



# MUSTANG NEWS

Volume 1, Issue 2



October 2011

Dear Mountain View Elementary Parents and Students,

Please mark your calendar for November 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm where we will be having our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Parent Information Night. This was a huge success last year where we had over 350 people attend. This promises to be another great evening, where you will learn about the wonderful things happening at Mountain View, participate in Integrated Arts activities, and celebrate and learn with students in their classroom. We will again have exciting door prizes, student performances and pizza will be served to all families.

It's that time of year again! Even though the weather has been unusually warm lately, please remember that the temperatures will be dropping and the potential for your child to catch a cold will be rising. Please remind your children to dress appropriately for the ever changing weather conditions in Colorado. If you need assistance with winter coats please let the office know.

I am very excited about the many things that are happening at Mountain View Elementary. We are excited with our new academic focus, Integrated Arts for Achievement. All of our students are learning in a fun, new and very beneficial way. In addition, our enrollment continues to grow where we are currently at 340 students (385 including preschool). Our Community School program continues to grow, where we have added a Before and After School Daycare program. Community School also continues to offer activities on Late Start days, and will soon begin enrichment activities. We are continuing with our Safe Routes to School Program (Mustangs in Motion) where students "exercise" their way to school each Thursday morning.

Thanks to everyone who attended and is planning to attend the Parent-Teacher Conferences. This is always a wonderful opportunity to discuss your

child's progress with their teacher. If you are unable to attend, it would be a good idea to contact your child's teacher to arrange a meeting.  
*Together we can all make a difference!*



We are noticing a pattern of several of our students arriving late as well as students who are picked up early. We begin teaching right when the bell rings in the morning and we don't stop until it rings again in the afternoon. Please make sure your students are here for the whole day. When they come late or leave early, they miss valuable instructional time and information.

On the other side of the coin, there are students who come to school before 7:50 am and who are not picked up until after 3:00 pm. Students who eat breakfast with us should not be on school grounds until 7:50 am; breakfast is served from 8:00 am-8:15 am. Other students should not arrive until 8:10 am. We dismiss at 3:00 pm. The staff is not available to supervise prior to 8:10 am or after 3:10 pm. Please remember that students that are not involved in after school activities may not wait at the school until their older sibling is finished. There is not supervision for the younger child to be waiting alone. Please make arrangements for the sibling that is not involved in the activity.

We are looking forward to our PTO sponsored Harvest Fest on Friday, October 29th. The event is from 5:00 pm-7:00 pm. We are still looking for several volunteers to help make this event possible for the students. If you are able to volunteer, please sign-up at the school. It promises to be a very fun night for the whole family!

Please let me know how I can support you or your child.

Sincerely,

Nancy Pitz  
Principal



## ***Preschool News***



The beginning of the school year has been fast and exciting for our preschoolers in Miss Gabrielle's class. We've been learning classroom expectations, numbers and getting to know our friends. For the entire month of September we've been talking about emotions in our readings and through music and movement. We've also been counting apples, patterning apples, sorting different kinds of seeds and talking about the leaves changing color. For the month of October we will learn about pumpkins and of course, Halloween! Everybody loves school!

Miss Gabrielle

## ***Kindergarten News***

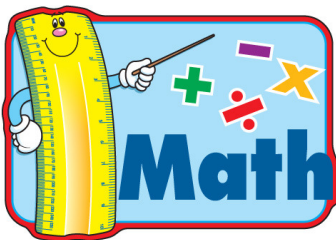
The 3 Kindergarten classes were super students when they all took their first PALS Reading Assessments. They already know many letters and sounds, and some even are reading words! We are getting to be smart at rhymes, too. Our new Expressions Math is so fun and engaging we don't even realize how much we are learning in Math! We know so many new vocabulary words and get to use them in Standout Math, too.

Music, Art, PE and Library are all new to us and we love them all! We are excited to go to the Book Fair and Pumpkin Patch. School is great!



## ***First Grade News***

First grade is off to an amazing start. Students are reading and writing everyday and working hard in our new math activity books. As the weather gets cooler please send your child with a coat. Practice, practice, practice tying shoes and zipping coats. First graders are expected to do these things all by themselves. We've enjoyed meeting with parents during parent-teacher conferences. If you have any questions about first grade let us know.



## ***Mrs. Maher's Combo class***

Thanks so much for all of your help at home this month. Your child has homework every night. There is always a **BOOK IN THE BAG** to read, spelling list to study and **FRY** words to learn. Most evenings there will also be a math paper or facts to work on. Thank you for returning the homework when you get it done.

In science we will be studying space and the moon. This is an exciting unit for all of the students. Please take a walk at night and look at the moon. The moon goes through many changes in a month and it is so much fun to watch.



Congratulation to these students for being our **SUPER READERS** for this month. These students have been reading their books at home most nights and returning them.  
**WAY TO GO READERS !**

Matthew, Mariah, Britney, Adrian, Jaya, Isaac, Sedona, Austin, Israel Leo, Damian, Julian, and Jacob

## ***Second Grade News***

Ready, Set, Go, Go, Go.

2nd grade is off and running, (but not down the Halls!). Everyone is settling into a routine and starting to feel comfortable. Parents during this first trimester teachers really need your help in the following ways. Check your child's backpack often for info being sent home, make sure your child knows who is picking them up at the end of school, help your child with spelling a little each night, and be sure to read together for about 20 min. each day. Memorizing math facts to 20 is also very important to review at home. We are anxious and excited to see every family during conferences. We know this will be a productive and fun school year.

The Second Grade Team



### ***Third Grade News***

We're off to an AWESOME start!

We are working hard to improve our skills with addition and subtraction facts. Help your student practice his/her math facts at home so he/she can be more confident on our FROG tests.

Every Thursday your child will be bringing home a MATH activity page in their Thursday folder. Please give your child any help he/she needs so it is returned completed on Friday morning. These activities are reinforcement of the daily skills that are taught through MATH EXPRESSIONS, our new math program.

Every student should be reading 20 MINUTES each night. Reading logs are due the first few days of the next month. This reading helps them be more successful with their daily classroom work. Please tally your child's sheet and sign it.



We have been working hard on personal narrative entries in our writing journals. Students had fun gluing the artifacts from home into the front of their journals. They use these to get starting ideas.

We have started cursive penmanship, and the students are excited about this new skill. Our STATE BOOKLETS get started this week. Ask your student what states we have learned about for the week. You will be amazed how many facts they know.

## ***Fourth Grade Happenings***

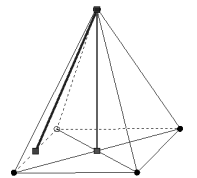
October News for 4<sup>th</sup> grade

For writing we are working on our Personal Narratives - lots of practice zooming in and finding seed stories that are interesting and unique. Please ask your students to share the story they have chosen to focus on.

To celebrate their hard work in writing, we will be visiting the Elders at Hover Manor to shares our final pieces.

Our next Math unit is all about lines of symmetry, congruency, area and perimeter. We have also incorporated Stand Out Math to our daily schedule. Many chants have been learned so please ask to hear one. It's great practice!

Remarkable Living Things and Across the U.S.A are our next themes in Literacy. We will be reviewing and practicing reading strategies such as inferring, determining importance and creating images. Each week the students read a small group text book. **Please have the students reading to you each night.**



## ***Fifth Grade Happenings***

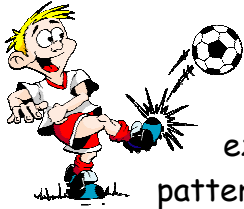
We have had a great start to the school year. Our classroom routines are nicely in place. We have been working on our personal narratives in writing class. We will finish up this unit and celebrating our writing accomplishments.

In math, we have been working on our multiplication and division facts and applying those concepts to real world problems. Stand Out math has been very exciting!

Our reading groups have started. We have been working with a University of Colorado study to help with our reading comprehension. Ask your students about these strategies. I have seen great thinking already!!



## ***P.E. News***



It has been a great first month of P.E. here at Mountain View! We have been very busy getting to know the rules and expectations for P.E. We have also been practicing movement patterns and have recently started to learn skills and activities associated with soccer. In the month to come Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> grade, and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade will begin to work on throwing skills and building endurance and strength! 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, 4<sup>th</sup> grade, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be finishing up soccer and begin to work on flag football. We will also begin to talk about fitness and how to incorporate exercise into each and every day!! As always I look forward to working with your kids and just a gentle reminder to send your kids to school with the proper P.E. footwear!!

Thanks Again,  
Mr. Law

### **Check us out on Facebook!**

Mountain View Elementary is now on Facebook. Find us and "like us" on Facebook under "Mountain View Elementary Principle page". This will be used for ongoing communication and celebrations.

### **A HUGE THANK YOU TO RAGAZZI'S**

Thank you so much to Ragazzi's for donating the wonderful spaghetti dinner to our staff for our parent teacher conferences. We really appreciate their great food and neighborhood support. Please stop by Ragazzi's for your next family dinner and let them know how much we appreciate their kindness.

## Library

Scholastic Book Fair: Thank you for your support at the Scholastic Book Fair. Watch for our total earned in the next newsletter.



Have You Returned Your Library Book? Our first drawing for a free gently used book will be the last day of the month. Each student who returns their library book, on time, will have their name in the drawing. One boy and one girl in each class will be drawn each month. Thank you, in advance, for your encouragement in returning library books on time. Announcements of the winners will be in the newsletter as well as in our daily announcement.



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|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| September 29 <sup>th</sup> | Parent Teacher Conferences            |
| October 5 <sup>th</sup>    | Parent Teacher Conferences            |
| October 5 <sup>th</sup>    | Late Start Movie- Spooky Buddies      |
| October 5 <sup>th</sup>    | Late Start School Starts at 10:50 am  |
| October 7 <sup>th</sup>    | Pizza with Pitz                       |
| October 10 <sup>th</sup>   | PTO Meeting in the Library at 6:00 pm |
| October 28 <sup>th</sup>   | Halloween Parade at 2:15pm            |
| October 28 <sup>th</sup>   | Harvest Festival 5:00 pm              |
| November 2 <sup>nd</sup>   | School Choice Expo                    |
| November 10 <sup>th</sup>  | Family Information Night at 6:00pm    |



## PTO NEWS

Can you believe October is around the corner?! With Halloween comes the Fall Festival! October's PTO meeting will be largely about the Fall Festival and going over the Movin' for Mountain View fundraiser. (See agenda below.) There will be more information coming home in

Thursday folders in the coming weeks with information about the event and pre-sale ticket forms.

Have your student(s) bring in BoxTops for Education or Labels for Education. They will get a prize for turning them into their teacher. Boxtops provides money back to our school while the Labels go towards points that can be redeemed for various school supplies. Information about the programs can be found at [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) and [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com). The website will tell you all the products that participate. (Some are very surprising.) You can even sign up to get bonus tops or labels for our school!

### October 10<sup>th</sup> Agenda

The meeting will be in the library and **child care will be provided** during the meeting from 6-7pm.

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of Minutes for September meeting

Principal Update

Treasurer Report

Teacher Requests

Board Election

Fall Fundraiser results

Parent Teacher Conference review

Fall Festival

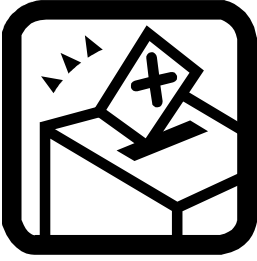
Open Floor

As always please contact me if you have any suggestions or ideas.

Ivory Jones

303-834-5731

mountainviewelementarypto@yahoo.com



## PTO ELECTION NEWS



We still are accepting applications for PTO Board Members. Fill out the form and turn it in to your students' teacher. There is one person running for President.

*"My name is Ivory Jones. My Daughter is in 2nd grade and I have been the Vice President since last year. I would like to become President to ensure the PTO continues in an organized way and ensure the students, teachers and parents are aware that their contributions and efforts are always appreciated."*

The current Board Members will have the final votes on whether I will be able to become President. If both agree to my position change there will then be two (2) Vice President positions open. If, however, they do not vote in the affirmative, then I will continue as V.P. and there will still be the President and one other V.P. position available.

Voting will be at the October meeting. Please come and be part of the elections process.

Thank you,

Ivory Jones

303-834-5731

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

GT Identification: Search for Students  
School Newsletter Nomination Information

Each year elementary and middle schools in St. Vrain Valley School District complete a process to identify students who demonstrate exceptional ability or performance in one or more academic areas and may therefore qualify for Gifted/Talented educational services. These students usually perform at least two years above grade level in their strength area(s) and require additional academic challenges in order to support their continued educational growth and progress. In addition, they usually demonstrate characteristics of unique creativity and high motivation in their strength areas.

The search for gifted/talented students begins with an opportunity for parents and/or teachers to refer students for review. Once referrals are received, a team of educators review student CSAP data, standardized test scores, rating scales and other school data to determine student eligibility.

If you believe that your child qualifies and would benefit from district Gifted/Talented services, please pick up a nomination form from your school office, or contact your school's Gifted/Talented resource teacher or liaison, Mrs. Saunders.

## ***Pizza with Pitz***

These students will be having Pizza with Pitz on Friday, October 7th, at 11:00. They will receive a letter to take home Thursday informing parents of the honor and the upcoming lunch. They will also be called down Friday with the PBS winners for a prize.

Mrs. Knaus - Dylan Luther  
Mrs. Thomas - Samantha Lugo Camarena  
Mrs. Bart - Trista Gomez-Roybal  
Mrs. Maher - Mariah Lopez  
Mrs. Tafel - Gabe Maes  
Ms. Stubblefield - Emanuel Agiular Ceja  
Mrs. Mearing - Lyndon Terreault  
Mrs. Horowitz - Angela Orihuela  
Mrs. Pewthers - Emma Saunders  
Mrs. Cook - Maia Faulkner  
Ms. Humble - Lorita Bernal  
Mr. Jiron - Anthony Davis  
Mrs. Brush - A.J. Heredia  
Mrs. Saunders - Jade Sands  
Mrs. Lafaye - Venessa Bruce  
Mrs. Huber - Meagan Payne

