

Happy Valley News

Character...

Leadership...

Academic Success...

Friday, April 15, 2011

Principal Talk

At HVS, we emphasize character & patriotism. Our incredible country was built & has been sustained by the extraordinary efforts of men & women whose vision focused upon freedom, prosperity & abundance for future generations. Helping our children understand what it takes to build a great nation is a privilege—not just a responsibility. Our goals at HVS include instilling a work ethic in school that will carry over into their work habits & community involvement as adults. It's a challenge for our children who have grown up with iPods & cell phones, computers & HDTV to understand what it was like for our forefathers to work hard every day just to have food & shelter. We look at our past & the world around us to decide what we want for our future.

Our upcoming History Fair is giving our children an opportunity to become intimately acquainted with our past—from the founding fathers, the Constitution & the pioneers to our national parks. Our theme this year is "Happy Valley Night at the Museum." On the evening of May 20, 2011, from 6-8:30 p.m., each classroom is being transformed into a Museum Room, with different displays in every class. We will have 5 different assemblies, featuring music, poetry, skits & narrations. Please mark your calendars to attend.

--Roger McCurley, Principal

Thank You Mr. & Mrs. Gandolfi

We love the surround sound system you donated & installed in our multi-purpose room with speakers also outside. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated & we are reaping the benefits of your generosity every Friday at Assembly.

Thank You Mr. & Mrs. Pettit

Thanks for everything you did to restructure our athletic field so that we could have grass & a better place to play. Every student, every day benefits from your hard work & generosity.

AIMS & Stanford 10 Testing

Wow! Time flies when you're having fun. We have the AIMS & Stanford 10 behind us after today, with a few make-ups next week, but we had a great finish. Thanks to all of you parents who had your children on time for school each day during testing.

The children didn't seem very stressed, overall, since they are accustomed to testing every week, all year. During testing week, the school provided milk, cheese sticks & Teddy Grahams for a snack at the break times for those students taking tests. The only complaint we heard was, "How long do we have to be this quiet at recess?"

We have been given mid-June as a target date for getting the individual test results back. We will mail out the student copies to parents as soon as possible after we get them. The overall results for schools will probably not be available or published until July.

Class Placement for Next Year

Since we use the results of our in-house Wide Range Achievement Test in conjunction with the AIMS & Stanford 10 results for student placement next year, student placement will not be finalized until after the middle of July. We place students in classes according to their academic performance level (in class & on achievement tests), as well as teacher recommendations. We do take parent requests for teachers into consideration if the placement is appropriate, but cannot make any guarantees. All requests must be in writing, not verbally given to a staff member or written on registration forms. While we have all of the same staff returning next year, teachers may be assigned a different grade level.

Spring Recess Day **Friday, April 22**

School is closed, but Day Care is in session for those who sign up.

Continued

Lost & Found

Again, with rapid changes in our weather, we have a very full Lost & Found. Please check it since we will be donating it on April 22.

Field Trips This Year

Some of the field trips we took this year include:

Wildlife World Zoo
Young Chef's Academy;
Arizona State Capitol
Sharlotte Hall Museum in Prescott
Pioneer Living History Museum
Arizona Science Center
Arizona Mining and Mineral Museum
Museum of Natural History in Mesa
Arizona Culinary Institute
Biosphere II
Stuffington Bear Factory
Fire Station #48
Tolmachoff Farms

If you have ideas about field trips, please let your child's teacher or the office know so that we can continue to provide interesting, educational trips for our students. Thanks.