!

Order Your Yearbook Before February 29th and Save \$5!

PTA Members

\$20 for orders before Feb 29th

\$25 for orders after Feb 29th

Non PTA Members

\$22 for orders before Feb 29th

\$27 for orders after Feb 29th

Order forms are available in the office.

Turn in orders to the office with cash, or a check payable to Pomerado PTA.



**The Yearbook is a great way to remember all the
fun moments from the 2007-2008 school year.
(There is a limited supply of yearbooks...place your order this month!)**



*Show your love this Valentine's Day
by adding a "Love Note" to your child's yearbook.
A special red and white love note flyer will be sent home soon.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Feb 1 | PTA Meeting
1:15pm Library |
| Feb 2 | Winter GATE Test |
| Feb 6 | 8am Wildcat
Wednesday |
| Feb 7 | Rocket into Reading
2:15pm |
| Feb 8 | 5th Grade Parents to
Lunch 12:50pm

Reflections Ceremony
6:00pm MPR |
| Feb 13 | Talent Show
Dress Rehearsal
1pm MPR |
| Feb 14 | Foundation Meeting
6:30pm Library |
| Feb 15 | Talent Show
8:30am and 1:15pm |
| Feb 18-22 | No School
District Recess |
| Feb 28 | Grade 2 "How Does
Your Garden Grow"
Show 6:30pm MPR |
| Mar 5 | 8am Wildcat
Wednesday |
| Mar 6 | Rocket into Reading
2:15pm |
| Mar 7 | Grade 4 Parents to
Lunch 12:30pm |
| Mar 12 | Foundation Fun Run |

This Newsletter is Prepared by:
Pomerado Elementary PTA
Palomar Council, Ninth District

PTA

everychild.one voice.®

PTA NEWS AND SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

PTA President's Message, Rosie Bell

Dads and daughters had a great evening of fun at our PTA's Father/Daughter dance this past month. Mothers mark your calendar for March 20th and an evening of fun with your son. Our children also enjoyed a great assembly in January. Primary Focus presented the Six Pillars of Character with a story, song and dance. Thank you to Pomerado parents for participating in PTA's fundraising efforts, which sponsor these wonderful programs.

Tuesday, February 5th, is Elections Day. On the ballot is a measure that will affect our school, Proposition C. I hope that you take time to vote on this important issue. On February 8th, our school will honor our Reflections participants. Please feel free to drop in and view the beautiful artwork created by students at Pomerado.

All PTA events that benefit our children never could happen without lots of volunteer help behind the scenes. So I thank all the wonderful parents and teachers who work together to make great events for our kids at Pomerado. Remember Running Club is every Tuesday and Thursday at recess, so please encourage your child to participate for better fitness and fun.

You can also continue to drop off your coins in the Caring Coins box at the office to support families in need. Finally, don't forget to recycle your ink cartridges, cell phones and plastic grocery bags in the appropriate containers in front of the office.

Thank you to Frazee Paint and The Home Depot for donating supplies used to make the decorations for the Father Daughter Dance. Also, thank you to Baskin Robbins for the ice cream coupons.



PTA Membership Update

Thank you to all the parents, teachers and staff that joined PTA for this school year. We increased membership over 25% from last year, and now have 250 members. This is a great accomplishment, and shows our students the value we place on making their school experience the best it can be. Thank you specifically to Trinity Opstad for coordinating the PTA membership effort this year. We are still accepting members for this year until the end of February. The following classrooms were rewarded with an ice cream party in early January for having the most PTA members for their grade level.

Kindergarten	Mrs. Lerma's Class
First Grade	Mrs. Kakacek's Class
Second Grade	Mrs. Risher's Class
Third Grade	Mrs. Rossicone/Mrs. Bates' Class
Fourth Grade	Mrs. Myers' Class
Fifth Grade	Mrs. Panagakis' Class

PTA Reflections Program Update

We are proud to announce the results of our Reflections Program received from the Palomar Council PTA:

***Council to District, Award of Excellence winner
Submitted to 9th District***

Amy Cotton, Visual Arts, Intermediate Division

Award of Honorable Mention, 2nd place winners

Moorea Flud, Photography, Primary Division
Trevor Haumschilt, Visual Arts, Intermediate Division

Award of Merit, 3rd place winners

Palmer Finley, Literature, Intermediate Division
Keiana Flud, Visual Arts, Primary Division

Nicholas Bell, Visual Arts, Intermediate Division
Palmer Finley, Visual Arts, Intermediate Division

Christine Akagi, Music Composition, Intermediate Division

We will continue to keep you posted on the progress of this program. In the interim, congratulations to our students listed above for their distinctive recognition, and to all of our students who chose to participate in this rewarding program. We look forward to presenting each and every one of our participating students with a special award at our upcoming ceremony on February 8th at 6pm in the MPR.

Referrals for GATE Testing due March 28 for Test on May 1

PUSD is accepting referrals for students in grades 2-5 for Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) evaluation. There are three GATE tests given throughout the school year, and the third one is on May 1st. If you believe that your child may require GATE services, please go to the school office for more information and to complete a parent questionnaire. More information can be found at the PUSD website:

www.powayusd.com/teaching/learning/gate

Attention 5th Grade Athletes

If you are competing at a regional, state or national level, you may apply to take Off Campus Independent Study for your Physical Education (OCIS-PE) at your Middle School next year. The deadline for OCIS-PE Applications is March 22nd. Applications can be picked up in the school office or downloaded from www.options4kids.com. The application must be returned by the March 22nd deadline to be considered for OCIS-PE next semester. Please return the applications where noted on page 2 of the application. If you need additional information on OCIS-PE please visit www.options4kids.com.

Upcoming Activities for Fifth Graders Attending RBMS Next Year

Family Orientation Night
Wednesday, March 26, 6:30–8:00pm.

Ice Cream Social and Tour of School Facilities
Wednesday, May 14, 5:30–6:30pm.

PARENT'S CORNER

Counselor's Message, Victoria Cull, MA MS Heart Health for February

During this month when we celebrate Valentine's Day, it occurs to me that there are two ways to keep our hearts healthy: by eating healthy foods and exercising and by taking care of those other "matters of the heart".



As we begin this new year, Michael Josephson (the founder of Character Counts) reminds us that it's a good time to clean out the clutter in our lives...and this includes throwing away old grudges. Someone once said that holding a grudge is like eating rat poison. Wow. Why carry around someone else's debts when they only weigh us down? It doesn't matter how wrong they were and how right we are if old hurts continue to intrude on our happiness.

So this month, celebrate the love and caring that comes with Valentine's Day. Start fresh! Take care of your heart and live a longer and happier life.

CHARACTER COUNTS! Trait of the Month: FAIRNESS

Talk with your child about the importance of being fair with people. Make sure he/she knows that it is important to you, and that it will lead to stronger friendships.

Remember that you are a powerful role model for your child. If you treat people fairly, that is what your child will learn from you.

CHARACTER COUNTS! and the Six Pillars of Character are service marks of the CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition, a project of the Josephson Institute of Ethics. www.charactercounts.org

Primary Focus Assembly a Hit with the Kids

January 9th our PTA sponsored a Character Assembly by Primary Focus called "Start Dreaming." The show reinforced the six pillars of character and ended with the message of "If it is to be, it is up to me"! It is through your participation in PTA fundraisers and programs that we are able to bring these experiences to the children. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs. Sangalang's third grade students wrote about the show in their journals. Here's what they thought of the performance.

"Today I went to an assembly called "Start Dreaming". I liked the part when they let us sing along with them."

"Today we had an assembly about character. It was so funny and we were so lucky that we got to see it."



"Today I went to an assembly. The assembly was fun because it was about making choices in a very, very, very fun way. Today was a really fun day."

"Today I went to a play. It was so cool and it was about character. I learned the caring, fairness, trustworthiness and responsibility is to be good and not mean."

"Today I went to watch a play at my school. The play was about how to be a good citizen. If you want to be a good citizen you have to be respectful, responsible, fair, trustworthy, and caring. They were talking about making good choices. They were also talking about not doing drugs. I think that the play was wonderful. I think that everybody should watch this play."

Q
&
A

Q: What is PROPOSITION C, the Poway Unified School Bond Measure?

A: On February 5th there will be an important measure on the ballot for Poway Unified schools. PTA at the Council Level has voted to support Proposition C, which is a \$179 million facility bond measure that will fund repairs and safety upgrades at our schools including:

- modernizing classroom interiors
- renovating and expanding libraries and science and computer labs
- upgrading outdated electrical systems for safety and to provide access to technology
- replacing inefficient heating, ventilation, and plumbing systems
- replacement of aging portables (Emergency Buildings)

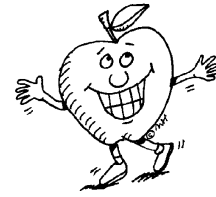


Proposition C will allow our School District to complete renovations begun in 2002 to create equitable learning environments for all students across the district. This measure will also provide funding for additional improvements including technology upgrades, increased campus security and fire safety measures, energy efficiency improvements, and ADA upgrades. **These improvements are for schools in the Poway Unified "School Facilities Improvement District", which includes Pomerado Elementary.**


Proposition C will not increase the current tax rate but will extend it for an estimated 11 to 14 years, and will allow PUSD to access approximately \$20 million in State matching funds that would otherwise go to other school districts. Proposition C requires a clear system of accountability including a Citizens' Oversight Committee and annual independent audits to ensure that the bond funds are spent on the authorized projects. For more information about Proposition C, please call Sabrina Butler at (858) 354-7573 or Lorene Joosten at (858) 382-3477.



FEBRUARY 2008



Character Trait of the Month: FAIRNESS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Please Keep Collecting Box Tops for Fifth Grade!					1 Grade 5 Panoramic Photo 10:30am PTA Meeting 1:15pm Library	2 Saturday Community Learning Center 8am-12pm Winter GATE Test
3	4	5	6 Wildcat Wednesday 8am Playground	7 Rocket Into Reading 2:15pm	8 5th Grade Parents to Lunch 12:50pm Reflections Ceremony 6pm MPR	9 Saturday Community Learning Center 8am-12pm
10	11	12	13 Talent Show Dress Rehearsal 1pm MPR	14 Foundation Meeting 6:30pm Library	15 Talent Shows 8:30am and 1:15pm	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
No Classes – District Recess						
24	25	26	27	28 Grade 2 “How Does Your Garden Grow” Show 6:30 pm MPR	29	Mar 1 Saturday Community Learning Center 8am-12pm

Pomerado Elementary School
Poway Unified School District
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IMPORTANT NUMBERS

School Office 748-1320

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ESS 679-8646

Preschool 486-9170

2007-2008 PTA Board

President – Rosie Bell

Secretary – Lori Romero

Treasurer – Patti Hime

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V.P. Ways&Means – Michele Brindle

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NEWSLETTER NOW AVAILABLE ON-LINE AT THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

www.powayusd.com/pusdpoes