



The Blazer Post

Jennifer Randel, Principal

Jim Curtis, Assistant Principal



August 2016



School Office Hours

Mon - Fri

7:45am - 4:00pm

Back to School Nights

TK/K - 8/8 5-6:30pm
1st gr - 8/17 5-6pm
2nd gr - 8/18 5-6pm
3rd gr - 8/17 6-7pm
4th gr - 8/18 6-7pm
5th gr - 8/16 5-6pm

Stay up to date - Check out our School Website www.murrieta.k12.ca.us/buchanan

Upcoming Friday Spirit Assembly
August 12
at 8:30am
In the amphitheater



School Notes

Buchanan Families,

On behalf of our faculty and staff, we would like to welcome our returning families and new families to Buchanan Elementary, home of the Blazers! Our staff members have been diligently working in preparing for the beginning of the school year. We are looking forward to a year where students are challenged academically, are provided with opportunities to explore an array of performing arts and continue to develop a strong social skills foundation to support them as they grow and mature into adulthood.

We will carry on our relentless focus on student achievement and continue to foster a positive growth mindset in our educational pursuit of supporting all student learning. The belief that challenges are stepping stones to improvement not road blocks to avoid provide us with an opportunity to grow and succeed. We are committed to providing appropriate programs that support "first best instruction", intervention/prevention and enrichment.

Students will also have the opportunity to explore various strands of performing arts this year as well. Our school wide musical will provide students with the ability to act, sing and dance. Students in 5th grade will have the opportunity to participate in our band program and learn to play a musical instrument. Our before school choir program will again be offered to our 3rd- 5th grade students who love to sing. All of our 4th grade students will learn to play the recorder this fall semester. In 2nd grade, students will be exposed to ballroom dancing and our 1st grade students will explore percussion instruments.

We will continue to reinforce PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Support) with monthly themes and lessons that focus on positive social skills. These lessons of Being Safe, Responsible and Respectful will assist students in developing their social skills foundation to help them navigate their world.

The month of August is a busy month with our four Back to School Nights and our annual PTA Book Faire. Please plan to join us on these nights to meet your child's teacher and learn more about the school year. We are excited about the upcoming year and hope you will join us on campus on a regular basis.

Did you know....

- Buchanan was once again awarded the *Campaign for Business in Education Excellence 2015 Honor Roll* recognition
- Our Military support group will meet monthly
- KAHFOOTY means - Keep All Hands Feet and Other Objects To Yourself
- Drama Club musical this year will be Madagascar Jr.
- New faces on campus are:
 - Miss Baldwin - Kindergarten Teacher
 - Mrs. Karrer - Fourth Grade Teacher
 - Mrs. Heise - RSP Teacher
 - Mrs. Juan - RSP Teacher
 - Ms. Grijalva - Speech Therapist

Good things are happening at Buchanan Elementary!

Jennifer Randel and Jim Curtis



"Great works are performed, not by strength, but by perseverance."
— Samuel Johnson



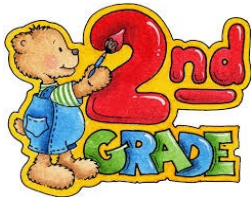
Kindergarten News

Our Kindergarten Team is excited to welcome our newest member: Kristen Baldwin, soon to be Mrs. Miller! We are excited about the upcoming school year and look forward to meeting TK/K parents and students this coming Monday, August 8th beginning at 5 p.m. Please plan to arrive a little early so you have time to drop your child off in the MPR and then head over to your child's new room to listen to a special Teacher Presentation. After the presentation you will return to the MPR to collect your child and return to his/her room to meet the teacher and fellow students. It's going to be a great year in K-Land as we begin to establish a positive mindset and strengthen social, lingual and mathematical skills! Hip-hip-hooray . . . It's time for K!



First Grade News

Welcome to the other side of the campus, first graders! You have spent time learning the basics of the abc's & 123's in kindergarten. Now, it is time for you to GROW even more, socially and academically. You will learn to read many, many words, sentences, and stories. You will explore greater numbers and learn to solve challenging mental math problems using different strategies. You will also learn several forms of writing: opinion, narrative, and expository. And of course, you will always use your best penmanship. During the year, you will gain a great deal of independence. You will be amazed at yourself if you PERSEVERE and have a positive MINDSET that you can, and will, do great this year. First grade is AWESOME!



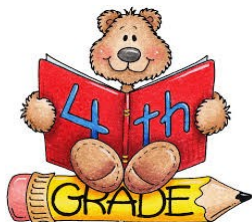
Second Grade News

The 2nd grade team is excited to start the school year! We have many fun and educational plans for this year! Our mindset quote is inspired by our beautiful second grade gardens ~ "Keep Growing!" Every little thing you learn is like a seed that sprouts and grows! We are all looking forward to another exciting year in second grade!



Third Grade News

Welcome to 3rd grade! This year, your child will begin focusing more on reading to learn. Your child will begin to read more non-fiction and learn strategies for understanding what he/she is reading. You will find that language arts will often be integrated with social studies and science. The focus in math will be to continue developing number sense in addition and subtraction before moving on to multiplication, division, and much more. Students will be challenged to use strategies to solve given math problems and to discuss their thoughts about how they approached them. Students are expected to become more responsible for themselves and their learning this year. We look forward to a great year with your 3rd grader.



Fourth Grade News

Welcome back to school 4th graders! We look forward to the journey we will be taking together this year! We have some exciting changes to announce: Ms. McCandless will be supporting our students as an Intervention Specialist and we welcome Mrs. Karrer as she joins our team. Fourth grade is an exciting year of learning increased independence, growing our minds through the many challenges and adventures we have in store this school year, while preparing you to be leaders of Buchanan! We can't wait to see you at school, prepared and ready to learn!



Fifth Grade News

Welcome to 5th grade! We are excited to get to know you and your family. Fifth grade is full of interesting topics and creative projects. Together we will use a growth mindset to inspire and challenge each other. We look forward to working with all of you as you gain greater independence and become life long learners.

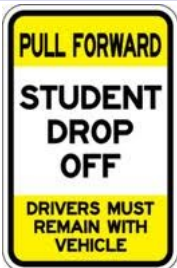


Educational Specialists

As Educational Specialists, we are here to support our students and our teachers in a variety of ways. We have an abundance of knowledge when it comes to accommodations, supports and services that can be utilized on our school campus. Our team includes the following specialists: 2.5 Resource Specialists, 2 Kinder-5th Special Education Teachers, 2 Pre-K Special Education Teachers, 2 Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapist, Adaptive Physical Education, Deaf-Hard of Hearing Specialist, and School Psychologist. Our team objective is to support our students' needs in communication/language, fine motor/sensory needs, gross motor needs, and hearing needs. We help with learning from Pre-K through 5th, and are here to answer any questions you may have.

Military Families

Military Kids Friendship Club meets on campus every last Thursday of the month from 1:30-2:30 to discuss military life with other military kids. We discuss deployment, transitions, make crafts, and have fun! Military Family Nights will take place throughout the school year. Previous family nights included pizza meet and greet night, movie night, as well as an ice cream social! Come meet other military families and make lifelong friendships. Everything is provided for free thanks to our generous P.T.A. and donations from Bahama Bucks.



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.

Celebration Policy

Per MVUSD policy regarding food allergies, any food brought on campus to be shared with other students needs to have prior approval from school personnel.

As an alternative suggestion to food for student celebrations (i.e. birthdays), you may donate a book to the classroom or school library honoring your student. Another idea is to bring in a goody bag (**with no food items**) or a **non-food treat** for each student in the class.

Thank you for adhering to this policy for the safety of all students and staff.

A Message from the Health Office



Health Alert-Food Allergies/Sensitivities

We have several students in our school that may have food allergies, food sensitivities or dietary restrictions. Food allergies can trigger reactions that range from very mild to life threatening (anaphylaxis). Generally, an individual must ingest a food allergen to have a reaction, but for some, even being exposed to it or ingesting a very small amount can cause a life threatening reaction. As a result, there are several procedures that will help to prevent exposure and reduce the risk of anaphylaxis and help keep all of our students safe:

1. Students should be encouraged to wash their hands upon arrival to the classroom and again before and after lunch. This not only is good for food allergies, but helps reduce disease transmission.
2. The classrooms should be peanut/tree nut/food allergy *aware* spaces. Classroom projects or assignments should NOT include the use of peanut butter/nuts or other food items. Any exception to this rule would require pre-approval and prior notification to parents.
3. Any food or snack that may be provided/shared must have pre-approval and prior notification must be provided to all parents prior so they can make alternate choices. Additionally, all food items provided should be pre-packaged and food ingredients must be known or labeled. ***Suggestions for class sharing (birthday parties, etc.) may be providing or donating a book for the classroom or other non-food items.***

If your student has a food allergy, please make sure you contact/inform the Health Office. You may want to speak to the School Nurse if the allergy requires medication or other interventions. Students with food allergies may be entitled to accommodations or plans to address their needs. We look forward to working collaboratively with you to provide all of our students with a safe learning environment. We appreciate your care and support of our students and school.

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 or you can pick up an application in the school office. Parents can make payments to lunch accounts at www.myschoolbucks.com

A Note from the Health Office Regarding Medications



Just a reminder—Students may not have any medication (prescription or over the counter) in their possession. If your student needs to take any medication during the day, contact the health office for proper procedure and forms.

PTA Book Fair

The annual Book Fair is opening in the library on August 12th. Your student will be able to visit during their classroom library time. The book fair will also be open at the Back to School nights on August 16th, 17th and 18th. Come in and support your child's love of reading.



Early Out Schedule - Mondays

Early Bird TK and Kindergarten
Late Bird TK and Kindergarten
1st - 3rd Grade
4th - 5th Grade

8:20am - 11:40am
10:15am - 1:35pm
8:25am - 1:40pm
8:25am - 1:45pm



Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports Moment Our Pillars of Good Behavior

The Buchanan family has always been a strong community of parents, teachers, and others that have worked together to assist all Blazer students in becoming the best scholars they can be while also being productive members of their future communities. As we start the 2016/17 school year Buchanan students will focus on being **safe, responsible, respectful**, and following **KAHFOOTY**. These are Buchanan's universal expectations of behavior.

The question is, what do these expectations mean for our students? We can tell a student to be responsible or respectful repeatedly, and they may even shake their heads acknowledging they understand, but do they really? At Buchanan we feel it is important to intentionally teach these expectations.

This year the students will attend an assembly during the first week of school where these expectations are explained in detail. Then they will be reviewed in the classrooms by the teachers throughout the year. You can help at home by reviewing the below expectations:

Be Safe

1. Look at your activity, task, or assignment.
2. Follow the teacher's or adult's instructions.
3. Think whether or not this is a safe activity.
4. Check with teacher or adult whether the activity is safe.



Be Responsible

1. Look at your activity, task, or assignment
2. Follow the teacher's or adult's instructions.
3. Think about the steps needed to complete the task.
4. Focus all of your attention on the task.
5. Ignore distractions and interruptions from others.
6. Check with teacher or adult to make sure everything is done correctly.

Be Respectful

1. Make eye contact with the teacher or adult talking with you.
2. Show you understand by saying "okay" or nodding your head.
3. Do what you have been asked right away.
4. Check back after you are done.

Follow KAHFOOTY

Keep All Hands, Feet, and Other Objects To Yourself

By following **KAHFOOTY**, and being **respectful, responsible**, and **safe**; together, we can create a positive school community that makes us all proud to be a Blazer.



A PROJECT OF THE CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP

Enroll. Get Care. Renew. Health Coverage All Year Long

Health Coverage Options

Medi-Cal:

- ▶ Children, foster youth, pregnant women, adults, US citizens, and immigrants—including those with DACA status—may be eligible for no- or low-cost Medi-Cal.
- ▶ Medi-Cal covers immunizations, checkups, specialists, vision and dental services, and more for children and youth at no- or low-cost.
- ▶ Medi-Cal enrollment is available year-round.

Covered California:

- ▶ Covered California is where legal residents of California can compare quality health plans and choose the one that works best for them.
- ▶ Based on income and family size, many Californians may qualify for financial assistance.
- ▶ Enroll during Open Enrollment or any time you experience a life-changing event, like losing your job or having a baby. You have 60 days from the event to complete enrollment.

! Undocumented Families visit: www.allinforhealth.org/resources#Undocumented
Immigration status information is kept private, protected, and secure. It will not be used by any immigration agency to enforce immigration laws, but only to determine eligibility for health programs.

You and your family may qualify for financial help:

Household Size	If 2015 household income is less than...		If 2015 household income is between...
1	\$16,105	\$31,043	\$16,106 – \$46,680
2	\$21,708	\$41,842	\$21,709 – \$62,920
3	\$27,311	\$52,642	\$27,312 – \$79,160
4	\$32,913	\$63,441	\$32,914 – \$95,400
5	\$38,516	\$74,241	\$38,517 – \$111,640
6	\$44,119	\$85,041	\$44,120 – \$127,880
▶	Adults may be eligible for Medi-Cal	Children may be eligible for Medi-Cal	May be eligible for financial help to purchase insurance through Covered California

Enroll.

Three ways to enroll in Medi-Cal and Covered California:

- www.coveredca.com
1(800) 300-1506
- Find in-person help:
www.coveredca.com/get-help/local/

Get Care.

- ▶ Find a primary care doctor in your network.
- ▶ Schedule an annual checkup for you and your family.
- ▶ Make sure to take your child to the dentist.
- ▶ Pay your monthly premium if your plan requires it.

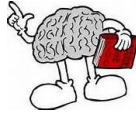
Renew.

- ▶ Medi-Cal must be renewed every year. Medi-Cal will mail renewal packet. Complete and return. For help, contact your local Medi-Cal office or call 211.
- ▶ Health plans through Covered California must be renewed every year. Renewal information will be mailed at the end of the year, or contact Covered California at 1 (800) 300-1506.

For more information go to:
www.allinforhealth.org

April 2015





Tips for a successful school year

When students, teachers, and parents possess the belief that intelligence and skills can be developed, they are exhibiting a "Growth Mindset." We improve, learn, and achieve excellence through outlook, hard work and effort. Challenges are stepping-stones to improvement not roadblocks to avoid. Approaching work with this mindset encourages our school community to focus on continuous improvement regardless of where we begin on the learning spectrum. At Buchanan, it is not about how smart we are. It is about the attitude we bring to learning and how hard we work.

Students:

- Have a Growth Mindset attitude toward school.
- Use your BRAIN on all class work and homework: **B**reak it down, **R**epetition, **A**ctive learning, **I**nformation search, and **N**ever give up!
- Reflect on your learning and accept challenge and struggle as part of the learning process. Learn from your mistakes!
- Set goals and high standards for yourself. You can do it!
- Persevere! Ask for help when you are stuck and share your thinking process.
- Use positive self-talk. When you hear yourself saying that you *can't* do something, replace the negative thoughts with positive ones. "I can't do this **YET**, but I am working hard to improve."

Parents:

- Help your child instill a growth mindset by praising them for their effort rather than for talent.
- Get your child to school on time, all the time. Students with regular attendance perform at a higher level than students with chronic absences.
- Stay connected to your child's progress; academically, behaviorally, and socially. Attend Back to School Night and Parent/Teacher Conferences.
- Sign up to volunteer in your child's classroom. Research shows that the more you are involved in your child's education, the better your student does in school.
- Support school activities and our fantastic PTA! Be a part of what's happening! Know what's going on with our Monthly Blazer Post and school web page.

Take risks and challenge yourself! Celebrate your effort and enjoy the new school year!



Buchanan Elementary

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 TK/Kinder Back to School Night and Meet & Greet 5-6:30pm	9	10 1st Day of School 	11	12 Spirit Assembly	13
14	15 Early Release Day	16 5pm—5th Grade Back to School Night	17 5pm—1st Grade Back to School Night 6pm—3rd Grade Back to School Night	18 5pm—2nd Grade Back to School Night 6pm—4th grade Back to School Night	19 Special PTA Assembly	20
21	22 Early Release Day	23	24	25 Fall Pictures for all TK thru 5th Grade Students 	26	27
28	29 Early Release Day	30	31			