



ARROYO VISTA CHARTER SCHOOL
 "TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE"

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THE COYOTE CONNECTION

PTA NEWSLETTER VOL XIII, ISSUE 2 DECEMBER 2010
 CHULA VISTA COUNCIL PTA NINTH DISTRICT, INC. CCPTS

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

This has been an exciting quarter for Arroyo Vista Charter School. On December 16th, over 80 students and staff members will share their talents and enthusiasm in the annual Variety Show. Thanks to Miss Kreuder and Mrs. Slike for once again, giving all our young stars their moment of fame. I know that "All That Jazz" will provide extraordinary memories for everyone.

On Friday, December 17th, the school's traditional sing-a-long will take place at 9:00am. Right afterwards, the special surprise event will be revealed! For the past two weeks, clue words about the surprise event have been given on the daily broadcast. Students have been making predictions based on these clues. On Friday, they'll finally know if their predictions were correct. Some of the clues are: thermometer, bulbs, elk refuge, stressed squirrels and seasons. Do you have a guess? Join us at 10:00am on Friday to participate in this fun, spectacular event!

For the first time ever, Junior Achievement came to Arroyo Vista. Volunteers from the business community, as well as many of our parents, gave each of our students opportunities to learn about a variety of businesses through hands-on experiences. For example, our second graders all learned how to run a doughnut production line. They learned how to work in teams and how to avoid product defects. As students were having fun, they came away with new learnings about running businesses and the relationship between production and demand. As the staff reflected on the success of "JA in a Day", there was clear consensus that it should become an annual event. The staff would like to extend a giant thank you to all of our parents that helped to (Continued on Page 2)

A MESSAGE FROM OUR AVCPTA PRESIDENT

Although winter break is just around the corner, I believe it is important to reflect on all the Arroyo Vista Charter Parent Teacher Association's (AVCPTA) accomplishments so far this year.

In September, we had our NED assembly ("Never give up", "Encourage others", "Do your best"). NED's message was clear as he used yo-yo's to capture students' attention...soon "Yo-Yo Mania" hit Arroyo Vista! The students loved the assembly and the message that went with it. Also in September was our 3rd Annual Coyote Walk-a-thon. It was a great day to get out as a family and exercise! Thanks to our corporate sponsors that filled our goodie bags and supported our desire to be a healthy school. After fall break, many of the children attended art workshops to kick off the National PTA "Reflections Art Program". In addition, AVCPTA hosted our first art auction. It was a sophisticated and wonderful event. A huge thank you to Cyndee Schneidau for organizing it. In October, the PTA sponsored Red Ribbon Week, emphasizing "there are (Continued on Page 2)



UPCOMING EVENTS

- *Variety Show, Dec. 16 at 6:00pm*
- *Winter Break, Dec. 20 — Jan. 10*
- *School Resumes, Jan. 11 (full day)*
- *Bingo Night and PTA General Meeting, January 27 at 5:30pm*
- *Rise & Read, March 4, 7:45am*
- *Spring Festival, April 1 from 4:30 to 8:00pm*

Catch the Choir on TV

Crank up the DVR and tune in KUSI TV channel 51/cable 9 on December 24th and 25th to watch Arroyo Vista's choir take the stage on KUSI's broadcast of holiday music from around the county. Congratulations, choir!



Bingo!

Join us for our next PTA General Meeting on **January 27th** at 5:30pm. Then stick around and join in a rousing night of BINGO from 6:00—7:30pm. Watch for tickets on sale in January.

Principal's Message

(Continued from Page 1)

make this a wonderful learning experience for our students and to Miss Landers, our Associate Principal, for making this day possible.

On December 24th and 25th, our amazing choir will be seen performing holiday songs on KUSI, channel 51/cable 9. Miss Landers and I were fortunate to be able to accompany the choir for their taping session at KUSI. Their voices were clear and melodic as they were lifted in song. Their enthusiasm for singing and performing was so contagious that the broadcast team gave them a rousing round of applause at the end of their performance. Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Antoine, Mrs. Summers and Mrs. Glickman dedicate their time and talents to make the choir experience possible for 4th, 5th and 6th graders. Thank you.

Mrs. Stentiford and Mrs. Slike celebrated with our Robotics Team, the Coyote Bots, as they won the entire competition at Eastlake High School on November 14th. These bright, enthusiastic and technology-savvy students not only designed and performed a successful mission, but they were also extremely articulate when they shared with the judges how they worked as a team to design a helmet to protect athletes from concussions. Their work involved research, prototypes and many hours of practice. Don't be surprised if Bill Gates offers these Coyote Bots a job in the not-too-distant future.

Miss Landers and I would like to extend warm wishes for the holidays to all of our families. It is our pleasure to be able to spend our days working with such incredible students, parents and staff. We look forward to seeing you in 2011.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Roth



President's Message

(Continued from Page 1)

better things to do than drugs". We ended our week with a school-wide favorite, the "Stomp" assembly. A huge thank you to all the parent volunteers who took the time to decorate the school and to coordinate fun activities for this important week.

Next, the AVCPTA hosted and sold hundreds of books during the Scholastic Book Fair. Students were excited to shop for books to add to their home libraries. Many families attended Family Night and shopped for books together. Thanks to the book fair volunteers who worked numerous hours to make the book fair an enjoyable event for our Arroyo Vista families.

Just in time for the holiday season, the AVCPTA decided to offer both the Cookie Dough and Gift Wrap fundraisers in the hopes we would get *you* ready for the holidays. As we wrap up the second quarter, the Holiday Gift Shop was open December 6-10. The week was filled with magical moments for the children. Their faces lit up as they selected gifts for family and friends. Many thanks to all our parent volunteers who made this event so special.

Finally, I would like to personally thank all the wonderful PTA members, parent volunteers, staff and teachers at Arroyo Vista – we could not have accomplished this much without your selfless efforts! With the holidays quickly approaching, I hope everyone can take some time to relax and enjoy the company of family and friends. We'll see you around Arroyo Vista next quarter!

Cheryl Shields
RobCherX3@cox.net



Rise and Read! Join us **March 4th at 7:45am** for the PTA's annual parent-child reading event. Bring a good book to read with your child and enjoy snacks, coffee and juice provided by the AVCPTA.

No worries...It's not too late to register for Escrip!

This is a huge fundraiser for the AVCPTA's curriculum experts program and better yet, it's at no added cost to you! Go to www.escrip.com. Register your Von's club card using our Group ID# 37607793. Questions? Call Kris Young at 623-3913. To continue your support, you must re-register each school year.



An enormous **THANK YOU** to all volunteers who helped with our Holiday Gift Shop! We couldn't have done it without you. Students thoroughly enjoyed their "savvy shopping" experience, budgeting their money while purchasing trinkets for family and friends.

—Lillian Soto & Denise Bedgood, Gift Shop Co-Chairs





Parent Volunteer Tutors

Would you like to make a positive impact on a student's academic success? AVCPTA is forming a volunteer-based homework helpers program. We're looking for parents interested in volunteering for 30 minutes before school (8:00-8:30am), two mornings each week (but any level of participation is appreciated). To find out more about this exciting and fulfilling program, contact PTA board members Cheryl Mercer at csmercerc@cox.net or Melinda Baccanari at mmbaccanari@cox.net.

Fundraising Update

We would like to send out a heart-felt "thank you" to AVC students, parents and staff! This year's fundraising is off to a successful start due to your support.

We kicked off the year with "Memory Tiles". Over 400 ceramic tiles were created to leave a legacy at AVC! In addition to generating over \$5,000 to support our curriculum experts, we added a personal touch to our campus and enjoyed some quality time with our children during one of the many workshops offered.

Cookie dough sales came to an end in mid-November. Over \$3,800 were raised and twelve hard-working students earned time in the gaming truck by selling fifteen or more items! Way to go!

In response to requests from AVC parents, we rolled out the holiday gift wrap fundraiser. All products were delivered to classrooms prior to the holidays.

Thank you to all of our amazing volunteers! Your time and efforts have made this all possible. It's a great feeling to know that we have such an incredible support system at AVC! Be on the look out for fresh

and exciting fundraisers in the New Year!



Happy Holidays,

Gina Boccia & Lidia Miller

Keep Clipping!



Continue saving box tops over winter break. Ask your friends and neighbors! Arroyo Vista earns 10 cents for every box top. That may not seem like much, but to-date the AVCPTA has earned more than \$1,130 this school year!

Register your Ralph's card and we'll receive bonus box-tops points: http://www.rewardyourschool.com/Sites/General_Mills_Box_Tops/Page/CreateAccountPage.

Coming Soon! 2011 AVCPTA Spring Festival April 1, 2010 4:30—8:00pm

New sponsorship opportunities available

- Business Owners
- Realtors
- Insurance Agents
- Health, Wellness, and Beauty Services
- Tutors, Private Coaches, and Music Instructors



Grow Your Business While Supporting Our School

Parents, contact AVCPTA Vice-President Melinda Baccanari at (619) 370-5302 or mmbaccanari@cox.net for details. Arroyo Vista parents will be given first consideration.

Calling All Spring Festival Volunteers We can't do it without you!

Will you volunteer at a booth? Will you serve food? Will you help set up, clean up or decorate? Most of these are small jobs that are simply a matter of showing up...the rest is easy!

Can we count on your help? E-mail csmercerc@cox.net, or fill out the volunteer form that will come home with your child in the early spring.



Ink Jet Recycling

Don't throw it away...bring that empty printer cartridge to the school office for recycling! AVCPTA earns money for each cartridge recycled. Last year alone we raised over \$100 for AVCPTA programs.



Safe Toys and Gifts

With the holidays nearly here, we as parents we try our best to purchase the perfect gift for our children. The best holiday toys are safe holiday toys. The American Pediatric Association has set forth the following guidelines to help you choose safe and appropriate toys for children:

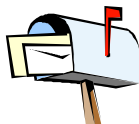
1. **Read the label.** Warning labels give important information about how to use a toy and for what ages the toy is safe. Be sure to show your child how to use the toy the right way. Look for the letters "ASTM". This means the product meets the national safety standards set by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM).
2. **Think LARGE especially if you have a very young child.** Make sure all toys and parts are larger than a young child's mouth to prevent choking.
3. **Avoid toys that shoot objects into the air.** They can cause serious eye injuries or choking.
4. **Avoid toys that are loud** to prevent damage to your child's hearing.
5. **Look for stuffed toys that are well made.** For very young children, take off any loose ribbons or strings to avoid strangulation. Avoid toys that have small bean-like pellets or stuffing that can cause choking or suffocation.
6. **Buy plastic toys that are sturdy.** Toys made from thin plastic may break easily.
7. **Avoid toys with toxic materials that could cause poisoning.** Make sure the label says "nontoxic."
8. **Avoid hobby kits and chemistry sets for any child younger than 12 years.** They can cause fires or explosions and may contain dangerous chemicals. Make sure your older child knows how to safely handle these kinds of toys.

For a complete list of fact sheets, please log onto <http://www.preventblindness.org/children/safetoy.html> or email info@preventblindness.org, or call 1-800-331-2020. Visit www.aap.org to view guidelines set forth by the American Pediatric Association.

—Submitted by Maria Kelchner, R.N., AVCPTA Health Education Chair



From the PTA Mailbox



My husband and I want to thank the PTA team and school for the wonderful presentation you organized for parents a few weeks ago. Mr. Larry Alvarado gave us very practical and pertinent advice on how to understand and help improve our children's behavior. We encourage the school and PTA to continue to bring us expert advice on this and other relevant parenting topics. Please bring Mr. Alvarado back! We also want to thank the PTA team for the delicious food you prepared to welcome parents and for the overview you gave us of different activities, programs and goals for our children's education. Having experts come and talk is an excellent idea and opportunity. As parents, we would like to encourage more parents to take advantage of these opportunities and participate in these events. If the scheduled time is not convenient for you or if you need special assistance like child care, let the PTA know, too.

Sincerely,
Sonia Contreras and Enrique Gandarilla

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