

# THE COMPASS



## PE EQUIPMENT DRIVE SUCCESS

Thank you DSES community for your enthusiastic support of the P.E. Equipment Drive. You've contributed cash and equipment donations of almost \$1,000. The teachers are already putting the supplies to good use to keep our kids moving and healthy!

Our neighbors at Avaron pulled together one September Sunday to host a hot dog & lemonade stand to raise money for the Del Sur PE equipment program. They raised over \$375 and enjoyed a great neighborhood outdoor party! Del Sur ES will be able to purchase lots of PE equipment thanks to this effort. Kudos to Avaron and thanks for your support!

The PE Equipment Drive continues all semester. Thanks for bringing checks or equipment for the kids.

## A Message from Principal Doug Johnson

Greetings Del Sur Explorers! It was wonderful to see so many parents at our Back to School Night. Indeed, this is an important evening during the school year. Our teachers worked quite diligently to present an evening that was informative and helpful. Your attendance at this event clearly demonstrates your commitment to helping your child be successful at Del Sur.

Included in this newsletter is a list of individuals who have volunteered to serve on our **School Site Council**. Per state law schools must hold an election for these individuals. The ballot attached serves as that piece of the election process. As was stated in last month's article, our School Site Council is comprised of teachers, community members, parents, and the principal whose job

is to decide where the money that our school receives from the state lottery should be spent. In addition to making budgetary decisions, this group also provides input on current issues including items related to school safety and our overall school goals.



**October 29, 30, and 31, we will hold fall conferences.** We feel that this is a meaningful process where the student, teacher, and parents form a solid partnership in supporting the educational needs of each child.

### Fall conference schedule:

School will be out at 1:10 on Wednesday, October 29. There will no school on Thursday, October 30 and Friday, October 31.

Teachers will be scheduling appointments with parents prior to these dates. Parent conferences are designed to better familiarize the classroom teacher with your child, recognize your child's strengths and needs, to develop your child's instructional goals together, and to coordinate home/school support. Please check out my tips for making the most of your parent conference in the article below.

See you on campus,  
*Doug Johnson*

## October Highlights

Spellman Magic Show @ Willow Grove	10/2
Reflections Workshop (MPR)	10/2 1:20-2:20
Friday Flag Makeup Pictures Taken	10/3
Principal's Coffee-MPR For Focus, see page 7	10/16 6:30 PM
Reflections Entries Due	10/17
Reflections Awards - MPR	10/23 6:30 pm
PTA Halloween Costume Parade- MRP	10/29 9 am
Parent-Teacher Conferences	10/29, 30 &, 31

## Prepare for Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences Oct 29, 30, & 31st

So that you feel comfortable in the upcoming conferences, please consider the points listed below. They may help you in your conversation with your child's teacher.

**Think about what goals you would like to help set for your child this year.**

**Think about your child's unique strengths and needs.** What are the qualities and characteristics that make your child special? Be prepared to share your thoughts with your child's teacher.

**Be prepared to share any educational, family, or medical history that may affect your child's educa-**

**tional progress.**

Research has shown that parent involvement in a child's education is a critical factor in determining the degree to which a child will be successful in school. Please make the parent-teacher conference one of the ways you will be involved in your child's education.



Welcome to  
The Compass!

Congratulations on a successful first month at Del Sur Elementary! Since the doors opened, the PTA has experienced a "gold rush" in membership and donations! More than 125 members and PTA sponsors have contributed nearly \$15,000 for our programs. Thank you! Your support and contributions are greatly appreciated.

In addition, the PTA has successfully launched the PE Equipment Campaign, Running Club and the National PTA Reflections Arts Program. However, there is the DSE "Top Three" educational enrichment Programs that desper-

ately need continued funding. The Arts Attack program, Music program and SPARK PE Program need fiscal support. Please let us know if you can help provide funding for these enrichment programs for our children.

Grab your binoculars and swing by the foyer to discover all the current programs, campaigns, and fundraisers the PTA is sponsoring. This gathering place has current information and handouts for your perusal.

The PTA Communications Committee produces this monthly "The Compass" newsletter as Principal Johnson provides a "Compass Pointes" e-newsletter for weekly updates. PTA is also very excited to announce [www.delsurpta.com](http://www.delsurpta.com) will launch on October 5! This comprehensive website will be a great resource to all

parents, teachers and community members for all things Explorers!

The PTA has a lot of adventures awaiting you in October, including Red Ribbon Week and a Halloween Parade. Boo!

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions, concerns or ideas regarding PTA and the programs it sponsors.

I can be reached at 503-333-4425 or by email at

[marlavandling1@yahoo.com](mailto:marlavandling1@yahoo.com)

Thank you,

*Marla Vandling*



## The Reflections Program: Full of Wow!

Reflections is a National PTA program and contest that encourages the artist in all kids. Students from K-12 grades are encouraged to create an original work of art based on an annual theme. This year's theme can evoke a lot of emotion in our students as it is just one word, "WOW!" Students can choose to create a piece of art inspired by the theme—that makes them think, say or feel the excitement of "WOW" in six "arts" categories:

- ◇ visual arts (drawing, painting, collage),
- ◇ literature (short story, essay, letter, poem),
- ◇ photography (portrait, landscape, close ups),
- ◇ musical composition (a score or just lyrics),

- ◇ film production (documentaries, animations)
- ◇ dance choreography (creating a dance routine in any genre—tap, jazz, ballet, cultural dance influences).

Del Sur PTA will host a **Workshop Thursday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>**, to support our budding artists, providing paper, and visual arts supplies. The **deadline** to turn in a Reflections entry is **Friday, Oct 17<sup>th</sup>**. On **October 23<sup>rd</sup>** we will host an **Awards Gala** in the MPR and recognize/celebrate the child artists in our midst.

All students who enter will receive a ribbon and certificate of participation. Because Reflections is also a con-

test, 24 entries will be selected (through blind judging) as finalist to go on to the next level—at the Palomar Council—competing with students from other schools in the Poway Unified School District.

For more information about the program, along with rules and entry forms, be sure to visit [www.delsurpta.com](http://www.delsurpta.com) and click Programs and then Reflections.

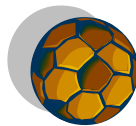
As we continue the year at our brand new school, the phrase "Wow" can be heard regarding many things. Let one of them be from your child, and his or her involvement in Reflections!



We will reward the class with the most donations at the end of the campaign. Please keep the items coming throughout October. Money donations are also appreciated! Thank you!

**WOW!**

Please contact Bridgett Sellars to get involved in these programs at [sellarsfam3@msn.com](mailto:sellarsfam3@msn.com).



## PTA P.E. Programs Update

PTA programs are off and running—literally. We started our Running Club on September 16th. This program adds a little cardio activity into our kids' day and supports our physical education efforts.

Along the same lines is our P.E. Equipment Drive. We are asking families to donate new or gently-used equipment to DSES. Make sure your child takes credit for helping by signing their classroom teacher's collection tally.

## Character Counts! Red Ribbon Week Begins Monday Oct. 20th

MANY exciting and fun activities are planned for this week to promote a drug-free, healthy lifestyle. Red Ribbon Week is designed to:

- \* Create awareness about the drug problems facing every community
- \* Support effective parent/community prevention programs
- \* Organize and support drug-free, healthy lifestyle and activities

Each day will have a different "theme" as follows:

Monday (10/20) – WEAR DIFFERENT SOCKS DAY! SOCK IT TO

DRUGS! – Be Fair and Caring, Be Yourself. We are all different in our own way. It is OK to be me!

Students will receive Red Ribbon Week Wrist Bands.

Tuesday (10/21) – WEAR YOUR SHIRT BACKWARDS DAY! TURN YOUR BACK ON DRUGS! - Be Trustworthy, Honest, and Loyal.

Wednesday (10/22) – WEAR YOUR HAIR CRAZY DAY! YOU WOULD BE CRAZY TO DO DRUGS! – Respect Yourself

Thursday (10/23) – WEAR YOUR COLLEGE TEAM SHIRT

DAY! TEAM UP AGAINST DRUGS! – Be a Good Citizen.

Friday (10/24) – WEAR YOUR SCHOOL SPIRIT COLORS DAY! JUST SAY "NO" TO DRUGS – Responsibility Counts at School and at Home. Sound off against Drugs. Let your school spirit show!

The week will culminate with an exciting presentation from the Drug Enforcement Agency with some exciting surprises!

Remember to wear your Red Ribbon Week Wrist Band and you can enter a contest for prizes.



## PTA Produces Handy School Directory for \$3 Each

Look for the School Directory to come out in late October.

It will include valuable school information such as our staff directory, general school rules, calendar of events, class roster, student

directory, district policies and much more!

It's not too late to purchase if you haven't done so already. More order forms are available in the school foyer for your convenience.

Simply fill out your order form, include your payment for \$3 for each directory payable to Del Sur PTA and return it back to school. If you have any questions, please email [alice@torreyhighlands.com](mailto:alice@torreyhighlands.com). Thank you!

**"An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest."**

**~Benjamin Franklin**

## Compass Pointe— A Weekly E-Newsletter that Hits Home!

Thank you to Mr. Johnson for keeping us all up-to-date with weekly reminders in his "Compass Pointe" E-Newsletters, that are emailed to Del Sur families. If you have not received a version of this news, be sure to let the front office know, so they can add you to the database.



## New, Improved [www.DelSurPTA.com](http://www.DelSurPTA.com) Launches Oct. 5th

Did you hear? The Del Sur PTA has launched its website. Check out: [www.delsurpta.com](http://www.delsurpta.com) for the latest on volunteering, programs, fundraising and upcoming events for Del Sur's PTA Community.

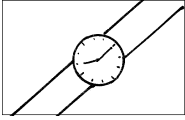
the website! If there is something missing from the site that you would like to see, please contact Merry Woodruff at [merryw@san.rr.com](mailto:merryw@san.rr.com).

Happy Exploring!

Forms and current and archived newsletters are also available on



## School Volunteer Tips and Appreciation



**“Volunteers are not paid -- not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless.”**

~ Author unknown

Thanks so much for giving the precious gift of your time to Del Sur Elementary! A reminder for all campus volunteers:

All volunteers need to have:

- 1) current Megan's Law Back Ground Check,
- 2) Code of Conduct, and
- 3) TB test results processed by the District.

If you had these at another Poway School, you will need to fill out a *Volunteer Transfer Request*. All necessary forms are available in the foyer area in the yellow volunteer folders, or online at:

[www.delsurpta.com](http://www.delsurpta.com)

Please contact Karissa McKenna at [karissamckenna@san.rr.com](mailto:karissamckenna@san.rr.com) with any questions or if you need help with the process.

Yearbook committee is forming now and we are in the process of identifying our yearbook vendor. If you'd like to help on the yearbook, please email Merry Woodruff at [merryw@san.rr.com](mailto:merryw@san.rr.com).

Thanks to everyone who has sent in pictures already! We're

off to a great start! Kindly remember that prints may or may not come back to you so please, please, please, do not send if you want them back.

We will also accept soft copies (electronic files such as a CD) as well. Make sure you are

shooting at “the largest file size” for optimum resolution. You can drop soft copies off at the front office and it will go to our PTA mailbox for consideration.

Thank you!



Del Sur has two preschool programs to serve 3 to 5 year old children with special needs. The children

who have special needs may experience difficulty in one or more of the following areas: speech and language, play skills, social skills or developmental delays.

The success of the program greatly depends on the inclusion of children without special needs who act as models as all children learn together.

This is a language/play-based program with a developmental curriculum including music and rhythm, self help skills, thinking/problem solving skills, social

skills, pre academic readiness skills, and speech and language. We are currently looking for peer models to join our classroom.

For more information please contact:

Debbie Knuth 674-6200 ext. 6346

Susan McNichol 674-6200 ext. 6328

## PTA Back-To-School Picnic Sponsors Show Up Big For DSES!

More than 300 Del Sur Elementary students, families and neighbors joined us for food, fun and festivity at the PTA Back-To-School Picnic in August! What a fabulous way to “Grand Open” our new school and bring the community together for a wonderful start to the school year. It just wouldn't have been possible without the generous sponsorship of several local folks and businesses. While we cannot endorse any specific companies as a non-partial PTA, we do want to recognize the following Superstars:

Ace Hardware  
BBQs Galore  
Brett's BBQ  
Connie Schultz-Heinz  
Remax Ranch & Beach

Costco at Carmel Mountain Ranch  
Danceology  
Dance Motion Studios  
Dee Dee Day Photography  
Del Sur  
Maggie Moo's Ice cream!

NTD Architecture  
Ralph's Fresh Fare  
Union Bank of CA  
4S Ranch Location  
William Lyon Homes

## Easy Ways to Help Del Sur PTA Fundraising Efforts

There are many ways to help us raise the monies needed to fund PTA program this year:



### 1) COLLECT BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION & CAMPBELL'S LABELS

PTA has a Treasure Chest in the foyer for box top and soup label collection. Until Oct 30, we can DOUBLE the points for these from Target. So please collect and bring in your box tops and labels!



### 2) BUY BOOKS OR OTHER HOLIDAY GIFTS ONLINE

[www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) links to more than 70 stores including Barnes & Noble. Register and 6-8% of all purchase will help Del Sur PTA.



3) SIGN UP for Escrip or Ralph's Club Card adding Del Sur Elementary PTA #90949 to your club card account.



### 4) BUY OFFICE SUPPLIES FOR YOUR COMPANY FROM OFFICE DEPOT

Mention Del Sur Elementary and 5% of your purchase will benefit Del Sur PTA. Make sure you tell the cashier the name of our school!

## Wine & Cheese Event Oct. 8th Jumpstarts PTA Fundraising

We are looking for a fundraising co-chairperson and volunteers to help raise money for all of our upcoming wonderful events.

Come to a fun and informative meeting on Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at Alice Wang's humble abode at 15883 Paseo Del Sur. Please RSVP to

[alice@torreyhighlands.com](mailto:alice@torreyhighlands.com) so that she can make the necessary arrangements.

If you can't make it and do want to get involved in our fundraising activities, please send Alice an email. Thank you!



**"We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give."**

*~Winston Churchill*

## Haunted Halloween Fun & Fright Benefits PTA!

Each year, the Mira Mesa Theater Guild hosts a Haunted House and donates a portion of their profits to local community projects. This year, they have allowed Del Sur Elementary to join as one of their benefactors!

**The Haunted House is set up in the parking lot of the Target shopping center at 8235 Mira Mesa Blvd.** They have two different Haunts:

**Lite Frite: A Treasure Hunt** Lite Frite has a story line that's designed to keep young children's

attention without frightening them.

\*\*This special Halloween event is recommended for children under 12.

### Lite Frite Hours:

Sat-Sun, Oct. 18-19, 2008

Sat-Sun, Oct. 25-26, 2008

Noon - 4:00 pm

Cost: \$5.00

### MONSTER MANOR...Night Haunt

This is a frightening 4000 sq. feet of unimaginable, unspeakable terror. It is not for the faint of heart and is **\*Not**

recommended for under 13 years old

### Monster Manor Hours:

Fri-Sat, Oct. 17-18, 2008

Fri-Sun, Oct. 24-26, 2008

Tues-Fri, Oct. 28-31, 2008

(13 & up)

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Cost: \$10.00

Look for flyers soon! **You**

**must present the flyer** for Del Sur to receive their proceeds.

If you attend the earlier dates, the percentage of return is greater; up to 70%! Mark your calendars & make those haunted plans now!





## Calling all Princesses, Pirates & Pokemon



Please observe the costume guidelines below.

Spooks, fairies, and fun, oh my! Del Sur PTA is thrilled to host a Halloween Costume Parade at school on Wed., Oct. 29th at 9 a.m.

Join us in the Multipurpose Room to watch each class skip, saunter and step across the stage to show off their costumes.

Please do not send students with any candy and observe costume guidelines as posted below.

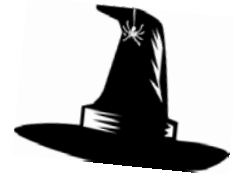
Del Sur PTA will present award certificates in several categories:

- 1) Most Original
- 2) Most Creative/Crafty

- 3) Scariest
- 4) Funniest
- 5) Best Pair or Team Costume

Wear your costume again for the resident organized Del Sur Community Halloween Parade on Fri., Oct. 31st at 5:30 pm Reagan Glen Park!

## Del Sur Halloween Costume Guidelines



Halloween is right around the corner. There is no school on October 31<sup>st</sup> due to Parent/Teacher conferences. We would like to celebrate Halloween on our campus on Wednesday, October 29. Students may wear costumes to school on that day if they would like. We will have a Halloween parade beginning at 9:00 on October 29<sup>th</sup>. Parents please note that all costumes must adhere to the following guidelines:

### Avoid rubber masks.

They may be appropriate in the evening, but afternoons in San Diego County are generally above 80 degrees and children

swelter in masks. Masks also severely restrict vision. Consider using make-up or face paint instead.



### Wear shoes and sandals.

Safety regulations require students to wear shoes at all times in school.

### No weapons please.

Toy guns, knives, handcuffs, nun chucks, etc. will be taken and returned at the end of the

day.

### Modest costumes.

Bathing suits, bikinis, and bare midriffs should be avoided.

### Display respect for other cultures.

Avoid stereotyping or ridiculing other races or cultures.

### Keep it simple.

Six hours in an elaborate costume can be tiring at any age. The child should not require assistance from an adult to manage their costume.

**“On Hallowe’en  
the thing you must do  
is pretend that nothing can  
frighten you.  
An’ if somethin’ scares you and  
you want to run,  
Jus’ let on like it Hallowe’en fun.**

~ from an early  
19th century  
Halloween postcard



## Collecting Outgrown Halloween Costumes for Kids

Do you have costumes from years past that are collecting cobwebs in you Halloween bins?

Del Sur is asking for your donations of *gently* used Halloween costumes.

We need all sizes, boys and girls, and will be collecting until October 21<sup>st</sup>.

Please bring costumes to the office collection box anytime before or after school. Our little pirates, princesses, skeletons and superheroes will be thrilled!

Thank you from **Friends and Family Community Connection** with local families here at school.

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

- Wear BLUE on MONDAYS for Character Color Days. October's color reflects TRUSTWORTHINESS.
- Wear your favorite college colors on FRIDAYS! On FLAG FRIDAYS wear school spirit colors: maroon and gold.
- RUNNING CLUB Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:30 to 10:45 am K-2 10:50 to 11:05 Gr. 3-5 (permission slips req'd).
- MAKEUP PICTURES Friday, Oct. 3
- FRIDAY FLAG Fridays, Oct. 3 & 17
- PARENT WINE & CHEESE FUND-RAISING EVENT Wednesday, Oct. 8 at Alice Wang's Home .
- PTA BOARD MTG Thursday, Oct. 9 , 6:30 pm, PTA Work Room.
- SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL Friday, Oct. 10, 3 pm . Meeting in Conference Room.
- PRINCIPAL'S COFFEE Thursday, Oct. 16, 6:30 pm MPR FOCUS: How to Help Your Child In Reading at Home.
- REFLECTIONS Entries Due 10/17
- FOUNDATION MEETING Tuesday, Oct. 21, 7pm MPR.
- RED RIBBON WEEK Friday, Oct. 17 Assembly. Monday-Friday, Oct. 20-24 . See article in this issue.
- REFLECTIONS AWARDS GALA Oct. 23, 6:30pm MPR.
- USED HALLOWEEN COSTUME DONATION thru October 21.
- HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARADE Wednesday, Oct. 29 9am See detailed article in this issue.
- PARENT -TEACHER CONFERENCES Wednesday, Oct. 29, Thursday, Oct. 30 & Friday, October 31 by appointment with your student's teacher.
- P.E. EQUIPMENT DRIVE Continues throughout October.

**SAVE THE DATE**

- FAMILY MATH & SCIENCE NIGHT Thursday, Nov. 20 .
- FAMILY LITERACY NIGHT Monday, Dec. 1, 5-9 pm at Barnes & Noble Carmel Mtn. Ranch.
- SILVER BALL Friday, Dec. 12, at Del Sur Ranch House.

# October 2008 ~ P.E. Drive Continues

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
	Mondays = Character Color Days! BLUE= Trustworthiness	Fridays are College Color Days!		Run Club, Reflections workshop	Makeup Pictures & Friday Flag	
5	6 Wear Blue	7 Run Club	8 Wine & Cheese Fund. Mtg	9 Run Club	10 Site Council Mtg, 3pm Conference Rm	11
12	13 Wear Blue	14 Run Club	15	16 Run Club, Prin. Coffee, 6:30 MPR	17 Friday Flag, Red Ribbon Asbly, Reflections Due	18
19	20 RED RIBBON WEEK, Wear Blue, SOCK DAY	21 Run Club, Foundation Mtg. 7pm, Backward Day	22 Crazy Hair Day	23 Run Club, Reflections Awards 6:30, College Color Day	24 School Spirit Colors Day	25
26	27 Wear Blue	28 Run Club	29 Halloween Parade Dismissal 1:10pm	30 Conferences~No School	31 Conferences~No School	

It's never too late to join PTA and make exciting programs happen for DSES students this year. Grab a signup form in the school foyer or download at [www.DelSurPTA.com](http://www.DelSurPTA.com). Joining costs just \$8 and does a world of good! Contact Gaby at [delsurpta@yahoo.com](mailto:delsurpta@yahoo.com) with ?s.

Editing, design and layout for this newsletter are provided courtesy of the marketing team at Del Sur's own Schoolhouse Realty. We're proud to give 10% or more of our proceeds to the schools of our clients' choice, including \$1,000 to Del Sur Elementary.

*Find your place.*

*Support your school.*

Schoolhouse Realty 858.229.2293



Del Sur Elementary School PTA

Every Child. One Voice.  
CCPTA/9th PTA District  
Palomar Council

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PTA President: Marla Vandling  
[marlavandling1@yahoo.com](mailto:marlavandling1@yahoo.com)