Happy Fall!
It is hard to believe we are approaching the end of our first reporting period. During parent-teacher conferences, October 17 – Oct. 21, we look forward to sharing your child’s first progress report with you.

The Progress Report will frame your Parent-Teacher Conference in October and will guide the conversation regarding your child’s progress towards grade level standards during this reporting period. The Harvard Research Project in their “Tips to Parents” suggests parents expect the following during their parent-teacher conference:

A two-way conversation. Like all good conversations, parent–teacher conferences are best when both people talk and listen. The conference is a time for you to learn about your child’s progress in school: Ask to see data about your child’s attendance, grades, and test scores. Find out whether your child is meeting school expectations and academic standards. This is also a time for the teacher to learn about what your child is like at home. When you tell the teacher about your child’s skills, interests, needs, and dreams, the teacher can help your child more.

Emphasis on learning. Good parent–teacher conferences focus on how well the child is doing in school. They also talk about how the child can do even better. To get ready for the conversation, look at your child’s homework, tests, and notices before the conference. Be sure to bring a list of questions that you would like to ask the teacher.

Opportunities and challenges. Just like you, teachers want your child to succeed.
You will probably hear positive feedback about your child’s progress and areas for improvement. Be prepared by thinking about your child’s strengths and challenges beforehand. Be ready to ask questions about ways you and the teacher can help your child with some of his or her challenges.

Our district has developed some wonderful new reporting tools that will be implemented this year. Following is a letter from our Executive Director of Elementary Education describing these new reporting tools. I encourage you to read through this letter as it contains very valuable information about our new progress reports and reports cards.

-Mrs. Roden
EHC Principal
# Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>October</th>
<th>November</th>
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<tr>
<td>3rd - Early Out Monday</td>
<td>7th - NO EARLY OUT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grades 1-5 Dismiss at 1:50pm</td>
<td>11th - Veteran’s Day - NO SCHOOL</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th - Early Out Monday</td>
<td>14th - Early Out Monday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grades 1-5 Dismiss at 1:50pm</td>
<td>17th - Family Science Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>11th - Afterschool Discovery Classes Begin</td>
<td>17th - Last Day of Discovery Classes</td>
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<td>Pre-registration required</td>
<td>21st - 25th Thanksgiving Break</td>
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<td>12th - 2nd Grade Field Trip</td>
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<td>17th - Early Out Monday</td>
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<td>Grades 1-5 Dismiss at 1:50pm</td>
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<td>18th - Minimum Day Schedule</td>
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<td>19th - Make Up Picture Day</td>
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<td>19th - Minimum Day Schedule</td>
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<td>20th - Minimum Day Schedule</td>
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<td>21st - Minimum Day Schedule</td>
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<td>24th - Non Student Day</td>
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<td>Professional Development Day</td>
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<td>25th - 28th Red Ribbon Week</td>
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<td>28th - Curran Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>31st - Early Out Monday</td>
<td>December 19th - January 9th Winter Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grades 1-5 Dismiss at 1:50pm</td>
<td>School Resumes January 10, 2017</td>
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Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated over time. This can include verbal, emotional, social or physical bullying.

What Can I Do If My Child Is Being Bullied Or Bullying Others

Talk with your son/daughter. Commonly, students do not tell their parents they are being bullied so if your child tells you about being bullied, it has taken a lot of courage for him or her to do so. Express your concern and make it clear that you want to help.

Help your child understand bullying. Explain that bullying is more than physical; it can be done in person or over the phone or computer.

Empathize with your son/daughter. Say bullying is wrong, it is not their fault, and you are glad they had the courage to tell you about it. Tell them they are not alone and many people have experienced the same thing.

Work together to find solutions. Ask your son or daughter what can be done to help. Reassure them that working with others can help to resolve the problem and that the situation will be handled with sensitivity.

Document ongoing bullying. Work with your son or daughter to keep a record of all bullying incidents. If it involves cyberbullying, keep a record of all messages or postings.

Teach your son or daughter to take a stand against bullying in a nonviolent manner. Give guidance about how to stand up to those who bully if it is safe to do so. Be persistent. Bullying may not be resolved overnight.

Work with your son or daughter’s school. Bullying is something that E Hale Curran takes very seriously. We want to be a part of the solution and we need your help.

Teach Your Child not to be a Bystander:

The definition of a bystander is a person who is present at an event without participating in the central actions of the event. If our students don’t intervene in a safe and appropriate manner when they observe bullying, they can cause the victim to feel alone and that no one cares.

Teach your child that by doing nothing they are siding with the bully. Reinforce the messages we have sent to our students by telling your child to do the following if they witness bullying:

- Say something to the bully if it is safe to do so
- Report the event to an adult (teacher, counselor, principal, offices staff, playground aide)
- Make a report using our ANONYMOUS reporting system, Sprigeo at http://report.sprigeo.com/
Counselor’s Corner

Bullying Resources for Parents

Stop Bullying Now! - This website presents a wide range of research-based strategies for reducing bullying and reducing the harm that bullying can do. It has resources for students, parents, and educators. http://www.stopbullyingnow.com

Cyberbullying Research Center - The Cyberbullying Research Center is dedicated to providing up-to-date information about the nature, extent, causes, and consequences of cyberbullying among adolescents. It is an informative website which includes blogs on varying topics related to cyberbullying. http://www.cyberbullying.us/

Facebook Safety - This website provides useful information to help others have a safe experience on Facebook. Information is provided for teens, parents, educators, and law enforcement. http://www.facebook.com/safety/

Eyes on Bullying - Eyes on Bullying offers a variety of tools that can help you look at and understand bullying in a new way, reexamine your own knowledge and beliefs about bullying, and shape the beliefs and behaviors of the children in your care. http://www.eyesonbullying.org

Teaching Tolerance - The site promises to awaken Americans to the problems of hate and intolerance, prompt them to action, and encourage them to dig deeper into themselves. It contains useful information for students, parents, and teachers. It also has free lesson plans and materials for educators. http://www.tolerance.org

Wired Safety - WiredSafety.org is a US charity operating online through its thousands of volunteers around the world. It provides one-on-one help, extensive resources, information, and education to people of all ages on a myriad of Internet, mobile, gaming and interactive technology safety issues. http://www.wiredsafety.org/


Stand for the Silent - This site was founded by Kirk and Lisa Smalley, parents of Ty Smalley, who had been a victim of bullying. They are encouraging teens to recognize that everybody is important and deserving

What is happening in the classroom?

Every 3rd-5th grade student received four Core Curriculum lessons between August 29 and September 23 in their classroom. The lesson topics addressed Having Empathy, Taking Someone Else’s Perspective, Disagreeing Respectfully, Coming Prepared to Class, Following Directions, Listening, and Being Respectful.

Every TK-2nd grade student will be receiving four Core Curriculum lessons in their classrooms between September 26 and October 21. These lessons focus on Listening Skills, Focusing Attention, Following Directions and Using Self Talk!

DADS - SAVE THE DATE!!!!

E Hae Curran will be starting a new program called ALL PRO DAD! The program is aimed at building strong relationships between children and their dads/grandfathers/uncles/male caregivers. You will be treated to a catered breakfast with your student and will have the opportunity to participate in exciting activities!

Our first meeting will be held on OCTOBER 7, 2016 at 7:45am

Connect With Your Kids Over Breakfast
It is time to start our first session of Discovery Classes. As part of our STEM implementation, we will provide students with extended learning opportunities after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:45-3:30. Our first session begins October 11th and runs through November 17th. The 2nd session will begin February 7th and run through March 16th. Notices will be coming home Monday, October 3rd allowing your student to pick from a variety of STEM classes.

Classes will fill quickly!

The following is a description of what is being offered.

- **Discovery Science Kits**: These are hands-on activities that allow students to explore and investigate science phenomenon. **This is open to all ages groups.**

- **The Science of Music**: Students will learn and read songs as well as discover the science of how sound is produced. **This is open for students in grades 3-5.**

- **BeeBots Using Legos**: BeeBots are programmable bees that use directionality as the foundation for coding. This activity will be partnered with Legos for a full engineering experience. **This class is open to Kindergarten and 1st graders.**

- **Lego WeDos**: Lego Wedos are programmable Legos. Students follow the software program on laptops and then write code in order to program the Legos. **This is open for students in grades 2-5.**

- **Exploravision**: This is a science competition with the theme centered around technology. Students will work in teams of four with a coach to envision what technology will be like in 20 years. They will then brainstorm ideas and draw designs for those ideas to develop and submit. Creativity knows no bounds with this class! This class will be two days a week until November then it will be one day a week (Thursday) until February when the deadline to submit for the competition is due. This will be a great opportunity for students to express their ideas and learn how to move forward with those ideas. **This is open to students in grades 4 & 5.**
Dear MVUSD Parent,

This school year, we will be implementing new reporting tools, including new progress reports and report cards. We have worked hard during the past year to develop these tools, including teacher and parent representation in the process. Here is an overview of what you can expect:

**Progress Report:** The Progress Report will be given out in October (at conferences) and in March (prior to Spring Break). The Progress Report will be reflective of the standards reported out on report cards, but it will be a less formal tool. It will communicate to you, as the parent, how your student is doing in the key content areas and in his/her work habits. Additionally, the progress report will contain a brief, individualized narrative in regards to your student’s Strengths and Areas for Growth, as well as the School Supports in place and the Suggested Home Supports you can put in place for the remainder of the semester/school year.

The Progress Report represents the district belief that through communication and collaboration between school and home, all students can make growth towards achieving the academic standards. It supports a “growth mindset”, where we strive for growth for all students. The Progress Report will frame the Parent-Teacher Conference in October and enable us to have valuable, collaborative conversations in regards to your child’s progress.

**Report Card:** The Elementary Report Card has been updated to align to the new California Standards. It will be distributed at the end of each semester, in December and June. The Report Card will provide you with a more detailed picture of where your child is, at the given time, in meeting the end of year standards.

Standards based grades will be provided for each of the key domains in English Language Arts and Mathematics. The grades will be based on the following scale:

- 4 Standards Exceeded
- 3 Standards Met
- 2 Standards Nearly Met
- 1 Standards Not Met

Key areas of concern will also be identified to give you a more detailed understanding of your student’s needs.

The Report Card will also provide you with a mark to represent your student’s effort in Social Studies, Science, and other Curricular Areas. This effort grade will also be used to communicate progress in Work Habits and Social Skills.

We are excited to begin using these new tools during the 2016 – 2017 school year. We will be evaluating these tools throughout the school year and welcome your input. If you have any questions about the new progress report or report card, please see your student’s teacher and/or the school administration.

Faythe Mutchnick-Jayx

Executive Director of Elementary Education
A Note from the Library:

I started reading the California Young Reader Medal (CYRM) nominee books to our students. When I finish reading all the books, students will vote which book was their favorite. I will be setting up a makeshift voting booth for the students to vote. Their votes along with all schools in Calif. will be tallied and a winner announced in late May. If you want more information on this program, you can go to their website: [www.californiayoungreadermedal.org](http://www.californiayoungreadermedal.org).

Our first Reading Counts goal for students is 25 points by Oct. 31st. Our students are doing an amazing job! All students that reach the 25 point goal by Oct. 31st will be able to attend an extra 20 minute recess with a juice pop. The next goal will be 50 points by Dec. 16th. Students reaching that goal will be able to attend a movie party.

~Mrs. Russell

Lunch Menus are now available online only.

Please go to [http://www.schoolnutritionandfitness.com/index.php?page=menus&sid=211011645366853](http://www.schoolnutritionandfitness.com/index.php?page=menus&sid=211011645366853) to sign up to have the menus emailed to you each month.
Get Your PTA Membership! Please show your support for the students at Curran by purchasing your PTA membership! By becoming a member you are joining one of the oldest and largest child advocacy associations in America! When you are a member of the Curran PTA, you become a member of the California State PTA and the National PTA. All the levels are connected forming a nationwide network of members, working for every child, with one voice. Get your membership today! You can contact us any time at ehcpta@gmail.com Thank you!

Reflections

It’s Reflections time! Let your kids show their creative abilities through writing, drawing, photography, film, music and dance. PTA Reflections is a nationally acclaimed student recognition program to encourage artistic creativity. Deadline to turn in projects is October 19th! Attend one of the workshops on Oct. 3rd or 10th to get expert advice in Photography, Visual Arts and Film or for help in the Literature category. Email ehcpta@gmail.com with any questions.

Did You Know…

There are 3 easy ways to earn money for E. Hale Curran!
1. AmazonSmile - When you buy through AmazonSmile, Curran earns money! It is very simple, when you want to shop at Amazon go to smile.amazon.com, choose E. Hale Curran PTA as your organization, and then shop as you normally would on Amazon!
2. Shoparoo - Scan your receipts after you shop and Curran earns money! It’s simple, download the free app and take pictures of your receipts, that’s it!
3. Box Tops - Simply cut out the Box Tops labels from food packages to earn money for Curran! You can put the Box Tops on the paper sent home every month, or put them in a bag, and have your child turn them into their teacher. PTA collects the Box Tops every month and the class with the highest amount wins a class prize!

Curran Carnival

Mark your calendars, October 26th is our Curran Carnival! This is our fall fundraiser – NO CATALOG SALES! There will be carnival games, food vendors, craft vendors, and raffle baskets with amazing items! We need all of our Curran families to come out and shop, eat, play games and have some great family fun! Spread the word about our Curran Carnival – we want the whole community to know!