



# The Blazer Post

Jennifer Randel, Principal

Jim Curtis, Assistant Principal



September 2017



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

**Labor Day Holiday**  
**Sept 4th—No**  
**School**

*Useful Links*

[School Website](#)

[School Calendar](#)

[Lunch Menus](#)

[School Handbook](#)

**Upcoming Friday**  
**Spirit Assemblies**  
**September 8**  
**September 22**  
**at 8:30am**  
**In the**  
**amphitheater**



## School Notes

Buchanan Families,

Our school year is off to a wonderful start. We hope you were able to attend your child's Back To School Night and found the time informative and helpful. Here at Buchanan, we value the partnership between home and school and hope our teacher's presentation provided valuable information both in academics and technology. We have our technology power point on our website, so feel free to visit this either as a refresher or initial review.

September is School Attendance Awareness month. School attendance is a vital element of a student's success in school and can easily be achieved by sending your child to school daily. Studies have shown that student's attendance in school directly correlates to their academic performance. We encourage all students to become an Attendance H.E.R.O - **H**ere, **E**veryday, **R**eady and **O**n time to insure they receive the instruction they deserve on their path towards College and Career Readiness.

Many of our performing arts programs are getting underway to provide those exciting enriching experiences to our students. Our 5th grade band and 3rd-5th grade before school choir has begun. Our school-wide musical "James and the Giant Peach" auditions will be coming at the end of the month. We encourage students TK/K - 5th grade to participate in this wonderful experience.

Academically, our new ELA programs, Wonders K/1 and Benchmark 2 - 5 are underway. We are excited about these new programs and the valuable learning experiences provided by them. Our intervention/prevention programs are underway to support students in Math and English Language Arts.

Communication is key for any successful program. Here at Buchanan, we are committed to continue to support our families through our monthly newsletters, Sunday reminder calls, electronic marquee messages, and our Buchanan website. Please do not hesitate to contact a staff member if you have a question or concern.

Did you know....

Watch D.O.G.S. - kick off night is Wednesday, Sept. 20th

Coffee and Conversation with EL families is Wednesday, Sept 6th at 8:30am

Our first Spirit Day is Friday, September 22nd - Dress as a Nerd

Good things are happening at Buchanan Elementary

Jennifer Randel and Jim Curtis



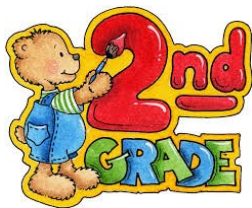
## Kindergarten News

Our TK/K kiddos are off to a great start! TK is working on their first theme: "Ready for School" and enjoying their Must Do/May Do activities. The Kdgn classes are working on rhyming skills, #'s 0-5, and are beginning their exciting journey through the new Language Arts program: *Wonders*. All TK/K classes enjoyed our 2 Color weeks and the beloved story: *Brown Bear, Brown Bear*. Everyone is working on mastering our school and classroom procedures and bringing their "Good, Better, Best" behavior, manners, and attitude to school. Our mindset for September is: I can always try my best!



## First Grade News

Happy new school year, First Graders! This year will be a fun year full of academic and social growth for you. It will be a year where you can persevere and shine through many rigorous challenges. You will be exposed to the new Language Arts program, *Wonders*. This program is packed full of foundational skills and wonderful literature. You will be learning several new math concepts, exploring with fun science programs, and become wonderful writers. You will continue to utilize the i-Read programs and work towards your goal of completing Level B. Believe you can do it and you will achieve it! Way to go, First Graders!



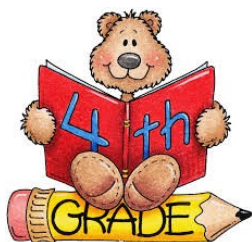
## Second Grade News

2<sup>nd</sup> grade is off to a great start for this new school year! We are reviewing and emphasizing the importance of the Buchanan Code of Conduct, be respectful, be responsible, be safe, and practice KAFOOTY. We continue to emphasize having a growth mindset thru hard work and practice. Growth mindset is all about trying hard, using good strategies, and getting the help you need. We are excited about diving into our new Language Arts program. Go 2<sup>nd</sup> grade!



## Third Grade News

Third grade has jumped into a brand new reading program! We are teaching reading foundation lessons and routines that will be used all year long. We are working on sustained reading which is reading for longer periods of time, 20 minutes or more of thoughtful silent reading immersion, with the focus of greater comprehension. Read to Self and Picking a just right book are very important to be a successful reader. And we will be using their Lexile leveled reader to practice reading which will then lead to more independent readers. Also, establishing a writing foundation using a writer's notebook to write about what interests them for greater lengths of time. Many of these foundation lessons will set these children up for success and create a community that has stamina while both reading and writing. In math we are establishing routines using Number Talks and Learning Carpet plus Go Math. We are very busy building positive mind set for all readers and math students. One uplifting quote that helps me while teaching is "Positive thinking will let you do everything better."



## Fourth Grade News

Thank you parents for attending our Back to School Night! It was a great to meet so many of you and an excellent way to start the year! As we continue to work on developing procedures and routines in the classroom, we are fostering Growth Mindset in our students. We appreciate your support as we move ahead this year and look forward to many new learning opportunities.



## Fifth Grade News

The fifth graders have spent the past few weeks settling into the school year and classroom routines. Band started on August 30<sup>th</sup>. We have approximately 85 students enrolled in band this year! The students have taken the first RI test of the school year. We are very proud of how hard the kids persevered during the test. Their Lexile levels are amazing. We have started our Math UA rotations. Students are working on mastering the concepts in Chapter 1. During each academic and UA rotation, the kids will continue to hear the teachers refer to a Growth Mindset. We all have areas that we need to improve on and challenges we need to strengthen.

There are no failures – just DISCOVERIES. unknown



## Educational Specialists

Welcome back to another wonderful school year. Buchanan offers an array of Special education services here on campus. We have two full-time Resources Specialists, One half-day Resource Specialist, two Special Day classes for Pre-school, K-2 Mild/Moderate Special Day class, 3-5th Mild/moderate upper Special Day class, two and a half Speech Pathologists, an occupational Therapist, Adaptive Physical Education Teacher, Physical Therapist, Intensive Behavior Intervention for pre-school, Full time school psychologist, Counselors, Vision Itinerates, and Deaf/hard of hearing specialist. Supports are provided to students who qualify based on the Eligibility criteria.

**Monday, Sept 4th is Labor Day Holiday**

**No School**

**Have a great 3-day weekend!**



## 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.

## 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. Additionally, the red curb in front of the school on Torrey Pines is not a pick-up, drop-off area as marked by traffic signs. Not abiding by this could result in a traffic ticket.

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.

## Give your child the best start to the day - Be on time

Remember, the bell rings to line up at 8:20 am each morning for grades 1-5. Please be sure to drop your children off at school on time. Gates open at 8:00am. Prompt attendance is crucial to maximize student learning. Arriving to school just five minutes late each morning adds up to nearly *three full days* of missed instruction over the course of the school year! Thank you for your support.



## VISITORS

**WELCOME!  
PLEASE SIGN IN  
AT OFFICE**

## MVUSD Visitor/Volunteer Management System

Murrieta Valley Unified is a leader in school safety and we are adding another school safety tool, the web-based Raptor Visitor Management System. Last year two district schools successfully used the Raptor ID system to check-in visitors and parents. This year we are expanding the use of the web-based Raptor ID system, which has been installed at every school in the district. The Raptor Visitor Management technology is in place at more than 18,000 schools nationwide and over 800 schools in California.

Starting this week, every parent, visitor, vendor and volunteer that enters a district school will be asked to present their driver's license or state ID. Raptor scans the ID and checks the visitor's name, date of birth and photo for comparison purposes against the National Sex Offender data base. No other personal identifying information is saved. If no match is found, the system will print a sticker id badge with a picture identifying them as an approved visitor.

If the system raises a question about a visitor's background, the school administrator will meet with the visitor.

Upon your initial visit the process will take a couple of minutes, however, on return visits the system has the ability to process the required information much faster. Please remember that you must bring your driver's license or state Identification each time you visit one of our campuses.

We know the safety of your child is as important to you as it is to us so we ask for your patience and cooperation as this new system is implemented at all our schools. If you have any questions, you may speak with your school's principal or our Safe Schools Administrator, Dale Velk at 951 696-1600 ext. 1155.

## 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. Click [here](#) for lunch menus.*

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) or you can pick up an application in the school office  
Parents can make payments to lunch accounts at [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com)



## Upcoming School Spirit Day

Our first Spirit Day is September 22nd

Dress like a "Nerd"



## Box Top Contest



Our first contest period ends on October 27th. The classroom from each grade that submits the most box tops will get to play a Nation Ball game with Mrs. Randel and Mr. Curtis. Our Mr. Keith will be the referee! Send in those box tops now!!



## The Blazer Way Moment Disagreeing Appropriately

In the opening Blazer Way Moment for this school year we previewed the three pillars to the Blazer Way: Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Safe. We also discussed how a good first impression can get students off to a good start. We want to continue with this theme by focusing on Being Respectful. By being kind and respectful to others we make ourselves more approachable, even when we disagree.

Disagreeing appropriately with another person is not easy. It is easy to get upset, frustrated, or even angry. What we want to see in our Blazers, is a 'respectful' way to disagree, so that resolutions can come about without negative emotions. Let's take a look at the road map below and see:

1. Look at the person  
- In this case this means another student.

2. Use a pleasant voice  
- Keep your voice normal with out being loud or sounding angry

3. Tell why you feel differently  
- Try to do this in a way that that does not upset the other person

I don't mean to be rude, but my lunch doesn't look like the lunch you are showing me.

4. Give a reason  
- This helps the other person see things the way you do

If I had a lunch that looked a little better, I promise I would eat it.

5. Listen to the other person  
- A disagreement involves more than one person.  
Listen and you might find you agree.

You are right, this lunch doesn't taste very good!

Whether with an adult or peer, disagreeing appropriately can be done respectfully and in a kind manner. Maintaining eye contact and a pleasant tone of voice can go a long way in keeping a disagreement from turning into an argument. Everyone disagrees at times. Learning how to do it in a way that does not hurt yours or others feelings builds character. Until next month remember Blazer Bob says, "Follow the Blazer Way every day!"

## Kaleidoscope Choir for 3rd-5th Grade

### Kaleidoscope Choir 2017-18:

Do you love to sing, perform and be part of an exciting group?  
Join Kaleidoscope Choir and be part of the excitement.

**Choir meets Tuesdays mornings at 7:40 in the Music room, C- 28**  
So come join the fun!

Sign up on our [website](#).

Keep on Singing, Mr. Tikasingh





# **Buchanan's Reading Round-Up!**

## **A School Wide Reading Incentive Program**

**Blazers school wide goal**

**To have every student read every day!**

### **HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS:**

Each student will receive his/her 1st "Reading Roundup" monthly reading log 9/29/17. Every month students will receive a new "Reading Roundup" reading log at the beginning of every month.

Students and/or parents will record the minutes read each day. Razkids at home can count towards reading.

At the end of the month total your reading minutes, write the total minutes on the log, and turn it into the library on your **normal library day the first week of each month.**

### **Monthly reading goals and prizes:**

**TK-K= 300 minutes a month**

**1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>=450 minutes a month**

**3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>=600 minutes a month**

***Every student that turns in his or her reading log and reaches the monthly goal will receive:***

A raffle ticket to win a book bag and book from Mrs. Nelson at the Spirit Assembly

The gift of becoming a better reader

Finding the LOVE for reading

A special readers recess each month for the class in each grade with the most participation

**School goal: To instill a love in reading and become a better reader.**

If our school reads 1,500,000 minutes by April 2018 Mrs. Randel will perform a challenge presented by students, like trading jobs with the custodian for a day- Soon students will submit their challenge per classroom and the chosen challenge will be announced at the October Spirit Assembly!

Remember even if you do not meet your monthly goal still turn in your reading calendar because every minute helps us reach our school goal of reading 1,500,000 minutes!

**Thank you for your support!**



# Counselor's Corner

Ms. Richardson & Dr. Rieger, RAIN Counselors

951-696-1428 ext 2723

## SEPTEMBER IS ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH



### DID YOU KNOW?

Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school. • Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read. • Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks. • Being late to school may lead to poor attendance. • Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up. Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work.

Change your  
Words...  
Change your  
**MINDSET!**

BE  
SOMEBODY  
WHO MAKES  
**EVERYBODY**  
FEEL LIKE  
SOMEBODY  
♥

## WHAT IS THE RAIN ELEMENTARY COUNSELING PROGRAM?

The RAIN Elementary School Counseling program is designed to provide students with the academic and social skills they need to be successful in school. RAIN School Counselors teach core counseling lessons in the classrooms on concepts such as improving skills for learning, developing and demonstrating empathy, problem solving, emotion regulation, bully prevention and college and career. Counselors facilitate small groups to support academic and social emotional needs of students. Any student in grades TK-5 may participate in the RAIN program.







## Buchanan Elementary SSC Meeting September 12, 2017 3:15pm in Library



### Attendance:

- I. Call Meeting to Order
- II. Approval of Minutes and Agenda
  - Minutes of May 16, 2017
  - Agenda of September 12, 2017
- III. Action Items
  - School Site Council members introduced themselves.
  - Election of Officers - President, Vice President and Secretary
- IV. New Business
  - Role of School Site Council -
  - Buchanan Elementary Overview Powerpoint
  - Local Control Funding Formula.
  - Next School Site Council meeting the following will be reviewed and discussed - Parent Involvement Plan, SPSA plan
  - Next Meeting date - October 10<sup>th</sup> at 3:15 in room Library
- V. Adjourn

## 4th and 5th Grade Parents

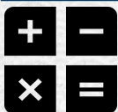
### Math Make & Take #1:

### Multiplication Strategies

**Buchanan Elementary School**

Room C14 - Ms. McCandless

**RSVP please** | [amccandless@murrieta.k12.ca.us](mailto:amccandless@murrieta.k12.ca.us)



Please join us to learn strategies to help your upper elementary child.

# 8

September

Time:  
8:30am

## Military Kids Friendship Club Update

Buchanan Military Friendship Group has gotten off to a great start. We added thirteen new families at registration raising our group to well over 50 children. We will be having our first daytime meeting the end of September where we will welcome new members and learn about each other through fun name games.

Our first nighttime event will be early November. This will be our pizza meet and greet night. We may be playing BINGO as well. Watch for more information soon.



# Buchanan Elementary Drama Program

**“Right before your eyes” it’s time to audition for Buchanan’s annual school play—James and the Giant Peach Jr.!**

**When:** Tuesday, October 3 – Grades K-3  
Wednesday, October 4 – Grades 4-5

**Where:** Buchanan Elementary MPR

**Time:** 3p.m.-approx.5 p.m. (your child may leave after they audition)



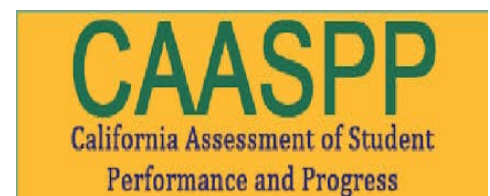
Please come prepared with a 30 second song, monolog, comedy act, poem or dance. All auditions are done "a capella" (no music). You MUST bring the Permission Slip with you to the audition or you will not be admitted.

This is YOUR time to shine so no buddy auditions. We are looking for outgoing, confident people with sparkling personalities ...so show us what you've got! Everyone who auditions will receive a part in the play either as a speaker or in the ensemble chorus!

Rehearsals begin Thursday, October 12 and will be from 3-4:30 for the speakers (Mrs. Hern's Group) and from 3-4:00 for the ensemble chorus (Mrs. Cato & Prario's Group) and will be every Thursday each week. There will be more rehearsal days added as we get closer to the production. The tentative date for the production is Saturday, March 17th. We look forward to seeing you!

Dear Buchanan Families,

Last spring all Buchanan 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders completed their 2017 CAASPP assessments in Language Arts and Math. At this point you should have received individual score reports for your students in both of these areas.



As you look at these reports please note that these results are just one piece of the larger puzzle that is your student's education. Common formative assessments, reading inventories, math inventories, daily class assignments, and teacher observations along with CAASPP results create a more complete picture of each student's academic progress. Even with that we have to consider other factors, like social development, when making decisions regarding all of our young Blazers' education.

Eduardo Briceno in an article about summative assessments like CAASPP wrote this, "Remember, and remind students, that tests don't measure students' potential (which nobody knows, and can always be expanded), but what they have learned so far." With this in mind, help your student maintain a growth mindset, and remind them that their potential is yet to be realized.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact either Mrs. Randel or Mr. Curtis.



# Buchanan Elementary

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Picture Day 5th Gr Band 	2
3	4 Holiday— No School 	5 7:45am Chorus for 3rd-5th Grade Rehearsal  PTA Membership Drive Starts	6 5th Grade Band Lessons  EL Families Coffee and Conversation	7	8 Spirit Assembly  PTA Fundraiser Orders & Money Due 5th Gr Band	9
10	11 Early Release Day	12 7:45am Chorus for 3rd-5th Grade Rehearsal	13 5th Grade Band Lessons	14	15 5th Gr Band  Last Day to Join 5th Gr Band	16
17	18 Early Release Day  Make-up Picture Day 	19 7:45am Chorus for 3rd-5th Grade Rehearsal	20 5th Grade Band Lessons  5:30-7:00pm Watch D.O.G.S. Pizza Kick-off	21	22 Spirit Assembly  5th Gr Band  Spirit Day—Dress like a “Nerd” Day 	23
24	25 Early Release Day	26 7:45am Chorus for 3rd-5th Grade Rehearsal	27 5th Grade Band Lessons	28	29 5th Gr Band  PTA Movie Night 	30