



A monthly publication of the Villa Park Elementary Home and School League

H&SL Meeting
October 18, 2018 at
8:15 am in the MP Room

Principle's Message

This month I would like to remind all parents and community of the importance of attendance. Orange Unified School Districts Superintendent, Dr. Gunn Marie Hansen, and the Board of Education have proclaimed September as "Attendance Awareness Month." In a letter from Dr. Hansen she states:

"EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS! Our goal is to ensure that every student attends school regularly and on time. When students miss too much school, regardless of the reason, they can fall behind academically and it is harder for them to keep up. Some absences are unavoidable for health reasons or other circumstances. Missing two days a month or 18 days in a school year can harm your student's progress. Research about "chronic absences" (missing 10% of the school year for any reason-excused, unexcused, and out-of-school suspensions) shows that: Children chronically absent in kindergarten and 1st grade are much less likely to read at grade level by the end of the 3rd grade. By middle and high school, chronic absence is a proven early warning that a student is more likely to fail academic courses and is at risk of eventually dropping out of school."

As we move in to October you may be wondering what this means specifically for our Villa Park Elementary students. Our September attendance rate is 97.64%. At first glance this doesn't seem too bad. However, when you look closely at how many days that equals and the amount of instruction lost, it is quite alarming. At the time of this article we have had 22 days of instruction. During those 22 days of instruction, Villa Park Elementary had a total of 318 absences. This amounts to **91,236 lost instructional minutes** and we are only at the end of September! As Principal of

Villa Park Elementary, this concerns me greatly. Each and every day here at VPE, our instructional minutes are packed with rigorous learning opportunities. Our test scores demonstrate that we far outscore others in the state. This is a reflection of how every school day and every minute of instruction counts. In addition to instruction minutes lost, each absence results in lost revenue for our school.

Remember that going out of town when school is in session is considered an unexcused absence. As a family please plan all trips around the scheduled school breaks such as summer, fall, winter, and those long three day holiday weekends. Here are a few tips to help support regular attendance from Dr. Gunn Marie Hansen:

- Make sure your child has a morning routine and regular bedtime.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Ensure your child goes to school every day unless they are truly sick.
- Avoid scheduling vacations or doctor's appointments when school is in session.
- Talk to teachers for advice if your child feels anxious about going to school.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call a family member, neighbor, or another parent to take your child to school.

I am looking forward to another great month filled with learning and fun!

Dr. Sara Beggs, Principal

Please remember that all students are guaranteed a "free public education". There are no mandatory fees, however there are suggested donations to cover cost off activities.



Upcoming Events

October 2018

| | |
|----------|-----------------------------|
| 10/5-12: | Book Fair |
| 10/5: | Fall Family Night |
| | Birthday Club |
| | Bobcat Spirit Day |
| 10/8-11 | Parent/Teacher Conference |
| 10/10 | Walk to School Day |
| 10/12 | Bobcat Spirit Day |
| 10/14 | Dads Club Work Day |
| 10/18 | H&S League Meeting |
| 10/19 | Bobcat Spirit day |
| 10/22-26 | Red Ribbon Week |
| 10/23 | Puber-Tea |
| 10/24 | Picture Make-Up Day |
| 10/24 | Bike Rodeo |
| 10/26 | Family Lunch on the Lawn |
| | Parent Mixer Night |
| | Bobcat Spirit Day |
| 10/29 | School Site Council Meeting |
| 10/31 | Halloween Class Parties |

H&S League President

Happy Fall to all of our Bobcat families!

Things are about to get exciting around here at VPE! There are so many activities this month and so many volunteers to thank for taking the time to make them happen! We just had our first general board mtg. of the year with lots and lots of info! If you missed it last month, please join us on Thursday, Oct. 18th, for this month's meeting. Siblings are always welcome, coffee and breakfast treats are always served!

Our membership drive has been successful with Mrs. Granger's 4th grade and Mrs. Miller's Kindergarten classes winning the two week contest. They will be enjoying extra recess and an ice cream party! We thank everyone who has become a member of the VPE H&SL. If you have not turned in your membership sign up sheet or have not signed up online...THERE IS STILL TIME! We will still accept your membership! It is our goal that each VPE family join the H&SL. YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS! Thank you, Jamie Harris for your time and efforts on our 2018 Membership Drive.

If you are wondering about your spirit wear order...Mark Kuli is hoping to have orders ready the beginning of October. If you ordered something, it will be delivered to your student in their classroom. Thank you Mark Kuli for outfitting VPE!

Please also note that our After School Enrichment classes have started and can still possibly take students! Thank you Wendy McGrane for your efforts on bringing these opportunities to VPE.

Wow, there is so much to look forward to this month, mark your calendars and please watch for information coming home and don't forget to follow along on social media:

- 10/1: Pledgstar goes live: Our annual online jog a thon fundraising event, "Turkey Trot," will go live to send emails and qualify for prize drawings! Huge thanks are in order for Erin Flynn and Maria Griswold.
- 10/5: Fall Family Fun Night – Thank you Donna Czekalski, Dad's Club and our 5th grade fundraising reps for putting together a fun night of Fall festivities, chili cook off and a movie.
- 10/5-10/12: "Fall in Love with Reading" during our Fall Book Fair put together by Mickey McGuire.
- 10/10: Intl. Walk to School Day: Which upper and lower grade classes will win the Golden Shoe award? Coloring contest and information coming home soon regarding meeting spots. Thank you Allan and Kim Barks-Finamore for organizing this event.
- 10/11: Bike Rodeo: Open to all 3rd graders and those 4th-6th graders who would like to join. Thank you, Alissa Cartwright, Shelly Johnson and Anna Ureostegui.
- 10/14: Dad's Club work day: Calling all Dad's to help out on campus. Thank you, Jordan Wu for organizing.
- 10/23: 5th Grade Mother/Daughter Tea: Thank you, Kelly Borgen for organizing this evening for our moms and daughters.
- 10/26: Parent Mixer at Moreno's: Yummy dinner, drinks and class basket raffle! Moreno's gives a percentage back to VPE and it's a great night to meet new friends and catch up with old ones. Thank you, Susan Somerndike for putting this fun evening together for our parents.

PLEASE, thank a volunteer this month and get ready for the jam packed fun ahead! Please don't hesitate to contact me at any time, should you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you ALL for ALL you do to make VPE an awesome place to be!

Go Bobcats, Go!

Michelle Gonzalez

President

Dear VPE Families:

The 2018 Jog-A-Thon is fast approaching! On Wednesday, November 14, all VPE students will participate in our school wide TURKEY TROT event! With your support, we can make it our ONLY fundraiser of the year. 100% of the funds raised will directly benefit VPE students by enhancing the new quad area with a permanent shade structure; and maintaining existing programs such as PE, K-4 music, Art Masters, assembly programs, and more!

**In order to achieve these goals, we are setting the bar HIGH...
let's see if we can get to \$70K this year!!**

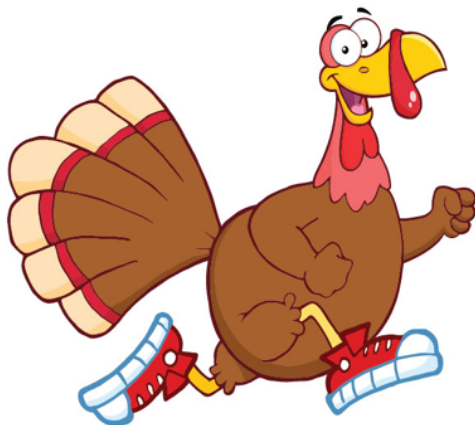
We are bringing back the popular PledgeStar donation-collecting system again this year! This QUICK & EASY online program takes just a few minutes to set up. Family and friends can pay over the internet with a credit card! PledgeStar goes live on October 1! Follow the simple registration steps at

www.PledgeStar.com/VillaPark

Of course, we still welcome cash and check donations too! Paper pledge forms will be coming home on October 8.

Interested in being an OFFICIAL TURKEY TROT SPONSOR and having your business or family name printed on the back of the 2018 Jog-A-Thon participant t-shirts???? It's not too late!!! Please fill out the SPONSORSHIP FORM and return it to the front office no later than OCTOBER 5!

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!
LET'S MAKE THIS YEAR'S JOG-A-THON
OUR MOST SUCCESSFUL ONE YET!**

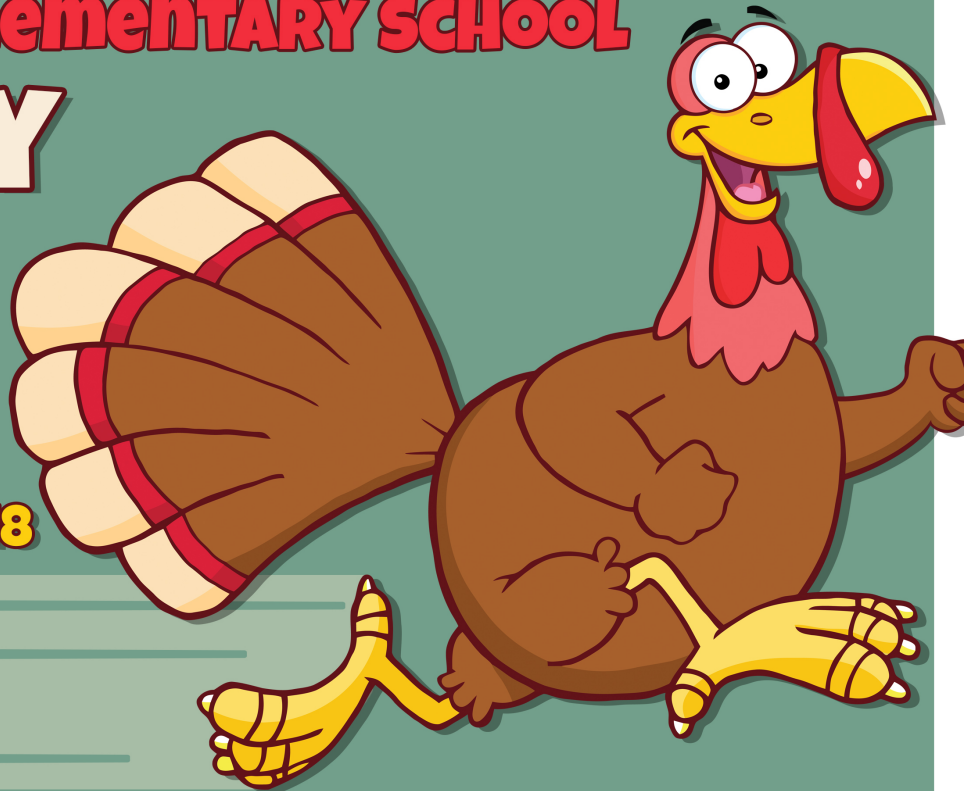


VILLA PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

TURKEY TROT

JOG-A-THON

**Wednesday,
November 14, 2018**



PLEDGESTAR

**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!
EASY ONLINE SYSTEM
THAT WILL HELP YOU GATHER PLEDGES!**

**FOLLOW THE SIMPLE REGISTRATION STEPS AT:
WWW.PLEDGESTAR.COM/VILLAPARK**

It takes just minutes to set up your child's own fundraising page. Family and friends can even pay over the internet with a credit card. A thank you note from your child will automatically be sent to those who donate online. It's easy, it's simple, so register!

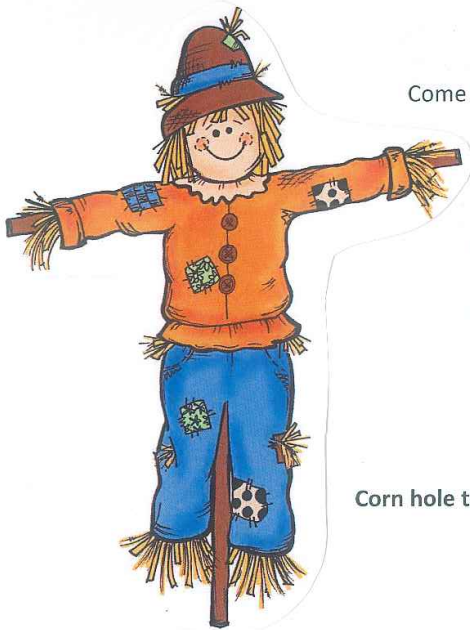
DON'T MISS OUT!

October 1 - PledgeStar will go live and be ready for donations!

**Students who Register & Send 10 emails on PledgeStar by October 15
will be entered in the DAILY RAFFLE during
the week of October 15-19 to Win a \$20 Target Gift Card**

TOP PERFORMING STUDENT WILL WIN AN IPAD MINI!

This Friday, October 5, 2018 is our FALL FAMILY FUN NIGHT! Please join us for lots of fun, great food, activities and a movie under the stars! Also this year is our first ever VPE CHILI COOK OFF!



Fall Family Fun Night

October 5th, 2018

Come for a fun evening of activities, games & contests.

And stay for the movie.

Don't forget to pack a picnic dinner or buy and help support 5th grade fundraising

Don't forget to bring a chair and a blanket.

"Hotel Transylvania 2". (Rated PG)
(Bring your flashlights for after the movie)

Dad's Club

Corn hole tournament & Pumpkin Ball (Soccer) starts at 5:00pm

Book Fair 5-7pm

Chili cook off contest 5-6:30pm

Fall activities (Games, crafts) 5-7pm

Pumpkin carving contest 5-7pm
(Bring a pumpkin already carved and decorated to enter)

Movie Starts at 7pm

5TH Grade

Is cooking up some yummy food, sweets, treats & drinks.

Menu...

Taco Cart... (15% of the proceeds go to 5th grade fundraising)

Tacos (Al a carte) \$2 each or 3 for \$5

Taco Dinner (Includes 3 tacos, rice & beans) \$7 each

Cheese quesadilla \$5 each

Quesadilla w/ meat \$6 each

Choices of meats (Beef, chicken & spicy pork)

Additional items (100% goes to 5th grade fundraising)

Novelty toys \$2-\$5 each

Cotton Candy \$2 each

Carmel Apples \$3 each

Drink (Water & Soda) \$1 each

Popcorn \$1 each

This is a VPE Home & School League Sponsored Event



Our book fair is back! Beginning Friday October 5th during our Fall Family Fun Night, the Book Fair will be opening its doors. The book fair is from October 5th - October 12th. Be sure to pop into the library and check it out!



Bobcat Book Fair

Grand Opening Fall Family Night
Friday, October 5th 5-7pm

Join us in the Library
Monday, Oct. 8th ~ Friday, Oct 12th
Open After School

During Parent/Teacher Conferences
Mon. ~ Thurs. 12:15-3:00pm,
Fri. 12:15-1:15pm

*Fall in Love
with Reading*



Raise! Hold! Fold! I check! These were the words we heard throughout the Dads Club Poker Night Friday 9/28/18. We had a great turnout with more than 70 dads from VPE, Serrano, and Nohl Canyon that brought their poker face. The evening began with a warm welcome from the president of each of the three Dads Clubs. Mark Kuli went over the basic rules on having fun, socializing, and winning. He kept all the players entertained and provided breaks for pizza and ice cream. We enjoyed playful banter and doing what dads do best - poking fun at each other! The Villa Park City Hall had never heard this much laughter. Mark provided a total of 8 prizes ranging from an ice chest cooler with drinks to a 43" Toshiba TV. The prize every dad was going after was the child-size T-Shirt touting ***"MY DAD BEAT YOUR DAD AT POKER!"*** At 12:30am, an "All-In" strategy revealed the Fall 2018 Dads Club Poker winner, Andy Tang. Coming in second place was Jeff McMillen, and in third place was Matt Wagner. All three winners are VPE dads! You have a few months to sharpen your poker skills as we will host another Dads vs Dads Poker Night in January, 2019. Be prepared to "play the hand you're dealt!"

Our next gathering will be on **Wednesday, October 10th, at 6pm at Buffalo Wild Wings** on Tustin Street in Orange. Happy Hour specials are available until 7pm. Dads will also have the opportunity to participate in BWW's "Blazin' Wing Challenge". You have 6 minutes to finish 12 Blazin' hot wings. If you complete the challenge, your wings are free, you win a T-Shirt, and your photo will be posted on the wall of fame. If you can't handle the heat and fail to complete the challenge, not to worry, the consolation prize is a wallet that is \$12 lighter and a bruised ego.

During this gathering, we will discuss our **first workday** coming up on **Sunday, October 14th, from 9am to 2pm.**

Roll up your sleeves and get ready to work. Let's beautify VPE!

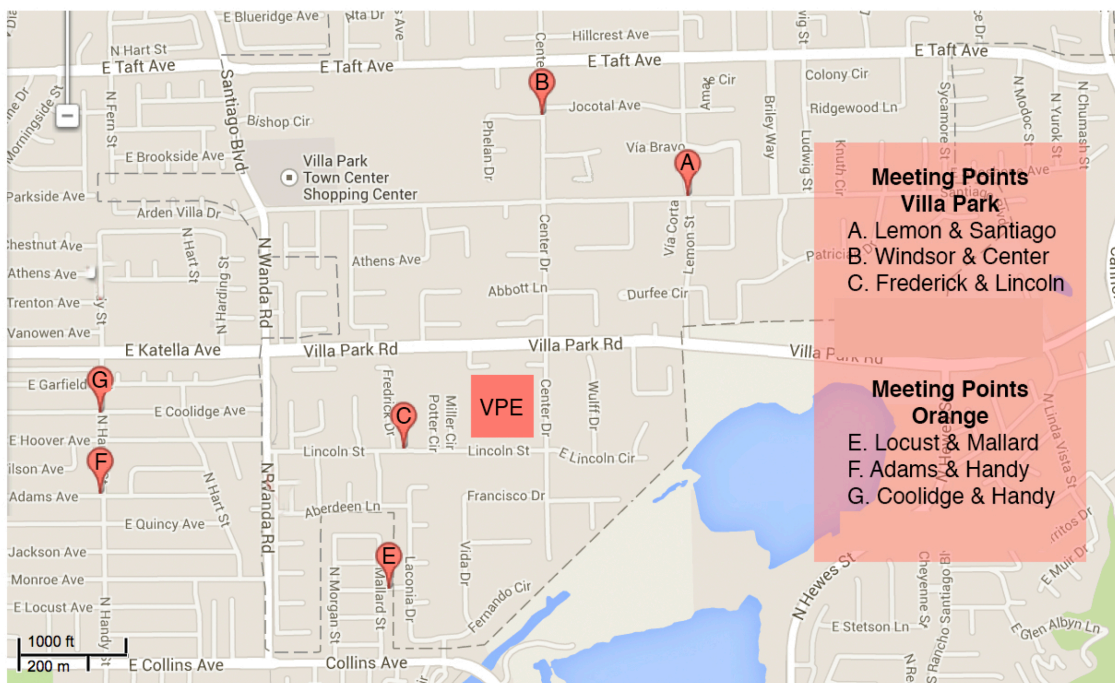


Walk to School Day!

International Walk to School Day is fast approaching! Below are the meet up points, this is a great option for those that live a bit away from the school but would like to participate!

Hope to see everyone walking to school!

International Walk to School Day
It's Cool to
Walk to School!
 join us
 October 10th, 2018



VPE Families, Please join in the fun! If you live too far to walk to school or just want to have a great time walking with other students and families in our community, please drive to your nearest "Meeting Point" October 10th, 7:30AM sharp to participate.

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS!

The annual Parent Mixer will be held on Friday, October 26th at 6:00pm at Moreno's Mexican Food Restaurant on Chapman Avenue.

Book your babysitters!
More details to follow!

PICTURE MAKE-UP

Our picture make-up day has been scheduled for Wednesday, 10/24 in the MPR room. Please speak with the front office if your child needs a makeup picture.

6th Grade News

Attention 6th Grade Parents!

Your fundraising committee is busy planning this year's events, including outdoor science camp (December 3-7), Disneyland and Graduation activities. If you would like to make a donation to fully fund your child's spending account please make your checks payable to "VPE Class of 2019" and please turn them in to your child's teacher. Balance information was passed out at Back to School Night... but if you have any questions or still need it, please don't hesitate to reach out to Melissa Dickey at busterandcharlie@sbcglobal.net

Thank you and we are looking forward to a Great Year!

Safety for our Students, Parents and Staff!

Be Safe at Morning Drop Off and Afternoon Pick Up!

It is our intention and hope that all students and families arrive safe on campus. Please, please use caution and patience in the morning and afternoon. Please use the crosswalks at all times and avoid darting across Center Dr. and Lincoln Ave. Even drivers paying attention cannot see you or a young student suddenly running across the street. Please set a good example for your children, be courteous to other drivers and those using the crosswalk.

Morning Drop Off: 7:45 to 8:00 am

- Please DO NOT drop off early– especially in the back. Students are not supervised.
- Allow more time than you think you will need, traffic and parking do move slowly
- There is less traffic at 7:45am, so please plan and leave a few minutes earlier.
- Please check your parking spot, DO NOT park in stalls marked “STAFF”
- DO NOT park where curbs are painted red or with in 30 feet of a stop sign.

Dismissal 2:05 (K-3), 2:20 (4-6), Wednesdays all students dismissed at 12:15 pm

- Clarify your pickup location with your student(s)
- Post your name visibly in the front window for front lot drive up Older siblings should meet younger siblings
- Please be courteous and DO NOT cut in front of the drive up lane if there is cars already lined up waiting
- Please DO NOT ask your child to wait off campus
- Supervised Pick Up ends at 2:35



Contact Us

The Bobcat News is the monthly publication for families and students of Villa Park Elementary from the VPE H&SL, the non-profit parent group for our school.

To report absences, please call operation concerns at (714) 538-9710

-Kindergarten to 3rd Grade: 8:00 am - 2:05 pm (12:15-1:00 pm LUNCH)

-4th Grade to 6th Grade: 8:00 am - 2:20 pm (11:45-12:30 pm LUNCH)

-Every Wednesday: K-6th Grade 8:00 am - 12:15 pm

Principal: Dr. Sarah Beggs sbeggs@orangeusd.org

President: Michelle Gonzalez president@vpe-hsl.org



Villa Park Elementary H&SL



www.vpe-hsl.org



@VPE_HSL