



# Antelope Hills Elementary Explorer Newsletter

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[www.murrieta.k12.ca.us/antelope](http://www.murrieta.k12.ca.us/antelope)

Antelope Hills Elementary

May 2015

## Coming Events May

- 1 PTA Bingo De Mayo  
6:00-8:00
- 4 Kinder, Here I Come  
12:30-1:30
- 4 Kinder Open House  
5:00-6:00
- 8 Kdg Mother's Day Tea  
10:45
- 13 Site Council Meeting  
3:45
- 20 2nd Grd Open House  
5:00-6:00
- 21 Open House (1, 3, 4, 5)  
5:30-6:30
- 25 Memorial Day Holiday
- 27 Volunteer Breakfast  
8:00

School Office Hours  
7:45-3:45

Report an Absence  
Call 445-4110  
Press 1

Character Counts  
color for May  
**Blue**

## Character Counts Corner

Do you remember as a kid how you always wanted to be older? You couldn't wait to turn 10 (double digits), 16 (to drive), 18 (adult), and 21. However, once those milestone birthdays were reached, the rest just seemed to be ordinary. What's even funnier is that each birthday after 21 started to make us think about things a little more and our wish of becoming older quickly changed to a "how-do-I-slow-this-ride-down" panic attack.

It's also interesting that with each birthday comes a greater amount of responsibility. It's almost like a special gift that you didn't expect or maybe even want. Our parents would tell us that now that we were a certain age, they were expecting us to act a certain way. Had to do this, couldn't do that, better do this, etc..... all because of a date on the calendar.

Responsibility comes in all shapes and sizes. It comes from the 5<sup>th</sup> grader who has to pick up his younger sister from kindergarten or the 1<sup>st</sup> grader who is the line leader for the class. It could come from turning in lunch money to the teacher or returning an overdue library book. Whatever the activity, it's another form of a test.

As adults, we help prepare our kids for the various tests that they take at school. We don't expect them to know their social studies terms or their math facts at first, but we work with them and teach them the information. As adults, do we teach our kids how to be responsible or do we expect them to know how to be just because we think they *should* be? Let's spend some time teaching our children good character (Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship). It's the only subject they will use every single day for the rest of their lives.

Remember...no matter where or when....Character Counts!

## PTA News

***Get your AHES Spirit Wear!***

*Spirit Wear will be on sale at Open House on  
Thursday, May 21st from 5:30-6:30*

***Get your shirts now!***

***Next general association meeting: June 5th***





## Easy Way to Donate to Our School

Do you shop at Target?

We would like to encourage as many parents as possible to link their Target Red debit card to Antelope Hills!

Target donates 1% back to our school. It's super easy to add our school....just use the link below and choose Antelope Hills!

<https://www-secure.target.com/redcard/tcoe/enroll>

**“Not  
everything  
that counts  
can be  
counted, and  
not  
everything  
that can be  
counted  
counts.”**

## Growth Mindset is Essential during State Testing

We have just finished our second week of state testing and our students and teachers have done an amazing job approaching it with a positive attitude and flexibility. The new system of testing is organized by the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP). The students in grades 3-5 are taking both English Language Arts and Math portions of the test. One component of the assessment is the California

Adaptive Portion Summative Test (CAT) This is an adaptive measure that adjusts to the student's answers to provide more individualized questions in length and duration. This means that by the very nature of this type of assessment students are going to be presented with test material that could be unfamiliar or above grade level. Therefore by the very nature of this assessment there will be opportunities to struggle through unfamiliar problems or material. The way that

we approach this with our children is crucial to them having a positive or negative experience and results from the testing. If we approach struggle as an opportunity to grow and learn students will embrace the experience and persevere. If students view struggle as a sign of inadequacy students will become discouraged and give up. What a difference mindset can make. Thank you for helping us encourage a growth mindset with our students.

## Attendance Matters



Please help us maximize instructional time by helping students get to school on time.

We would like to see a drop in the number of students arriving late and leaving early each day.

## Volunteer Breakfast

Our annual Volunteer Breakfast will be held on May 27th from 8:00-9:00 in our MPR.

This is our way of saying “thank you” to our adult volunteers who have helped our students and teachers this past school year.

School-age children will be supervised on the playground so you can enjoy the event.

thank  
you!

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## Student and School Safety

Sprigeo is a new online bullying reporting system that allows students to report bullying incidents and school safety threats. This gives students another medium for communicating with school administration when bullying or school safety incidents occur. All information sent through the Sprigeo system goes directly to school administrators through a secure online connection. For more information, please visit:



[www.murrieta.k12.ca.us/antelope](http://www.murrieta.k12.ca.us/antelope)

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## Moving on to their next Adventure

We have several staff members retiring this year:

Patty Keenan (Attendance)

Lyn Klein (3rd Grade Teacher)

Sue Jordan (Cafeteria Director)

Craig Moore (Band Instructor)

David Williams (Night Custodian)

Rene Storch (Special Education Aide)



Please stop in and tell them goodbye and thank them for a job well-done!

## Student Meals

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)



We are now enrolling for school year 2015-2016 for Kindergarten and new students. Please visit [www.murrieta.k12.ca.us](http://www.murrieta.k12.ca.us) for details.

## 2014~2015 Yearbooks On Sale

(until we sell out...)

Don't miss out on this keepsake of your student's year at Antelope Hills Elementary

Payments can be made by:

Pay in the AHES front office with \$\$ Cash *Only*

### Volunteers

We may not say it enough, so all of us at Antelope Hills Elementary School would like to say thank you to everyone who helps out at our school. Our children benefit tremendously from your kindness!

"We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give."

Winston Churchill



Every Friday Afterschool!

# TENAJA CANYON ACADEMY

COMPLEX THINKERS, EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATORS & ACADEMIC ACHIEVERS

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL INDEPENDENT STUDY PROGRAM

Tenaja Canyon Academy offers an Elementary School Independent Study Program for Murrieta Valley Unified School District students in grades 1st-5th who prefer an alternative to the regular school setting. At this time, students will meet at Lisa J. Mails Elementary School.



*What are the educational and social benefits?* One-on-one support from highly qualified teachers; personalized education; opportunities to learn individually or in group setting;

*Is independent study right for your student?* Is your student willing to work for 5 hours daily on their studies with parental monitoring? Are you as parents willing to assist in the supervision and education of your child? Do you have a cooperative relationship with your child? Do you feel confident that with the assistance from teachers, you can support your child? Would your child desire and benefit from being taught at home? Do you want to facilitate your child's education at home?

If you answered yes to all of the above questions, then Tenaja Canyon Academy is the program for you! Feel free to contact us at 304-1661 for more information.



Tenaja Canyon Academy,  
24150 Hayes Ave.,  
Murrieta, CA 92562

(951) 304-1661

[http://  
www.murrieta.k12.ca.us/  
tenaja](http://www.murrieta.k12.ca.us/tenaja)





## Helping at Home with Mathematics Homework

by Paul Ciganti, Jr., CMC Math Festival Program



**A**s a parent, you will want to help your children with homework—but you may not feel prepared to help with mathematics, especially as they get older and the mathematics becomes more complex. If that is the case, here is something you will be happy to learn: you do not have to be an expert in mathematics to help with mathematics homework!

Providing a well-lit table and comfortable chair is an important place to start. Remember, the best location for homework is not necessarily your son or daughter's bedroom. If your child studies at the kitchen or dining room table instead, you can help without having to sit down the entire time. You can assist when help is needed and still go about your own tasks. At the same time, you will have the opportunity to keep homework time focused by giving your child support, encouragement, and gentle reminders.

A good strategy is to pass by your child's work area and periodically "check in." A quick glance will often tell you if it is time to stop and provide some extra support. When it is clear that your child could use some assistance, take a deep breath and relax. If you stay calm, it will help your child stay calm.

Many parents worry about not knowing the mathematics their children are studying. In this case, the way to provide homework help is actually quite simple: ask questions and practice careful listening. Simple, generic questions can help your child gradually make sense of mathematics, build confidence, and encourage mathematical thinking and communication. When given the opportunity to talk about mathematics, children are often able to remember what they learned in class and see the solution themselves. A good question can open up your child's thinking about the problem at hand.

Here are some useful questions for parents to try. Remember that listening to your child's answers and providing calm responses are as important as the questions you pose.

### When your child isn't sure how to begin a problem, ask:

- ❑ Can you tell me what you know now? What facts do you have?
- ❑ What do you need to find out? Can you estimate the answer?
- ❑ How might you begin? What can you try first?
- ❑ Can you make a drawing or picture to get started?

### While your child is working on a problem, ask:


- ❑ How can you organize your information? Will a list or table help?
- ❑ What would happen if . . . ? Show me what you did that did not work.
- ❑ Can you explain the strategy you are using to solve this? Why did you . . . ?
- ❑ What could you do next? Do you see any patterns?

### When your child finds an answer, ask:

- ❑ Does that answer make sense? Why do you think that?
- ❑ How did you get your answer? Do you think it is right? Tell me more.
- ❑ Convince me that your solution makes sense. Explain it in a different way.

When questions alone just will not do, another strategy for helping your child is to identify a friend or relative who knows more mathematics than you do. Find out if that person would be willing to answer an occasional phone call from your son or daughter.

The Internet is also a great resource. Here are three web sites that offer homework assistance in mathematics:

- ❑ Bigchalk.com: [www.bigchalk.com](http://www.bigchalk.com)
- ❑ The Math Forum's Ask Dr. Math: [mathforum.org/dr.math](http://mathforum.org/dr.math)
- ❑ Tutor.com: [www.tutor.com](http://www.tutor.com) 

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*Permission is granted to reproduce and share this article for instructional use by parents, guardians, teachers, and families—provided it is duplicated with full credit given to the author, the California Mathematics Council, and its Journal, the ComMuniCator.*



## The Birthday Book Program

**Our Birthday Book donation is an optional program for student's staff members, family members or community members to donate a new hard cover book to the library on or near their birthday. The Donors will be recognized at Friday Flag Salute and the book will be placed in the library with a special label inside stating who donated the book and the special date of donation. This is a great way to wish a student a very special birthday and provide a gift to the school that will be enjoyed by many children for years to come. J**

Any question please contact our Librarian, Mrs. Lee @ 445-4110 ext 3388



If you would like to share information about your child as we form classes for the 2015–2016 school year, please feel free to pick up a 'Student Profile' form in the front office starting on Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. These forms are optional and may not be used to request a specific teacher. The staff works carefully as a team to match up students and teachers to ensure a successful year for all. Teaching styles, learning styles and classroom balance are all considered when forming classes for the upcoming school year.

All forms must be returned no later than Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.