

FREE

School News

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Covering the Orange Unified School District

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 16

www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

JUNE / JULY 2008

SUPERINTENDENT



Thomas A. Godley, Ed.D.

I am proud to announce that this spring, Palmyra and Panorama Elementary Schools were named California Distinguished Schools by the California

Department of Education. Additionally, California Elementary School received the Title I Academic Achievement Award for more than doubling its Academic Performance Index (API) targets for two consecutive years.

The Elementary Curriculum Department sponsored its sixth Math Pentathlon on Saturday, May 3, 2008 at McPherson Magnet School in Orange. This year 22 schools participated in the event, fielding 57 teams of four students each in grades fourth–sixth. Each team competed in five events: Problem Solving, Mental Math, Estimation, Logic, and Construction. All events except

SEE SUPERINTENDENT • PAGE 23

Orange County Music and Arts Educators Awards



Leah Pitzak won Outstanding Educator Award for Secondary Musical Theatre/Drama.

One word can describe Leah Pitzak's program at El Rancho Charter School: EXPLOSIVE! Leah implemented the Musical Theater and Dance programs at El Rancho in 2002 and continually strives to immerse her students in performance arts. Her program is now famous for sold-out dinner theater performances of Broadway Musicals such as *Bugsy*, *Music Man*, *Fiddler on the Roof*,

SEE LEAH PITZAK • PAGE 23



Jeff Segal won Outstanding Educator Award for Elementary Instrumental Music.

Mr. Jeff Segal, one of Orange Unified's itinerant elementary music teachers, was presented the Outstanding Educator Award for Elementary Instrumental Music on May 14, 2008 by the Orange County Music and Arts Administrators.

Mr. Segal teaches at ten different elementary schools in OUSD with a total of more than 450 students. With his innovative teaching strategies and

SEE JEFF SEGAL • PAGE 23



Melinda Boehler was nominated in the Secondary Visual Arts category.

Ms. Boehler is currently the Department Chairperson of Visual Arts at Orange High School. She teaches Photography I, Photography II and AP Art History. All classes in the art department are written to the Visual and Performing Arts Standards for the State of California and are currently approved by the University of California and California State Universities to satisfy the A-G require-

SEE MELINDA BOEHLER • PAGE 23

BOARD OF EDUCATION



Wes Poutsma
President

Best Wishes

On behalf of the Board of Education, I would like to express my appreciation to the staff for their hard work, dedication and support of the district throughout the year.

Congratulations and best wishes to all of our graduates and retirees! I wish everyone an enjoyable and safe summer break.



Alex Chase
Student Advisory
Representative
Villa Park H. S.

Villa Park High: Staying Strong

With a new administration entering this year including a new principal, three assistant principals, and a new activities director, the year could not have been foretold

in any manner. This year could have been one of chaos and disorder, but instead thrived as

Villa Park always does. School spirit has never been higher with the new activities director establishing new ASB projects at VPHS such as the Every 15 Minutes Program and the use of a Spirit Week to boost school morale and student participation. Support for the teams and the school has never been stronger.

The students at Villa Park will continue to reach their status of high achievements and personal goals and continue to be and live as a Spartan.

Your Reading Electives Inside:

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Congratulations Graduates!

School News Roll Call

KAMPS FOR KIDZ

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High School Graduations

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Must have ticket to attend.

Canyon High School

Held at:

Fred Kelly Stadium

3920 Spring St., Orange

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Richland High School

Held at:

Fred Kelly Stadium

3920 Spring St., Orange

Time: 10:00 a.m.

El Modena High School

Held at:

Fred Kelly Stadium

3920 Spring St., Orange

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Villa Park High School

Held at:

Fred Kelly Stadium

3920 Spring St., Orange

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Orange High School

Held at:

Orange High

Outdoor Theater

525 N. Shaffer St.

Time: 4:00 p.m.



Congratulations



Kay Coop

Founder / Publisher



Summer is just around the corner and the school year is winding down. Students are busy with final testing, the district is dealing with budget issues, seniors are planning for life after high school and parents are making summer fun decisions. Our Kamps for Kidz section beginning on page 11 offers many summer choices. When you call, please let the business know you saw their ad in *School News* as they make it possible for us to bring the excellence from the classroom into your home.

Our next issue is August 27.
Thanks for reading *School News*.

School News

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Congratulations Graduates

(Elementary, Middle and High School graduates in alphabetical order)



Sally Anne Baker

(Cerra Villa Middle School)

You have come a long ways since this picture was taken! We are proud of the gal you have become! Lots of love, Dad, Mom & Scott



Kayla Barnes

(Cerra Villa Middle School)

Congratulations Kayla! We are proud of you!



Phillip Chew

(Cerro Villa Middle School)

Congratulations Phillip! You have made us very proud on all of your accomplishments. Love you!



Ryan Chew

(Villa Park Elementary)

OMG. You did it! Congratulations on your graduation. We love you!



Nathan Escanuelas

(Villa Park Elementary)

Congratulations! We are proud of you. You're a good son and student. Nani is proud of you and wishes you only the best.



Kirstin Anne Lopez

(Orange High School)

We're so proud of you. God bless you in all lifes endeavors. We love you Babydoll with all our hearts. Love, Daddy and Mommy



Madison Nicole Parrella

(Canyon Rim Elementary)

We are so proud of you and your accomplishments while at Canyon Rim!! A bright future awaits you!! Love, Mommy, Daddy & Ashley



Shaun Michael Peterson

(El Modena High School)

Shauners, be proud of yourself. You've taken the first step on the stairway to the rest of your life! We love you! Mom and Dad



Philip Michael Ramos

(Cerro Villa Middle School)

You are such a great son! Congratulations on your graduation—another milestone in your life. We wish you the very best at Villa Park High School. Love, Mom, Dad & Nati



Adam Sherman

(Cerro Villa Middle School)

Congratulations, honors & kudos for a great job in middle school. We are so proud of you. Mom Dad, Nana, Clarisa, Grandma & Uma.



Jon Sanchez

(Canyon High School)

Congratulations Jonathan! Continue to reach for your dreams and success will always follow you. Good luck at Cal Poly and God bless you! Love, Mom

Tyler James
(Canyon High School)
*Congratulations on your graduation! Your future is what you make of it and we know you will succeed at whatever you choose!
The Webber's*



Child Abduction Prevention



William M. Habermehl
Superintendent

Keeping kids safe is a top priority for parents, educators, and community members. In Orange County, there are resources available to help us educate and protect our children from harm. One excellent resource to help get the conversation on safety started is the child abduction prevention bookmarks created by the Joyful Child Foundation which are available at www.joyful-child.org. The bookmarks share abuse and abduction prevention tips for children and have been distributed to all Orange County elementary school students through the collaborative efforts of the Joyful Child Foundation, Orange County Sheriff's Department, and Orange County Department of Education.

People who may pose a threat to children often give signals or demonstrate behaviors that can serve as warnings. If a child knows the warning signs, they will know when they are in an unsafe situation and what action to take. The key to discussing safety with your child is establishing good communication throughout your daily lives. Effective communication as a parent requires active listening and asking questions. As you introduce topics, begin to talk about different ideas and rules surrounding safety. The goal is to share knowledge that will empower children to feel confident and to trust their instincts, while being aware of their surroundings. Practice the lessons by role-playing with your children to help them put what they have learned into action.

Part of ensuring a world class education where every student succeeds involves keeping kids safe as a top priority. It is through cooperative efforts to communicate openly and provide tools for our children that we, as educators and members of the community, work together to create a stronger and safer society.

For additional information visit:

Joyful Child Foundation
www.thejoyfulchild.org
National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
www.missingkids.com
Orange County Department of Education
www.ocde.us
Orange County Sheriff's Department
www.ocsd.org



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Go Green!

Carbon-1, Oxygen-2



Eric Wahlberg

This title sounds more like a sports score than a call to Go Green! Carbon was identified as the currency of energy flow in any ecosystem—our world for one—in our last column, Recycling Nutrient Cycling. The carbon cycle as it fuels our lives is depicted in the following two examples.

Inside the leaves of the orange tree in my backyard, inorganic carbon in atmospheric carbon dioxide (one carbon atom bonded to two oxygen atoms, CO₂) is “energized” by the sun’s rays and converted to organic carbon in sugars which accumulate in the fruit. I picked, then manually squeezed, 15 oranges into juice

this morning, which my family drank with breakfast. Through many transformations, my body extracted the sun’s energy captured by the orange tree allowing my fingers to type these words. In giving up its energy, the carbon is oxidized back to carbon dioxide and exhaled into the air. The carbon so cycled from the atmosphere to the biosphere (first the orange tree, then me), back to the atmosphere took about four months.

A blade of pasture grass in the Central Valley captures the sun’s rays and “energizes” carbon dioxide in the same way as my orange tree. The organic carbon formed in the blade of grass is stored primarily as cellulose not sugars. Using different farm implements, all gasoline powered, the owner of the pasture first cuts the grass, then turns it for drying once, twice, three times before baling it. These bales are delivered on a flat-bed tractor trailer to a feedlot in the Inland Empire. Cellulose isn’t easily digested by most animals, cows being a notable exception. Cows have four stomachs populated by a diversity of microorganisms that allow most of the organic carbon in cellulose to be taken up by the cow (a lot of it escapes as every cow passes about 53 gallons of methane gas per day). The cow stores the carbon as proteins and fats. Ultimately, in two to five years, the cow is cut up into steaks, which are delivered to the local grocery store by truck. John Q. Public drives his car to the grocery store, buys a steak, drives home, barbeques the steak on his grill fired by propane he had to drive to the local gas station to purchase, and finally eats the carbon originally captured by the blade of grass in a pasture far, far away. The energy in this carbon allows Mr. Public to exercise a Stairmaster at a gym he has to drive to.

Burning a gallon of gasoline emits about 20 pounds of CO₂ into the atmosphere. Minimizing “carbon footprint” is synonymous with our quest to Go Green! “Carbon footprint” equals the amount of CO₂ discharged burning fossil fuels in support of our living our lives, not the CO₂ we exhale as a function of life. In the two energy attainment examples, the first uses no fossil fuels, whereas the second burns gas at every turn. Going green means living with less fossil fuels.

Eric is a full-time process engineer for Brown and Caldwell, part-time enologist, and a farmer want-to-be. He lives in Fountain Valley with his wife, Patti, and two step-daughters, Kylie and Robyn Couch. Contact him at ejfarmerdude@msn.com.



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Community Development

By Blake Chism, Coordinator

Attendance Encouragement Encouraging

Improving overall school attendance was a major focus of the school district this year. Last summer, the community-sponsored “Orange Every Day” program was implemented to encourage students and their families to strive for perfect attendance. Each day that a student misses class, they fall two full days behind their classmates—the day that they miss, and an additional day to catch up. Parents were asked to plan doctor and dentist visits after school hours in an effort to provide students with the best opportunities to learn. The greater Orange business community stepped in and donated gifts that were raffled off to some middle school students with perfect attendance each trimester.

Businesses also donated money that was used to purchase new laptops that were given away as grand prizes to a few lucky students. At the student recognition ceremony on June 5, three students who maintained perfect attendance for the entire year will receive the laptops. The names will be drawn from a large list of students with perfect attendance. In order to qualify for the drawing, students could not have any tardies, excused absences or missed class periods. The rules are very strict, but many students made it.

We were amazed at just how many students qualified this year. Orange Unified consistently has one of the highest attendance rates in the county, and this year was no different. We recognize that it takes the combined efforts of parents, teachers, staff and students to maintain perfect attendance for an entire school year. You should all be extremely proud of your accomplishments.

School Readiness

By Pat Evans, Coordinator

National Literacy Award Recipients

Orange Children & Parents Together (OCPT) and their local literacy partner, City of Orange El Modena Library, have received Reading Is Fundamental’s (RIF) third annual Program Excellence Honors 2008 award. They are among 25 honored programs that will be recognized by RIF during a celebration in Washington, D.C. for successfully partnering with outside organizations to advance children’s literacy in their communities.

OCPT, which serves 550 children in the City of Orange, has partnered with Orange Unified for the last seven years. They currently provide a preschool education to three- and four-year-olds in classrooms at Lampson, Handy and California Elementary Schools. Next year, they will open a new preschool classroom for 60 children at Taft Elementary School. OUSD congratulates OCPT on its award, and we are looking forward to continuing our partnership into the future.

Business Services

By Jon Archibald, Assistant Superintendent

Orange Unified School District will continue to design and offer quality programs at the leveling of funding provided by Sacramento.

The reality for the Orange Unified School District is the 2008-09 budget approved by the Board of Education in June will reflect the worst case scenario proposed by the Governor in the May revision of his January budget. We’ve planned for the worst and hoped that it’s a little better once the state budget is finally passed.

We don’t expect to know what flexibility options exist with our current or future funding or the amount of our funding until there is agreement in Sacramento. So, we remain flexible and stick to the fundamentals we’ve established to maintain quality and fiscal solvency.

Our budget is developed based on the following fundamentals:

Funding received for students during the current year is spent to educate those students.

Quality programs are dependent on our ability to attract and retain quality employees.

A safe and orderly environment is essential for students and staff.

Fiscal solvency is determined by our ability to meet financial obligations for the budget year and two subsequent fiscal years.

The people of California continue to rank Education as a top priority. During this budget crisis in California, Orange Unified School District will continue a commitment to excellence and provide a quality education for all children.

Central County ROP

250 S. Yorba, Orange, CA 92869
714/997-6066 www.ccrop.org

Students Launch Attendance Campaign

By Teryl Snyder, Administrator, Career Education Center

Students enrolled in “The Art of Graphic Design,” an A-G approved ROP class at Orange High School, have launched an unprecedented student-run marketing campaign to promote student attendance.

The idea for the campaign, entitled “Be The Change,” started during a class project to brand their school. The students discovered an odd contradiction: the level of school pride is counter-balanced by a lack of material items such as books, computers and other learning tools.

With this in mind, the branding project turned into a campaign aimed at drawing attention to the fact that every time a student skips class, their school loses \$265 per day. This could otherwise be used for books, computers and on-campus maintenance.

From the initial step, the graphics students decided to lead by example. Led by their instructor, Ed Hansbury, they have created a series of assorted campaigns to shock, engage and begin the process of change.

An example is the posting of 7,000 notes around the campus with “Be The Change” written on them, and creating podcasts to empower students across the country, with an accompanying series of hand-drawn posters.

The students also participated in two open and honest Town Hall meetings with Orange High School Principal SK Johnson and Orange Unified Superintendent Dr. Godley. More information about this unique campaign can be viewed at www.designorange.org.



The DESIGN Orange Creative Directors from Orange High School
Sofia Raygoza, Brooke McClurken, Antonio Avila and Martin Chavez

Be the Change

The ROP classes are tuition-free career technical education electives that provide high school students with hands-on training in more than 80 occupational areas. The “Be The Change” idea is an example of real-life projects that students have the opportunity to experience. The classes are offered at all five Orange Unified High School campuses during the school day, as well as after-school and on weekends.

Some ROP classes offer on-the-job training at an internship site, where students can earn up to 10 credits towards high school graduation. A few courses even satisfy the UC/CSU fine arts and elective requirements.

High school students may enroll today by visiting their on-campus career center or speaking with their counselor. To view the summer class schedule, visit www.ccrop.org. Or please call (714) 997-6066 for more information.

Anaheim Hills *Elementary School*

6450 E. Serrano Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807
714/997-6169



Debra Larson
Principal

First Grade Fun

The first week of May was quite a sight in some of the classrooms of Anaheim Hills Elementary School. The first-graders became busy factory workers. One assembly line made bulldozers, while another produced helicopters. If you peeked in another door, you may have been treated to a birdhouse, a truck, or even a bi-plane.

The first-grade classes were transformed into classroom factories, where goods were manufactured in assembly-line fashion. Each student participated by doing his or her job. The final products

were then inspected, packaged and shipped to the courtyard marketplace. Students were given paychecks and cash to buy goods from the market. This event was made possible through a grant from the Orange Rotary Club.

The students were also able to further enrich their factory experience by going to a real, working factory. They visited a factory owned by the parents of Alyssa, a student in Mrs. Hawley's class.

We would like to thank the Orange Rotary Club and the Quinn family for making this social studies unit so interesting and enjoyable!



California *Elementary School*

1080 N. California St., Orange, CA 92867
714/997-6104



Cyndi Paik
Principal

By Patty Ruiz

Bright Stars

California State Tests (CSTs) brought heightened anxiety and stress, but not without reward. This year, in preparation to motivate California Elementary School students, all those who scored proficient or above on last year's CST received bumper stickers and pencils which read: "My Child was a Bright Star on the CA State Test."

The bumper stickers and pencils were given at an assembly prior to the start of testing with our principal, Dr. Paik, presenting these awards to 101 students in second through fifth grades. This effort to launch the start of testing motivated these students to continue to perform at proficient level or above, and it also motivated other students.

California Elementary teachers have worked relentlessly again this year in hopes of continued increased test scores. Last year's motto was, "It's never too late to get one more right." This year, with the increased target, our motto is "Get three more right."



Cambridge *Elementary School*

425 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92866
714/997-6103



Anne Schrader
Principal

Venerable Charter in Place

Cambridge School has the unique distinction of having the oldest PTA Charter in the Orange Unified School District. This year, Cambridge was in jeopardy of having its charter disbanded for lack of people to run for PTA executive board positions. The Cambridge School family, which consists of both families and school staff members, is a cohesive unit of people who unflinchingly come together to make things work for the greater good of our school. The teachers suggested conducting a Save Our PTA information meeting for parents.

As always, the parents did not let us down. We had a well-attended meeting that included guest speakers from the Orange Community PTA Council, who described the purpose of PTA and the roles, responsibilities and rewards of serving on a PTA executive board. Cambridge school has a long tradition of strong community support for our school and its programs, and in keeping with that tradition, I am happy to publish the names of the 2008-09 Cambridge PTA Executive Board members of the oldest PTA charter in our district: Heather Girten, president; Jamie Haggerty, vice president, programs; Carrie Lundell, vice president, ways and means; Bernarda Flores, vice president, community affairs; Andy Fink, treasurer; Marie Woodward, secretary; Paula Shepherd, parliamentarian; Nicole Wyckoff, historian.

Canyon Hills

260 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807
714/998-5000



William Gee,
Ed.D.
Principal

Working Hard at Goals

The Canyon Hills Parent Association held a silent auction and raffle in May that raised more than \$1,000, which helps defray the costs of an annual boat trip on the Newport Beach Bay. We received donations from restaurants, stores, hotels and service businesses. There was also an open-house celebration that included a student dance, a free dinner sponsored by an Anaheim Hills-area youth group and classroom visitations.

Our students have made tremendous strides on their IEP goals. Students are swimming in the pool at a rehabilitation institute, working in training programs at small businesses, working in the lunchroom at Canyon Hills School, and attending sheltered workshop at the Orange County ARC for disabled people.

Our teachers have been conducting IEP meetings using electronic software and projectors. This has helped our IEP meetings focus and run smoothly. Additionally, Canyon Hills has recently received a relatively large amount of electronic switches and electronic software for use by our students.

Last month, an insurance company conducted an evening workshop regarding conservancy issues. The question that most of our parents must address is, "When my child turns 18 years old, how much decision making should be assigned to someone other than the severely disabled adult?" This question is complex, and the answer often requires consultation with legal and financial experts. The workshop was rated as a great success.

Finally, we have four students turning 22 this year and will move on to county adult programs. We have grown attached to these students and will miss them. They have been part of our family for many years.

Canyon *High School*

220 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807
714/532-8000 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/canyon



**Greg Bowden,
Ed. D.**
Principal

Mock Trial Makes it Great

The Canyon High School mock trial team was edged out of finals by the prior state champion, Woodbridge. But they still did an amazing job, and were recognized at the OUSD board meeting on March 6th.

A big congratulations goes to members Nicole Houman, Kristy Xu, Adrian Rajabi, Brendan Adams, Rayan Naouchi, Katerina Marcoulides, Gabi Phan, Briana White, Eric Dunn, Katie Grant, Brittany Walton, Alex Batson, Samira Hamedani, Regina Mohan, Joseph Perry and Kayleigh Kendrick-Soto.

A special thanks, too, should go to teacher-coaches Margaret Dubel, Jennifer Pettey and Stephanie Schweitzer, as well as attorney-coaches Rolf Rolnicki and Michael Penn, for all of the time and energy they have put into this year's event!

Science Olympiad Places

The Canyon High School Science Olympiad placed fourth in the regional competition. For the first time in seven years, it has also qualified to advance to the state finals!

Congratulations, please, to coaches Nicole Batard, Charles Bushman and Crissy Parkinson, and to the many students who participated. Among these were seniors Wayne Song, Adam Scott, Joseph Dean, Harpreet Singh, Michael Duong, Andrew Matsumoto, Noel Magtoto, Armin Arshi, Yukiko Shimizu and Hong Lee Chen.

The junior champs that deserve accolades are Jeannie Nguyen-Cuu and Jessica Leung. And our sophomore winners were Andrew Kim, Jordana Monteiro, Alena Kim, Brandon Vu, Shiksha Patel, Sheila Soltani and Luuly Doan.

Chapman Hills *Elementary School*

170 N. Aspen St., Orange, CA 92869
714/532-8043 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/chapman



Karen Merkow
Principal

Activities Abound

The students at Chapman Hills are in a wonderful learning environment every day, but learning doesn't stop there! We pride ourselves on collaborating with parent volunteers and teachers.

We've had many opportunities provided by our teachers and PTA members. Recently, our students participated in the Foundation Games. These were track and field events that took place at El Modena High School. Parent volunteer Diane Hurdle led our team of over 40 children! We are proud of all the students who practiced after-school with her and competed in the event.

Another after-school activity was the Orange Unified Math Pentathlon. Our Excel teacher, Willie Laundre, worked with fourth- and fifth-grade teams to prepare them for the five events. These included construction, problem solving, logic, mental math and estimation.

Our students received medals in both problem solving and logic. Teachers Lori Madsen and Susie Spargur cheered-on the students and helped at the event.

We are also having a talent show, carnival and field day after our STAR testing. Chapman Hills is a wonderful place to go to school!



Math Pentathlon team.

Canyon Rim *Elementary School*

1090 S. The Highlands, Anaheim, Ca 92808
714/532-7027 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/cr



Randi Leach
Principal

Going Buggy!

Put away that Raid and watch your step! Canyon Rim was temporarily infested with a wide variety of adorable insects when the second-graders presented *Bugz*, a musical comedy.

Students learned about tolerance when the bugs found a solution to the unpleasant omnipresence of the notorious Stink Bug, who simply wanted to be included in their picnic festivities.

But *Bugz* weren't the only animals causing a rumpus at Canyon Rim. The first-grade did a musical production of *A Rumpus in the Rainforest*. This extravaganza was about a frog who tried to persuade all the other animals to take her to the top of the rainforest.

Highlights of the night included cool cat Jaguars in sunglasses, slithering snakes and human explorers looking for the "lost hidden city of chocolate!"

Our fifth-graders also sang and danced their way through the musical *Thirteen Colonies*. Talent scouts watch out! We have a lot of talented students here at Canyon Rim!



Canyon Rim second-graders Go Buggy in "Bugz."

Cerro Villa *Middle School*

17852 Serrano Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861
714/997-6251 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/cv



Aileen Sterling
Principal

By John Meulmester, English Department Chair A Midsummer Night to Remember

In May, Cerro Villa Middle School's eighth-grade students proudly performed its third annual production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Over the past four months, dedicated students threw themselves wholly into preparation, practicing relentlessly after school, during lunch, and on the weekends.

For its cast and crew, Saturday was their fourth and final performance and marked the conclusion of nearly 20 weeks of an experience that can only be described as a labor of love. The first and second were exclusive performances for Cerro Villa's eighth-grade Honors English classes and a group from Taft Elementary, respectively. The next showing was a free after-school performance for Cerro Villa's students. Over 300 tickets sold in less than a week for Saturday night's final performance, and the sold-out audience soon found out what the cast and crew of 55 actors, directors, stage crew, lighting and sound operators already knew: this was no ordinary middle school play!

Crescent

Elementary

5001 E. Gerda Drive, Anaheim, CA 92807
714/997-6371 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/ci



Sheila Thompson
Principal

By Cheri Jones, Michelle Venckus and Martha Landry

Global Citizenship

The Crescent community is devoting great effort to service projects this year. The Student Council, led by teachers Michelle Venckus, Barbara Buckett and Michelle Ward, participated in the "Pennies for Patients" campaign for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Students were urged to bring in loose change to fill the collection boxes in every classroom. Generous parents collectively \$4,049, surpassing the initial goal by over \$400. Mrs. Jones's third grade and Mrs. Venckus's sixth grade collected the most funds and won pizza parties, but voted to donate the funds for the parties to a children's hospital.

"The kids were very excited and worked very hard for three weeks," said Mrs. Venckus. "They were proud of their efforts and took to heart that they were able to help other children in their own community. We couldn't ask for better kids."

Our families are also involved in a pet project of Mrs. Jones's class. Last year, her class was studying the negative impact pollution has on our planet, so they began a recycling program recycling. The class decided that, rather than fund an end-of-year party, they would donate the money raised to Heifer International, an organization that supplies farm animals to families in undeveloped countries. Last year, a sheep, goat, pig, water buffalo and llama were bought for African families. This year, two honeybee hives, one hutch of bunnies, a pig, sheep, goat and llama have been sent to South America.

Neither project would have been possible without our school community's dedication. "These efforts on the part of our students obviously benefit the community, but there is also value in the lessons our children learn in being good, caring compassionate citizens," said our principal, Mrs. Thompson. "This is an education you can't measure or put a price on."

Intermediate

5001 E. Gerda Drive, Anaheim, CA 92807
714/997-6371 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/ci

El Modena High School

3920 Spring St., Orange, CA 92869
714/997-6331 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/emhs



John Briquelet
Principal

Last Ring of the Bell

State and Advanced Placement testing has concluded for the year, final exams are just around the corner, and we are rapidly approaching graduation on June 11. Our Farewell Assembly in May brought tears from students and staff alike as we said goodbye to our seniors and our retirees. Greg Benoit, Jack Burke, Marie Maresh, Arlene Keogh, Angie Martinez, Cindy Nelson, Darlene Sanchez, Jim Smallman, Paul Todd, Owen Torkelson and Jim Veit are all leaving us after many years of dedicated service to our students and the district. We will truly miss them, but we know they will be enjoying wonderful experiences, new opportunities and much more free time.

If you get a chance to visit us, travel the central corridor on campus and experience the El Modena Spirit Walk, inspired by Vanguard alum Jake Ledesma. We have painted the columns lining this corridor in alternating cardinal and gold, and are preparing to stencil a stylish EM on many of them. This pathway serves as a natural connection between our gymnasium and athletic fields, and the victory bell located in our central quad.

Have a wonderful summer!



El Rancho Charter

Middle School

181 S. Del Giorgio Road, Anaheim, CA 92808
714/997-6238 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/rancho



John Besta
Principal

Olympiad Continues To Dominate

The El Rancho Science Olympiad team, under the direction of coach Richard Walker, continued to dominate the Southern California competitions. In February, they triumphed at the regional meet at Santa Ana College, and then went on to win the state event at Cal State Long Beach in April. The team has now won at the state level for 11 out of the last 12 years.

But the real excitement begins! They will be traveling to George Washington University in Washington D.C. to participate on the national level. The entire school has been supporting them while they have been fund raising for the trip.

The team is also spending hours and hours of study to help prepare for the events. This year they have changed strategy, and the students are studying on their weakest subjects with the hope of bringing home their first national championship.

Our El Rancho Science Olympiad Team has been in the top 10 nationally before, including a 1999 second-place finish in Chicago. We will be cheering them on as they attempt to bring home the biggest trophy of all, from Washington D.C.

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Esplanade *Elementary School*

381 N. Esplanade St., Orange, CA 92869
714/997-6157



Katie Anderson
Principal

Community Health and Literacy Fair

FM radio DJs rocked all morning as Esplanade sponsored a Health and Literacy Fair for the surrounding community. The focus was on families with children ages 0–5. Families visited over 30 health, social services and literacy agency booths that provided screenings and information on anything from nutrition, health screening, reading strategies for preschoolers, face painting, blood pressure checks, art activities, dental and vision screenings, and immunizations.

Each family carried a “passport” that encouraged them to visit as many booths as possible, with opportunity drawings held every 30 minutes. Children received free books, and parents gathered handouts that included safety tips for the home and healthy cooking strategies. Well over 150 families attended. The event was coordinated by the OUSD School Readiness Program, Orange Children & Parents Together and The El Modena Community Center. Truly a community effort!



Fletcher *Elementary School*

515 W. Fletcher Ave., Orange, CA 92865
714/997-6181



Christina Varela
Principal

By Sheldon Maag, 3rd-Grade Student

The Gabrieliño Walk

On March 26th, Fletcher’s third-grade students went on a field trip to the Nature Center at Mount San Antonio College, offered through the Orange County Department of Education’s “Inside the Outdoors” Science Study Program.

All of the third-grade students from our school went on the field trip to the Gabrieliño Walk. I thought it was fun because we did a lot of activities and we were taught interesting things about the Native Americans.

My group made holes in shells, which the Native Americans used as money to buy things they needed. We also tossed sticks through a hoop, threw boomerangs called “rabbit sticks,” and caught fake ducks with nets. These were ways the Native Americans hunted.

We played instruments made of deer toenails, shells, sticks and logs. We made string out of sinew similar to the ones the Native Americans used for making their main tools. We listened to a legend that the Native Americans might have listened to a long, long time ago. I thought the Gabrieliño Walk was cool.



Fairhaven *Elementary School*

1415 E. Fairhaven Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92705
714/997-6178



Elena Loetz-Stoces
Principal

Earth Day Celebration

This April, parents, staff and students honored Earth Day in a special way. Our Fairhaven PTA, under the leadership of Laura Sire, first-grade teacher, purchased bushes to plant under our beautiful mural in the front of school. Since adding the mural last year, Principal Elena Stoces has wanted to plant some type of

shrubbery there all year long. She wants Fairhaven to be a school that students are proud to attend.

So, the PTA rallied the help of parents and had each class send representatives to help do the planting. It was truly a team effort, and now the front of our school is looking beautiful. What a great way to celebrate Earth Day! Next step in the beautification process: Fairhaven will be one of the schools in OUSD going through the modernization process of classroom and office buildings. The construction will begin, it is hoped, at the beginning of the school year 2009–10.



Handy *Elementary School*

860 N. Handy St., Orange, CA 92867
714/997-6183



Sandy Schaffer
Principal

By Mr. Danny Lima and Me. Miguel Mota

Learning Today, Brighter Tomorrow

As part of the art, music, and PE grant that each OUSD school received during the 2006–07 school year, every Handy Hornet participated in an art project during December. Each student painted a six-by-six-inch tile that was then glazed and polished. In May, a group of dedicated dads helped to install the tiles around the campus. Mrs. Resendiz, the community liaison, organized the event. We, along with Randy Salazar, Rodrigo Obando, Roberto Garrido, Cecilio Resendiz and Jesse Resendiz, worked on Saturday to put up almost 600 tiles in various locations.

The result was fabulous! The students are proud of their artwork, and we wanted to share it with the community. It was a tough project, but well worth it.



Imperial *Elementary School*

400 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807
714/997-6282 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/imperial



Linda Salata
Principal

A Revolutionary Field Trip

Social Studies came alive for the fifth-graders at Imperial Elementary. After studying the American Revolution, the students were able to experience it firsthand.

The students took a bus to a working farm where they were greeted by “colonists” dressed in the clothing of the time period. With patches of snow on the ground, the students stayed bundled as they enjoyed the outdoor adventures. They were treated to a harvest feast, one that was reminiscent of the foods long ago. They participated in outdoor games and went to various centers, where

they learned more about life before and during the American Revolution. Our fifth graders were then split between the Redcoats and Bluecoats for a mock battle. The activity simulated the division between the people during the war. The living history proved to be a very memorable field trip; one experience they will not soon forget.



La Veta *Elementary School*

2800 E. La Veta Ave., Orange, CA 92869
714/977-6155



Sue Dahlquist
Principal

A Great Day

The La Veta GATE and third-grade classes knew nothing about hockey at the beginning of the year. But in February, they were given an awesome opportunity to learn about it during the seventh annual First Flight field trip, sponsored by the Anaheim Ducks.

Before the event, everyone was given a workbook containing lessons that linked hockey with practical learning. Then, once at the arena, they were encouraged to try various hands-on math and science activities. Some of the exhibits demonstrated friction and how computer games are made using a math grid. But the best part was watching the team perform a practice and skills competition.

Todd Marchant started the day with the Pledge of Allegiance, and George Parros explained the parts of a graph and how they can be used in hockey. The students also had a chance to win some incredible prizes in a special drawing, an autographed jersey and a signed hockey stick were awarded to two lucky fans.

The skills competition was the final part of the trip. The arena was split into a black and white team, and students were encouraged to cheer for their favorites. Chris Pronger and Francois Beauchemin shared the top billing with “hardest” shots, and Teemu Selanne excelled in the shooting-accuracy competition.

“This was a very exciting learning experience,” said one of the organizers. And all of it was done at no charge to the students, too! It was a great day, and we’re sure that everyone will remember it for a long time.

Jordan *Elementary School*

4319 E. Jordan Ave., Orange, CA 92869
714/997-6187



Bertie Anderson
Principal

By Lisa Green, Resource Teacher

Math Pentathlon

After months of preparation, Jordan’s math team competed at the District Math Pentathlon in May. Excitement was high as the teams arrived at the event, which was sponsored by the OUSD’s Elementary Curriculum Department.

Twenty-two schools participated, with a total of 57 teams in all. Jordan’s sixth-grade team did an incredible job, placing fifth in mental math. The sixth-grade team members were Gabriela Bravo, Richard Gomez, Oscar Lopez and Jacqueline Guevara.

Jordan is so proud of their fourth-, fifth-, and sixth-grade math teams. In January, tryouts for the group were held. Jordan teachers Nancy Lee and Colleen Berry trained the students during lunch time.

Jordan’s fifth-grade team was Jesus Fernandez, Krystal Perez, Bailey Jones, and David Mendoza. Jordan’s fourth-grade team members were Jesus Bartolo, Hector Pantaleon, Amy Fernandez and Jacqueline Carballo. The PTA purchased special shirts for our math athletes, and brought-in donated lunches.

Jordan thanks all of our math team pentathletes, as well as the teacher-coaches who helped out, and of course, our PTA. We are already looking forward to next year’s competition.



Lampson *Elementary School*

13321 Lampson Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840
714/997-6153 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/lampson



Cheryl Cohen
Principal

Beyond the Call of Duty

The greatest reward of education is the privilege of working with individuals who give of themselves beyond their job descriptions. One example is Mr. Kudo, who works one day a week teaching instrumental music. One day, Mr. Kudo noticed a neglected student garden and offered to help bring it back to life. Now, each Wednesday, a group of students meets with Mr. Kudo during lunch to work in the garden weeding, digging up plants, creating design, and planting new plants and flowers. The students installed a hedge around the garden and learned the importance of location,

sun, water and vitamins, and the beauty of plants that complement one another. Each week, they record their experiences, lessons learned and personal reflections in the garden journals Mr. Kudo distributed.

The students’ memorable working relationship with Mr. Kudo has expanded to include his retired father-in-law, providing students with a valuable lesson in the wisdom and experiences senior citizens have to contribute. There is nothing more gratifying than a school whose community is enriched by the self-less contributions of its staff.



School News Roll Call

KAMPS FOR KIDZ

BY SUSAN PETERSON

Noted author of the comprehensive guidebook:

"Fun & Educational Places to go with Kids & Adults in Southern California."

THE WORD "SUMMER" brings to mind a myriad of images from my childhood — *going to the beach, reading a good book, eating popsicles, building a treehouse, and hanging out with my friends.*

Those are great memories. I also remember getting bored. And I remember sharing this information, persistently, with my mom — *I think she referred to it as WHINING.*

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Community Services Department

Summer Day Camp



10 weeks beginning June 16. Weekly activities will be available the Monday of each themed week. Camp doors are open from 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.; general structured programming occurs between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Registration is currently accepted! Each day of day camp and each excursion has an assigned activity number. Patrons may register for as many weeks and excursions available and is taken on a first come first serve basis; entire payment is due at time of registration. Call 744-7293 for details or visit www.cityoforange.org

Ages: Children entering 1st grade – 11
Handy Park—2143 E. Oakmont Ave., 92867

Shaffer Park—1930 N. Shaffer St., 92865

Ages: 11 – 15
Hart Park —701 S. Glassell St., 92865

Cost: Orange residents, \$95 per week per participant.
Non-residents, \$110 per week per participant.
(714) 744-7293

Sponsorship Opportunities Available!

The City special events are organized to bring thousands of community members together. It is only with the generous contributions of our sponsors that we are able to continue to offer such fabulous events in the City of Orange. The goal is to raise \$50,000 for the 2008 special event season. There are various levels of sponsorships available and the benefits are adjusted accordingly. The marketing opportunities for companies and individuals are available for the entire season, approximately 12 months and eight special events! Deadlines do apply.

The City of Orange invites everyone to have the opportunity to be recognized as a community partner. For more information on how to become a community partner and sponsor, please call (714) 744-7267 to request a packet or visit the City website at: http://www.cityoforange.org/depts/commserv/special_events/sponsorship_opportunities.asp.



Aquatics

**Hart Park Pool, Hart Park Pool,
701 S. Glassell Street
(714) 744-7266**

Come make a splash with the City of Orange at the new two pool system that promotes program efficiency.

Recreational Swim

A swimsuit is required to enter the pool.

When: Monday, June 16-Sunday, August 24.

Recreational Swim will not be open on July 3 or 4.

Weekday Hours (Monday- Friday) 1:30-2:45 p.m. and 3:00-4:15 p.m.

Wednesday Nights Only 7:00-8:15 p.m.

Weekend Hours: (Saturday & Sunday) 1:00-2:15 p.m., 2:30-3:45 p.m., 4:00-5:15 p.m.

Cost: \$2 per swimmer, per session. Payment will be taken at the beginning of each session. Swimmers under the age of 7 must be accompanied by an adult and children 5 and under must be accompanied by an adult in the water. No refunds for unexpected pool closures.

Evening Exercise Aqua Aerobics

Enjoy the evening air as you get a full body cardio vascular work out. This aquatic exercise program is an adapted version of the Arthritis/ YMCA Foundation Aquatic Program, which helps to sustain and improve joint mobility, tone muscles, and improves endurance levels in a fun, supportive class environment. A certified instructor will teach the class. *All ages welcome.*

When: Tuesday and Thursday evenings 7 p.m.- 8 p.m.

*NOTE- Aqua Aerobics is now a contracted class! Please register at the Community Services Department, 230 E. Chapman Ave., Orange, CA. 92866

Swim and Save! Purchase a prepaid "Swim Card" for \$20

This card allows you to swim for 15 sessions for the price of 10 sessions!

Cards may be purchased at the Community Services Department, 230 E. Chapman Ave., Orange, 92866, during regular business hours after May 5.

Community Services Department Office hours are: Monday-Thursday and every other Friday 7:30-5:30 p.m. or at Hart Park pool starting June 18.

Kids Rule the Pool

An evening especially for kids! Bring your friends, swimsuit, towel and a great attitude. Get ready to have a blast at Hart Park Pool. This event-for kids only- allows them to enjoy an evening of music, swimming, and group games. Parents are welcome to watch from the pool deck. *Ages: 7-15*

When: Friday, July 20 and Friday, August 17, **Where:** Hart Park Pool,

Time: 7:15-9:15 p.m., **Fee:** \$5 per person, per night, refreshments included.

Important: A parent or guardian will need to bring each child in order to fill out a liability form. If you are unable to bring your child, you may pick up a liability form at Hart Park Pool anytime before the event and send a completed liability form with your child.

Special Events

Concerts in the Park 2008

Hart Park Bandshell 701 South Glassell St.,
Wednesday, June 18 – August 13, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

- June 18 Sangria**
Old school and oldies
- June 25 Upstream**
Reggae and steel drums
- July 9 Open Wide**
Classic Rock
- July 16 The Wise Guys Big Band Machine**
Big band and swing orchestra
- July 23 Connection the Band**
R & B and oldies with a Latin twist
- July 30 Pam Lyn King and the Royal Ruckus**
Classic and contemporary Country music
- August 6 Bobby Cochran's "Rock Around the Clock Show"**
50's and 60's Rock 'n' Roll
- August 13 The Fenians**
Traditional and contemporary Irish music

Hart Park Pool Grand Reopening

Saturday, June 14, 2008

Splish splash into summer 2008! Join the community to celebrate the new two pool system. Due to the nature of the project, the grand reopening date and time are subject to change. Therefore, beginning June 2, visit <http://www.cityoforange.org/depts./commserv/default.asp> or call the Orange special events hotline at (714) 744-7278.

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Hot dogs and novelty items to first 1000 people

12:30 p.m. – Ceremony

1:15 p.m., 2:15 p.m. 3:15 p.m. and 4:15 p.m. – Free recreational swim.

Passes will be given out on a first come first serve basis. Swim suits are required. Please be prepared to swim at your given time that day.



The City of Orange 3rd of July Celebration

"Orange Salutes the Red, White and Blue"

Thursday, July 3, 2008, 4-9 p.m.

El Modena High School, 3920 Spring Street

The City of Orange 3rd of July Celebration is saluting the red, white and blue with the community! Celebrate America in Orange and enjoy interactive games, listen to live entertainment, eat delicious food from Orange non-profit groups, sing along to the Orange Community Master Chorale of Santiago Canyon College main stage program and become mesmerized by a colorful fireworks show. Tickets are \$5 for children and adults, kids two and under are free and can be purchased at the Community Services Department, located at 230 E. Chapman Avenue May 12-July 2, 2008 or at the gate at El Modena High School on July 3, 2008.

Summer Drop-in Programs (714) 744-7293

A parent packet, including a liability, parent drop off and pick up policy agreement, CDBG form, and discipline agreement must be completed in order to begin.

Where/When : Killefer Park, NEWLY RENOVATED 615 North Lemon Street,
June 23- August 22

Grijalva Park, 368 North Prospect Avenue, June 23- August 22

El Camino Park, 400 North Main Street, June 16 – July 18

Programs closed July 3 and 4

Time: 12:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Cost: FREE

After-school Program

A parent packet, including a liability, parent drop off and pick up policy agreement, CDBG form, and discipline agreement must be completed in order to begin.

Where/When: El Camino Park, 400 North Main Street beginning July 20.

VolunTEENS (714) 744-7293

http://www.cityoforange.org/depts/commserv/summer_day_camp/default.asp.

Get involved in the City of Orange volunTEEN program and make a difference! The program is an exciting ten-week opportunity designed for teenagers age 14-18 years old to gain a memorable experience assisting with youth program summer day camps in a recreation environment. Responsibilities include assisting with the planning of each summer program week, crafts, sport/group games, activities and special events.

VolunTEENS will earn community service hours, enhance recreation job skills and gain a rewarding experience in the City of Orange community. Positions are limited and VolunTEENS are placed only at the Handy and Shaffer Park day camps; placement is based on availability and program needs.

All applications are due by Wednesday, May 21, 2008.

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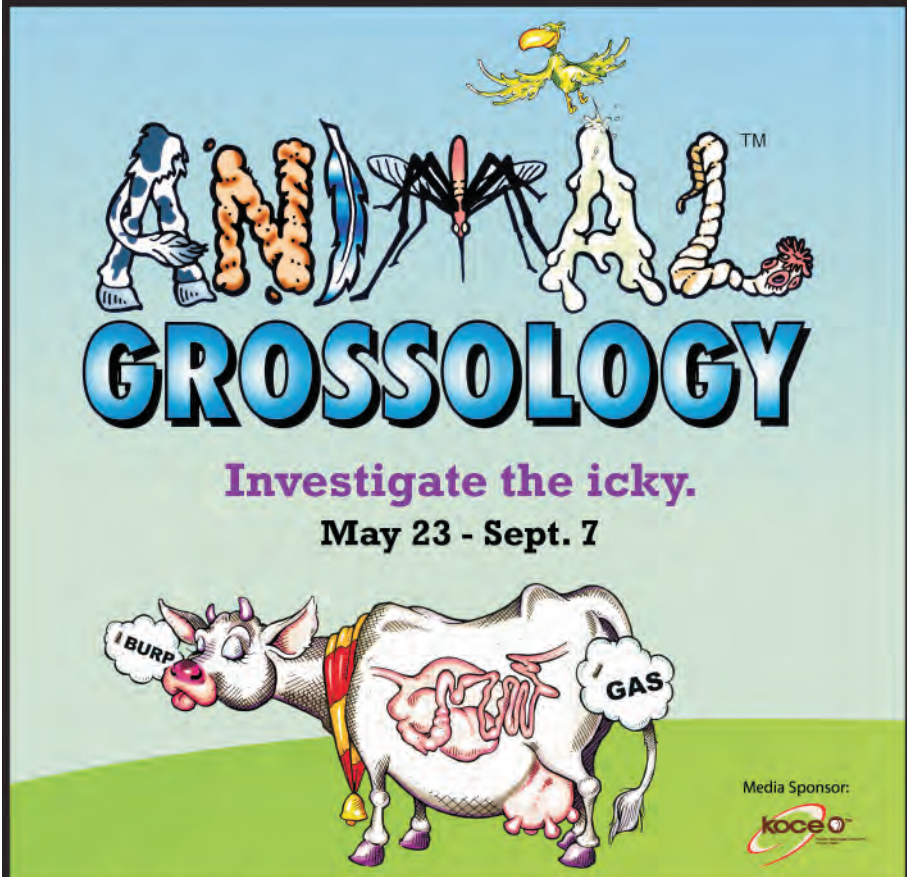
Discovery Science Center, the learning complex known for hands-on, interactive exhibits is bringing some of the stinkiest, slimiest and downright yuckiest creatures on Earth to Orange County this summer!

Get ready to investigate the icky at Discovery Science Center's exhibition, Animal Grossology, which opens May 23 and runs through Sept. 7. Interactive exhibits like Party Pooper, the Slime Game, Belch-A-Baby and Tapeworm Tug will have your tummy turning and your mind learning! It's grossed out science fun!

Visit this summer and you're sure to learn which animals burp their babies into the world, how some animals rely on slime to get around, why owls purge pellets and more! While you're here, don't miss Bob The Builder-Project: Built It also at Discovery Science Center through Sept. 7.


If you have kids who love animals, Camp Discovery's Animal Safari is offered from July 14 to 18, 2008. We'll trek across Southern California on this journey of life science. To start the week at Discovery Science Center, we'll check out Animal Grossology. Then it's on to visiting live sharks at the Aquarium of the Pacific, killer whales at Sea World, and rhinos at the Wild Animal Park! We'll finish the week with a kayak tour of the Upper Newport Bay.

Finally, Eat-A-Bug Weekend-July 19 and 20, 2008-will highlight the world's bug-eating cultures! A cooking demonstration with audience participation is an activity you won't want to miss! www.discoverycube.org



ANIMAL GROSSOLOGY
GROSSOLOGY

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May 23 - Sept. 7

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SIGN-UPS UNTIL: 7/15

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"Camp Sew Good"

For Girls & Boys—Ages 8 – 12

Camp Sessions: July 14 – July 17 (Monday – Thursday) or
August 4 – August 7 (Monday – Thursday)

*Children bring their own lunches

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: D & H Sewing, Vacuum and Home Center
401 N. Tustin Street • Orange, CA 92867

Space is limited to 10 campers per session,
so hurry & call to register now!

Children will learn to sew 4 projects such as stuffed animals, pillows,
clothing, etc. All camps are taught by fun and encouraging profession-
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(Call Tuesday – Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.)



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Linda Vista *Elementary School*

1200 N. Cannon, Orange, CA 92869
714/977-6201



Diane Osborn
Principal

Ongoing Community of Learners

In the last article for this newsletter, we shared all of the many activities that will take place at Linda Vista as we prepare to close out the year. One of those activities, Open House, was a tremendous success. Parents and friends joined us for a wonderful evening in April. The classrooms had standing room only as students and teachers shared with pride the many exciting projects and work that our students had on display.

We are now preparing for our sixth-grade promotion as our oldest students prepare to move on to middle school. We know that our students are leaving well prepared for the school years ahead of them.

Our parents deserve special recognition for all that they do to support our students and student learning at Linda Vista School. Without the ongoing parent support, many of the enrichment activities and classes offered to our students would not have been possible this year. As has been said before, it takes the support of the total community to make our school such a great learning environment for all students. We have that at Linda Vista!

We are already preparing to have new families and the families of new kindergarten students join us at a before-school orientation the evening of August 26 from 6-8 p.m. New parents will be introduced to our community, tour the school and enjoy a pizza dinner. As parents are touring our school, the new kindergarten students will have a story read to them by the kindergarten teachers. What a nice beginning for our new families!

Enjoy your summer! The first day of school is August 28!

Nohl Canyon *Elementary School*

4100 E. Nohl Ranch Road, Anaheim, CA 92807
714/997-6203



Chris Parker
Principal

Late Celebrations

Nohl Canyon's Math Pentathlon team competed in May at McPherson School. They participated in the areas of logic, mental math, construction, estimation and problem solving.

Several times a week, they worked on projects and math problems to make sure they were honing their skills. Their dedicated advisors, Mrs. Amsbary and Mrs. Atwood, helped with all of their projects and made it fun for everyone. We are very proud of our Math Pentathlon Team.

Thirteen sixth-grade students competed in the recent Youth Expo Science Fair. The division in which they competed was sixth- through eighth-grade. Their science fair projects were placed in the Youth Expo at the fairgrounds.

Our fifth-grade will be celebrating Colonial Days. Mrs. Rose and Mrs. Amsbary received a grant from the Orange Rotary Club. During Colonial Days, the fifth-grade students will be portraying life as Colonial citizens by dressing in period attire. They will share aspects of Colonial life with the fourth-graders.



McPherson Magnet

333 S. Prospect, Orange, CA 92869
714/977-6384 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/mcpherson



Jeanne Bentley
Principal

Tomorrow's Education Today

In collaboration with 10 national partners, McPherson Magnet School came together in May to celebrate our success in preparing students for the 21st century. A large number of school and community members participated in the first annual Tomorrow's Education Now conference, hosted by the Discovery Science Center in partnership with McPherson.

The event was an opportunity to recognize those who have helped incorporate best practices in education. The MIND Institute was honored for its innovative approach in blending math, music and technology into an unconventional but effective tool.

Educational partners both entertained and presented ideas. Highlights of the evening included Mad Science on the Sun Stage, chess tournaments, video conferencing and the Jon Yeiser Music Experience. McPherson students were able to show their work, and our math pentathlon winners were applauded.

Our school community has a tradition of incorporating many talents and innovations. This event took that practice beyond the school walls.



Olive *Elementary School*

3038 N Magnolia Ave., Orange, CA 92865
714/637-8218 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/olive



Deborah Smith
Principal

Multiplication Sundaes

The third-graders at Olive Elementary School have been working hard to learn their multiplication tables. In November, they started taking timed tests three days a week. Each student started with twos and progressed to the next fact when he or she could complete 100 multiplication problems in just five minutes.

What was the students' motivation? A multiplication sundae! Each time a student passed a particular fact, he or she earned a piece of a sundae. The twos earned each student a bowl and spoon, the fives earned a scoop of ice cream, the 10s earned a topping, and so on. The students were very motivated to earn their three-scoop sundaes, complete with whipped cream, nuts, and cherries.

Every third-grade class proudly displayed their sundaes in the making. Many students made it way past their times tables and started on division facts. After almost four months, the students celebrated their success on Valentine's Day with a multiplication sundae party. Fabulous effort, third-graders!



Orange *High School*

525 N Shaffer St., Orange, CA 92867
714/997-6211 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/ohs



SK Johnson
Principal

Many Recognitions

Orange High School is a national demonstration school for the AVID program. Its purpose is to target students in the middle grades and support them in rigorous academic schedules. Principal Johnson has had the entire faculty trained in AVID methods, including the Cornell note-taking process, and these strategies are infused throughout the curriculum.

Often the first in their family to attend college, students are guided by AVID to four-year universities. College tutors, mostly from Chapman University, tutor them twice-a-week in challenging, rewarding honors and AP courses.

AVID students Jessica Chavez and Erika Vasquez received the Dell Scholarship, worth \$20,000. Jessica was also awarded the Gates Millennium 10-Year Scholarship, which covers everything except the family contribution.

Jessica has been invited to speak at several ceremonies. She was scheduled to appear at the 2008 Senior Recognition Ceremony in May, as well as the eighth-grade recognition ceremony at Angel Stadium and the OCDE general staff meeting.

In all, she will be speaking to a combined total of 2,500 people, getting out the word about AVID and OHS! She will also be recognized at an OUSD School Board Meeting.

Among them, the AVID Seniors have been accepted to Cal Poly Pomona, and CSUs Fullerton, Long Beach, Monterey Bay, San Bernardino, San Diego, Dominguez Hills, Sonoma, East Bay and Fresno, as well as UCs Berkeley, Irvine, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Diego and Santa Barbara.

They are also planning to attend such private universities as Chapman, Hope, Pacific Christian College and Northern Arizona University. Congratulations to the AVID class of 2008!

Panorama *Elementary School*

10512 Crawford Canyon Road, Santa Ana, CA 92705
714/997-6265



Michelle Moore
Principal

By Jaclyn Szaras, Teacher – 5th and 6th Grade Catching the Catalina Spirit

Science is an important subject in any fifth-grade classroom. The students learn a multitude of concepts regarding atoms, the solar system, and the various life forms that inhabit our planet. In order to give the students at Panorama Elementary School a hands-on experience in the areas of life science and ecosystems, the fifth-graders, along with six chaperones, journeyed across the Pacific Ocean to a beautiful island—Catalina.

Our wondrous trip opened the eyes of many of the students to the fascinating creatures and plants marine biologists study. The students were constantly engaged in activities regarding life in the ocean and in the hills on Catalina Island. There were sharks to touch, sea slugs to kiss, and squid eyeballs to eat! Snorkeling was an educational activity that engaged the students in learning how to carefully and creatively don wet suits and defog goggles and how thermal regulation works to keep their bodies warm in the frigid water around Catalina.



Palmyra *Elementary School*

1325 E Palmyra Ave., Orange, CA 92868
714/997-6207



Connie Smith
Principal

By Mary Hinton, 3rd-Grade Teacher

Earth Day Celebration

Palmyra Elementary has taken the first steps towards being a “greener” school. Every classroom now has a blue recycling bin, and we encourage all of our students to follow the three R’s: reduce, reuse and recycle.

Our technology assistant, Peter Ricci, has started a very successful recycling program for printer cartridges. And Mrs. Hinton’s third-graders are preparing for their annual Earth Day celebration. They have been practicing for a special Earth Day dramatic play by studying lines, preparing scenery and creating their very own T-shirts.

Each student has designed an iron-on transfer by using software in the computer lab. The pictures will soon be printed out and then ironed onto the shirts so that everyone can wear them to the play.

Our third-grade parents, friends and other family members are encouraged to see their students in action and then enjoy the cast party afterwards. Palmyra is proud of all of our “green” students.



Parkside *Pre-K*

2345 E, Palmyra Ave., Orange, CA 92869
714/997-6202



Allison Smith
Principal

We Love Our Earth

Parkside Pre/K & Kindergarten is doing their part to help keep the earth clean. This year, Earth Day is being celebrated on Tuesday, April 22. It is a day during the year that governments, organizations and individuals work to protect the environment and keep it clean for the future. The students at Parkside had an

opportunity to learn about recycling and how important it is to keep the earth healthy. They participated in activities such as: picking up trash, sorting through recyclable materials, learning songs & poems, making books to take home, and completing art projects. The children learned that they can help in many ways, both big and small, to protect the world they live in.



Portola *Middle School*

270 N. Palm St., Orange, CA 92868
714/997-6361



Debra Thompson
Principal

Lots of Winners

Congratulations to AVID student Mariella Garcia, our Portola eighth-grader. She has been selected as an Orange County finalist for the AVID Eighth-Grade Standout, and will be interviewing for a college scholarship at Angel Stadium!

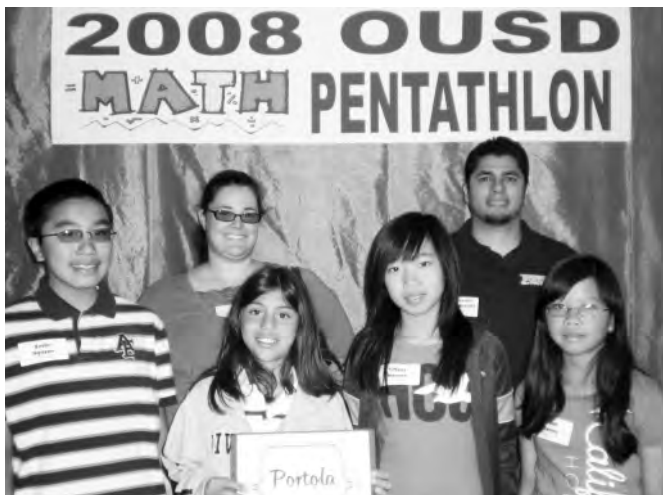
To be able to move onto the interview portion, Mari was in the top 10 out of 50 students. Congratulations also to Gianmarco Otiniano for being admitted to the prestigious Orange County Performing Arts High School's Visual Arts program!

And more congratulations to Phyi Phan, Christian Blanke, Pauline Dao, Dat Huynh, Tiffany Bui, and Tedman Nguyen for being admitted to the great Orange County Performing Arts High School's writing program!

And let's not forget Tedman Nguyen for winning a national writing contest, sponsored by idwritingcontest.org. He received a 40 gigabyte iPod!

We have lots more winners! Congratulations to the following students who have been re-designated to fluent-proficient status! They are Oanh Duong, Guadalupe Garcia, Sabrina Lai, Lucia Marquez, Brenda Milan, Son Nguyen, Elizabeth Ochoa, Ai Tran, Jessica Tran, Jainie Vazquez and Susana Cortez.

But there's more! Gloria Medina, Arely Randel-Valdivia, Efraín Martinez, Eduardo Soto, Christina Tran, Czaia Velásquez, Danny Frias, Mayra Orozco, Norma Pineda, Grecia Rios, Fanny Rivera, Nam Nguyen, Khanh-Tran Ta and Janet Vega have won the same honors!



The sixth-grade Pentathlon team: Kevin Nguyen, Antonio Moralez, Tiffany Nguyen, and Oanh Duong, won 1st place for Problem Solving and 6th place in Logic.

Richland *High School*

615 N. Lemon St., Orange, CA 92867
714/997-6167



Deborah Backstrom
Site Administrator

By Debbie Backstrom, Site Administrator

Change is Coming

We are proud to announce that Richland High School's graduation ceremonies will be held at Fred Kelly Stadium on Wednesday, June 11 at 10 a.m. This will be the first Richland class to graduate at Fred Kelly Stadium! The suggestion of changing locations was made at a district graduation meeting in April and was met with overwhelming support by the four comprehensive high schools. The proposal was then brought to our seniors, as well as our staff, who agreed and voted for the change. We look forward to a wonderful ceremony for Richland's graduating class of 2008!

Richland would like to say a special thanks to North Orange Rotary 5320 for sponsoring two of our exceptional youth to attend Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Camp in April. North Orange Rotary also donated funds this year for Richland to purchase a SmartBoard for use in our math classes. It's partnerships in the community such as the one with the Rotary Club which help create opportunities for our Richland students. Thank you!

Prospect *Elementary School*

379 N. Virage St., Orange, CA 92869
714/997-6271



Kathleen Bruce
Principal

Great Sportsmanship

A big thank you to Mrs. Lopez, Mr. Opitek and Mrs. Matson for volunteering at OUSD's Math Pentathlon, held in early May. The team members included fourth-graders Arnold Francisco, Angel Espinoza, Junior Nguyen and Leugzim Bislimi.

The fifth-grade contingent was represented by Ally King, Rey Pinteá, Linda Nguyen, Deiondre Sanders and alternate Alfredo Vasquez. The sixth-grade members were Marty Palad, Meriton Ibrahim, Fernando Aguilar and Kevin Nguyen, with Vincent Lam as alternate. Incidentally, the sixth-grade team won fifth place in the construction competition!

We'd like to give a thanks as well to Mr. Mc Guire and Ms. Alvarado from our ASES program. They volunteered their time to coach a large group of students for the Orange Junior Track and Field Games in April.

Our students did an outstanding job at many of the events. These included Jerry Sanchez, Miguel Espinoza, Anthony Sanchez, Jocelyn Nolasco, Bill Bislimi, Leugzim Bislimi, Pedro Ortega, Besmir Bislimi and Alexis Gonzalez.

Other star performers were Daniella Tenney, Graciela Gonzales, Geidi Lopez, Sally Inclan, Victor Guzman, David Carrasco, Jacob Vasquez, Jonathan Munguia, Anthony DeRosas, Karinna Gomez, Viviana Sandavol, Ally King and Theo Wilson.

Congratulations to all of them for putting forth a great amount of effort. They all showed great sportsmanship towards the other schools and students.



Riverdale *Elementary School*

4540 E. Riverdale Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807
714/997-6273



Pamela McFadden
Principal

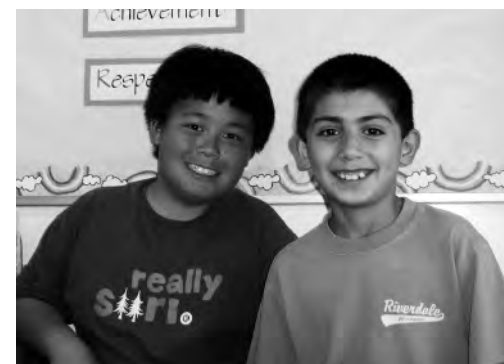
Ravens 'SOAR'

Our Riverdale students are learning to SOAR! SOAR, which stands for Safety, Ownership, Achievement, and Respect, is a schoolwide focus of the Positive Behavior Support Intervention (PBIS), designed to teach students the importance of developing positive school behaviors and encourages them to take pride in themselves and in school. The PBIS program promotes a positive school climate by reinforcing positive behaviors. A committee of staff members has received district PBIS training and has worked with the staff to develop the positive behavior expectations in students.

Students will earn SOAR tickets for demonstrating such behaviors as walking to the restroom (safety) and trying their best (achievement). At the end of the week, students will turn in tickets for a drawing. There are also teacher incentives for program support.

The official SOAR kickoff off will be in September. Teachers hope that by introducing SOAR now, students will be excited to come back in the fall and will have a positive outlook for the upcoming year.

"When our students exhibit positive behavior, we can focus on the academics," fifth-grade teacher Mrs. Burkhart said of SOAR.



SOARing Towards Success.

Running Springs

Elementary School

8670 E. Running Springs Drive, Anaheim, CA 92808
714/281-45120



Lydia Roach
Principal

An Evening Under the Stars

This year, the third-grade students at Running Springs Elementary School had the opportunity to get a closer look at the night sky through the program "Adventures in Astronomy."

Funded by a grant from the Orange Rotary Club, giant telescopes were brought to the playground for our students and their families to view the moon, stars, Mars and even Saturn.

With the help of many fathers, including Mr. Ware, Mr. Woofter, Mr. Adair, Mr. Valle, Mr. Simons, Mr. Tsagris and Mr. Falcusan, students climbed to the top of tall ladders and saw some amazing pictures of space. The whole family then viewed a slide show presentation that included some more incredible pictures of the heavens.

This was a spectacular ending to both our solar system unit and our field trip to the Santa Ana College Tessman Planetarium. Thank you to the Orange Rotary Club for funding this event.

Thank you also to third-grade teacher Mrs. Bandong for submitting the grant application and for organizing the whole activity. It was a magical evening!

Serrano

Elementary School

17741 E. Serrano Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861
714/997-6275



Barbara Rubin
Principal

End-of-Year 'Scrapbook'

End-of-the-year activities here are wonderful. First-graders presented the play *Stone Soup*, with costumes and props prepared by parents, and teachers working with students to sing and narrate the story.

Butterflies are about to be set free by the second-graders. The students are excitedly watching their caterpillars form chrysalides and develop into butterflies. Third-graders are enjoying the Flat Stanley projects sent to family and friends, now being returned from around the world. What a great way to learn about foreign lands!

Ancient civilizations come alive in sixth grade. Students are part of a *polis*, a Greek city-state, and are given Greek names. They participate in learning as citizens of ancient Greece.

The farm comes alive in the kindergarten playground. With their fourth-grade buddies, the kindergartners write stories, raise baby chicks and read about farm.

Watch out for the fifth graders as they train for the 50-State Challenge to the sixth grade for the fastest time locating all 50 states.

These are memories that students will never forget.



Students learn about Ancient civilizations through Greek activities.

Santiago Charter

Middle School

515 N. Rancho Santiago Blvd., Orange, CA 92869
714/997-6366 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/santiago



Mary Henry
Principal

Gold Medalist Visit

As part of Santiago's academic STRIVE assembly held in April, 1984 Olympic Gymnastics gold medalist Peter Vidmar captivated all students with a demonstration and a talk about the importance of goal setting in one's life.

After working the pommel horse, doing a handstand on his fingertips, and performing a backflip on stage, Mr. Vidmar proceeded to share his trials and tribulations of the path he had to take to get to the gold medal. Most importantly was the importance of setting goals, even at a very young age, and never losing sight of them.

Mr. Vidmar shared that in order to keep himself focused when he was young, he taped a picture of his hero onto his bedroom mirror. That hero happened to be 1932 Gymnastic Gold Medalist Dallas Bixler, the grandfather of Santiago's PE teacher Sean Mikkelsen! It was an inspirational day at Santiago, for students and faculty alike.



Silverado

Elementary School

7531 Santiago Canyon Road, Silverado, CA 92676
714/997-6000



Pat Evans
Principal

Casino Night

Silverado's third annual Casino Night was held on Saturday, April 12th. Although it usually takes place at the Silverado Community Center, this year's event was held at a local restaurant in the Silverado Center.

The atmosphere was the perfect place for learning games of chance and enjoying the company of good friends.

The evening began with a buffet from the famous "Taco Man," and it ended with a silent auction. The guests bid on such items as an Anaheim Angel's baseball basket, a summer fun basket, a Lucy

Strike's Bowling Party and many more items donated by parents and community businesses.

The event generated a profit of nearly a thousand dollars for the PTA! And this year's event was attended by as many as 100 people, more than in the past. The room was packed and the tables were full of happy game players. Obviously, a great time was had by all.

Staff Appreciation Luncheon

The PTA once again provided a tasty luncheon during Staff Appreciation Day in early May. The theme of the luncheon was "Focus on the Staff." The tables were set with beautiful linens and lovely flower arrangements, with a special chocolate-covered apple which served as a place card. A local bakery provided the sandwiches and salads.

Staff members enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere and the few extra minutes of time to enjoy each other's company. Another special treat was a staff appreciation banner that was signed by every child in the school.

Thank you PTA. We do feel appreciated!

Sycamore *Elementary School*

340 N. Main St., Orange, CA 92868
714/997-6277 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/sycamore



David Reynolds
Principal

Upcoming Modernization

As you have noticed if you've driven by Sycamore Elementary School, during Spring Break work was done to prepare for the school's modernization. Trees were removed for a sprinkler system, a restroom portable was installed that will be used when we return to school on July 21, and Room T10 was relocated.

At the beginning of the school year, all teachers and the administration building will be located in 30 portables on campus. Fourteen of those portables were used by Portola Middle School during its modernization. We will be using our present nine portables and an additional seven portables will be brought on site soon, for a total of 30.

The present school office will close on Friday, June 20 and will reopen on Monday, July 7 at its new site, in Portable P1, located along Palm Street. The school office number will remain the same; we can be reached at (714) 997-6277.

At the beginning of the year, you will receive a map of the school, indicating where your child's classroom will be located. Your child will still have access to a library, a computer lab, and the playground during our modernization.

Our new classrooms will contain new flooring, windows, doors, and sliding white boards, with ample shelving and storage space for supplies. We were just recently able to purchase, through categorical funds, new technology equipment—document cameras and LCD projectors, which will be mounted in every classroom.

Villa Park *Elementary School*

10551 Center Drive, Villa Park, CA 92861
714/997-6281



Larry Hausner
Principal

Grade Level Targets Hit the Mark at VPE

Here at VPE our teachers worked collaboratively in grade levels earlier this year to establish grade level academic targets in both language arts and mathematics. These targets are goals that are measured throughout the year and compared to benchmarks that grade levels individually established. Grade levels were free to decide what area to focus on.

To date, students in all grade levels have made significant progress. Listed below are the grade level areas of focus and year end goals for language arts.:

Kindergarten—Language Arts target area: Sound Segmenting.
Goal: 80% of all students will pass.

Grade 1—Language Arts target area: High Frequency words
Goal: 90% of students will score 95% or better. The remaining students will show measurable growth.

Grade 2—Language Arts target area: Reading Comprehension
Goal: 80% of the grade level will be at Proficient or higher in SRI. The other 20% will show measurable growth.

Grade 3—Language Arts target area: Reading Comprehension
Goal: Students will score an average of 70% or higher on the four SRI tests.

Grade 4—Language Arts target area: Reading Comprehension
Goal: 75% of fourth-graders will score proficient or higher. The remaining students will show measurable growth.

Grade 5—Language Arts target area: Reading Comprehension
Goal: 74% Proficient. The remaining students will show measurable growth.

Grade 6—Language Arts target area: Reading Comprehension
Goal: 100% of the students will increase their score at least 6%.

Taft *Elementary School*

1829 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92865
714/997-6254



Vicki James
Principal

We are celebrating the Taft staff who are being recognized for an achievement this year.

Starting at the top left congratulations to Teacher of the Year, Joyce Schaal; to Susan Scollick for being nominated to the Area 10 Director of the Orange County Reading Assoc.; to Dawn Lane and Mary Ann Upton for completing another year of Beginning Teachers Support & Assessment; to Jessica Norquist, Teri Cardenas and Sandy Clark (bottom, right) and Jaime Bauer for completing their Master's Degrees; to Maria Espitia for being the Outstanding Customer Service Employee of the Month; and Anna Fischer, Classified Employee of the Year. We celebrate a staff that goes the extra mile in education, and service to the Taft school community. We are proud of our winners and all Taft employees!



Villa Park *High School*

18042 Taft Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861
714/532-8020



Ed Howard
Principal

Another Great Year

Well another year is almost over. We made it through the testing months which included the California Standards Test and AP tests. Graduation is just around the corner on June 11th at 7:00 p.m. at Fred Kelly and many of our seniors are beginning to realize the fruits of their hard work with acceptances into some very fine institutions for next year. We are proud of them all.

It has been a very successful year at VPHS. The students seem to really enjoy school. Our school spirit is higher than it has been in a long time. We have had our ASB elections and next year's board looks to bring great leadership. The class elections will be gearing up soon and that is always a good time on campus.

Have a wonderful summer and the staff and I look forward to a great 08/09 school year.



West Orange *Elementary School*

243 S. Bush St., Orange, CA 92868
714/997-6283 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/wo



Bobbie Lansman
Principal

West Orange Goes "Green"

West Orange Elementary School celebrated Earth Week with an Earth Day Fair presented by Mrs. Anderson's fifth-grade class. At the fair, there were booths manned by students educating their peers about major problems with the Earth, including greenhouse effect/global warming; acid rain; deforestation; air and land pollution; and endangered animals. There was a Reduce, Reuse, Recycle booth, where students made pledges to help the Earth. Students played Environmental Jeopardy, sang Earth Day songs, listened to students reading environmental children's books, made endangered

animal collages, learned about alternative energy and fuels, explored transportation systems that would not pollute, and played Are You an Energy Hog? Ms. Johnson's, Ms. Wong's, and Ms. Cook's fourth-grade students displayed their individual recycled projects.

The whole school has been recycling plastic bags since the beginning of the year. Even Dr. Lansman did her part to celebrate Earth Week by telling Earth Day riddles during morning announcements. Jokes such as "What do you call ants that dirty our air? Pollut-ants!" got the students thinking about what they could do to help the planet.

As you can see, the whole school got involved trying and learning about ways to keep our Earth "green."

Yorba *Middle School*

935 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92867
714/997-6161 www.orangeusd.k12.ca.us/yorba



Tara Saraye
Principal

By Kailynn H., student, and Diane Nguyen, teacher

Toros Take on the Talent Show

At the end of March, Yorba held its annual Talent Show. As with all events that happen here on campus, the Yorba Talent Show was a great success! We had many contestants and lots of spectators. The cafetorium was packed with parents and students for the evening performance. Unlike traditional talent shows in which judges pick the winners, this year's talent show was chosen completely by the audience, *American Idol*-style!

And the Winners Are...

At the end of the show, there were first-, second- and third-place winners. The first-place winners were The One-Two Steppers dance team. Second place went to Amie Clay, singing soloist. Third place went to The Sapphires, a guitar band. The Yorba Talent Show was made possible by Mrs. Dull, Ms. Abifadel, Ms. Saraye, the P.T.A. and, of course, your friendly neighborhood Academic Student Body (ASB). We'd like to salute everyone who competed, watched, voted, and helped make the talent show happen! Yorba, you have talent

Word Search: Types of Music

I X B E R L E L U L L A B Y E
 E N K O E E A N T H E M L G U
 T H T C L N B G R O O C U O G
 U N V E O E E M I U O Z E S I
 D J A N R N R C A R T E S P G
 E O A H A M C O O H D C F E C
 O C G I C I E E M U C A O L A
 A V Z N R L U Z R A N I M N L
 R T E P A A S C Z T R T B Y Y
 E F A R B D E F A O O C R A P
 P C O T T D N S T D G R H Y S
 O H J K N U I A T T E R E P O
 C C W M L A R Q F M I N U E T
 T E T O M O C E U G U F Z Z Z
 D A L L A B F M A Z U R K A M

Anthem
Aria
Ballad
Barcarole
Berceuse
Blues
Bolero
Cadenza
Calypso
Canon
Cantata
Capriccio
Carol
Chamber
Chant
Chorale
Concerto
Country
Etude
Fandango
Fantasia
Folk
Fugue
Gigue
Gospel
Intermezzo
Lullaby
Madrigal
March
Mazurka
Minuet
Nocturne
Opera
Operetta
Oratorio
Overture

SUPERINTENDENT • FROM PAGE 1

Mental Math were team events in which students collaborated and agreed on one answer for each exercise. Ribbons were awarded to the top six teams in each event; 90 sets of ribbons were awarded to 41 separate teams representing 20 schools!

Graduates

Congratulations to each graduating senior as well as those promoting to the next grade and or school! You have all reached milestones in your lives and created memories that will never be forgotten. As our high school graduates move on to college or directly to careers, I wish you the best, and hope that you have been prepared to face the challenges and opportunities that await you in this 21st century.

Retirees

Due in large part to the offering of the Supplemental Retirement Program, this year will mark one of the largest numbers of retirements in recent history for OUSD with 165 retirees. Congratulations to those who have chosen to retire and best wishes as you move forward into the next phase of your lives. Retirees were honored Wednesday, June 4th during a celebration/reception at the District Office.

Student Recognitions

OUSD Student Recognition is for students who have won awards at District-wide events such as Spelling Bee, Exposition of the Arts, Science Olympiad, Destination Imagination, Math Pentathlon, National Merit Scholars and Every Student Succeeding during the 2007-08 school year. Students who qualified were honored at the district offices on Thursday, June 5th.

OUSD Hotline • 714) 628-4277

The Orange Unified School District has set up a "HOTLINE" for anyone in the community to call to report information regarding any issue in the district. Please call the hotline to prevent event from happening or to provide information to the district regarding events that have occurred, such as vandalism, graffiti, substance abuse, bullying, child endangerment, child abuse, weapons, theft, or any issue. Anonymous tips are welcomed and your calls will remain confidential.

LEAH PIZAK • FROM PAGE 1

Alladin, High School Musical, Mulan and the annual American Celebration. She holds lunchtime dance concerts and Brown Bag Theater throughout the year. Her students have performed at the Lincoln Center & Statue of Liberty in New York City, the Lincoln Monument in Washington, DC, and the California Youth in Theater Day in Sacramento. Her students were chosen to represent California at the National Anthem Project where they will be performing at the Washington Memorial in June 2008. Her students have participated in the Broadway Classroom in New York City and she has implemented a scholarship for gifted and talented students to attend Camp Bravo Musical Camp. Prior to her career at El Rancho, Leah brings a wealth of professionalism and background as a dancer, choreographer, and director in both dance and musical theatre. Her personal achievements include El Rancho Teacher of the Year, American Institute of High Education Resources Outstanding Services and Contributions to Enrich Cultural and Humanities Teaching in the State of California and PTSA Honorary Service Award.

MELINDA BOEHLER • FROM PAGE 1

ment. All instructors in the Visual Arts department participate in content writing as an integral part of their curriculum. This requirement came about in support of the departments efforts to aid in improvement of student performance on the Standardized Test and the CAHSEE. Ms. Boehler has been instrumental in the development of a "No D" policy in the Visual Arts Department. It is her belief that students who are expected to perform at a higher level will do so. To defray a pervasive attitude among our art students that "D equals diploma," the visual arts department decided to make a "No D" option. Students must work to at least a C- level in order to pass our visual arts classes.

JEFF SEGAL • FROM PAGE 1

high energy level, he has been able to consistently maintain a high quality program, designing lessons that provide student success even though he meets with them only once weekly. The use of modeling, students standing in a circle facing each other rather than sitting down, proper wait time after questioning, partner pair-share, and visual charts all contribute to the student's learning.

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