



Newsletter



Keeping the lines of communication open between parents, teachers, administrators and the community strengthens our school and benefits our children.

A Monthly Newsletter

<http://www.orgsites.com/ca/buenavistapta/>

Issue 2 Volume 4 Oct 2008

PTA Membership - Just Say "YES"

Are you a member of the PTA yet? Hope this poem motivates you to join!

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Reflections Art Program

Being able to express oneself through art is a language all its own.

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Book Fair Safari!

A three day book sale with a an African Safari theme!

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Fall Festival

Looking for that special event that just kicks off the fall season? Well, look no further than Fall Festival!

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Autumn Safety Tips

Emphasis is on Halloween Safety this month.

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Around and About

With the moderate weather of the Central Coast, there are many activities planned for Lompoc and surrounding communities.

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President's Corner

Your PTA President is Laurie Carter, who can be reached at no.wonder@verizon.net

Dear Friends of the PTA,

Don't you just love this time of year? There is a crispness to the air in the evening that makes you want to put on a sweater and go to a football game! The leaves have started to change and fall. Darkness comes sooner and we know that family holidays will be approaching. Kids are dreaming of Halloween costumes and pillow cases full of candy! Thanksgiving is soon to follow!

As we enter into this warm and cozy Autumn, don't forget to include yourself in the many activities planned by your "PTA family."

On October 25th there will be a Fall Festival at our school. This is a Saturday event and everyone's invited! Be watching for more details!

The Reflections Art Program will kick off soon and run through the month. See page 3 for more info!



PTA Vision: Making every child's potential a reality.

PTA Mission: To be a powerful voice for all children,

A relevant resource for families and communities, and

A strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child.

Two events arrive just in time to ease your holiday shopping schedule! Look for our Fall Catalog Sale catalog to come home with your kids this week. You'll find many items that are great gifts or stocking stuffers! And you'll support your school with every purchase!

Book Fair takes on a Safari theme in November! Details on page 3. Books make perfect gifts!

Keep you eyes open for the sale of Spirit Wear! Our volunteers are piecing together a spirit wear line-up

that has a little something for everyone! And once again, spirit wear makes a great gift!

As a community, we know times are tight. That is why we've tried to cater our fundraising efforts to include items you might normally buy for seasonal gift-giving. You buy the gifts you need and your school gets the profit. It's a win-win situation!

The key reason that our PTA is so successful is our volunteers. I am so pleased to see such a wonderful list of parents who are interested in helping with PTA! Each person, giving whatever time, energy and talents they have, contributes to the success of the whole group. And we all have a ton of fun while building lasting friendships!

So to all the friends I haven't met yet - let's take this cozy autumn season to meet and work together! I'm looking forward to it!

Fondly,

Laurie Carter



PTA Membership - Just Say "YES"

The new school year has started and the "parent's homework" done.

You may have found it overwhelming or you may have found it fun!

Completing first day packets - name, address, sign here!

All the forms it takes it give our children one great year!

Now it's time for me to think just what I want to do

To make this school experience great for families, too.

I know! I'll join the PTA! Now there's a place for me!

With the energy of other parents, we'll make school history!

The dues are just six dollars, so I'll have my spouse join, too.

With this one step, I'll show support, but there is more that I can do!

I'll join a fun committee, maybe yearbook or Holiday Shoppe.

Or maybe I'm your baker, if you need cookies or lemon drops.

Maybe I can share my skills in a class or two,

Or maybe I can volunteer to help with Zoo to You!

This talk is so exciting; the opportunities are great!

I'm ready for the PTA - are you? Join now! It's not too late!

Lompoc High Drama's "ABCs of Broadway!"

You are invited to the Lompoc High Drama season opener, "The ABCs of Broadway!" that opens Friday, October 3, with additional performances Saturday the 4th and Sunday the 5th. (Friday and Saturday evening shows are at 7:30 pm, with the Sunday matinee at 2 pm.) We have put together an evening of music from 26 different Broadway shows, ranging from The Sound of Music to Starlight Express. A three piece live band will accompany student performers who will give you a little lesson in the history of musical theatre in between songs. This show is family-friendly!

Our little theatre seats about 160 people. There are no tickets for sale for this production; we will take your donations at the door (suggested donation is \$5). All proceeds will go to the American Cancer Society through the "Thespians in ACT-ion" Relay for Life team. Please help us reach our goal of \$2,000.

Reflections Art Program

An arts recognition and achievement program for students

The Reflections program provides opportunities for students to express themselves creatively and to receive positive recognition for original works of art inspired by a pre-selected theme, while increasing community awareness on the importance of the arts in education.

The Reflections Program was established in 1969 by National PTA board member Mary Lou Anderson. Since that time, more than 10 million students have participated in the program. The program's longevity and participation figures attest to its strength. The excitement and enthusiasm that the program generates for children, parents, schools and communities is unmatched.

Participation and appreciation for the arts is the Reflection Program's goal. Although the Reflections Program follows a "contest" format, winning should not be the emphasis.

Participation in the Reflections Program is a great way for students to explore and learn about various art forms. Creating art is a valuable learning process that challenges students to use their critical thinking skills as well as their creative talents to create art that supports a specific theme.

Students may submit an entry in any of the six arts areas listed below. Only original works of art are accepted. Depending on local PTA guidelines, students may enter more than one work of art. The six arts areas are as follows:

Literature	Visual arts
Musical composition	Dance Choreography
Photography	Film/Video Production

Participation in the Reflections Program is organized by school grade. Student works are critiqued against others in the same grade division. This allows recognition and judging of artworks by appropriate developmental age and skill levels. The four grade divisions are as follows:

- Primary Preschool Grade 2 or up to age 7
- Intermediate Grades 3-5 or ages 8-10
- Middle/Junior Grades 6-8 or ages 11-13
- Senior Grades 9-12 or ages 14+



The Reflections Program is structured for PTAs to recognize students at the local unit, council, PTA district, state and national levels. Entries are first judged at the local unit level, where selected works are chosen to represent the PTA at each subsequent level. Once entries reach the level of the California State PTA, entries may be selected for submission to the National PTA. Award of Excellence and Awards of Merit are recognized at the annual National PTA convention and are displayed as part of the program's traveling exhibit.

Participation in the California Reflections program is open to all students in attendance at PTA/PTSA schools where the program is sponsored.

Book Fair Safari!

Coming in November 2008!

Would you like the chance to share your love of reading with your children? How about the chance to buy new books right here in Vandenberg Village? Well, that is what Book Fair is all about!

On November 17 - 19, expect a roaring good time when the Book Fair comes to Buena Vista! Take a Book Fair Safari as you browse through selections that fit the theme, as well as lots of family favorites that you will enjoy! Bring the neighbors, too! It isn't that easy to find a great selection of new children's books in our area, so this is an opportunity that no one will want to miss!



Buena Vista Fall Festival, October 25, 2008!

Remember the Halloween Carnival from years past and the grand Silent Auction that accompanies it? Well this year, we want to grow that fun event even more! It will take a few more hands to do it! Picture scattered hay bales, the smell of good foods on the grill, a pumpkin patch, a colossal bake sale, a kid's quarter raffle, music and more! Throw in a farmer's market with fresh fruits and veggies from our own back yards! How about a place to have a family photo taken? The possibilities are endless! Join the committee and decide what this event will be!

This could be the seasonal event that your family looks forward to for years to come! Want to be a part of the action and the fun? Check out our website at <http://www.orgsites.com/ca/buenavistapta/> to learn more.

October Safety Gram

Halloween Safety

TREATS: Warn children not to eat any treats before an adult has carefully examined them for evidence of tampering. Only eat treats that are packaged by manufacturers.

COSTUMES:



- ← Do not obstruct vision; secure hat.
- ← Costumes, wigs should be **FLAME RESISTANT**.
- ← Decorate with reflective tape for visibility.
- ← Well-fitted shoes to prevent falling.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY: Young children should always be accompanied by an adult or an older, responsible child. All children should WALK, not run from house to house and use the sidewalks if available, rather than walk in the street. Children should be cautioned against running out from between parked cars, or across lawns and yards where ornaments, furniture, or clotheslines present dangers. When crossing the street always cross in the crosswalk and/or at the light. If there is no light or crosswalk always cross straight across from corner to corner. Look in both directions for oncoming traffic.

CHOOSING SAFE HOUSES: Children should go only to homes where the residents are known and have outside lights on as a sign of welcome.

Please take me to the Book Fair

Dates:
November 17-19, 2008

Times:
2:30pm - 6:30pm

Visit our School's Book Fair Homepage at:
http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/buenavista_bookfair

SCHOLASTIC

Children should not enter homes or apartments unless they are accompanied by an adult. People expecting trick-or-treaters should remove anything that could be an obstacle from lawns, steps, and porches. Candlelit jack-o-lanterns should be kept away from landings and doorsteps where costumes

could brush against the flame. Indoor jack-o-lanterns should be kept away from curtains, decorations, and other furnishings that could be ignited.

CALIFORNIA STATE PTA COMMUNICATOR
OCTOBER 2005

Conference Week is October 13-17, 2008

How can I get the most out of parent-teacher conferences?

- Set up a conference early in the school year. Let the teacher know that you are interested in your child's education and that you want to be kept informed of his progress.
- If possible, arrange to observe the teaching in your child's classroom.
- Before a conference, write out questions you want to ask and jot down what you want to tell the teacher. Be prepared to take notes during the conference and ask for an explanation if you don't understand something.
- Talk with the teacher about your child's talents, hobbies, study habits and any special sensitivities he might have, such as concerns about weight or speech difficulties.
- Tell the teacher if you think your child needs special help and about any special family situation or event that might affect your child's ability to learn. Mention such things as a new baby, an illness or a recent or an upcoming move.
- Tell the teacher what kind of person you want your child to become and what values are important to you.
- Ask the teacher for specific details about your child's work and progress. If your child has already received some grades, ask how your child is being evaluated.
- Ask about specific things that you can do to help your child. At home, think about what the teacher has said and then follow up. If the teacher has told you that your child needs to improve in certain areas, check back in a few weeks to see how things are going.
- Approach the teacher with a cooperative spirit. If you disagree with the teacher about an issue, don't argue in front of your child. Set up a meeting to talk only about that issue. Before that meeting, plan what you are going to say. Try to be positive and remain calm. Listen carefully. If the teacher's explanation doesn't satisfy you, and you do not think you can make progress by further discussion with the teacher, arrange to talk with the principal or even the school superintendent.

Around and About



With weather as moderate as that of the Central Coast, you can enjoy year around outdoor fun! And for the few days that it rains, you'll find plenty of indoor distractions, too!

OCTOBER SKATE FEST

The Lompoc Parks, Recreation & Urban Forestry Department in conjunction with Surf Connection would like to invite the community to watch the Central Coast's best skaters showing off their skills in individual games of S.K.A.T.E. There will be raffle prizes, music provided by a DJ, food and much more! Registration for individual games of S.K.A.T.E. will be on-site, the day of the event. If you would like more information, contact Mario Guerrero Jr. at 875-8095. Ages: 7 years and up
Date: October 5
Time: 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Location: Lompoc Skate Park
Fee: FREE

HAUNTED HOUSE Mark your calendars and prepare your "spooktacular" costumes

now as your Parks, Recreation & Urban Forestry Department reveals the eerie details on this haunted event! Campfire Boys and Girls will provide carnival games for those children who want some Halloween fun and not a Halloween scare. Don't forget to dress up for the costume contest at 7:00 PM each night! This spookfest is guaranteed to be the greatest of all. If you are interested in volunteering, please call 875-8100.
Date & Time: Friday, October 24 Saturday, October 25 Sunday, October 26*
5:30 PM – 9:00 PM
Ticket Price: \$2 for Kids \$4 for Adults
Location: ARC, Gym and Lobby
* Doors close at 8:00 PM on Sunday, October 26th

Art in the Park @ Dinosaur Caves

Pismo Beach, CA
For more information please call: 805-704-8128
[website](#) This once a month event takes place at Dinosaur Caves Park in Shell Beach along the path where the ocean meets the cliffs. The event takes place the first Sunday of every month May through October with over seventy local artists and craftsmen selling and displaying their work. The art include paintings, sculpture, pottery, glass artist, textile, jewelry, wood and metal furniture, and much more. Along with the sale of fine arts, the event offers live music, hands-on children's activities, fresh flowers and plants, BBQ.

Halloween Zoo Boo
Charles Paddock Zoo

Atascadero, CA
4:00 pm - 7:30 pm
[website](#) It's time again to scare up a hauntingly good time! The Central Coast Zoo Society invites all mummies, daddies, ghouls and goblins to the Charles Paddock Zoo's 5th annual trick-or-treat extravaganza. Come dressed up and join the fun as the Charles Paddock Zoo transforms into a frighteningly friendly place to be! Oct 30-31.

Avila Valley Barn

560 Avila Beach Road
San Luis Obispo, CA
(805) 595-2810
[map](#)
[website](#) The Avila Barn is a great place to bring kids of all ages. They are open 7 days a week from mid May until Christmas. Buy a picnic of baked goods and fresh

produce from their store and ask for a free bag of "goat food" to feed the animals (goats, sheep, donkeys, ponies, a cow, geese, chickens, rabbits, peacocks, and ducks).

Quicksilver Ranch

1555 Alamo Pintado Rd.
Solvang, CA
(805) 686-4002.
[map](#)
[website](#) Quicksilver ranch is an impressive facility and you are guaranteed to fall in love with their beautiful miniature horses. During the months of April and May there will most likely be many babies to see. The ranch is open from 10am to 3pm. Please call to schedule a group or guided tour.

We love our parents, teachers, staff and community members!
Join the PTA!



Officers of the Board

- Laurie Carter — President**
- Teresa McIntyre — 1st Vice President/Programs Chair**
- Beverly Wilson — 2nd Vice President/Membership Chair**
- Kathy Bleak — 3rd Vice President/Ways & Means Chair**
- Lynette Martin — Treasurer**
- Vicki Blackstone — Secretary**
- Deanna Liberotti — Parliamentarian**
- Stephanie Ledgerwood — Historian**
- Lynda Gordon — Auditor**

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<http://www.orgsites.com/ca/buenavistapta/>