



The Blazer Post

Jennifer Randel, Principal

Jim Curtis, Assistant Principal



October 2017



School Office Hours

Mon - Fri
7:45am - 3:45 pm

Useful Links

[School Website](#)

[School Calendar](#)

[Lunch Menus](#)

[School Handbook](#)

[Peach Jar Flyers](#)

**Upcoming
Friday Spirit
Assemblies
October 6
October 20
at 8:30am
in the
amphitheater**



School Notes

Buchanan Families,

Fall has finally arrived! This season signals many activities both during the school day and after school to build a stronger Buchanan Community. We have activities in place to promote a healthy lifestyle, encourage exposure to performing arts and time set aside to allow parents and teachers to discuss their child's academic journey.

Our wonderful PTA is working diligently to provide a purposeful week of activities to support the nation's largest drug prevention program. Red Ribbon week activities will be October 16th - 20th. The activities include our students pledging to be drug free, theme days and a pep rally with VMHS to help educate students about the risk associated with drugs.

Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for October 23rd - 27th for all grade levels. This is a great opportunity for parents to meet with their child's teacher and converse over the progress of their child. Conference notices will be sent home either electronically or as a hard copy.

Performing arts is alive and well here at Buchanan. This month, students have the opportunity to audition for our musical play, James and the Giant Peach. This is an awesome opportunity for students in all grade levels to experience the musical theatre first hand. Horizon Unlimited is sponsoring the following activities this month:

- TK and 3rd grade students are learning hip hop dance
- Kindergarten students are participating in sing-a-longs
- 1st grade students are being exposed to Introduction to Music.

Did you know.....

- Our school wide Reading Incentive Program begins this month. Please take a moment to read nightly with your child.
- Jog a thon is October 24th and 25th
- Great Shake Out is October 19th
- PTA reflection entries are due October 13th
- PTA Trunk and Treat is Oct. 27th

Good things are happening at Buchanan Elementary!
Jennifer Randel and Jim Curtis

Growth Mindset Quote

"Give your dreams all you've got, and you'll be amazed at the energy that comes out of you."
— William James



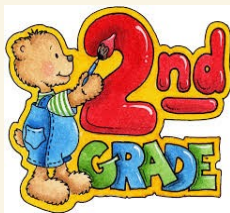
TK / Kindergarten News

Happy Fall from K-Land! We are so excited about our upcoming field trip to the San Diego Safari Park on Oct. 11. We are working on one of our science standards: Observing Patterns - - What do plants and animals need to survive? TK will be finishing up Theme 2: My Family, and starting Theme 3: Our Community. Kindergarten is working on numbers to 9, less than/greater than/ equal to, and delving deeper into their new Wonders LA program. Our growth mindset for this month is, as Dory would say: Just keep swimmin' . . . but we're adding: Just keep learnin'!



First Grade News

Happy Fall! First graders are excited about the Wonders reading program. They are now working on reading and writing words with beginning blends and using proper punctuation when writing amazing sentences. Additionally, they are learning how to find key details within a story which helps with comprehension. They are impressing their teachers with their listening and speaking skills. In math, the students are learning to recognize and solve number sentences. They are increasing their math strategies by using academic language and participating in Number Talks. As their teachers, we are pleased with the Growth Mindset that this group is demonstrating. Their "I CAN DO IT" attitude is evident and contagious. Way to go First Graders!



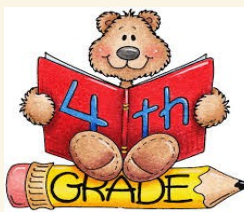
Second Grade News

Fall is here! Second grade is excited to be starting our second unit in our new language arts program. We will be learning about Characters Facing Challenges! With that, we are keeping our growth mindset quotes in mind, "Don't doubt yourself. Work hard and make it happen!" We are looking forward to meeting with parents to discuss their child's progress during Parent Conference week, October 23rd thru 27th.



Third Grade News

Third grade is very busy this month! We are continuing with Hip Hop Dance class every Thursday. And the students need to wear comfortable clothes and shoes for this class. Trunk or Treat is also coming along soon. We will be selling hotdogs, chips and drinks at the event to raise money for field trips this year. We are committed to Monday running laps for Physical Education in the afternoon so again students need the correct shoes for jogging. In Language Arts we are exploring the new unit about the importance of voting in the history of our country. This cross curriculum combination of Social Studies and reading has great value of building important vocabulary and greater depth of understanding of the non fiction genre. We are very busy making this next month a great learning experience for all students.



Fourth Grade News

We are well into the swing of 4th grade and by now your child should have turned many routines into good habits! Reminder binders should have all assignments written in them nightly. Math facts, spelling, and vocabulary words should be practiced daily according to your teachers' instructions. October reading logs went home so please be sure to keep track of your minutes read! We have the amazing opportunity to go see a professional orchestra this month at Murrieta Mesa High School! Thank you for your continued support of your 4th grader and we will see you at conferences!



Fifth Grade News

September was a busy month for the 5th graders. The students have been learning strategies for multiplication and division. Our 5th graders are using partial products and partial quotients to solve multiplication and division problems. The students took the MI for the first time this year. In Language Arts several classes have been learning about the U.S. Constitution along with how laws in the United States have evolved throughout history. The students will be completing a T-shirt book report over the next few weeks. We are looking forward to the day when all of the kids wear the T-shirts they designed to represent an exciting novel. In Science the students are digging into the topic of Matter. Our scientists are learning about the different phases of matter along with the relationship between particles. The kids are working on building up their stamina for the mile run and completing stations to help strengthen their muscles. As the students continue to grow academically, socially, and physically they will encounter challenges. The students are reminded that mistakes help us to grow and mature.

Learning isn't easy - embrace the struggle and GROW- author unknown



Educational Specialists

Happy Fall! This month, we would like to spotlight our wonderful Speech Pathologists. At Buchanan we are welcoming back Ms. Grijalva who covers Preschool Special Ed and General education K-2nd. She has a wealth of knowledge in early childhood development. We are also so very lucky to welcome Heidi Zinn to our Team! She has been with our District for many years. Her experience is with 3 year olds through elderly. She spent 11 years working in acute care hospitals and outpatients settings including time at Rady's Children's Hospital. Mrs. Zinn has also worked within a school setting for thirteen years serving moderate-severe students, mild-moderate students, and general education students with a wide variety of needs. Another new team member is Jaclyn Shasha, She is our Part Time Speech and Language Pathologist. She works at two schools, Antelope and Buchanan. She has been working as a speech pathologist for 4 years and SLP/A for 2 years, so 6 years total. Her experience is in schools, hospitals, and private practice.

Coffee and Conversation with Our EL Families

Join us on Wednesday,
October 4 at 8:30am in
Room E3



**November 1st is a
non-student day
It is a Professional
Development Day for
the staff
Students—enjoy your day off.**



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.

Buchanan's 5th Annual ASB Jog-a-Thon

This month students will be able to participate in our Fifth Annual Jog-a-Thon to raise money for field trip admissions, buses, and other enriching activities. All funds donated for laps ran will go directly to your student's grade level. The Jog-a-Thon will be held October 24th and 25th with the pledge money due October 30th. This event is also held to encourage physical fitness and a healthy lifestyle, while raising funds for enriching and memorable activities. More information will be coming home with your students this month. Thank you for your support!



Give your child the best start to the day— Be a H.E.R.O. Here, Everyday, Ready, On time

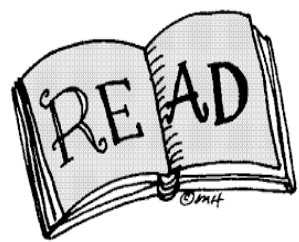
Remember, the bell rings to line up at 8:20 am each morning for grades 1-5. Please be sure to drop your children off at school on time. Prompt attendance is crucial to maximize student learning. Arriving to school just five minutes late each morning adds up to nearly *three full days* of missed instruction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

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!

It's that time of year to begin our School Wide Reading Incentive Program. Our Blazer's school wide goal is to have every student read every day! If our school reads 1,500,000 minutes by April 2017 Mrs. Randel will perform another challenge presented by students, like trading jobs with the custodian for a day. Soon students will submit their challenge from each classroom and the chosen challenge will be announced at the October Spirit Assembly! This will be our fourth year of encouraging students to read everyday, so far we have made the goal each year and Mrs. Randel has taken on our challenge. We look forward to another year of instilling the love of reading and creating another challenge for Mrs. Randel! Reading logs and more information will be going home September 29th.
—Happy Reading



The Blazer Way Means - Being Safe

Every October schools all across the state of California participate in the "Great Shake Out" Earthquake and Evacuation Drill. This year this will occur on October 19th. The purpose is to test the schools procedures and make improvements in the event of a real disaster.

These procedures include, but are not limited to evacuation, location and treatment of missing or injured staff and students, and student check out. We, as staff, place a great value in this because it allows us to assess one of our primary goals, keeping your students safe in all situations.

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. [Click here for Permission Slip.](#)

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!



Positive Behavioral Interventions Supports Moment

Be Responsible: Follow Instructions

This month the Blazer Way Social Skill focus is Follow Instructions. Different situations are going to call for different ways of following instructions. The simplest place to begin is what following instructions in the classroom might look like. Below is a simple step by step to read and look at with your student:

1. Look at the teacher



2. Show you understand and say "OK."



3. Do what you have been asked right away.



4. Check back with teacher when done.



Having a good understanding of how to follow instructions is a great place to begin towards following the Blazer Way. Following instructions is respectful and it can lead students towards getting their classwork done with the best effort. It can also point students towards safe play on the playground. Let's face it, the ability to follow instructions well is just a great tool for the tool box of life.





Buchanan Elementary SSC Meeting October 10, 2017—Agenda 3:15 pm Library



Attendance:

I. Call Meeting to Order

II. Approval of Minutes and Agenda

Minutes of September 12, 2017

Agenda of October 10, 2017

III. Action Items

SPSA plan (tentative)

Parent Involvement Plan

IV. New Business

Next School Site Council meeting the following will be reviewed and discussed - BES

Safety Plan

Next Meeting date - December 12th at 3:15 in room Library

V. Adjourn

Buchanan Elementary SSC Meeting September 12, 2017—Minutes 3:15 pm Library

Attendance: Earlene Carrithers, Anna McCandless, Diana Knott, Christy Neilson, Diana Poveda, Monica Hajduk, Tricia Layne, Jim Curtis, & Jennifer Randel

Call Meeting to Order at 3:18 pm

Approval of Minutes and Agenda

Minutes of May 16, 2017 - Motion to approve: Mrs. Layne, Seconded by Mrs. Neilson

Agenda of September 12, 2017 Motion to approve: Mrs. Neilson Seconded by Mrs. Layne

Action Items

School Site Council members introduced themselves.

Election of Officers: President - Tricia Layne, Vice President - Diana Poveda, Secretary - Anna McCandless

New Business

Role of School Site Council - Buchanan Elementary Overview Powerpoint

Mrs. Randel presented overview of role of SSC

Local Control Funding Formula. Covered in Power Point

Described why Buchanan is a Title I school and who constitutes our 'LCAP students'

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

Involvement Plan, SPSA plan

Next Meeting date - October 10th at 3:15 in room Library

Adjourn Time: 3:51 pm



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.

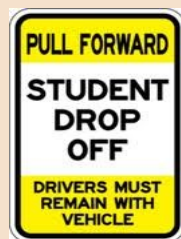
Each morning when the **8:25am TARDY BELL rings**, staff members will be at each entry gate to give out tardy slips and teachers will send any student not in class or on their line to the office for a tardy slip.

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.

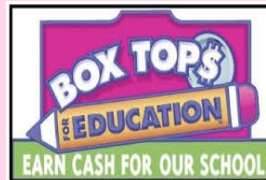
Safety in the Loop

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!



October's
School Spirit
Dress Up
Day

October 20th
Twins Day



Box Top Contest

The current contest ends October 27th. The winning classrooms will get to play Nation Ball with Mrs. Randel, Mr. Curtis and Mr. Keith.

Who is going to win?

[Check the Box Tops for Education website](#)

A few reminders and tips. Box Tops cannot be expired. Box Tops missing the expiration date or the manufacture code in the upper left corner are not accepted, so cut carefully. Box Tops can be turned in loose in a Ziploc bag (this is preferred) or glued 10 on a sheet of paper. Thanks for clipping!

Mix It Up Day—October 31st

What is Mix it Up at lunch??? It's a simple call to action for all grade levels: Take a new seat at lunch time. By taking a risk, students can cross the lines of division in a safe, supported environment, meet new people and help build an inclusive and welcoming school community. Teaching Tolerance, a project of the Southern Poverty Law Center, launched the Mix It Up program in 2002. National Mix It Up at Lunch Day is on October 31st this year. Research shows that Mix It Up programming works. According to a survey of Mix organizers, the program produces powerful results: 97% said students' interactions were positive during Mix It Up at Lunch Day, 95% said Mix It Up at Lunch Day prompted students to interact with people outside their normal social circles, and 83% said the event helped students make new friends. (Source: Mix It Up Survey conducted by Quality Education Data, 2008). We are encouraging each student to join us in mixing it up on October 31st!





Counselor's Corner

A Three-Step Plan to Address Cyberbullying with Your Child

Today's children are the first generation to use technology to bully each other. Today's parents are the first who have needed to learn how to address this issue with their children. The following steps are a guide for exploring this topic with your child.

1. Have the "cyberbullying" conversation. Now that you know bullying online is a real possibility, initiate a conversation with your child. Bullying can be hard for children to talk about with their parents for many reasons. They might be embarrassed by what is happening, afraid that the bullying will increase if they tell, or think it is their own problem. Cyberbullying can add additional complications. Many students might not interpret the mean and hurtful behavior that happens on their computer or cell phone as bullying. Children may also worry that they will lose access to their technology if they tell their parents about cyberbullying. As you open the subject for discussion, let your child know that it's fine to use phones and computers and to be online with friends, but that you also want him or her to be safe from cyberbullying. Explain that if something hurtful is communicated online, it counts as bullying, and that it is important that you know about it.

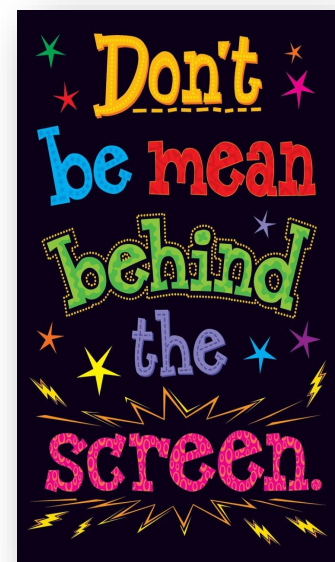
2. Set cyber safety rules. You set safety rules for your child in the physical world. Do the same in your child's cyberworld. Remind your children that they never really know who is on the other end of cyber communication. It could be the person they think it is, but because they cannot see that person, they should always proceed with caution in their exchanges. With that in mind, two good guidelines are:

- Don't do or say anything online that you wouldn't do or say in person.
- Don't reveal anything that you wouldn't tell a stranger. Specific advice for your child might include: • Never share your e-mail password, a photo, or any personal data (such as a physical description, phone number, or address). A bully could use that information to harass you in many ways. • Never share too many personal details. Never share your IM account password with anyone, even your best friend. That friend may share it with other people, or the friendship may end — and your private messages could suddenly become very public. A cyberbully with your password can sign on, pretend to be you, and behave inappropriately with others to embarrass and humiliate you.

3. Know what your children are doing online. Privacy is important, but safety is more important. As a parent, you have a responsibility to know what your children are doing online. Establish rules about your access to your children's cell phones, text history, social networking sites, and other computer accounts that they may use for posting information. If you do discover that your child is being cyberbullied, document it by printing the e-mails or webpages, saving electronic copies, and contacting your child's school.

Complete Article: Cyberbullying: What Parents Can Do to Protect Their Children by Pacer's National Bullying Prevention Center, www.pacer.org

Ms. Richardson (M, T) &
Dr. Rieger (Th)
RAIN Counselors
951-696-1428 ext 2723





Parent-Teacher Conferences

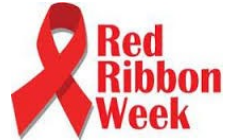
**Parent Conferences
1st Reporting Period
October 23rd—27th**

Monday is an Early Release Day.

Tuesday thru Friday are *Minimum Days*.

**Red Ribbon
Week**

Oct 16th—20th



This Year's Theme: Your Future is Key, So Stay Drug-Free



SEPAC Appreciation Event

Congratulations to the following staff members who were recognized at a special SEPAC Appreciation Event. Michelle Robles, Linda Lively, Brandi Heise, Nicole Aspan-Martin, Sarah Caskey and Criccely Grijalva.

ELAC Meeting Announcement

When: October 3rd

Where: Buchanan Library

Time: 4-5pm

A Message from the Health Office

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.



October Happenings

Buchanan Elementary

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Early Release Day	3 Running Club Kaleidoscope Choir Drama Tryouts for TK—3rd ELAC Meeting	4 Coffee & Conversation with EL parents 5th Grade Band Drama Tryouts for 4th—5th	5 Running Club	6 Spirit Assembly 5th Grade Band	7
8	9 Early Release Day	10 Running Club Kaleidoscope Choir	11 5th Grade Band	12 Running Club Drama Rehearsal	13 5th Grade Band	14
15	16 Early Release Day	17 Running Club Kaleidoscope Choir	18 5th Grade Band	19 Running Club Drama Rehearsal	20 Spirit Assembly 5th Grade Band Spirit Dress Up Day Twins Day	21
RED Ribbon Week - PTA has many activities planned						
22	23 Early Release Day	24 Running Club Kaleidoscope Choir Jog-a-thon Minimum Day	25 5th Grade Band Jog-a-thon Minimum Day	26 Running Club Minimum Day	27 Minimum Day PTA Trunk or Treat	28
Parent Conference Week - Special Schedule - time to meet with your student's teacher						
29	30 NOT an Early Release Day—it is a regular full day of school Jog-a-thon Money Due	31 Running Club Kaleidoscope Choir	Nov 1st No School for Students— Professional Development Day			