



BOBCAT NEWS

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

Information in this Newsletter...

Foundation Games, Camp Bobcat, Read Across America...and more

Happy Reading

Principal's Message

Working Together to Promote Positive Student Behavior By Mrs. Little

A personal phone call from the principal can strike fear into any parent's heart. No parent likes to hear that their child has received a disciplinary referral to the principal. If you should receive that phone call, don't panic. We share a common goal, shaping your child's behavior to optimize success at school and beyond.

Just as children are learning how to read, write, and solve mathematical problems at school, they are also learning what behaviors lead to positive outcomes, and what behaviors create negative situations for themselves and others. For some students establishing good behavioral habits at school will come easily, while for others it will be challenging. When parents and school staff reinforce similar expectations for appropriate behavior, we optimize student success.

As a part of Villa Park Elementary Positive Behavior Intervention System we teach all students to strive to be PAWS-itive. This means:

Personal Best- put forth effort in work, demonstrate honesty and integrity, use technology appropriately, and follow the dress code.

Act Responsibly- follow school rules for where to be on campus, bring and use materials appropriately, and avoid disrupting others.

Work and Play Safely –follow rules for safe play and movement, keep hands feet and objects to oneself, avoid physical aggression (even playfully), and never bring unsafe items (including toy weapons) to school.

Show Respect- follow adult directions at all times, and demonstrate respect to everyone- avoid profanity, inappropriate images or gestures, teasing, insults, exclusion, and intimidation.

We are grateful for the work you do as parents to support our efforts to teach positive behavior at school. Even small gestures, like ensuring that students sit down in their assigned spots on the playground in the morning, make a difference. For young children obeying authority, doing non-preferred tasks, accepting frustration, and waiting to receive attention do not come easily; praise your children when they do these things! Monitoring your children's technology use and limiting the types of media to which they are exposed also helps foster positive behavior that carries over to school.

Children following our positive standards receive classroom and school praise including "PAWS" Bucks. When children fail to follow the PAWS 'itive standards they are likely to receive a behavioral referral. Behavior referrals can fall into two categories "minors" and "majors". A "minor" should be viewed as a "teachable moment".

Consequences are short term and do not progress unless there is a pattern of continued poor behavior. "Majors" are more significant behavioral incidents which are likely to have caused a safety hazard, harm or hurt feelings, or to have undermined the trusting relationship between the student and adults at school. When a child receives a "major" we have three goals:

- Help the child understand the negative impact of the behavior to self and others.
- Discourage the repetition of the behavior by assigning a consequence.
- Guide the child toward a positive replacement behavior that will be expected in the future.

By discussing these three elements with your child, you can help us prevent further incidents. If a student repeats a "major" offense the consequences will increase according to a predictable sequence found in our [Student Handbook](#) (p 7). Students who receive repeated "majors" are likely to need additional follow-up incentives, or interventions at school and your support at home.

Our goal for all students is self-directed "PAWS-itive" behavior. By working as a team we can support your child and, all children at this school as they strive to meet this goal.

...continued on page 2

Upcoming Events:

- 2/16: H&SL Meeting 8:15am
- 2/17: NO SCHOOL— Lincoln
- 2/20: NO SCHOOL— Presidents
- 2/21: Science on the Go—Upper
- 2/22: College Spirit Day
- 2/23: Irvine Railroad Field Trip (4th)
- 2/24: Imagination Machine
- 2/28: Philharmonic Field Trip (2nd)
- 3/2: Read Across America
- 3/3: Student of the Month
Art Masters Lecture
Birthday Club
- 3/6-10: Art Masters Lessons
- 3/14: Minimum Day (End Trimester)
Dad's Club Meeting 6:30pm
- 3/16: H&SL Meeting 8:15am
- 3/17: Carnival 4-7pm
Science on the Go—Upper
- 3/22 Kinder Spring Parade



Principal's Message

....continued from Page 1

Academic Intervention and Support for all Students

When students struggle to meet academic benchmarks, it is our goal to offer them additional support. Often this support takes the form of the teacher pulling the child aside individually or in a small group within the classroom to break down key concepts or review important skills. Sometimes extra practice and review is accomplished using online software programs such as Lexia, which strengthens reading skills. Occasionally, additional support staff at school such as our Education Specialist, Mrs. Smith, or Response to Intervention Teacher, Mrs. Arriola, will support struggling students by pulling them out of class

briefly to work with them in a small group. Other times, under the supervision of the teacher, we enlist the help of volunteers or peer tutors for students who need extra skills practice and review.

In addition to these classroom interventions, a few times throughout the year we are able to offer before school or after school intervention classes targeted to specific student needs in reading, math, or language. These classes are not homework help. Students are selected for these classes based on the space available and a comprehensive look at student academic performance in the targeted areas. Parents are informed when their students have been identified to participate in these classes. Parents should talk to the teacher if they feel their child needs this kind of help, but

has not yet been invited to participate. Please understand that sometimes students may be "wait-listed" for intervention classes based on the number of spaces available and the academic needs of each student.

If you have concerns about your child's progress, talk with your child's teacher. She likely has suggestions to offer and can share any interventions that are already in place. By working together we can help every child to achieve his or her potential.

Congratulations to VPE Employees of the Year

Teacher of the Year- Mrs. Allison Smith, Educational Specialist

Classified Staff Member of the Year- Mrs. Sandra Brown, Health Clerk.



Read Across America

Read Across America is Thursday March 2nd. We would like to celebrate with a book swap. Students may bring a book and choose a book and swap it for a book to take home. They may bring a book that day or drop them off at the library as early as Monday 2/27. Their name will be added to a list so they may get a book on Thursday.

Please remember only school appropriate books will be accepted. The books should be in good condition with no tear, marks or missing pages. Everyone is welcome to participate!

We would also like to Invite guest readers on Thursday as well. If you are interested in reading to a class please contact Ms. O'Dowd at godowd@ousd.org

VPE Carnival It's a Jungle Out There



The VPE Annual Carnival is coming up on Friday, March 17th from 4-8pm! The theme will be "It's A Jungle Out There!" Please watch for order forms coming home to preorder your TK Burger meals and tickets.

Morning Drop Off

Mornings can be challenging for all families. For your student's safety and educational success, we ask that you establish a routine of dropping students off at school regularly no earlier than 7:40 and no later than 7:55 AM.

- School gates open and staff supervision begins at 7:45 AM. Students dropped off before that time are at risk because during an unsupervised wait, they may become bored and engage in problematic behavior. Children who are waiting before the 7:45 bell are now being asked to wait in the area directly in front of the school on the green lines. Help us to start each child's day in a safe and positive environment by avoiding early drop offs.
- The school bell rings at 8:00 AM and students are escorted promptly to their classrooms. Students should be lined up on the playground when the 8:00 AM bell rings. Students who arrive to campus at that time are likely to be tardy to class and may be less focused and organized for their day. Plan to arrive at school by 7:55 on regular days. In inclement weather; additional time will be needed. Thank you for helping us to start every child's day out right.

Getting out the door in a timely fashion is a challenge for any family. Establishing routines such as laying out clothes and supplies the night before can help. By helping your children develop a morning routine that gets them to school on time, you are setting them up for success throughout the day!

Foundation Games 2017 — Sign Up NOW!

Registration forms are now in the office and available on the H&SL Website. Registration forms are due by March 12. Meet is April 21 (born 2004) and April 22 (born 2005-2010). Last year VPE had 140 participants...let's beat that number and defend our title!!!!



President's Message

Dear VPE Families,

Hard to believe we are almost through February already! We, in the H&SL are gearing up for many fun family activities this spring. Over the next couple months we have, Carnival & Auction, Foundation Games, Tile Painting night, Book Fair and much more to look forward to! Thanks to the wonderful families we are able to offer and host terrific events. Please consider getting involved in your school and the H&SL. Contact me at any time for information! **WE NEED YOU!**

Did you know that the VPE H&SL can get a percentage of almost everything you purchase on Amazon.com? It takes no extra effort, AT ALL. Just go to smile.amazon.com and follow the instructions on the flyer below! Most recently, we received over \$85 from Amazon just for shopping! Please consider signing up!

- Julie Krodel, VPE H&L President

**Support the Villa Park Elementary Home and School League
by shopping at**

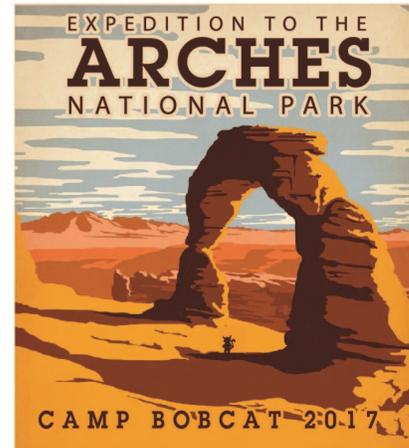


When you shop on smile.amazon.com, select **Villa Park Home and School League** as your charitable organization. Amazon will donate .5% of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the Home and School League.

AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same Amazon Prime benefits.

Start your shopping at smile.amazon.com to support our school.

Villa Park Elementary
VPE DC
Dads' Club



Orange & Villa Park Business Owners-

On Friday, June 9th, the Villa Park Elementary School Dads' Club will host our annual overnight camp out. Dads and kids get to set up a tent right on the playground and enjoy a night away from home, in the outdoor surroundings of their schoolyard. Camp Bobcat has wonderful entertainment throughout the night, great food and a pancake breakfast in the morning. The students and their dads always love this event to finish off the school year!

The Dads' Club has also utilized Camp Bobcat as our main fundraiser where all proceeds from camp fees, food sales, & raffle tickets are used to improve Villa Park Elementary. In the past, we have purchased computers, LCD projectors, SMART boards as well as fund some sorely needed facilities upgrades around our aging campus.

To help make the 2017 Camp Bobcat a success, WE NEED YOU! We are asking for sponsors to underwrite the food and activity costs as well as in-kind donations that we will use for raffle prizes. All donations are tax deductible and each donor will be recognized in our distributed literature and during the event.

If you are interested in sponsoring this event in any small way or if you can donate a prize for the raffle, please contact one of us either by phone or email. **Thank you in advance for your support of Camp Bobcat!**

Sincerely,

William Hamlein

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Villa Park Elementary Dad's Club is a subsidiary of the Villa Park Elementary Home & School League, Non Profit Organization # 23-727-1436





Orange, CA, Lodge members distributed 2,200 dictionaries to third-grade students in 27 elementary schools in the Orange Unified School District. The donation was funded using a \$2,000 ENF Gratitude Grant. Pictured with dictionaries from the past six years' distributions is Villa Park Elementary School teacher Karin Fujitani.



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 concern at 714-528-9710

- 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

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Villa Park Elementary H&SL



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