

Call of the Wildcat

Pomerado
Elementary School



A California Distinguished School
December 2008
Volume XIX, Issue 4

Principal Message, Lisa Danzer

The entire staff joins me in extending well wishes to you and your family for the holidays and the New Year. During this special season we take time to remember and share goodwill, joy, and happiness. We hope that each ritual of the holidays will be filled with a deep appreciation for just how special those family moments are and know that they will last our children a lifetime.

During this sometimes-hecktic time of year here are some reminders of ways to be a great parent to our children.

1. Be a good role model. Your child learns from the example you set.
2. Show respect for your child's feelings, thoughts, and suggestions.
3. Make your child feel loved with your words of praise, and your hugs and kisses.
4. Keep your word. If you must break it, apologize and make it up to your child.
5. Encourage your child's creativity. Ask questions to stimulate curiosity and imagination.
6. Build your child's self-esteem by showing appreciation for all genuine effort.
7. Stay involved. Know what's going on in your child's life, both at school and with friends.
8. Discipline your child fairly, firmly, and with love. Focus on the behavior, not the child.
9. Establish family traditions and make time to do fun things together.
10. Think positively. By expecting the best, you empower yourself and your child to solve problems and achieve goals.

I look forward to welcoming all of our students back to school on Monday, January 5, 2009.

Foundation Dime-A- Day Campaign

We want to acknowledge our top donors and thank all who participated in this year's Dime-A-Day Campaign! With the money we raised ALL classrooms now have doc-u-cams. \$100 also went to each classroom for teachers to use as they see fit. We could not have achieved this without your generous donations! Thank you for supporting the Pomerado Foundation.

The top donors in each grade were:

- Kindergarten -The VandeBerg Family
- 1st Grade - The Ashley Bell Family
- 2nd grade -The VandeBerg Family
- 3rd grade - The Blackburn Family
- 4th grade and **TOP donor** - The Nick Bell Family
- 5th grade - The O'Neil Family

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Dec 1 | Canned Food Drive Begins. |
| Dec 2 | Site Council Mtg
2:45pm Rm. 14 |
| Dec 3 | 8am Wildcat Wed
Assembly on
Playground

Spirit Day |
| Dec 4 | Rocket into Reading
2:15pm |
| Dec 5 | PTA Meeting
1:15pm Library |
| Dec 8 | Door Decorating
Begins |
| Dec 10 | Junior Achievement
Day |
| Dec 12 | 2nd Grade Parents to
Lunch 11:45am

Canned Food Drive
Ends |
| Dec 17 | Spotlight Assembly
8:15am MPR
Grade K to Perform

Door Judging |
| Dec 19 | Pajama Dress Up Day

Door Viewing

Foundation Mtg.
1:30pm LRC |

**DEC 22 - JAN 2
NO CLASSES – WINTER BREAK**

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

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PTA NEWS

PTA President Message, Rosie Bell

PTA's fall Book Fair was a great success. There were so many Dads at our Donuts with Dad activity! It was a fun morning for the kids and fathers. Thank you for your support of our Book Fair; all proceeds go to the Library to purchase updated materials for our children. This month, please send your loose change with your child to the office and donate to our Caring Coins Program. PTA uses these funds to adopt a family or two for the holidays, and give them some gifts that they would otherwise not be able to afford. If you and your family are interested in the Palomar Council PTA's Adopt-A-Family program, which serves families from the Poway Unified School District, please contact me at the school, 858-748-1320, or you can email me at pomeradowildcats@cox.net.

As we look to 2009 and experience the inconvenience of our much needed improvements to our school, some traditional programs that PTA sponsors will either look a little different, or may not be able to happen at all. I hope that you can all be understanding and flexible of these changes this year. Soon we will have a much improved and beautiful school to enjoy, and our traditional programs will return.

Happy Holidays to everyone.

I hope you enjoy your break!

PTA Reflections Program Update

In our November 2008 Newsletter we announced an amazing participation response to this program. We wish to publish the following tally:

1. 96 student entries were received.
2. Our first review process has been completed, and we have submitted 24 student entries to the Palomar Council PTA for further consideration. Below is a breakdown of the entries submitted:
 - 16 Visual Arts
 - 3 Photography
 - 3 Literature
 - 1 Music
 - 1 Film

We are waiting to receive a handful of permission slips so that we may publish names. We plan to announce our finalist names in our January 2009 Newsletter. In the meantime, each of our student participants in this program, along with their parents, is invited to attend a very special evening honoring our 96 Pomerado artists for their creative contribution. Please mark your calendars for Friday, January 30, 2009. We will continue to apprise you on the progress of this program as it unfolds. Thank you again to all of you who chose to participate in this wonderful program, and to our teachers for their support.



PTA Caring Coins Program

In the school office there is a box labeled "Caring Coins". By donating your coins or dollars, families in our community will receive the necessities they need. Please help out those in need by donating your spare change for this cause. Together we can make a difference this holiday season.



PTA Caring Community "Adopt-A-Family" Program

The "Adopt a Family" program started 7 years ago when it was identified that there are families in our community in need of help during the holiday season. Help includes food, gift cards, clothing, and toys. Our goal is to support PUSD families! Families may donate by sending a check made payable to "Pomerado PTA" in a sealed envelope labeled "Caring Community". These donations are 100% tax deductible. If you have any questions please contact Pomeradowildcats@cox.net.

SCHOOL NEWS

Counselor's Message, Victoria Cull, MA MS Teaching Honesty

This month, let's take a look at encouraging honesty in our children. In an article titled "Teaching Kids to Tell the Truth" Harold J. Sala makes these points:



Children lie for the same reasons that adults lie:

- to avoid punishment
- to win respect
- to appear better than they actually are
- because they don't trust someone with the truth

Here are some guidelines to teach children the importance of honesty:

#1: Model honesty yourself.

Don't tell "fibs". Examples: telling someone on the phone your spouse is not home when he/she is sitting right there; lying about your child's age to get him/her into a movie at a reduced priced; calling in sick when you are well.

#2: Be honest with your child.

If something unfortunate happens in your family, don't tell a lie to cover it up. For example, if a relative is sick and hospitalized, gently tell the child the truth, rather than trying to spare his feelings by saying the relative is on vacation.

#3: Don't give your child an opportunity to lie.

Make it easy for him to tell the truth. If you know he has broken a rule, don't say "Did you take the cookie from the cookie jar?" instead say, "Why did you take the cookie?" This gives your child an opportunity to discuss his behavior rather than deny what you know he did. Allow him to express himself without talking back in a disrespectful manner.

#4 Teach your child that honesty is a basic matter of trust and love in your family.

When your child learns that you still love and accept him even if he is beyond the limits of acceptable behavior, it helps him to be honest with you, regardless of the consequences.



Clip Box Tops for the Fifth Grade



You can choose to make a difference for our school in nearly every aisle of your grocery store. Clip **Box Tops** from hundreds of your favorite brands and send them to school. Our Fifth Grade Boosters will be using the funds raised to make their last year of elementary school extra special!



Student Council Canned Food Drive

Bring in your donation of canned or non-perishable food items to the Library by December 12th. Food will be donated to a local charity for distribution during the Holiday Season.



DECEMBER 2008



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Character Trait of the Month: RESPONSIBILITY						
	1 Canned Food Drive Begins	2 Site Council 2:45 Rm. 14	3 Wildcat Wednesday 8am Spirit Day	4 Rocket Into Reading 2:15pm	5 PTA Meeting 1:15pm Library College Day	6
7	8 Door Decorating Begins	9	10 Junior Achievement Day	11	12 Grade 2 Parents to Lunch 11:45am End Canned Food Drive GATE Testing at Pomerado	13
14	15 Star Lab MPR	16	17 Spotlight Assembly 8:15am MPR Grade K Performs Door Judging	18	19 Pajama Dress Up Day Door Viewing Foundation Mtg. 1:30pm LRC	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
No Classes – Winter Break						
28	29	30	31	Jan 1	Jan 2	Jan 3 SCHOOL RESUMES January 5
No Classes – Winter Break						

**Pomerado Elementary School
Poway Unified School District**
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IMPORTANT NUMBERS

School Office 748-1320

Absences 679-2604

ESS 679-8646

Preschool 486-9170

2008-2009 PTA Board

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