



# Blazer Newsletter

Jennifer Randel, Principal

Jim Curtis, Assistant Principal



April 2015



## School Office Hours

Mon - Fri

7:30am - 3:45pm

**Spring Break**  
**March 30th**  
**thru**  
**April 10th**  
**NO School**

Stay up to date - Check  
out our School Website  
[www.murrieta.k12.ca.us](http://www.murrieta.k12.ca.us/buchanan)  
/buchanan

## Upcoming Friday Spirit

**Assemblies**

**April 17**

**May 1**

**at 8:30am**

**In the amphitheater**



## School Notes

Dear Buchanan Families,

Later this April a new era begins in student assessment. All students, grades 3-5, will be taking new computer-based tests which are part of the new California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP).

These computer-based tests will be taken online unlike the old paper-based multiple choice STAR tests students have taken for years. The new tests are based on the new state standards and they include different types of test questions.

Due to the fact that the assessments are computer based we have to creatively split the time in the computer labs amongst grades 3-5. The testing dates will be **April 27<sup>th</sup> through May 22<sup>nd</sup>**. Each student will be testing for approximately 8 days. Students needing more time will be allowed to do so. More information will come after spring break as to the specific two week period your student will be testing.

Over spring break if you want them to see the types of questions your child will be asked, you can view practice tests online at the California Department of Education web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/practicetest.asp>.

### SPECIAL NOTE FOR 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PARENTS:

This year 5<sup>th</sup> graders will also be taking the CST Science Assessment. These, still, will be paper and pencil assessments. The students take this over two days. The specific dates will be provided after spring break.

Please make sure your child is not overly concerned or anxious about the tests or test results. Have them get plenty of the rest the nights before their testing and send them to school with a good breakfast. The most important thing you can do is to make sure that your child is in school during the testing session.

We thank you ahead of time for your efforts in preparing your students for these state assessments. We go into them with a growth mindset. This is just the beginning of this new era of state assessment. Any struggles we may have we will embrace and we will grow from the experience.

Have a wonderful Spring break with family and friends.  
Good things are happening at Buchanan Elementary!  
Jennifer Randel and Jim Curtis



Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed no hope at all. —Dale Carnegie

# Counselor's Corner and Positive Behavioral Supports Moment

## Happy April!!



I hope everyone is ready to recharge over Spring break and come back ready to take on the last few months of the school year! It has been a great privilege and pleasure to work with the students at Buchanan this year. I have been running small groups as well as going into 2nd and 3rd classrooms to teach guidance lessons on social skills. The lessons that I have taught up to this point are listening and asking for help in 2nd grade and following directions and disagreeing appropriately in 3rd grade. Below I have listed the steps for each of the aforementioned skills. These skills are skills that will not only benefit your child in a school environment but in a diverse range of environments. No matter what grade your child is in it's important to introduce and practice these skills

with them. Practicing these skills with your children will help them better retain the skill and benefit from the positive consequences of using them. Keep encouraging your children with their school work we expect a lot from them but that's because we believe in them!

Ms. Dewey  
School Counselor



### Listening



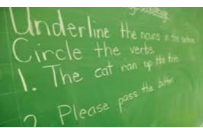
- ⇒ Look at the person that is talking
- ⇒ Wait until the person is through talking before you speak
- ⇒ Show that you've heard the person by nodding your head or saying "okay"

### Asking for Help



- ⇒ Look at the person
- ⇒ Ask "Is now a good time for you to help me?"
- ⇒ Clearly explain what kind of help you need
- ⇒ Say "Thank You" after you've been helped

### Following Directions



- ⇒ Look at the person
- ⇒ Say "Okay"
- ⇒ Do what you've been asked right away
- ⇒ Check back to make sure you've done it correctly

### Disagreeing Appropriately



- ⇒ Look at the person
- ⇒ No screaming or mean words be the best you can be
- ⇒ Tell the person you feel differently and explain why using reasons and facts
- ⇒ Listen to the other person

Did you know.....

- These 5th grade students auditioned for and made the Murrieta Valley District Honor Band. Riley Meserve, Karly Turner, Nicole Diaz, Kennedy McKee, Ben Woods, Molly Kaplan, Gavin Jones, Rosa-Lynn Flaherty, Jayleen Chatelin, Claudia Ruiz, Jayden Clevenger, Evan Crain and Jon Lagpacan
- We have honored over 600 students at our Friday Spirit Assemblies for completing a FASTT Math operation this year.

Good things are happening at Buchanan Elementary!

## Items to leave at home

Just a reminder the following items should NOT be brought to school: toys, (this includes kendamas), electronic devices, games or CD players. Please keep them at home, safe and unbroken.



Get Ready to Smile  
Spring Picture Day is April 24th

## Reading Incentives Program



The Buchanan Blazers have read a total of 240,450 minutes for the month of February with a Grand Total of 1,165,958 to date! Remember, prizes are awarded to students who turn in their reading logs on time, with parent initials, and reading goal met. Don't forget to write your name on your raffle ticket to enter the monthly book bag give away. Good luck and have fun reading!

Kindergarten – **Ashlyn O'Neil**

2<sup>nd</sup> grade – **Zolise Balka**

4<sup>th</sup> grade – **Adrian Acosta**

1<sup>st</sup> grade – **Kai Alvarez**

3<sup>rd</sup> grade – **Denise Ramirez**

5<sup>th</sup> grade – **Michael Yamaguchi**



## Author and Artist of the Month



The following students were honored at our February 20th Friday Spirit Assembly. Their work is being showcased in our Library.

### Artist of the Month

TK/Kinder: Isabella Korodini Loffredo (Vesneski) 1<sup>st</sup>: Kevin Pham (Dimler)

2<sup>nd</sup>: None

3<sup>rd</sup>: Joshua Hejza (Nickoloff)

4<sup>th</sup>: Jonah Allen (Adams)

5<sup>th</sup>: None

### Author of the Month

TK/Kinder: Student in (McKenzie)

1<sup>st</sup>: Student in (Simmons)

2<sup>nd</sup>: K-Thi Thurston (Ogawa)

3<sup>rd</sup>: Sophia Liu (Morgan)

4<sup>th</sup>: Alyssa Nichols (Zeitman)

5<sup>th</sup>: None

## Kinder Here I Come for Incoming/New TK and Kinders

Welcome, incoming TK and Kinder parents! Ease the transition to kindergarten for your child. Join us for a fun-filled afternoon of education and activities on Monday, April 27th from 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. Learn about school readiness activities, tour the kindergarten classrooms, and meet the kindergarten teachers. You will spend a few minutes in each classroom participating in a school readiness activity with your child. Please arrive a few minutes early to register. We look forward to seeing you!





# Spring Break - No School March 30th - April 10th School Resumes April 13th



## Buchanan's Science Fair

The Science Fair was held during Open House on March 26th. These are the winning entries listed 1st place to 3rd place:

TK-K - Heather Goldsmith, Brooklyn Hodge and Isabella Kordini

1st Grade - Abby Crowe, Elijah Richardson and Julia Ortiz

2nd Grade - Emerson Vincent, Christian Tyndall and Daly Hodge

3rd Grade - Briana Murphy, Megan Colburn and Timothy Nguyen

4th Grade - Nicholas Goldsmith, Brooke Hamilton and a tie with Dylan Nunn and Kenny Silhan

5th Grade - Keanu Galarneau, Jayden Clevenger and Bryce Nguyen

These young scientists will be honored at the Spirit Assembly on April 17th.



## 2015/2016 Enrollment Timeline

**December 9** District accepts NEW Intra-district Transfer requests (K-12)

**January 13** District accepts NEW and RENEWAL Inter-district Transfer requests.

**January 13** Online Enrollment for Transitional Kindergarten, Kindergarten and new students begins. Registration packets are also available at school sites.

**February 13** Last day to submit RENEWAL AND NEW Inter-district Transfer requests during Open Enrollment.

**February 13** Last day to submit NEW Intra-district Transfer requests to school sites during Open Enrollment.



**March 9** Online Enrollment for NEW elementary students -parents may begin to submit requested records to school sites to complete registration. See the school websites for more information.

**June 12** Parents/guardians of Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten students will receive notification of placement at the home school and morning or afternoon session. The notification of determination on Intra-district and Inter-district transfer requests will be sent.





# Buchanan Elementary

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
 <b>March 30th - April 10th Spring Break - No School</b>						
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
 <b>March 30th - April 10th Spring Break - No School</b>						
12	13 Early Release Day	14	15 5th Grade Band	16	17 8:30am Spirit Assembly 5th Grade Band	18
19	20 Early Release Day	21 7pm Astronomy Night	22 5th Grade Band 7pm 5th Grade Band Blue Area Concert at Vista Murrieta HS	23	24 5th Grade Band Spring Pictures PTA Military Family Ice Cream Social	25
26	27 Early Release Day CAASPP Testing Starts 2:30pm Kinder Here I Come for Incoming Kinders	28	29 5th Grade Band	30	May 1st PTA Movie Night	

## Third Grade Field Trip

The Third Grade Team will be going to the EMWD Wastewater and Wetlands in April. The students will participate in a walking tour of the wetlands, see an enviroscape demonstration, see a groundwater model demonstration, and have free-time to explore the Wetlands Educational Facility where they will get hands-on experience educational games, experiments and the water filtration system. We are looking forward to a great trip.



## MILITARY CORNER

Save the date: April 24th we will have our 1st Military Ice Cream Social. All Buchanan students of Military personnel past and present and their immediate families are invited to attend. Bring your favorite topping and meet new people. April 24th @ 7 in the MPR

Please contact Melissa Mendoza at [momamendoza@yahoo.com](mailto:momamendoza@yahoo.com) for resources available to our military families. Tutor.com is free to Military Families. For more info go to [www.tutor.com/military](http://www.tutor.com/military)

## Hey BLAZERS! Get your YEARBOOK BEFORE THE PRICE GOES UP!

If you order your book NOW, it's only \$20! Cash or Checks accepted (Make checks out to Buchanan PTA). After April 27<sup>th</sup>, the price goes up to \$25, and CASH ONLY will be accepted at that point. A limited number of yearbooks have been ordered for print, so get yours before they're sold out!



## ASTRONOMY NIGHT

**Tuesday, April 21st 7-9pm**

Pre-viewing presentation by Temecula Astronomy Club followed by outdoor viewing through telescopes

Sponsored by Buchanan's Third Grade Team – snacks, drinks, and glow sticks available for purchase (cash only) to help support end of year festivities



### Tardy Bell Reminder and Procedures

Please remember to get up each morning with enough time to make it to the school before the Tardy Bell rings. School starts at 8:20am for Early Bird Kindergarten and 8:25am for 1st thru 5th grade. Each morning when the **8:25am TARDY BELL rings**, staff members will be at each entry gate to give out tardy slips and teachers will send any student not in class or on their line for a tardy slip. So get here early to enjoy breakfast or have some play time on the playground. Gates open at 8:00am.

### PTA Movie Night

Save the date! Buchanan Family Movie Night sponsored by the PTA will be Friday May 1st. Students voted this week on the movie and results will be announced after spring break.



# Final Count \$1592.00

### PTA Smart Card Fundraiser



The Smart Card PTA fundraiser is in full swing! Smart Cards offer savings at 700 locations in Southern California including restaurants, movie theaters, theme parks and retail stores. Turn in date is Friday April 17th. Don't forget, if we reach our goal Blazer Bob will kiss a pig!! <https://shopsmartcard.com/>

### Student Lunches and Cafeteria Meals

*Due to parent concerns and health/food allergies, students and parents should not share lunches with other students. Parents who join their student during lunch time will eat with their student at the tables under the blue canvas cover.*



Student Meal Prices:	Breakfast - Full Pay \$1.50	Reduced price \$.30
	Lunch - Full Pay \$2.50	Reduced price \$.40
	Milk or Juice - \$.50	Bottled Water - \$.75

Free and reduced lunch applications are to be completed online at [www.fma.murrieta.k12.ca.us](http://www.fma.murrieta.k12.ca.us)  
Parents can make payments to lunch accounts at [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com)

### PTA Box-Tops Contest Update



Keep sending in your Box Tops! Friday April 24th is the deadline for our last competition of the year. Two winning classes will receive a pizza party (K - 2nd and 3rd -5th). The teachers of those winning classes will receive \$50 in school supplies!





## Buchanan Elementary SSC Meeting March 10, 2015 Minutes



Meeting called to order @330

Went over meeting minutes from last meeting 2-23 Carolyn Fitch motioned to approve and Kristin Richardson second, minutes approved.

Went through BES Tech plan:

- \* History and description
- \* Tech Curriculum Scope
- \* Tech plan mission statement
- \* Tech action plan 2015-2016
- \* Outcome on student learning
- \* Tech and intervention programs at BES
- \* Training and support (constantly evolving)
- \* Proposed Resources with class size reduction
- \* BES proposed Tech. Resources
- \* Tech plan Review

A motion to approve tech. plan March 10th 2015 was made and second. Tech Plan approved. Discussed CAASPP testing and viewed the Blurb from the District.

### **We Need Your Help in the Parking Lot**



Student safety is our number one concern. It is extremely important that parents and students use the crosswalk when walking to and from the parking lot.

If you are picking up your children in your car please ask them to wait for you in front of the Multi Purpose Room and not by the kindergarten gate area. Remember to keep moving forward so we can get as many cars as possible into the loop. Your help keeps the students safe. Please take your time when entering and exiting the parking lot and remember the loop is a NO cell phone use area. Safety is our top priority.





# **HOMeWORK** **HOTLINE**

HARVEY MUDD COLLEGE

**CALL 1.877.8ASKHMC**  
**(827.5462)**

**FREE**  
**over-the-phone mathematics**  
**and science tutoring**  
**Grades 4–12**

**askhmc.org**

**6–9 p.m.**  
**Sunday–Thursday**

This online tutoring program (Program) was developed by Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology (RHIT). Harvey Mudd College is licensed by RHIT to use the Program, but all rights, titles and interests in and to the Program, including intellectual property rights, are owned by RHIT. Marilyn and James Simons and Harvey Mudd College sponsor the Homework Hotline at Harvey Mudd College. This is not a district-sponsored activity, and this material was not prepared at district expense.

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