



Aspen Leaf

Vista Ridge Academy's Weekly Newsletter
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November 27, 2007

Calendar

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| Nov 28 | Dress Up Day – Clash Day- School dress code required |
| Nov 30 | Volleyball Intramurals 12:30-2:00 |
| Dec 5 | Service Day |
| Dec 5 | Gymnastic Program for Parents 7:00 pm |
| Dec 7 | Volleyball Intramurals |
| Dec 8 | SA Christmas Party Gr. 7-12 7:00 pm |
| Dec 9 | ACT @ MHS for Jr/Sr |
| Dec 11 | Basketball Home Games Girls 6:15 pm Guys 7:45 pm |
| Dec 13 | Christmas Program 6:30 pm |

Hot Lunch/Pizza

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| Nov 28 | Cheese Ravioli |
| Nov 29 | Haystacks |
| Dec 3 | Pizza by the slice |
| Dec 4 | Spaghetti |
| Dec 5 | NO HOT LUNCH – cooks lunch out! |
| Dec 6 | Pizza Buns |

We're Bragging

If you haven't seen the new school buses, swing by the school and take a look. We have two new school buses and are in the process of selling the old one. We have begun two bus routes and will be considering modifications to the routes in the future.

Lost And Found

Please check our Lost and Found area located outside the library. The number of lost items is growing rapidly and everything unclaimed will be donated to the Goodwill if not claimed by Christmas break.

Snow Days

As winter fast approaches please note the school policy regarding closings and delayed starts as stated in the Academic Bulletin:

In case of severe weather, consult radio station **850 KOA** AM, or television station **Channel 9**, for information regarding school closing. You may also refer to the KOA and Channel 9 websites for changes in the schedule. Please do not call the principal, School Board chairperson, or pastor for they need to have their lines open to plan and notify radio and TV stations if necessary.

A delayed start may be implemented because of conditions. A delayed start will usually be one hour later than normal. In general, on snowy days, the school will be open if nearby public schools are open.

Youth Social

All youth in grades 7-12 are invited to join Pastor Philip for supper and vespers this Friday, Nov. 30th from 6:30-8:00 pm at the Mursic's home in Thornton.

Directions: 6244 E. 135th Ave. – From I – 25 go E. on 136th Ave (about 3 miles). Go past Holly then take the first right onto Leyden, then right onto 135th – 3rd house on left. (Mursic's # 303.604.6070).

Do You Like Christmas Decorations?

The Music Department has someone that has graciously consented to head up the group that decorates for the Christmas Program. One catch – she would like some help and we agree that she should have some! Please see Mrs. Force in the office if you can help decorate for the program. Thank you!

SA Christmas Party

The SA Christmas Party will be December 8 from 7:00 – 10:00 pm. It will be a live Clue Game. The cost is \$5.00 per student. Each student will receive a name and character. They will need to dress up as their character to participate.

School Events

Spring Break in San Francisco – If you want to go to San Francisco in March you just missed the first deadline for your deposit!!!! Stop by the office, drop off your deposit and get a copy of the itinerary!

Old Car Donations



We have an opportunity to get a donation for the school's scholarship program in the form of old cars. If you have an old car that you would like to get rid of, we have a way to pick it up and deliver it to the junk yard. They do not have to be drivable and are worth at least \$200. Call the office if you would like to set up an appointment to have a car picked up.

Building Fund

Don't forget that the end of the year is a **GREAT** time to get a tax write off by giving to our building fund. We are bursting at the seams and need to get this building project off and running!

Phonics, Spelling and Reading Classes

Small group classes are meeting twice a week for students in grades 1-4 needing language support. Multi-sensory linguistic lessons support VRA curriculum and help students with fluency and comprehension in reading and writing.

For information about the program please contact: Elaine Huot M.Ed. at 303.543.7489 or email elhuot@mac.com

Food Store

You have time to order cases of veggie food before the New Year. The next order will go out December 17. This order will arrive during the week of December 30.

We Need Your Help!

Kellogg's (the company that is producing our veggie food now) is discontinuing some of our institutional sizes that we need for hot lunch. This means we will have to discontinue some of our hot lunches like corn dogs. Please go to <http://www.kelloggs.com/cgi-bin/brandpages/faq/list.pl?Company=41&skin=worthington> to register a request to keep supplying the institutional sizes with the company. Thank you.

Pathfinders and Adventurers

We will have a regular Pathfinder/Adventurer Meeting on Wednesday from 3:45 – 5:00 pm. Wear Class B uniforms.

8th Grade Fundraiser

The 8th grade class is once again selling Poinsettias this holiday season. They have already arrived and can be purchased at any time. Poinsettias will easily last for the entire holiday season so buy them now and enjoy them for the next several weeks! The low prices are \$6.00 each or \$20.00 for 4 plants. Please contact Becki Wagnaar, Ivy Lee or any 8th grader to make your purchase.

The 8th grade class will also be taking orders for delicious holiday New York Style cheesecakes!

These large cheesecakes will arrive pre-cut in 20 slices for easy serving. Take out what you want and leave the rest in the freezer! The cost is \$20.00/cheesecake and delivery is scheduled for the week of Dec.10th. You will be receiving a phone call very soon from an 8th grader asking if you would like to order one.

Music

Mrs. Helbley
Beginning Band (Gr. 5-6) and Advanced Band (Gr. 7-12): There will be no band this Thursday.

Christmas Program: 6:30 pm on Dec. 13. Grades 7-12 are to wear their music outfits. Grades K-6 are to wear church or special occasion clothes. K-6 may wear Christmas colors if they wish, but it is not necessary.

Classroom News

Kindergarten **Ms. Blankenship**

Kindergarten had a fun Thanksgiving party on the Friday before vacation. Our parents made pilgrim hats and we made Native American headdresses. We feasted on veggie chicken nuggets, corn on the cob, rolls, salad and plenty of pie. We took a class picture with all the "Pilgrims" and "Indians". Thanks to our helpful parents, we had a memorable time.

Please see announcement regarding the Christmas Program in the music section.

Grades 1-2 **Mrs. Gaines**

Thanks again for snack shack donations. We are buying chocolate milk at Costco. If you are scheduled to bring milk, please bring orange juice or Sunny Delight instead. One gallon should be sufficient. Fruit Roll Ups are a hot item. Stock up when they are on sale. We can always use ice cream bars or sandwiches.

Only three days remaining for reports. Let's get them in! The students have been doing a great job!

Recess is outside even on cold days. Please send your student prepared.

Please see announcement regarding the Christmas Program in the music section.

Grades 3-4

Mrs. Hansen

The Civil War History Extravaganza is this Thursday @ 2:30. Parents are welcome to attend.

We've been busy working on our civil war reports so you will not see a lot of returned work in your folders today.

Please see announcement regarding the Christmas Program in the music section.

Grades 5-6 **Mrs. Hodgson**

A Christmas Workshop is in full swing in our classroom. This is a nice way of saying "Parents, please stay away!!"

Scholastic Book Club forms went home before Thanksgiving Vacation. The order deadline is Friday, November 30. When writing a check, please make it payable to Sandy Hodgson.

Do you have empty shoeboxes? We are in need of one box per child for art class.

Gymnastics Students: Please pay special attention to the gymnastics section in the newsletter regarding your upcoming performance.

Music Program: Mark your calendars for our annual Christmas Program. Invite your friends and relatives for this special evening. (Please see announcement regarding the Christmas Program in the music section).

Grades 7-12 **Mr. Wuerfel**

English 7/8

We've finished our short stories and are on our way to reading the novel *No Promises in the Wind*. This beautiful novel revolves around life during the Great Depression and how it affected families, communities, and an entire nation. This is going to be a wonderful unit!

Reading

We're moving onto a new unit of reading which involves moving onto creative writing novels. These novels include diaries, plays, and love letters, and many more.

English 9/10

We've finished our short stories and are presently working on my favorite American novel of all time, *To Kill a Mockingbird*. This rich novel describes life in the Deep South during the civil rights movement through the eyes of a young girl.

English 11/12

The Scarlet Letter was a huge success! In place of a standard test asking for simple fact regurgitation, students will write a four to six page essay over one of the six given essay ideas.

Drama

What an amazing trip! God richly blessed during the Orcas Island week of prayer. From visits to 24-Seven, a young adult focused church, to the Seattle Space Needle, Seattle Improvisational Club, a full week of prayer for grades k-5 and 6-12, and much more, this week couldn't have gone any better. Special thanks to Pam Mursic, the McLachlens, and Matthew Gamble.

Mr. Howard

Pre-Algebra

Make sure that your student is doing corrections on their homework papers. This can make a big difference in their overall grade.

7/8 Science:

This Thursday we will be doing something different for our second paper of the quarter. The paper will be shortened to 1-2 pages instead of 2-3 pages. We

will be watching a documentary and then the students should write their personal reaction to the film.

Remember:

You can keep up on what we're doing in class by visiting my website at:

www.freewebs.com/brianhoward

Mr. Force

7/8 Bible

We are planning ahead and preparing for the end of the semester. We have a report on Martin Luther next week, then an essay on the "Forbidden Book" the following week. Finally, we are doing an essay on "Why we didn't support the French Revolution".

9/10 Geography

Our first "simulation" on global environmental pollution is our next challenge. Check your schedules for Thursday, Dec. 6. We will be giving our final geography reports. You are invited to come and learn from your own students.

11/12 Government

While the Drama Team was enjoying their trip, the rest of us took a day to go to the museum. We went to the IMAX first, and watched the *Living Sea*. But the special feature of the trip was the display on the *Titanic*. We learned a lot and had a great time. However, according to our passenger ticket we didn't all survive!

Gymnastics

Parents – We are preparing for December 5. Are you going to be there? It begins at 7:00 pm.

Volleyball

Our regular season will start on Friday, November 30. We will be playing an intramural schedule on both the 30th of November and the 7th of December from 12:30-2:00. The all day volleyball tournament with Brighton will be on Friday, the 14th of December.

Home and School

**ONLY FOUR MORE WEEKS UNTIL
CHRISTMAS!!! DON'T STRESS – WE
HAVE A ONE-STOP SHOPPING
PROGRAM FOR YOU!**

Scrip Program – You can purchase gift cards for all of your Christmas gift needs right here at VRA! There are over 200 major retailers on our list to save you travel and surfing time. Orders can be placed at any time at the school office or by calling or emailing Ivy Lee. Please visit www.glscrip.com and click on “Retailer List” to view the most up to date list of retailers.

Why is This Such a Good Program?

- It doesn't cost anything – gift cards purchased at face value
- You support your child's school
- Major retailers donate each time you purchase
- Great gifts for personal and business use
- Buy gift cards from grocers, etc. that you use daily anyway
- WAL-MART IS NOW A PARTICIPATING RETAILER!

Here are the next few order dates:

Monday, December 3rd

Monday, December 10th

Monday, December 17th (last one of 2007)

For questions contact Ivy Lee at 720.890.4875 or ivyrllee@comcast.net.

Talent Show – February 2008 seems like a long ways off, but for those students interested in participating in the talent show, now is the time to start thinking about it!