



Aspen Leaf

March 4, 2008

Vista Ridge Academy's Weekly Newsletter
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Calendar

- Mar 4-6 8th Grade Class Trip
- Mar 6 Union College Gymnastics Team on campus. Flying Eagles dismissed @ 4:30 today
- Mar 7 Basketball Tournament @ VRA
- Mar 8 3-6 Grade Choir at Twin Peaks – see more info in Music section
- Mar 9 Daylight Saving Time Begins – Spring Forward
- Mar 12 Gr 9-12 Service Day
- Mar 17-23 Spring Break!!!
- Mar 17 San Francisco Trip departure
- Mar 26 Parent-Teacher Conferences – No school!
- Mar 27-29 Champion Music Festival
- Mar 30 Basketball Tournament @ Champion

We're Bragging

We are so very proud of our students and the work they put into their Health Fair projects. What an interesting and informative night. Thank you, students, for a job well done.

A A HUGE VRA THANK YOU goes out to Ivy Lee and her Home and School crew that planned, organized and implemented our very first auction. If you missed it, you missed a great evening of fun and fellowship.

U We are excited to announce that the gross sales from our first auction were **\$7300.00.**

The seniors sold \$485.00 worth of spaghetti for their class fundraiser. Thank you Ms. Schneider and Mrs. Lujan, the grade 12 sponsors.

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Hot Lunch/Pizza

- Mar 5 Corn Dogs
- Mar 6 Waffles
- Mar 10 Pizza by the Slice
- Mar 11 BBQ Chicken
- Mar 12 Bean Burritos
- Mar 13 Pizza Buns

Outbreak of Mad Dress Disease on the Mend!

Thank you to everyone for your help in cleaning up the dress code. It was much better last week. Just one more addition – please do not send your student to school dressed in sweats or any other athletic type pants or shorts. Thank you.

San Francisco Trip

Adults and students traveling to San Francisco must please complete the permission forms. Adults don't need to have their signature notarized as the students do but I would like to have you complete the form as well.

I checked with Southwest about appropriate ID for 14 year olds and they said that students don't need a picture ID until they are 18. They recommend either a copy of the child's birth certificate or their immunization certificate. These have their birthdates on them which is what they need to see.

Luggage policy for checked bags: 2 bags/person under 50 pounds each or there is a \$50.00 excess baggage fee. They also need to be under 62 inches high or the additional \$50.00 will also apply.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences are March 26th. Please call the office to schedule your appointment. For grades K-6, we will be doing it the same way as last quarter. Please come in or call the office for an appointment. Appointments begin at 12 noon and run through 7:45 pm to try and accommodate everyone. You will be given 15 minutes for an appointment.

We will be following the same format as we did last quarter for the high school students as well. All the upper grade teachers will be in the gymnasium. You will sign up for an hour slot. There will be 5 families signed up in each hour. You will then be able to speak at 10 minute increments to as many teachers (there are 5) that you want to. You can move from table to table as there is an opening. Please respect the 10 minute limit. The tables will be placed at a proper distance to maintain confidentiality. If you need a longer time, please make an appointment with the teacher on another day.

Foreign Exchange Students

Are you interested in having a foreign exchange student stay in your home during the next school year? We are looking into sponsoring high school age, Korean students to attend Vista Ridge next year. Compensation for food and lodging is available.

Please call the office and speak with Ms. Schneider if this is something your family would be interested in.

Junior Class Fundraiser

The junior class is selling polo shirts and sweatshirts that are school appropriate. There are many, many different colors and sizes available. For more information please contact the office. **Orders must be received by this Friday!!**

Hot Lunch Updates

The Macaroni and Cheese hot lunch now has a new recipe. You might want to give it another chance. ☺
The old recipe wasn't bad, it was simply very rich and most of our students seem to enjoy a simpler style.

This week will be our very last corn dog hot lunch. This is because we can no longer buy our corn dogs at the bulk price. For the rest of the school year we will be substituting hot dogs for the corn dogs but keeping the same side dishes that we had with the corn dogs. This means there will be hot dogs twice a month now. If you would like your name taken off one of those lists, please contact the office.

Basketball Tournament

Grades 7-12: There is a basketball tournament this Friday with Brighton Adventist Academy on our campus. *All students that are not on a team are excused from school that day.* If you would like your son or daughter (who isn't a team member) to participate in a supervised study hall with Miss Schneider that morning, you can do so. If your student is not involved with the team or the study hall, they cannot be on campus unless with a parent. We have experienced several supervision issues at games lately and so we have to be a little more cautious. If your student wants to attend the games as a fan, they *must be accompanied by one of their parents* and must observe the school dress code including jewelry and the social code. Thank you for your understanding.

Keys Found

A set of keys were found after the Auction on Saturday night. Check with the office.

Credit Card Option Now Available

Use of a credit card service is now available in the office for any financial expenses including tuition, scrip, veggie food, pizza/snack shack cards, etc.

Pathfinders/Adventurers

Pathfinders: Working on the Rock Climbing Honor

Adventurers: Working on the Lizard Award

Don't forget your class-B (T-shirt) uniform, and your snack.

A Must Know!!!

Pathfinders: I must know by this coming Wednesday if you'll be attending the Pathfinder Fair May 2 - 4. It is an entire Friday through Sunday campout. But, we MUST turn in the registration by March 10 with an exact head count, no exceptions this year. (If you tell us yes and don't show we lose our registration). There is no cost for individual Pathfinders

Adventurers: I must know if you are planning on attending the Fun Day event April 20 in Loveland and if there will be any adults, siblings, friends, etc.

participating. The cost is \$7.00/ participating person. I have to turn in the registration no later than March 10, no exceptions.

I'll be anxiously waiting to hear from you:)
Melinda

Upcoming Meetings:

March 12- Classwork

March 19- No Pathfinders or Adventurers; Spring Break for Vista Ridge Academy

March 26- No Pathfinders or Adventurers; No school due to parent/teacher conferences.

Classroom News

Kindergarten Ms. Blankenship

As you know, Sunday we were hit with a quick but fierce storm with a lot of wind. The wind brought the snow from miles around and left it in the Kindergarten playground. The Kindergartners ran outside and sank in the snow up to their hips. They discovered how to roll the snow to make big balls and use them to build a snow fort. They were so busy they didn't want recess to end.

A note to parents: We will need boots and gloves long after the snow has disappeared everywhere else.

Grades 1-2 Mrs. Gaines

We had great support from parents for the Health Fair and Saturday night auction. Thank you each one for your help.

There is no take home memory verse this week. If you want to check to see whether your child can say the verse, ask them to repeat Daniel 6:22.

Next week Friday March 14th, our class will sponsor the 5th annual Egg Drop. Read the enclosed flyer for information. Plan ahead, this is such a fun activity and students love to participate.

Book orders go in at the end of this week. Make checks payable to Scholastic Book Club.

Start making your plans for Pet Week to be held March 31st through April 4th. Appointments must be scheduled for these visits in order to avoid conflicts. As the time approaches details will be sent home or ask if you have questions and you just can't wait.

Grades 3-4 Mrs. Hansen

We have started Social Studies. There are 22 states we are memorizing, and we are going to begin books on the Oregon Trail.

There will not be any homework assignments until after Spring Break.

Grades 5-6
Mrs. Hodgson

Our class did an outstanding job with their health fair projects. Thank you parents, for the help you provided at home.

March 14 (Friday before Spring Break) will be a small Medieval Fair/Party as a culmination activity for our reading **The Door in the Wall**. Students can come in costume and we will have food and activities. Parents who would like to help/attend are welcome!

As we finish third quarter and begin our final quarter for this school year, please note that grades 3-6 choir sings this weekend, Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Wednesday, March 26 (no school that day), and the Rocky Mountain Music Festival will be held at our sister school, Champion Academy, on March 28-29. Let me know if you have any questions.

Pathfinders/Adventurers please see the Pathfinder section for important information.

Grades 7-12
Mr. Force

9/12 Health: Pam Stenzel a nationally known youth speaker that the Health Class has been listening to, will be at the Broomfield Event Center, Sunday, March 9 from 2:00 -5:30 pm. She is a dynamic speaker and will be present with Christopher Stefanick and the singing group Foolish Things. Cost per person is \$25. See more information at www.purebychoice.com.

Basketball Tournament Mar. 7 @ VRA
from 8:15-12:15

8:30 Lady Eagles vs. Lady Mustangs
9:45 Eagles vs. Mustangs
11:00 All Stars vs. Staff

Basketball Tournament Mar. 30th @ Champion is an all day tournament. We will be playing several

other Jr. Academies from the Rocky Mountain Conference.

Gymnastics: Union College Gymnastics Team will be here on Thursday from 1:00-4:30 pm. They will be here to put on a clinic for our own Flying Eagles team. Team members are being asked to stay until 4:30 on Thursday.

Flag Football
schedule

Mar. 14	12:30 @ BAA
Apr. 4	1:00 @ MHA
Apr. 15	4:00 @ VRA vs. MHA
Apr. 25	12:30 @ VRA vs. BAA
May 9	Possible Tournament
Practice is every Monday from 3:40-5:00	

Mr. Howard

7/8 Science: For the rest of the quarter we will be working on typing.

7/8 Math:

I have noticed lately that there are a lot of students that do not have calculators to use in class. Up until this point they have not been required but were recommended. For the last quarter I would like all students to have their own calculator. A scientific calculator is OK but a graphing calculator will be required for all high school students so you may want to buy your 8th grader a TI 83 or better graphing calculator.

Alg I, Alg II, PreCalc:

We will be trying our best to finish up the chapter we are working on before Spring Break. Be sure that your student is putting in their study time. I would like to finish up those chapters so that the students will not have to take those tests after Spring Break. Also I have noticed that there are still students that do not have their own graphing calculator. This is a requirement of the class and your student is at a disadvantage if they do not have their own calculator to work with.

Mr. Wuerfel

There will be substitute teachers while Mr. Wuerfel is gone on the 8th grade class trip and the following week when he is gone out East to be a Week of Prayer speaker.

Music

Grades 3-6: This choir will be singing Sabbath, March 8 at Twin Peaks SDA Church. Their Sabbath School begins at 9:30 am and the teachers have been told to expect a large turnout. We need to be seated in the sanctuary ready for church by 10:45 am. If you cannot attend Sabbath School, please arrive no later than 10:30 am so that we have time to line up and get seated. Go directly downstairs to get in line. There is a potluck planned after church and we are all invited. Since there are so many of us (49 students in the choir) it might be nice to bring some food to add to the potluck if you decide to stay. Please be dressed in church attire; no jeans and no jewelry. Directions to the church are as follows: Follow Highway 7 (Baseline) west to 95th Street. Turn South (left) on 95th. As the curve straightens out, turn left on Paschal Drive. (Only about a mile from 95th) Church is on the right.

Grades 5-12: The Champion Music Festival is the last weekend of March. All students, grade 5-12, that are involved in a music group are expected to attend. A permission slip will be coming home for you to sign next week. Please go over all the items on that form with your student so that everyone will be aware of everything involved. Thank you.

April 11, Grades 7-12 band will be traveling to observe an open rehearsal of the Colorado Symphony Orchestra. The program begins at 8:30, thus we will need to depart from VRA @ 7:00 am. If you would like to help sponsor this trip we will need to know by this Friday, Mar. 7, as tickets must be purchased immediately. The rehearsal ends at noon and we should be back to school by 12:30. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Helbley at 303.339.7673 or rhelbley@yahoo.com

Grades 7-12: Music Trip will be taking place April

17-19. More information will be coming home soon!

Free to a Good Home

If you are in need of a TV, please call Dave Adams at 303-657-3457. He has two to give away.

Graduation Etiquette

We are so excited about our first our first grade 12 graduation. Here are a few tips regarding invitations and thank you notes.

- ❖ Prepare announcements early and mail at least 4 weeks before the *BIG DAY*. Verbally inform out of town relatives EARLY enough for them to make plane/hotel reservations)
- ❖ Insert a name card in the designated slits or in the crease of each announcement; place in inner envelope (ungummed flap)
- ❖ Address inner envelope by hand either informally with first names such as, "Tom and Mary", or formally such as, Mr. and Mrs. Jones and Family
- ❖ Insert the inner envelope, name side up, into the outer envelope (gummed flap)
- ❖ Hand write formal name and address on outer envelope
- ❖ Place return address label in upper left hand corner
- ❖ Thank you notes should be sent ASAP or within 2 weeks after receiving gift. Cap and gown pictures placed inside the thank you notes add a special touch!

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