

Cat Tracks for January

I would like to wish all of our parents, grandparents and students a Happy New Year and a heartfelt welcome back. It is really great to see all of the kids back and ready to go! The New Year to me is often about new starts. The students don't always say it but I know that they are like us adults in many ways. They want to do better in the things that they struggle with whether it is making the honor roll, meeting math lab and AR goals, meeting new friends etc. I think that as parents we sometimes think that our children only think about goals and their future if we remind them about them. The truth is, that at a very young age, kids have dreams, ideas and really want to do well...they just sometimes struggle with getting it done. Just like us.

Where I am going with this is to encourage parents to make an effort to blend what your goals for your children are with what their own personal goals are. The trick is getting your kids to share with you what personal goals they would like to work on. I know how tricky this communication can be because my wife and I have two teenagers whom with we are still learning how to most effectively get them to share with us their aspirations.

Being a parent is the toughest, best job on the planet. I try to do my job from the perspective of a parent because I am a parent and because I think that this approach is what parents expect from a Principal. My children are Mountain Vista alumni and they could not have been more prepared for high school when they left our program. As proud as I am of what we do, I want our school to always strive to do better. Please share with me what you like about us and what you think we can do to enhance our school. Many of the outstanding programs we have are a direct result of parent feedback.

Remember, a good start is imperative to a successful second half of the school year. I can't over stress this concept because countless times I have seen students quickly dig themselves a hole and often never get out of it. Help them learn good habits, be patient and good things will happen.

Respectfully,

Dennis Blausen

Dennis Blausen

email: dblausen@osd2.org

Principal Mountain Vista School “**Cougar Pride**”

January Students of The Month



Back Row Left to Right

Jose Moreno, Aneissa Felix, Esperanza Carbajal, Adriana Berumen, Jacob Bruno

Second Row

Jenna Martinez, Sam Muniz, Jessica Vickery, Abe Duarte, Andrea German

Third Row

Darien Apuron, Jacob Lovendahl, Lauren Delgado, Roman Burk, Trinity Herman, Juliet Blue

Front Row

Victoria Stevenson, Monica Clark



January 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 HOLIDAY BREAK NO SCHOOL	2
3	4	5 Connections Learning Center Opens Honors Breakfast 4th: 9:00 5th: 9:30 6th: 10:00	6 Honors Breakfast 7th: 9:00 *th: 9:30 <i>Early Release</i>	7 Honors Ceremony 1st-3rd "In Classrooms"	8	9
10	11 AFTER SCHOOL CLASSES BEGIN	12 PTO Meeting Pot-Luck 6:00-8:00	13 <i>Early Release</i>	14 School Board Meeting 6:30	15  Spelling Bee Grades 4-8	16
17	18 Martin Luther King Holiday NO SCHOOL	19	20 <i>Early Release</i>	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 <i>Early Release</i>	28	29	30
	<i>Winter Mat Testing and Dibels Testing</i>					
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SCHOOL NEWS

EARLY DISMISSALS

As you know students are dismissed early on Wednesdays. Students in grades 1-6 are dismissed at **12:45** p.m. and students in grades 7-8 are dismissed at **1:45** p.m.. Lunch is served prior to dismissal.

CONNECTIONS LEARNING CENTER

The Connections Learning Center will be open on every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00 – 8:00 pm in the Library **when school is in session**. This is open to students in grades 4 through 12. High school tutors will be available to assist in Reading, Writing, Math and Science. Please note that Connections Learning Center is **not** open when school is not in session. For more information you may contact: Connections Learning Center director: **Rick Benavidez @ 520-591-5941**.

NEW AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

In order for absences relating to illness, doctor appointment, bereavement, family emergencies, or district approved family vacation to be counted as excused absences, the school must be notified of the absence prior to the absence or when the absence occurs by the parent or legal guardian who has custody of the student. This can be done by a phone call to the front office at 896-3000. Upon returning to school from an excused absence, the student shall submit a note stating the date and reason for the absence signed by the parent/guardian.



Monday thru Friday- The computer lab will be open from 7:30 to 8am for students to come in and work on assignments, check e-mail or just have some fun before school starts. This is for all grades 1st thru 8th grades.



COUGAR DAY

Don't forget that every **Friday** will be **COUGAR DAY!** We ask that all students and staff wear their Cougar T-shirts or blue T-shirts to school. Let's show our school spirit!!

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Mountain Vista students are doing a great job of collecting box tops, but we can never have too many box tops, so remind friends and family to collect for our school. Please check out the General Mills website @ www.boxtops4education.com for participating products. Thank you for your participation!

BABY PICTURES

Time is running out!
Mrs. Damron is collecting baby pictures of 8th graders for the slide show at the promotion ceremony. Please send 3-5 pictures of your 8th grader to Mrs. Damron as soon as possible. These pictures will be returned to you. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Damron @ 896-3000 or e-mail at cdamron@osd2.org



BUS PASSES AND YOUR CHILD'S SAFETY

A reminder to parents, students are required to bring a note to the office if they need a bus pass. For your child's safety, phone calls will not be accepted.

It is extremely difficult and disrupting to the classroom when parents call with last minute changes. Please send a note with your child if he/she has any change in their regular drop off.

CHILD PICK UP

Parents, if you need to pick up your child before the end of the day you always need to sign them out in the office. After you have signed them out one of the ladies in the office will call the classroom and request the child be sent to the office. This is for the safety of the child.

CHILD FIND

Child Find is a process to "find" children who may have a delay in development or a disability. Oracle School District can help children with disabilities from birth through 21 years of age. We provide special education services for eligible children. If you have concerns about your child's development or progress in school, contact the Oracle School District Special Education Department @ 896-3052

LOST AND FOUND

A reminder to parents/students; there are *many* articles of clothing in the lost and found. Numerous jackets, sweaters, shirts, etc. have been turned in and are waiting to be claimed. Please feel free to come and look through it. Anything not claimed at the end of the school year will be donated to Goodwill.



CLOTHES NEEDED!

If there are any pants, shirts, t-shirts, or shorts that are taking up space in your closet-could you send them my way? I like to have a few extra pieces of clothing in case the students need to change. Unfortunately, the few I had last fall were loaned to students and never returned. **PLEASE** call me first with what you can donate, so that I don't get a truck full. Space is very limited.

I can only accept the above clothing as I find that these will fit everybody. Please keep the health office in mind when you are clearing out outgrown clothes. Donations of new socks and underwear are accepted. Please make sure all clothes are clean before bringing them to the office.

Thank you,

Lydia Smith



As many of you know flu is spreading easily from person to person and school-age children are among the groups most affected. We are taking steps to prevent the spread of flu in the Oracle School District. Currently, flu conditions in Pinal County are increasing. We want to keep the school open and functioning as normal for as long as possible. **We need your help to do this.**

We are working closely with the Arizona Department of Health Services and the Pinal County Health Department to monitor flu conditions and make decisions about the best steps to take.

Please visit our school's website for additional information www.OSD2.org

Basketball season is here! This year we have three teams to support during the season.

Season passes are now on sale for our 5 home games:

Wednesday, January 6 vs. Eloy

Wednesday, January 20 vs. Hayden

Wednesday, January 27 vs. Ray

(7th grade boys games start at 4:00, 7/8th grade girls at 5:00 and 8th grade boys at 6:00.)



Passes for a family of 3 to all home games are \$25. Individual passes are \$12.

Regular admission is \$3 adults, \$2 children/seniors.

Please contact Michele Gagnon 896-3023 for your purchase or buy at the door on Dec. 7th or 16th.

Concessions available and benefit the MVS "Cougar Club" athletic boosters.

Wrestling is back at Mt. Vista!

Wrestling has 2 home matches in the cafeteria:

Thursday, January 14 vs. San Manuel and Desert Winds starting at 4:00

Regular admission will apply. Concessions available and benefit the 8th grade trip.



No outside food and drink in the gym or cafeteria please....let's support our athletes and 8th graders. A snack bar seating area will be set up for all athletic events.

ATTENTION PARENTS

Check out Mountain Vista's Website!

***You will find all kinds of great information, such as:
Breakfast and lunch menus, calendars, special events,
Sports information, game times, directions to the games.***

Go to www.osd2.org to see more!

Meal Prices:

Mountain Vista Campus
Breakfast.....\$1.00
Lunch.....\$1.75

Oracle Ridge Campus
Breakfast.....85cents
Lunch.....\$1.50

Adult Breakfast.....\$1.25
Adult Lunch.....\$2.50

Ala Carte Milk: 35 cents

Breakfast Includes:

The daily special plus assorted cereals, juice and milk.

Mon. and Wed.: Cream of Wheat
Tues. and Fri.: Oatmeal

Offered Daily at Lunch:

1% or Fat Free White Milk
 Fat Free Chocolate Milk
 1% Strawberry Milk

Mon., Wed., and Fri:
 There will be an alternate choice of salad with assorted toppings and dressings.

In accordance with Federal Law and U.S. Policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex age, religion or disability.

We realize that sometimes students forget lunch money. Students can charge up to \$5.00, after this a cheese sandwich, fruit and milk will be offered.



Oracle Elementary District
Breakfast Menu January 2010
Health Tip of the Month

Start the year off right by getting plenty of exercise and eating healthy.

School age children should get a minimum of 60 minutes of physical activity a day. Eat a variety of foods following the Food Pyramid Guide. 6-11 servings of grains should be consumed a day in which at least half should be whole grains. 3-5 servings of vegetables and 2-4 servings of fruits should be eaten daily. 2-3 servings of each the dairy (milk, yogurt and cheese) and protein (meat, poultry, fish, eggs, dry beans, & nut) groups should also be consumed daily.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Breakfast Cookies	5 Cheese Crisp	6 PopTarts	7 Cinnamon Rolls	8 Churros	9
10	11 Chocolate Chip or Blueberry Muffins	12 Bagel w. cream cheese	13 Nutri-Grain Bar	14 Cherry or Apple Strudel Stix	15 Pancakes w. Syrup	16
17	18 Martin Luther King Day No School	19 Waffles w Syrup	20 Yogurt	21 Cinnamon Rolls	22 Egg and Cheese Burritos	23
24	25 Pancake & Sausage on Stix	26 Breakfast Bagels	27 Chewy Granola Bars	28 Cherry or Apple Strudel Stix	29 French Toast Stix w Syrup	30
31						

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Breakfast.....\$1.00
Lunch.....\$1.75

Oracle Ridge Campus
Breakfast.....85cents
Lunch.....\$1.50

Adult Breakfast.....\$1.25
Adult Lunch.....\$2.50

Ala Carte Milk: 35 cents

Breakfast Includes:

The daily special plus assorted cereals, juice and milk.

Mon. and Wed.: Cream of Wheat
Tues. and Fri.: Oatmeal

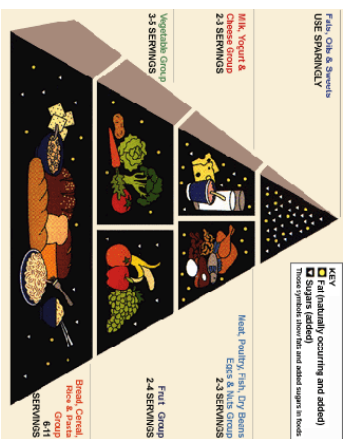
Offered Daily at Lunch:

1% or Fat Free White Milk
 Fat Free Chocolate Milk
 1% Strawberry Milk

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Lunch Menu January 2010

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Corn Dog Tater-Tots	5 Beef-fingers or Grilled	6 Chicken Wings, Rice Pilaf	7 Bean Burrito or Soft Taco	8 Pizza	9
10	11Nachos	12Mac & Cheese or French Dip	13 Grilled Cheese Sand. Tomato soup	14Chicken Nuggets or Sloppy	15 Deli-Sand. Lett, tom., Pickle, chips	16
17	18Martin Luther King Day No School	19 Hot & Spicy chicken Sand. fries	20 Spaghetti w/meat sauce	21Chili Cheese Fritos or Hot Dog	22 Pizza	23
24	25 Congar Burger w/cheese	26Mandarin Orange Chix or Egg	27 Chicken Fajitas	28Christofos or Chix Salad Sandwich	29Deli-Sand. Lett, tom., pickle, chips	30
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