

# The Little Viking Times



Mountain View Parent – Teacher Association ..... January 2012

## A Post From Mrs. Porter

Happy 2012 everyone! Wow! It is so hard to believe that the second semester of this school year is well underway. I know all of our students are keeping their fingers and toes crossed for snow days; but, I am afraid Old Man Winter is still asleep! As we move forward in 2012, we have many exciting events planned for our students and hope that you all can participate.

On February 10, our PTA has planned their next fundraiser as a Walk-a-thon. Please encourage your child to participate and contact everyone you know to sponsor your child for this event. What a wonderful event the PTA has planned! The following week on February 16 we will have our Reading Night, “Books and Blankets!” Every child who attends will receive a book and have a chance to win a Kindle. Staples has become a business partner with Mountain View and through this partnership they have donated 2 new Kindles as door prizes! We will also have reading activities throughout the building and hot chocolate for you to enjoy.

In March, our 4<sup>th</sup> graders will be performing their Virginia Studies songs and our drama club will begin practicing for their April production. As always, March will include our Book Fair through which you can purchase wonderful books for your child. Please be on the lookout for more information regarding these events to be sent home in your child’s Tuesday folder.

As many of you are aware, the second semester is often referred to as crunch time for preparing our students for SOL testing. However, at Mountain View we like to believe that our students begin preparing on the first day of school by receiving quality instruction which builds on their skills and continually reviews essential knowledge. SOLs are quickly approaching, and we are confident that our students will be prepared. Our 5<sup>th</sup> graders will take their writing SOL in March and Grades 3-5 will take the rest of the SOL tests beginning in mid-May.

I continue to be astounded by the wonderful partnership we have developed with our parents. I am truly thankful for the willingness of our families to make education a top priority and reinforce the high academic standards that have always been a part of the Mountain View community.

Sincerely,

Leigh Porter

*“Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress, working together is success.” Henry Ford*

2011–2012, Issue 3

### In this issue:

Post from Mrs. Porter	1
PTA Information	2
SCA Update	2
Reading Night, Book Fair	2
Classroom Information	3-4

Upcoming Events

### Special dates of interest:

- \* Monday, February 6: Parent Teacher Conferences, 12:00–7:00pm
- \* Friday, January 10: Walk –A-Thon
- \* Wednesday, February 15: 2-hour Early Dismissal, Teacher In-service
- \* Thursday, February 16: PTA meeting, Science Fair and Reading Night
- \* Thursday, March 15: End of Third Grading Period
- \* Friday, March 16: School Closed, Teacher Workday

## Mountain View SCA Update!

The Mountain View SCA has been busy already this year. The SCA has taken on several service projects and has plans to help our community even more as the year goes on. Here is an overview of what we have going on in the upcoming weeks!

January 23-27: Mountain View collected soup and crackers for seniors that are home bound. This activity was sponsored by AARP.

January 30-February 3: Super Bowl Tab Top Collection. The SCA will make posters representing each team competing in the Super Bowl February 5 accompanied with jugs for students to place tab tops from home in to vote for their favorite team. At the end of the week, Ronald McDonald House will receive all the tab tops.

February 7-10: MVES Spirit Week! In conjunction with jeans week for teachers, Mountain View students and faculty will be able to participate in Spirit Days leading up to the Walkathon February 10. Please look to the Tuesday memo for an explanation of each day.

Thank you for all of your community support!

## Reading News

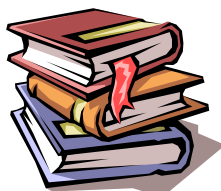
Join us for our "Blankets and Books" Family Reading Night on Thursday, February 16, from 6:30-8:00 PM. You can bring a blanket to get comfortable while enjoying your favorite book.

There will be many exciting activities, including acting in Reader's Theater, creating bookmarks and puppets, working with ipods, playing reading games, and much more. You can meet authors Cece Bell and Sue Ellen Tyree.

There will be free books for all, and refreshments provided by Starbucks and several volunteers. You could win autographed books, a signed poster, a cozy blanket, or even a KINDLE!! This night will be a wonderful reading celebration for Mountain View families!

## The Book Fair is Coming

It's Coming! The Scholastic Book Fair will be coming to Mountain View in March. Be on the lookout for more information. And Happy Reading!!!



## PTA President's Message

I want to thank all of the parents for your support. We are having a great year and hope to continue to do so. We are having our first ever Walk-A-Thon on February 10<sup>th</sup>. The students are very excited. We hope to raise money, get some exercise and have a great time. There will be prizes for all participants. The money raised will be used to enhance and equip the learning experience of each child. Again, thank you for your support.

Lisa Lloyd

## Information from Ways & Means

**MVES PTA has the following items as fundraising projects:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ MVES Window Statics - \$2.00
- \_\_\_\_\_ Cookbooks-\$10.00
- \_\_\_\_\_ MVES Cat's Meow - \$24.00
- \_\_\_\_\_ MVES Car Magnets - \$6.00 **\*new\***

Total Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to MVES PTA.

Other ongoing fundraising projects for MVES:

Please keep reloading those Kroger Cards.

Keep saving those Box Tops for Education – turn in all year long – mail in dates October & February. **Last deadline to turn in Box Tops for credit this school year is February 17, 2012. Please trim all box tops and put them in baggies of 50.**

Tyson Project A+ Labels - All year long – send in the Project A+ label for Tyson chicken entrees

Recycling of Ink Cartridges - All year long – send in empty ink cartridges and the school will recycle them and receive a percentage for each cartridge that is recycled.

**New Project: Coke Rewards** ...If you drink PowerAde, Dasani water, or Coke products...Sign-up online at MyCokeRewards.com for a free account and enter your cap/carton codes, then donate to Mountain View School.

Register your Food Lion MVP card and the school will receive a percentage back from registered cards. You can register your card online by going to: [www.foodlionmvprewards.com](http://www.foodlionmvprewards.com)

(MVES School Code is 217804) or send the bottom of this sheet back and Cindy Dix will register your card for you.

Food Lion MVP Card - Enter all information below.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

MVP Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ (12 digits)

Please support our Walk-A-Thon on Friday, February 10.

Thanks so much for supporting the MVES PTA.

## Kindergarten Classroom Chronicle

Kindergarten students are ready for snowy weather, but we are enjoying the mild temperatures for now. We are wondering what the groundhog will see on February 2nd. We would like to thank the parents who helped plan our "Winter Party". The children had a great time. We also enjoyed building gingerbread houses as a culminating activity after the study of the five senses.

We continue to highlight a letter of the alphabet weekly by integrating science, social studies, and math. This allows us to study our SOL's in a way that is meaningful and relevant for the children. We are learning to sound out and spell simple CVC words. This would be great for your child to practice at home along with reading the sight words we sent home in November.

We are encouraging the children to work for independent periods of time by incorporating morning centers and activities while we work with students in small groups. During this time we are able to listen to your child read the books sent home for homework and introduce other readers on your child's level. Students should be writing first and last names, the alphabet, and numbers to 15. We practice writing these at school and extra practice is encouraged at home.

Please refer to your child's report card as a reference for the SOL's we will cover this year.

February will be another busy month as we study the Presidents; George Washington, and Abraham Lincoln. Again, we will discuss life long ago compared to life today. We look forward to visits from the Science Museum's Outreach Program this spring.

Thank you for your support throughout the year. Thank you for all you do! The Kindergarten Teachers: Mrs. Anger, Mrs. Blankenship, Mrs. Groggins, Mrs. Flora

## First Grade Scoop:

It's hard to believe that we have past midyear! Your children have learned so much. We continue to work on developing responsibility and good manners in our first graders. We ask that you help at home by allowing your child to be as independent as possible and also to remind them often to be kind and respectful citizens.

Your child should be reading **every** night, and while it is important for you to be an attentive listener, please let your child practice "figuring out" unknown words *on their own*. We have learned many strategies to use while reading and *your child* needs to practice these as much as possible. Our goal is for your child to become an independent learner.

Speedway Math is now a regular part of our Math

instruction and the kids love it! They are learning to recall addition and subtraction facts quickly and are moving through each set as they achieve their goal. We tell the children that they will be doing Speedway Math every year at Mountain View, so they need to learn the procedure now! They have done an amazing job.

We participated in a Holiday card exchange with schools all over the United States and Canada in December. We were so excited when we received a new card from a different state. We are beginning a Social Studies unit about American Heroes and the Holidays that celebrate them. Soon, the Science Museum teacher will return and we will learn about Forces and Motion. We also look forward to a field trip to the Taubman Art Museum later this spring.

We want to thank all our parents for a great Winter Party. It's never too late to join the PTA. Please consider becoming a member and supporting your child's school.

Let us know if at any time you have questions or concerns. First Grade Teachers: Mrs. Church, Mrs. Gibson, & Mrs. Huffman

## Second Grade Chatter

Mrs. Brown, Ms. Denny, and Mrs. Rodriguez's students have had a great first semester! Our students had an amazing performance for our school's holiday program. This will be a special memory that will last for a life time!

During the months of January, February, and March the students will be learning about weather, Famous American, and economics. In reading, we continue to read many stories and books related to our units. Please continue to listen to your child read every night and review their important vocabulary words. Our Word Study program for your child has made a great difference in their ability to spell different word patterns. The students are also using their grammar skills as we write daily.

In math, students are practicing two-digit addition and subtraction with and without regrouping. Also geometry and fractions have been a major focus for our students. Please continue to practice their math facts in addition and subtraction. We continue to seek your support to encourage your child to complete all daily assignments that are written in their assignment pads.

Please feel free to contact your child's teacher at school if you have any questions or concerns. Second Grade teachers: Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Rodriguez



## Third Grade Thoughts

It's a busy week for third Graders as we take our second Formative Assessment tests this week. The Math test was today and the Reading test will be given in two parts: Thursday and Friday of this week

In reading, the students are reading biographies. This is one of our SOLs and a good start for our Famous Americans unit in Social Studies which is later this year. For Reading Night, third grade will be doing a Reader's Theatre activity which should be a lot of fun. We hope to have props and costumes available so the students can get into their character.

In math we will be finishing up our Geometry unit in the next week or so and will then move into Division. Please continue to review basic addition, subtraction, and multiplication facts with your child as often as possible. Flash cards are helpful and can be made at home or purchased up at the dollar store. We continue to work on Super Speedway at school so make sure your student is reviewing their facts for their current level nightly.

In social studies, we are currently learning about Economics. Your child started learning about this topic in past years and we will go a little more in depth this year and apply our knowledge to the economics of Ancient Greece, Rome, and Mali. In science our next unit will be Earth Cycles which includes plant and animal cycles, the water cycle, and Earth and Moon cycles.

Thanks again for giving us the opportunity to work with your students! Third grade teachers: Mrs. Delp, Miss Hunt, Mrs. Myers, Mrs. Webb

## Fourth Grade Facts

Parents, we need your help!! Students are not completing homework assignments regularly. We need for your children to practice their math skills and reading skills daily, so please make sure your child is completing all of their work. Remember that the title of the book they are reading and a parent signature needs to be added to their assignment pad after their 20 minutes of reading is completed.

We have a few exciting events coming up. Our fourth grade PTA program is scheduled for Tuesday March 13 and we will be singing about Virginia. We are planning another trip to Richmond this year. It is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday March 14. Finally, we are hoping to go to the Monacan Indian Village at Natural Bridge on Thursday April 16. Please mark your calendars and look for more information to come.

Remember that we are all here to work together, so if you have questions or concerns please call us! Fourth Grade teachers: Mrs. Dumeer, Mrs. Harless, Mrs. Sampson, Mrs. Shaffer

## Fifth Grade News Flash

This school year is continuing to fly by. The fifth grade students have been very excited as they go through the process of registering for 6th grade. They are busy preparing for that transition with classroom guidance, visits from the middle school counselors, as well as visits from the band and choir teachers from the middle school.

SOL testing will be here soon. We would like to take this time to suggest checking out portaportal.com. Log in under guest as mve, jpassudetti, jpass, or bwimmer. There you will find many games that help to reinforce material needed for the tests. Previous sol tests are also there to read and practice. Should you have any questions concerning this, please feel free to contact any of your fifth grade teachers.

We are busy getting ready for the writing SOL in language arts. The writing SOL will be March 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> with the multiple choice part taking place on the 6<sup>th</sup> and the essay writing taking place on the 7<sup>th</sup>. Please look for information regarding this test in the Tuesday Folder very soon!

In science we are just finishing up our unit on earth changes (5.7). The students are literally having a "blast" as they present their projects, erupting volcanoes and even eating some of the projects. The next unit will be exploring the world of elements, atoms, and molecules (5.4).

Please continue to check your child's assignment pad every night and Tuesday folders every week.

Thanks for all your help! Fifth Grade teachers: Mrs. Francisco, Ms. Marshall, Mrs. Wimmer, Mr. Zimmerman

## Drama Club News

Attention Fourth and Fifth Grade students: Drama Club tryouts will be Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> after school. They will last from 2:30 until 3:30pm. Practices will begin Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> after school from 2:30–3:30pm. Our performance will be on Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Look for permission slips to go home soon.

