

Villa De Paz' mission is to ensure high levels of learning and growth for all students, so that they gain the academic and social skills essential for college and career readiness.

The Dust Devil Digest



May 2019

Important Dates:

May 6-10 Staff Appreciation Week

May 7- Board Meeting 6:00-8:00 pm

May 7- Lead Guitar Showcase 6:30-7:30 pm @GCC

May 9- Basketball/Cheer Banquet 4:30-6:30 pm

May 10 –Student of the Month Assembly in the cafeteria @ 8:30 am

May 10- 8th Gr. Promotion Dinner/Dance 5-8 pm

May 11- PTA Spring Carnival 9:00am-4:00pm

May 16– PTA Meeting 5:00-6:00 pm @ library

May 17- Monthly Parent Luncheon 11:00 am @ PLC

May 20-Computer Science STEAM Academy Showcase 5:30-7:00 pm

May 21-Governing Board Meeting 6:00-8:00 pm

May 22- Kindergarten Promotion Ceremony 9:30 am @ VDP Gym

Principal Message:

Welcome Villa de Paz Families,

Together We Make A Difference!

Dear Villa de Paz Elementary Families,

As school is nearing the final days, it is important that we finish the year strong. Finishing the year strong involves students minimizing absences, arriving to school on time, and putting forth effort academically.

As we wrap up AZMerit Testing and start our district assessment (Galileo and DIBELS), we know that taking tests can be stressful and students can experience every emotion from panic to apathy. It is important your child is mentally and physically prepared and there are simple ways to alleviate anxiety and stress. Please make use to talk to your son/daughter about the importance of ending the year strong.

Respectfully,

Belinda Quezada
Principal

ATTENDANCE MATTERS:

To help your child achieve the most from school, he or she must maintain high attendance.

Here are a few helpful tips for parents:

1. Ensure that your child arrives to school on time and avoids leaving early.
 - Both may disrupt the teaching and learning process.
 - Today's lessons depend on understanding yesterday's instructions.
2. Schedule doctor and dentist appointments in the beginning/end of the day or on a day when students are out of school early (like early release Wednesdays).
3. Children will get coughs and colds. Unless it is serious, it does not mean that they need to miss school.
 - Collaborate with the school if your child needs medication or anything else to be comfortable the during the day.

**May 23 8th Grade
Promotion Ceremony
10:30 am**

**May 24 Last Day of
School!**

4. Monitor your child's attendance.

5. There are 180 school days. Families are encouraged to take vacation during the holidays, winter and/or spring breaks.

Thank you for helping us with our school attendance. As always, if you have any questions regarding attendance, please feel free to contact myself or Mr. Gonzalez.

Counselor's Corner

Mr. Akinniyi – Villa de Paz Counselor – Phone 623-772-2490, or email at: aakinniyi@pesd92.org

Counseling services include individual, group, and whole classroom presentations. Please contact Mr. Akinniyi if you would like more information, or to refer your child for counseling services.

Parenting Tip: Summer time is nearly here! Your child will soon have a lot of extra time on their hands. You may have trips and activities planned throughout the summer and that's great! Keep your child busy doing activities that you approve of. If they are busy doing the activities that you choose, they will not be busy doing activities you do not choose. Also, try to limit the technology and encourage your child to spend time at physical play!

How to Help My Child With Homework

1. Monitor homework assignment planners and teacher websites.
2. Provide a quiet study place with adequate lighting.
3. Schedule a specific time each day for homework.
4. Check to see if homework assignments are complete.
5. Contact the classroom teacher if your child is having difficulties with specific homework assignments.

STUDENT SAFETY Student safety must be a priority. We suggest you discuss these safety precautions with your child: · **Arrive at school no earlier than 7:50am.** · **Go home immediately after school. There is no supervision on the playground after school.** · **Discuss and practice a safe route to and from school.**

VILLA DE PAZ GYM-The Gym will be open every morning from 7:30 am until the start of school. We have student supervision that will be provided until the start of the school day. School hours are from 7:50-3:10 pm. **Before school supervision is provided from 7:30-7:50 am in the GYM.** Students arriving after 8:10 am **MUST** check in to the office before going to class. School begins at 8:10 am. Please be aware that the office staff is not available to supervise children after 4:00 pm. Please contact the office to inform us of what your estimated time of arrival will be.

PARKING LOT/TRAFFIC CONGESTION

DROP OFF ZONE The strip in front of the school office is for drop off or pick up of people waiting* in front of the school. *Waiting means that the driver remains in the driver's seat the whole time*

WEDNESDAY EARLY DISMISSAL Please remember that EVERY Wednesday students are dismissed at 12:40. There is no one available to supervise children after this time. Wednesdays are professional development days for our entire school staff. Please make note of this regular early dismissal to avoid a missed pick up of your child.

BE KIND TO OUR NEIGHBORS Please be respectful of the people who live near the school and park. Please observe all traffic signs, especially the no parking, no u-turn, and right turn only signs.



Assistant Principal's Corner

With spring in full swing, many students and families begin to think about the end of the school year. Our 8th graders aren't the only ones who experience "senioritis" or the "end-of-the-school-year-blues." Elementary school students can begin to shut down and dial back their efforts towards the end of the school year. It's important to help our children finish the school year strong. I want to raise responsible learners who don't quit and are able to work hard despite distractions. Here are some tips to help your child continue to put forth their best effort until that last school bell rings.

Gear Check

After months of hard work and lots of time spent in the classroom, many students are left with less-than-ideal supplies. Pencils no longer have erasers and crayons have been worn down to nubs. It's hard to do your best work when you don't have the right tools.

Help your children put forth their best effort up through the last day, by taking stock of their school supplies. A freshly sharpened pencil, a glue stick or two, and a new box of crayons can make a world of difference.

Lead by Example

Kids learn by example, and are quick to adopt our attitude. If your child hears you talking about how you wish it was summer, or how you can't wait for school to be over, he/she is likely to adopt that mindset. Avoid speaking negatively about school, homework, etc. in front of your child. It will be harder for your child to put forth his best effort if he thinks you don't care, don't like school, etc.

We like to tell our kids that every assignment is an opportunity to do their best. Encourage your kids to try their best, continue to set aside time to complete homework, and prioritize school attendance. Your positive attitude about school (even when it's sunny and almost time for vacation!) can help your children finish strong.

Stick to the Routine

When it's warm and light outside, it can be more difficult to enforce bedtime, but it's super important to help your child continue to get a good night's rest through the end of the school year. Stick to your child's regular bedtime and continue to make time for homework and at-home reading.

Thank you for your continued support!

Mr. Abraham Gonzalez

Assistant Principal

Villa de Paz Elementary



Health Office Newsletter

Promote water as main drink for summer

Please stay hydrated during summer months by drinking plenty of water!

If your child is doing outdoor sports during summer time, teach them to drink a few sips of water every 15- 20 minutes.

Teach children to drink water before they are thirsty. Juices, fruit punch and sodas can have a lot of added sugar and calories- keep these drinks for a special occasion.

Keep refrigerators stocked with bottles of water or have water bottles available to fill up with cold water.

A lot of children will think they are hungry but all they really need to do is drink some water. Water has zero calories and is the perfect drink to keep your child hydrated during the hot summer months. With all the summertime activities kids will be thirsty. That means they will need more water.

Remember to stay up to date on vaccinations as well!

REMEMBER the First Day of school is Tuesday, August 1st

Have a nice Summer break!!



