

Call of the Wildcat

Pomerado
Elementary School



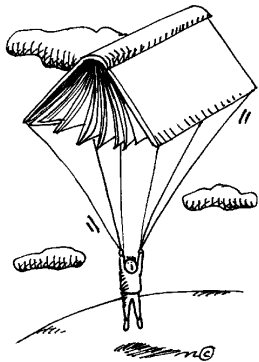
A California Distinguished School
November 2008
Volume XIX, Issue 3

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL, Lisa Danzer

November is a great month for readers at Pomerado. The PTA Scholastic Book Fair is coming November 17th-21st where students and parents may purchase books. Proceeds from this event benefit our school library and are used to purchase new books for our collection.

Many parents ask how they can help make reading interesting for their children. Research has shown that successful progress in reading is usually a joint venture involving students and parents. The following ideas will help your children develop a greater interest in reading.

- Set an example. If you are a reader, rather than a TV watcher, your child will likely be one, too.
- Make reading fun. Introduce books that compliment your child's interests.
- Take your child to the public library. Make it as exciting as possible. If the library is to be of lasting value, you must use it too.
- Make books special. For example, give them as birthday gifts.
- Find a place in your home for your child to keep books.
- Take the time to discuss stories with your child and talk about the books you are reading.
- Praise your children for their efforts.
- Subscribe to a children's magazine. Your child will look forward to having his own magazine and receiving it in the mail.



If you follow these simple ideas, you will notice that your children will enjoy the reading experience more and will be on the road towards forming a life long love of reading.

Also worth noting is that a national study has found that most parents stop reading to and with their children when their children can read independently. As a result, children of this age group spend more time watching TV than they do reading. At the age when reading for pleasure would allow them to boost their skills, many children's interest in reading declines. It is important for parents of older children to remember that the need for reading aloud does not stop when children can read for themselves.

I hope you enjoy a wonderful Thanksgiving celebration and wherever you may travel don't forget to take along a good book to read!

Upcoming Events

Nov 1	Daylight Savings ends SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK 1 HOUR
Nov 5	Wildcat Wednesday 8am Playground Spirit Day
Nov 6	Rocket into Reading 2:15pm
Nov 7	College Day PTA Meeting 1:15pm in LRC
Nov 11	NO CLASSES Veteran's Day
Nov 14	Grade 3 Parents to Lunch 11:50am
Nov 17-21	BOOK FAIR Week
Nov 17	Book Fair open 7:45am - 3:00pm
Nov 18	7:30am Donuts with Dad Book Fair open 7:30am - 3pm
Nov 19	Book Fair open 7:45am - 1:30pm
Nov 20	Book Fair open 7:45am - 4:30pm
Nov 21	Book Fair open 7:45am - 1:30pm Foundation Mtg. 1:30pm Lounge
Nov 24-28	No Classes Thanksgiving Break

Student Emergency Release Plan

In the event of a serious emergency when classrooms have been evacuated, parents will be directed to the upper lot to enter campus from the ramp by the ESS building. Parents will be given a sticker with family name and room numbers. Staff will escort 8 – 10 parents to the class groups assembled on the field to retrieve their students. Parents will exit from the back gate at the south end of the playground. Staff will be at the gate to check the students/adults as they leave the campus. Students will be kept on the playground with classroom numbers posted at the front of the line until they are taken home by a parent or authorized adult. (If our main field is not accessible, our students will assemble on the lower baseball fields and the student release table will be set up at the gate behind home plate at the north baseball field.)

PTA NEWS

PTA President Message, Rosie Bell

Good luck to all the Pomerado students who participated in this year's Reflection contest. You are all winners already! Also, I hope that your child enjoyed the San Diego Opera performance at our school this past month. Your participation in the PTA fall fundraiser helped to pay for that wonderful activity – thank you! Our PTA Walk to School Day and Character Counts/Red Ribbon week were also very successful. And on behalf of all the students of Pomerado, thank you for donating books for our book exchange. It is great to be able to put free books in the hands of all our children. Thank you to all our many giving volunteers who help make these events possible for our kids!

This month, PTA is sponsoring the Scholastic Book Fair from November 17th to 21th. Donuts with Dad is on November 18th, before school. This is a great chance to get the newest, most exciting books for children. All profits from the Book Fair benefit the Pomerado Library.

Please don't forget to vote on November 4th. One of the pillars of character is Citizenship. If you have the time, take your children with you. What a wonderful learning experience for them!

I wish you all a fantastic Thanksgiving and time to spend with family and friends.

SCHOOL NEWS

Construction Update

Our theme for the year is "Building a Better Tomorrow for our Students and Community." Be prepared for some temporary inconvenience as construction begins on November 17. Phase 1 encompasses rooms 1-4 and 21-24, as well as the kindergarten playground, and should be completed in mid-January. These classes will be moved into temporary classrooms at the back of our main playing field.

The front staff parking lot will be fenced off for the duration of construction and the administration building and kitchen will be demolished and rebuilt. The administration and health office will move into a temporary building next to ESS on November 7

"Reflections" Program Update

The PTA Reflections Program entries have been sent to the judges. All participants will be honored at a reception in early 2009. We had so many entries this year! Thank you all for your participation in this wonderful program.



Walk to School Day Thank-you

Walk to School day, which was held on October 8th, was so much fun. Many students and their parents walked or biked to school who would normally have driven. A special thanks to Albertson's Grocery for their generous contributions of water and oranges, and also many thanks to all those of you who volunteered to make this day a great success!

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Thank You to:

- McDonald's (free happy meal coupons)
- 7-11 (free Slurpee coupons)
- Whole Lotta Yogurt (Free Yogurt coupons)

For supporting  
Character Counts/ Red Ribbon Week

and will remain there for the rest of the school year. School drop off/pick up access will be via the upper lot and new ramp, around the parking area via the fenced off sidewalk from Ninth Street (adjacent to the lower baseball fields), and through the back gate.

Please know that our main focus will be safety and learning as we enter the construction. Everyone will be notified of ongoing changes throughout the school year. Thank you in advance for your flexibility and patience. The projected timeline for each phase is approximately eight weeks with final project completion in summer of 2009. It promises to be an exciting year of new beginnings at Pomerado.

## Referrals for GATE Testing

Gate Testing will be held on-site at Pomerado Elementary on December 12. You must check on-line or in the office for completion of forms well in advance of the testing date.

Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) involves instruction for students whose cognitive needs may require a modified classroom program to accommodate their learning differences and ensure their achievement. Teachers and/or parents may make requests, in grades 2-7.

If you believe that your child may require GATE services, there are three opportunities for your child to be evaluated. You will find general information about GATE services and GATE test information from the GATE link on the PUSD Website (<http://www.powayusd.com/teaching/learning/gate/>)



## CHARACTER COUNTS! VIDEO CONTEST

Have you heard about the CHARACTER COUNTS! video contest? It is a terrific opportunity to explore what character means to you, to have fun, and to win money! How can you change the world? One video at a time!

Make a 30 second to 2 minutes long video about the importance of one of the Six Pillars of Character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, or Citizenship.

Think fun! Think world-changing!

First place will win \$500, second gets \$300, third, \$200. The finalists' videos will be seen by thousands (that's the world-changing part).

Go to <http://CharacterCounts.org/videocontest> to get the contest rules and details.

Have FUN and Good Luck!

**PTA**

*everychild.one voice.*

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

## Caring Coins/Caring Community

Throughout the year, and especially during the holiday season, there are many families in need in our community. They may not have clothing to wear, food to eat, books to read, or even toys!

In the school office there is a box labeled "Caring for Coins". By donating your coins or dollars, families in our community will receive the necessities they need. The money will go toward gift cards for these deserving families. YOU can make a difference and feel good at the same time by helping people in need.

## Running Club

The Running Club is every Tuesday and Thursday during morning recess. Running Club is open to ALL students in Grades 1-5. Kids run (or walk) laps on the playground and earn ribbons for every five miles that they complete. Kids can run/walk as much or as little as they want. Classes with the most runners and most miles will also receive recognition.

We need Volunteers to make Running Club a success! If you can volunteer during morning recess, on a Tuesday or Thursday just once a month, please contact us at [Pomeradowildcats@cox.net](mailto:Pomeradowildcats@cox.net).

## CHARACTER COUNTS! TRAIT OF THE MONTH: RESPECT

### WAYS TO SHOW RESPECT

- Be polite.
- Respect yourself by taking care of yourself.
- Respect public property and your own personal belongings. Respect the privacy of your family members.
- Respect people for who they are, regardless of their age, ethnic group or religious beliefs.
- Respect animals.
- Use respectful language, such as "please" and "thank you." Show respect for authority, including teachers, the principal, and your parents.
- Respect rules in your community, at school, and at home.
- Respect others by paying attention when they are talking.


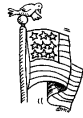
Make it a game to "catch" each other being respectful, and acknowledge these choices.

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)



# NOVEMBER 2008



| Sunday                                                                                                                                     | Monday                                                           | Tuesday                                                                                                                      | Wednesday                                     | Thursday                        | Friday                                                                        | Saturday                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Character Trait of the Month:</b><br><b>RESPECT</b>                                                                                     |                                                                  |                                                                                                                              |                                               |                                 |                                                                               | 1<br>Set your clocks back 1 hour |
| 2                                                                                                                                          | 3                                                                | 4                                                                                                                            | 5<br>Wildcat Wed.<br>8:00am<br><br>Spirit Day | 6<br>2:15pm Rocket into Reading | 7<br>1:15pm PTA Mtg. LRC<br><br>College Day                                   | 8                                |
| 9<br><br>Keep Collecting <b>Box Tops</b> for Fifth Grade! | 10                                                               | 11<br>VETERAN'S DAY<br><b>NO SCHOOL</b><br> | 12                                            | 13                              | 14<br>Grade 3 Parents to Lunch 11:50am                                        | 15                               |
| 16                                                                                                                                         | 17<br>Book Fair 7:45am -3:00PM<br><br><b>CONSTRUCTION Starts</b> | 18<br>Donuts w/ Dad 7:30am-8:15am<br><br>Book Fair 7:30am -3:00pm                                                            | 19<br>Book Fair 7:45am -1:30pm                | 20<br>Book Fair 7:45am -4:30pm  | 21<br>Book Fair 7:45am -1:30pm<br><br>1:30pm Foundation Mtg. Teacher's lounge | 22                               |
| 23                                                                                                                                         | 24                                                               | 25                                                                                                                           | 26                                            | 27                              | 28                                                                            | 29                               |
| <b>THANKSGIVING BREAK – NO SCHOOL</b>                                                                                                      |                                                                  |                                                                                                                              |                                               |                                 |                                                                               |                                  |
| 30                                                                                                                                         |                                                                  |                                                                                                                              |                                               |                                 |                                                                               |                                  |

**Pomerado Elementary School  
Poway Unified School District**  
12321 Ninth Street  
Poway, CA 92064  
**Principal:** Lisa Danzer

**Newsletter Editor:** RoseAnne Sky  
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**IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

**School Office 748-1320**

**Absences 679-2604**

**ESS 679-8646**

**Preschool 486-9170**

**2008-2009 PTA Board**

**President** – Rosie Bell  
**Secretary** – Angel Ryan  
**Treasurer** – Lisa Othmer  
**V.P. Membership** – Patti Hime  
**V.P. Ways&Means** – Michele Brindle  
**V.P. Programs** – Ningrit Flud  
**Parliamentarian** – Shaby Tolo  
**Auditor** – Tracee Ellis  
**Historian** – Lori Romero  
**Teacher Rep** – Karen Risher

**Newsletter Now Available On-line at the School Website  
[www.powayusd.com/pusdpoes](http://www.powayusd.com/pusdpoes)**