



The Blazer Post

Jennifer Randel, Principal

Jim Curtis, Assistant Principal



December 2016



School Office Hours
Mon - Fri
7:45am - 3:45 pm

Winter Break
December 19
through
January 9
No School

Useful Links

[School Website](#)

[School Calendar](#)

[Lunch Menus](#)

[School Handbook](#)

**Upcoming Friday
Spirit Assemblies**
December 2
December 16
at 8:30am
In the
amphitheater



School Notes

Buchanan Families,

Season's Greetings! As we begin the holiday season, we are reminded of all the ways our lives have been touched by others. The spirit of giving continues to be a tradition here at Buchanan. Our students, families and staff were able to provide Thanksgiving meals, including turkeys, to 36 families in need. Daily on campus, we see students giving of themselves to help each other whether it is on the playground or in the classroom. Our Military Kids Group created care packages for six of our families whose mother or father is deployed and will not be home for the holidays.

The next few weeks are going to be very busy with a full schedule of rigorous learning as we finish the first semester of this school year. Students will also be participating in many enriching activities to welcome in this holiday season.

May this season be full of all the cheerful gatherings and happy times of togetherness, that make the holiday season a time to cherish and look forward to year after year.

Happy Holidays to our wonderful and caring Buchanan Community.

Good things are happening at Buchanan Elementary!

Jennifer Randel and Jim Curtis

Did you know:

- Our fabulous Buchanan community collected over 3500 nonperishable food items to help support families in need this Thanksgiving!
- Our lost and found clothing area has many unclaimed jackets and other items.
- Our new standards based report card will be coming home with students on Friday, December 16th.
- Monday, December 12th is **NOT** an Early Release Day, however, Friday, December 16th **IS** an Early Release Day.



TK/Kindergarten Parents

**On December 16th ALL TK/Kinder
students will attend the AM hours
8:20 - 11:40am**

Growth Mindset Quote

You can achieve anything you want in life if you have the courage to dream it, the intelligence to make a realistic plan, and the will to see that plan through to the end.

— Samuel A. Friedman



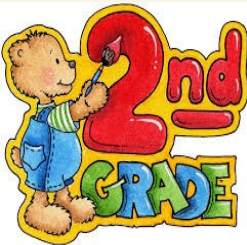
TK / Kindergarten News

Our TK/Kinders ended the month of November with our annual Thanksgiving Feast and mini-performance. It's always fun to come together as one team to share a special event. December will be a busy month as we will be assessing for report cards. Please make sure your child gets plenty of sleep, eats a healthy breakfast and snack every day so he/she is ready to show us how much he/she has grown since progress reports! **Our "Report Card Info Nite" is coming up on Wed., Dec. 7th at 6 p.m. in the MPR for K's and in room K5 for TK's** On Friday, Dec. 16th ALL TK/K students will attend the EB session for our annual Gingerbread House building day. Each child needs a grown-up helper, so please mark your calendars! More information will be sent out soon!



First Grade News

Happy Holidays! The first graders have been working on their reading skills and working toward the second semester goal of reading words with blends and digraphs. They have also been working diligently on their math skills and showing growth with making tens, adding two or more digits, and continuing to learn many new math strategies. The excitement is in the air as they look forward to upcoming holiday activities in their classrooms. Practicing a GROWTH MINDSET is evident with these kiddos as they are finding more and more success in all areas. Way to go, first graders!



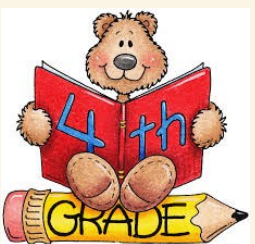
Second Grade News

The holidays are fast approaching with just a few weeks left of our semester to focus on our fluency and reading comprehension skills. To celebrate the many cultural traditions of the holiday season our second graders will be participating in our annual "Holidays around the World" rotations. Our growth mindset is that our students will focus on being good citizens in and out of the classroom during this busy season. Happy Holidays! From the 2nd grade team.



Third Grade News

The third grade teachers recently watched a video that gave some thought to approaching math. Here's what it said. Many people come from the perspective that "math is hard." Mathematicians say that "math might be hard," but with perseverance and a growth mind set you can conquer the challenge and be anything you want to be. A student that lacks confidence in math has a more difficult time becoming a mathematician. Remind your child of this when they are feeling frustrated with their math. If you are interested in watching this video, search YouTube for "Math Major Talks About Fear."



Fourth Grade News

It is hard to believe that the first half of the year is almost over! As we wrap up this first semester, please continue to encourage your fourth graders to stay organized, persevere, and keep working through challenges! Also, we will be making gingerbread houses on Friday, December 16th. Please start saving half gallon milk/juice containers... details will be sent home soon!



Fifth Grade News

For the next few weeks in December, the fifth graders will be hard at work focusing on Number Talks, multiplying decimals, and researching Native Americans or explorers of the New World. The students will be participating in holiday rotations on December 15th with their homerooms. The kids will be making crafts, watching a holiday movie, reading holiday stories, playing games, and of course eating yummy food. All Star Day will be on December 16th at the park for students who have earned 80% or more of their Honor Points for the marking period.



Educational Specialists

Here at Buchanan we are very lucky to have an incredible Occupational Therapist, Jennifer Molina. She has been at Buchanan for several years engaging students with various needs. Mrs. Molina is only here on Fridays, but we are lucky to have her amazing assistant Shannon Bergfeld who is here Mondays and Fridays. This duo works hard to create an exciting sensory gym for all to use and meet sensory needs. Not only do they focus on sensory, but they also help students with attention and focus, fine motor, and assist teachers in strategies to help their students be successful in class. Occupational Therapy at school focuses on helping students access their educational needs.



Winter Break - No School

December 19 - January 9

Students Return Tuesday, January 10

Coffee and Conversation with Our EL Families



Join us on Wednesday,
Dec 7 at 8:30am in
Room E1

4th & 5th Grade Parents

We are hosting a **Math Make & Take** for parents on Friday, December 9, from 8:30 - 9:15 in Room C14. This upcoming Make & Take will focus on fractions. All materials and activities you create will benefit your child at home with fraction concepts.

Please respond through email to your child's teacher or to Mrs. McCandless if you can attend. Thank you and I look forward to meeting you.

Anna McCandless/Intervention Teacher
amccandless@murrieta.k12.ca.us

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.

Author and Artist of the Month



The following students were honored at our November 18th Friday Spirit Assembly. Their work is being showcased in our library.



Artist of the Month

TK/Kinder: Angelo Ramagnano (McKenzie) 1st: Kailah Smith (Hern) 2nd: Student in (Dalen)
3rd: Isabella Iraheta (Corbett) 4th: Student in (Zeitman) 5th: Student in (Williams)

Author of the Month

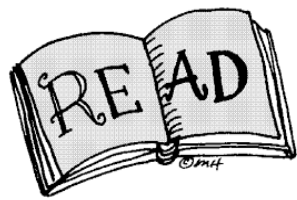
TK/K: Jaliel Ochoa (McKenzie) 1st: Nico Torres (Davis) 2nd: Student in (Richardson)
3rd: Kate Jones (Morgan) 4th: Kaylee Goff (Kirk) 5th: Natalie Valle (Lauvray)

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



Buchanan's Reading Round-Up School Wide Incentive Program Returns!!

During Friday's Spirit Assembly, the reading team announced the winning challenge for "What Will Mrs. Randel Do?" If the students meet the school wide reading incentive goal of 1,500,000 minutes by the end of April, Mrs. Randel will dress-up like Pikachu and Mr. Curtis like Raichu and have an apple-pie eating contest.

With 211,886 minutes read for the month of October, Buchanan is quickly on their way to achieving that goal!

We also had our first classroom winners of Reader's Recess. The following classes enjoyed an extra recess with Mrs. Randel and Mr. Curtis. These classes had the highest student participation and turned in the most reading logs for their grade level.

TK/K: Mrs. McWhorter 1st Grade: Mrs. Cato
2nd Grade: Mrs. Ogawa 3rd Grade: Mrs. Saldivar
4th Grade: Mrs. Karrer 5th Grade: Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Nechaev/Mrs. Rench

November reading logs are due the first week of December during your child's regularly scheduled library time. Prizes are awarded for students who turn their reading logs on time, with goal met, and parent initials. Please help your child to add up and record total minutes read and have their raffle ticket clearly and completely filled out. Good luck Blazers and keep on reading.

Happy Reading! The Reading Team



The Blazer Way Moment

Being Safe: Reporting Trouble or Emergencies

When do students know when to tell an adult about something? As parents and teachers we try to train them not to tattle tale, but what about if it is real trouble or an emergency, how can they tell the difference? Who should they go to and what should they say? These are difficult questions to answer, especially when we are talking about students who are so young. Yet, here we are, in a day and an age where we need to teach students to speak up when they see or hear of trouble.

Below is a guideline for reporting trouble or an emergency. It does not fit every situation, but it does provide a starting point. A starting point to help young students calmly and accurately report situations that may help others or may help themselves.

1. Find an appropriate adult or authority figure



2. Look at the person



3. Use a serious, sincere voice



4. State specifically the inappropriate behavior or emergency (do not exaggerate)



5. Truthfully answer any questions that are asked of you.



One of the key points we can stress from the above tips, make sure to teach your student what an appropriate adult or authority figure is. At school, train them to look for a badge or a volunteer sticker signifying they are a safe person to approach. Reporting trouble or an emergency will help keep all of the Buchanan community safe, and being safe is a big part of following the Blazer Way.

MVUSD Health Services - Head Lice



It is common at this time of year to have outbreaks of head lice in the community. The following information can help to prevent the spread of head lice.

Head lice are small insects that are generally found on the scalp, around the ears, and at the back of the neck. The adult louse is about the size of a sesame seed, and can be the color of your hair. Nits (eggs) are smaller and silver in color. Nits stick to the hair shaft and do not easily flake off hair.

Head lice do not transmit disease. Head lice are not a sign of poor hygiene. Lice cannot jump and cannot fly. Lice may spread from one person to another if there is direct head to head contact, or by sharing of personal items such as combs, brushes, hats, or helmets. Lice usually die within two days without a human host.

The most common symptom of head lice is itching and head scratching, particularly at night. Redness or sores from scratching may also be noticed. If you suspect that your child has head lice, we suggest you contact your health care provider. Safe and effective products to treat head lice are available both over the counter and by a doctor prescription. It is important to follow the directions carefully. In addition, use a fine-tooth comb or special nit comb to help remove the nits. You can also check your child's scalp weekly when the hair is wet to see if there are any new head lice. Wash in hot water all recently worn clothing, hats, used bedding and towels. Personal care items such as combs, brushes and hair clips should be washed in hot water. Toys, such as stuffed animals, can be put in a tightly closed plastic bag for fourteen days or placed in a hot dryer for 30 minutes.

Notify the School Health Office if your child has head lice. The best treatment is prevention.

Warm Springs Middle School Turkey Trot

Twenty-two of our 5th grade students represented Buchanan Elementary school in the Warm Springs Middle School Annual Turkey Trot on Friday, November 18, 2016. We had four students place in the top six places. Our girls took 1st & 3rd with **Miliani Villarreal** finishing 1st and **Kaila Del Los Reyes** finishing 3rd. **Brody Guinn** took 2nd and **Joshua Hejza** took 3rd for our boys division. Congratulations to all who participated!

Way to go Blazers!!!!!!!!!!



Important Safety Reminders

Drop-off is 8:00-8:25am for grades 1-5.
Morning TK/K begins promptly at 8:20 am,
Afternoon TK/K begins promptly at 11:00am.

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 to the office for a tardy slip.

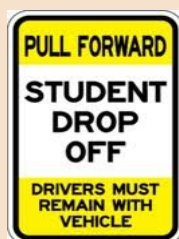
Pick-up is 2:35 pm for grades 1-3.
Grades 4-5 is 2:40 pm. Afternoon K is 2:35 pm. **No staff** is available to watch students **before** 8:00am and **after** 3:00pm.

Students need to be picked up by 3:00pm.

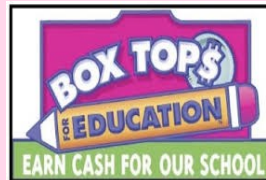
If you need supervision after 3pm, child care is available on campus for a fee. Please call our Family Services at 951-304-1623 for more information if you are interested in before or after school child care.

Safety in the Loop

Please remember to keep moving up in the loop as cars leave and do not leave your car unattended. Our goal is to keep our children safe!



December's
School Spirit
Dress Up Day
December 16th - Mixed
Matched Shoes



Box Top Contest

The next contest has started and will end Feb. 24th so keep sending in your Box Tops!

The classroom turning in the most from each grade will get to play Nation Ball with Mrs. Randel, Mr. Curtis and Mr. Keith.

Who is going to win?

5th Grade Band Winter Concert

Buchanan Band will make it's 2016-17 premier on December 14 at 7:00pm in the Buchanan Multi-Purpose Room! Students have been working hard since the beginning of September to show off their talents to parents and community members! Come enjoy the progress beginning band students have made in just 3 short months! The concert that evening is also shared with Alta Murrieta's band premiering their performance at 6pm. Buchanan's band follows with their performance at 7:00pm. Enjoy the music!





Counselor's Corner

Bust Bullying Behavior!

Bullying in school has taken place for a long time, perhaps since schools first began. We are finally looking at this problem and trying to find ways to solve it. Children who are victims are being taught the tools for combating verbal and physical assaults. We must also address the needs of the child who is committing these acts. He needs help as well.

If you suspect your child may be a bully, open up a discussion about it. You can ask your child if he's ever done any of the following:

- Teased other children, been mean to them, or made fun of the way they look or speak
- Spread nasty rumors about a student at school
- Called students names to publicly humiliate them
- Kicked, shoved, punched, or pushed another student for no reason
- Used the internet to post nasty pictures or messages
- Excluded other students from joining a game or group activity

Your child may not realize that these are bullying behaviors. He/she may think it's an innocent way to have fun with friends.

Have a discussion with your child about his affect on others. Remind him of a time when his feelings were hurt. Explain that he may be inflicting the same pain on somebody else. Have your child imagine that he's the victim. Encourage him to talk about the feelings he might experience if the roles were reversed.

There are a variety of reasons your child may be bullying others. Keep the discussion open to these possibilities. Perhaps your child enjoys the attention he gets from his friends. Maybe he's feeling angry about something else and is taking it out on a weaker classmate. Or, bullying may be a way for your child to feel important and valued. The only way to find out is to have an honest dialog with him. Give your child the opportunity to talk about his thoughts and feelings without fear of being punished.

Your child may feel peer pressure to continue his bullying behavior. He might fear being ostracized if he doesn't. Talk to your child about the strength of character that's required to do the right thing. Encourage him to stand up for what he knows is right. These are important values that your child needs to learn from you.

A wonderful video called [The Bully Dance](#) is available to watch on YouTube. This video can help parents talk about all aspects of bullying behavior.

You and your child are always welcome to talk to a teacher, counselor, or administrator about a bullying situation. We're all here to help.

Ms. Richardson (M, T) &

Dr. Rieger (Th)

RAIN Counselors

951-696-1428 ext 2723

School counseling in the classroom...

The elementary schools in our district utilize the Second Step program to provide monthly counseling lessons in grades 4 and 5. The Second Step program teaches children important skills for getting along with others and doing well in school. It also helps our school be a safe, respectful place where everyone can learn. To further help our school be a safe and respectful place, we are also going to use the Second Step Bullying Prevention Unit. In this unit, your child will learn specific skills to help stop bullying. Students will learn how to:

- Recognize when bullying is happening, report bullying to a caring adult, and refuse to let bullying happen
- Be a bystander who helps stop bullying
- Support someone being bullied by standing up for that person and being kind and inclusive
- Recognize, report, and refuse cyber bullying when they see or know about it happening



Buchanan Elementary SSC Meeting

December 13, 2016

3:15 pm



Attendance:

I. Call Meeting to Order

II. Approval of Minutes and Agenda

Minutes of October 11, 2016

Agenda of December 13, 2016

III. Action Items

Review Technology plan - Kirk/Randel

IV. New Business

Next School Site Council meeting the following will be reviewed and discussed -
Parent Involvement Plan and School Safety Plan

Next Meeting date - March 14th at 3:15 in room E8

V. Adjourn

Current Jog-a-thon Standings

The funds raised by the Jog-a-thon will be used to fund exciting and educational field trips and assemblies. Please help your student's grade meet their goal so they are able to do the activities and not cancel them. Donations can still be turned in.



Grade Level	Amount Raised	Goal	Amount Needed
TK/Kinders	\$2370.67	\$2200.00	\$0
1st Grade	\$1860.50	\$2000.00	\$139.50
2nd Grade	\$1569.00	\$2400.00	\$831.00
3rd Grade	\$1152.11	\$750.00	\$0
4th Grade	\$1629.30	\$3500.00	\$1870.70
5th Grade	\$1378.00	\$6000.00	\$4622.00





Murrieta Valley Unified School District
2017 -2018 SCHOOL REGISTRATION TIMELINE

- November 7 School Sites Accept **NEW** Intra-District Trans requests.
**Intra-District = A transfer between schools in the MVUSD*
- January 3 District accepts **New** and **Renewal** Inter-District Transfers
- February 1 Online Pre-enrollment begins for all students new to the Murrieta Valley Unified School District, including Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten students.
- February 13 Final day of Open Enrollment for New or Renewal of **Inter**-District transfer requests.
- February 13 Final day to submit **(NEW) INTRADISTRICT** transfer requests at the School Site.
- March 6 Onsite enrollment appointments begin for Transitional Kindergarten, Kindergarten and **New** enrollees. Please contact the school site to make an appointment to complete registration and turn in documents *such as*, birth certificate/verification of age, immunization records, verification of residency and more depending on the grade level of your student.
- June 09 Open Enrollment **INTRA**-district and **INTER**-district Transfer notifications to parents will be sent no later than this date.
***All other transfers that are turned in after 2/13/17 will be considered case by case**

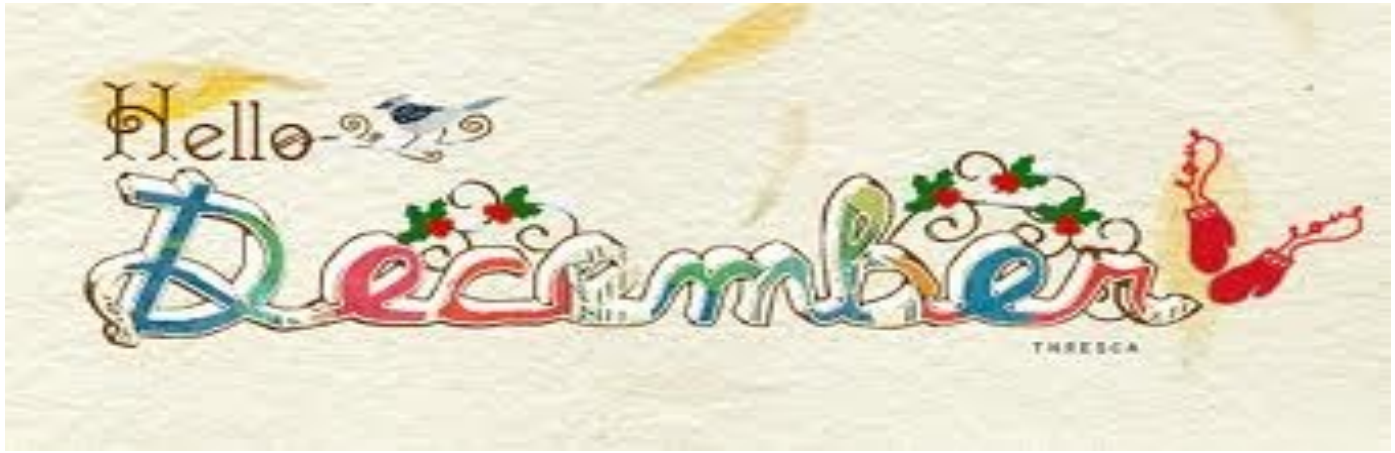
NOTE: Intra Transfer Requests between schools within the Murrieta Valley School District are processed at the school site. Please submit the request at the school site that you are requesting.

Please check the district website for Enrollment/Registration Information. *Listed under Parents @ <http://www.murrieta.k12.ca.us>


We hope that this information will help in your planning for the 2017-2018 school year. If you have any questions, please contact your school office.

Thank you,

Administrative Team
Murrieta Valley Unified School District



Buchanan Elementary

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
				1 Running Club Drama Club	2 Spirit Assembly 5th Grade Band	3	
4	5 Early Release Day PTA Family Snow Shop Night 5-7:30pm	6 Running Club Kaleidoscope Choir Spelling Bee	7 5th Grade Band Coffee & Conversation with EL parents TK/K Report Card Info Night	8 Running Club Drama Club	9 5th Grade Band	10	
PTA Snow Time Shop—Students attend with their class.							
11	12 NOT an Early Release Day	13 Running Club Kaleidoscope Choir	14 5th Grade Band 5th Grade Band Winter Concert	15 Running Club Drama Club	16 Early Release Day All TK/K here in AM Spirit Assembly Dress Up Day—Mixed Matched Shoes Report Cards Go Home	17	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25				Winter Break - No School December 19 through January 9			