

# CALL OF THE WILDCAT

*Pomerado*  
Elementary School



A California Distinguished School  
March 2008  
Volume XVIII, Issue 7

## Principal's Message, Lisa Danzer

Progress Notices will be sent home with students on Friday, March 7th. Please take the time to discuss with your child what the progress notice measures, how they are working to meet their academic goals, and what the scores and comments mean.

**Progress Notices  
Come Home  
March 7th.**

**Please contact your  
child's Teacher with  
any questions.**



Before the report comes home, invite your child to tell you how he thinks he is doing in school. Ask your children what areas they would like your support with such as learning math facts or practicing nightly reading. When you take the time each day to discuss what your child is doing in school, report cards results are less of a surprise. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's achievement please contact your child's teacher immediately to schedule an appointment. Use the information shared to praise your child's strengths and work together to help him in the areas where he needs to improve. With a strong parent teacher support system and ongoing communication we can do great things for our students.

Our Foundation Fun Run will be held on Wednesday, March 12th. You are invited to come to school and volunteer to help mark laps or simply cheer for all of our students. Please check "Stuff You Should Know" for specific running times for your child's grade level. We are encouraging all students to practice by participating in Running Club every Tuesday and Thursday to prepare for the event.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the PTA Mother/Son Night on March 20th in the MPR. Please remember that aunts, grandmothers, guardians, and friends are all welcome to escort their boys to this event. We don't want anyone to miss out. Don't forget to take your fundraising flyer and enjoy dinner beforehand at Pat & Oscar's in Carmel Mountain Ranch to support our school Foundation.



**Mothers and Sons are Invited to  
Spend A Fun Night Together**

**Thursday March 20, 6:20 – 8:10 p.m.  
in the MPR**

**Events will Include:**

Home Depot Project

Mom Pampering

Games

Light refreshments will be served.

Support the Pomerado Foundation by having dinner at Pat & Oscar's Restaurant before this event. A flyer with details will be coming home soon.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mar 3** 5th Grade Physical Fitness Test Begins
- Mar 4** 4th Grade STAR Writing Test
- Mar 5** 8am Wildcat Wednesday  
K Conferences in PM
- Mar 6** Rocket into Reading 2:15pm  
K Conferences in PM
- Mar 7** 4th Grade Parents to Lunch 12:30pm  
PTA Meeting 1:15pm Library  
Progress Notices Sent Home Today
- Mar 12** Foundation Fun Run
- Mar 13** Foundation Meeting 6:30pm Library
- Mar 14** Fun Run Money Due
- Mar 17** Spring Pictures Day 1
- Mar 19** GATE News Olympics Competition
- Mar 20** 5th Grade Promotion Pictures AM  
Spring Pictures Day 2  
PTA Mother/Son Night 6:20pm MPR
- Mar 25** Site Council Meeting 2:45pm Room 10
- Mar 26** Spotlight Assembly 8:15am MPR  
Grade 2 Performs
- Mar 28** Twin Dress Up Day  
Grade 3 Parents to Lunch 11:50am

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

**PTA**  
everychild.onevoice.®

## PTA NEWS

### PTA President's Message, Rosie Bell

This month PTA is sponsoring a Mother/Son Night. A fun evening of time spent with your boys has been planned. I hope to see you there! Also this month, Pomerado Foundation is sponsoring the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Wildcat Fun Run. This popular event raises money for technology (especially doc-u-cams!) for our school. Come out and cheer your child as they run that morning!

Your PTA is looking ahead to next year. A nominating committee is currently looking for individuals who would be willing to serve PTA in ways large and small for next school year. Many parents currently running programs will not be at Pomerado next year (due to children graduating Pomerado). We have many wonderful programs that need your commitment to help. Some of the programs PTA sponsors are: Reflections, Art Docents, Running Club, Yearbook, Father/Daughter and Mother/Son Events, Adopt A Family, Book Fair, Carnival, Boo Hoo Breakfast, Red Ribbon Week, Walk to School Day, Turn off TV Week and the list goes on. If you are willing to help continue these wonderful traditions at our school, please contact our nominating committee at PomeradoNews@sbcglobal.net.

### Proposed State Budget Cuts to Schools

The Governor has proposed a 4.4 billion dollar cut in education spending for the 2008-2009 State budget. Some of the effects of this cut in spending would most likely include an increase in class size, loss of reading specialists, fewer counselors, and elimination of transportation (think field trips), music and art programs. **Even now, our teachers ask PTA to buy copy paper and upgrades to technology. Imagine what it will be like with even less money. PTA has form letters that you can send to our legislators, letting them know that education funding must be protected.**

Log on to the Ninth District PTA website:  
[www.NinthDistrictPTA.org](http://www.NinthDistrictPTA.org)

1. Click on the link to find out who your representatives are.
2. Download the letters for your legislators and fax or mail them today (or at least by the end of March).
3. Pass on this information to whomever you can and ask them to do the same.

**Together We Can Be The Voice For Our Children!**

## PTA PROGRAM UPDATES

### Plastic Bag Recycling Ends in March

March will be the last month that PTA will collect the plastic grocery bags for this school year. Collection bins are located outside the school office.

### PTA Spring Food Drive



Our PTA, in collaboration with the Safety Wellness Advocacy Community Coalition, will be participating in a Spring Food Drive from March 3<sup>rd</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>. Many PUSD families struggle to provide meals for their families during the April Spring Break, and your help would be greatly appreciated!

#### What We Need:

Pasta	Peanut Butter	Rice
Canned Goods	Cereal	Spaghetti Sauce

Place donations in the box in front of the office labeled:  
**SPRING FOOD DRIVE.**

### Running Club Challenge

We are so happy to see so many students running on Tuesdays and Thursdays! We'd like to see even more, so we are challenging all students to run at least 20 laps in March. Students who meet or exceed this goal will be entered in a drawing to win GREAT PRIZES! Skateboards, bowling certificates, and rock climbing are just some of the fun prizes. Please encourage your kids to participate in running club! The drawing will be held on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at Wildcat Wednesday.

### PTA Service Recognition Awards

Do you know a parent or community member who makes a difference at Pomerado? You may nominate parents, community members, or staff to be honored at our Volunteer Celebration. Please e-mail Lisa Danzer at [ldanzer@powayusd.com](mailto:ldanzer@powayusd.com) to nominate a deserving person to be recognized for outstanding volunteer service to our school. Tell us what this person has done to volunteer their time and help children at Pomerado. Thank you for taking the time to recognize the good things people are doing at our school every day. Deadline: March 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Q  
&  
A**

**Q:** Now that Proposition C passed, what does it mean for Pomerado Elementary?

**A:** Pomerado Elementary will be remodeled in the near future. Plans for the remodel are currently being finalized by PUSD. By next month's newsletter we should have more information regarding the remodel details and start date.

Please check the newsletter, as well as "Stuff You Should Know" for announcements regarding the remodel.

You may have noticed the activity in the lot west of the school. That property is currently be graded for the construction of a Montessori school. These activities should not impact traffic at drop-off and pick-up times.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS****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](http://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](http://www.options4kids.com).

**ELL Meeting March 6<sup>th</sup>, 8:15am MPR**

If you have a student in the English Language Learner Program (ELL); please join us March 6th for current information about ELL, the California English Language Development Test (CELDT); progress reports; our reading program; a show case of an ELL class, and more. We will have coffee and donuts. See you there!

**Meadowbrook Principal to Visit Pomerado March 13th 8:15 - 9:15am MPR**

5th Grade Parents are invited to have coffee with Meadowbrook Middle School Principal Cathy Brose. This event is sponsored by our PTA, and is an opportunity for 5th Grade Parents to ask Principal Brose questions regarding Middle School.

**District Transfer Forms due March 14th**

Poway Unified School District Board Policy (PUSD) allows for transfers within and from outside the PUSD boundaries. There are two different types of transfers. A Request for **Intradistrict** Transfer (Form PP-126) is used to transfer from your school of residence to another school within the PUSD boundaries. The Application For **Interdistrict** Attendance Permit, San Diego County Office of Education Form 341, which is available at our Student Attendance and Discipline Office, is used to transfer from a district outside of PUSD into one of our school sites. You may find more information regarding transfers in the "FAQ about Transfers and Enrollment" under the "Hot Topics" section of our District website: [www.powayusd.com](http://www.powayusd.com).

**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](http://www.powayusd.com/teaching/learning/gate)

**PARENT'S CORNER****CHARACTER COUNTS!****Trait of the Month: FAIRNESS**

Fairness is one of the Six Pillars of Character. At school we will be talking about ways to promote Fairness, such as:

- Be open-minded.
- Listen to others.
- Try to understand what others are saying and feeling.
- Be careful making judgments about others.
- Be consistent.
- Treat people equally and equitably.

When you hear the age-old whine, "It's not fair!" from your child, ask him or her what is unfair about the situation. In talking through these problems, you can teach a good lesson on what Fairness is.

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](http://www.charactercounts.org)

**Counselor's Message, Victoria Cull, MA MS**

From *Let the Butterfly Struggle*

A commentary by Michael Josephson

A new mother discovered a butterfly struggling mightily to escape its cocoon through a small opening at the top of its nest. She became concerned when the little creature seemed to give up after making no progress, and couldn't resist opening the hole slightly. On its next try, the butterfly wriggled out with ease, but the young woman's joy turned to horror when she saw that the butterfly's wings were shriveled and useless.



Her well-intentioned intervention had interrupted a natural process. Forcing the butterfly to squeeze through a tiny opening is nature's way of assuring that blood from the creature's body is pushed into its wings. By making that procedure faster and easier, the young mom deprived the butterfly of developing strong wings.

Isn't childhood somewhat like a cocoon? If a healthy adult is to emerge, parents must allow their children to struggle and make their own mistakes and learn from them. If we constantly step in, our children cannot grow the healthy "wings" they need to survive.

When the butterfly emerges healthy and strong, self-reliance, high self-esteem and self-confidence come with it.







**Teacher Appreciation Week is March 31 – April 4th**



# MARCH 2008



Character Trait of the Month: **FAIRNESS**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Upcoming April Events:</b> April 7 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup> No School – Spring Break April 21 <sup>st</sup> -25 <sup>th</sup> Turn Off TV Week April 21 <sup>st</sup> -May 2 <sup>nd</sup> STAR Testing						<b>1</b> Saturday Community Learning Center 8am-12pm
<b>2</b>  Please Keep Collecting <b>Box            Tops</b> for Fifth Grade!	<b>3</b> CA 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Fitness Tests Begin  Poway Mobile Rec Van at Lunch Recess Gr. 1-5	<b>4</b> STAR Writing Test Grade 4  	<b>5</b> Wildcat Wednesday 8am Playground  K Conferences In Afternoon	<b>6</b> Rocket Into Reading 2:15pm  K Conferences In Afternoon  All K students attend AM class today.	<b>7</b> <b>Progress            Notices Home            Today</b>  -4th Grade Parents to Lunch 12:30pm -PTA Meeting 1:15pm Library	<b>8</b> Saturday Community Learning Center 8am-12pm
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Foundation Fun Run  	<b>13</b> Foundation Meeting 6:30pm Library	<b>14</b> Fun Run Money Due	<b>15</b> Saturday Community Learning Center 8am-12pm
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Spring Pictures Day 1  Poway Mobile Rec Van at Lunch Recess Gr. 1-5	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> GATE News Olymics Competition	<b>20</b> -Grade 5 Promotion Photos AM/ Spring Pictures Day 2 <b>-PTA Mother            Son Night            6:20pm MPR</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> No Saturday School
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Site Council 2:45pm Room 10	<b>26</b> Spotlight Assembly K-2 8:15am MPR Grade 2 to Perform	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Twin Dressup Day  Grade 3 Parents to Lunch 11:50am	<b>29</b> Saturday Community Learning Center 8am-12pm  <b>Final Class</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>April 1</b>	<b>April 2</b>	<b>April 3</b>	<b>April 4</b>	
<b>Teacher Appreciation Week</b>						

**Pomerado Elementary School  
 Poway Unified School District**  
 12321 Ninth Street  
 Poway, CA 92064  
**Principal:** Lisa Danzer  
  
**Newsletter Editor:** Lisa Othmer  
 PomeradoNews@sbcglobal.net  
  
 Clip art licensed from the Clip Art  
 Gallery on DiscoverySchool.com

**IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

**School Office 748-1320**  
  
**Absences 679-2604**  
  
**ESS 679-8646**  
  
**Preschool 486-9170**

**2007-2008 PTA Board**  
**President** – Rosie Bell  
**Secretary** – Lori Romero  
**Treasurer** – Patti Hime  
**V.P. Membership** – Trinity Opstad  
**V.P. Ways&Means** – Michele Brindle  
**V.P. Programs** – Lisa Othmer  
**Parliamentarian** – Lesa Benham  
**Auditor** – Tracee Ellis  
**Historian** – Yomila Cruz  
**Teacher Rep.** – Karen Risher