

May/June 2012



## School News:

Todd Livingstone, Principal  
Mya Duong, Assistant Principal  
Kim Delapaz, School Office Specialist  
Susan Loo, School Office Specialist

### Upcoming Events

- ◆ May 1<sup>st</sup> to May 11<sup>th</sup>: California State Testing (CST) Window
- ◆ May 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>: Teacher Appreciation Week
- ◆ May 8<sup>th</sup>: PTA meeting in School Office from 5 to 6pm
- ◆ May 14<sup>th</sup> to May 18<sup>th</sup>: CST make up Days
- ◆ May 17<sup>th</sup>: 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Spring Sing 4:30 to 5:30 in the MPR
- ◆ May 17<sup>th</sup>: Open House 5:30 to 6:30 pm
- ◆ Minimum Days: May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- ◆ There is no Minimum Day on Wednesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>.

### California Standards Tests: May 1<sup>st</sup> through May 11<sup>th</sup>

All 2<sup>nd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are taking the state test the first two weeks of May. Make up tests will be given the end of the second and third week of May. The best ways to prepare at this point are: stay academically active (especially reading), stick to a consistent routine of sufficient sleep, get adequate exercise, and eat healthy food. The brain performs best when practiced, rested, relaxed and nourished.

### Teacher Appreciation Week

This month we celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week, May 7-11, 2012. All of us have at least one teacher we remember as having touched our life in a profound way. Teacher Appreciation Day in the U.S. is celebrated on the first Tuesday of the first full week in May. In 1985, The National PTA established Teacher Appreciation Week as the first full week of May. A dedicated teacher is one of the world's most precious resources. Our children spend many hours a day with their teachers, who help mold them, shape their character, and teach them academic subjects they need to survive in our world. Horace Mann said: "Teachers teach because they care. Teaching young people is what they do best. It requires long hours, patience, and care." The scope of the job of being a teacher expands constantly. When we consider all that they do for our children every day, their job becomes even more daunting, more challenging and more honorable.

I want to thank the Orchard School teachers and the entire staff for their dedication to our children. They give from the heart and they strive to have all children succeed to the best of their ability. Our teachers are the embodiment of all of the characteristics described above. We take pride in our teachers.



### Bring Back the Arts

On Saturday April 28<sup>th</sup>, the event of the year took place for Orchard School and the surrounding community. Activities included break dancing, mural projects, skateboarding, bands that performed music from popular genres and enjoying amazing cuisine. The day was dedicated to building community and fostering creativity while engaging youth in positive expression through the arts, providing young people the skills to become innovative, problem solvers for our future workforce. It also promoted creativity and unity celebrating San Jose's diverse cultures through various forms of creative expression such as dance, art, skateboarding, and music, while raising funds needed to employ local non-profit organizations to teach art, dance, and music at our school. The Far East Dragon Team kicked off the day of excitement. Thank you to all the volunteers, sponsors, and Orchard School staff who made the day a huge success. This event would never have been a reality without the imagination and dedication of Patrick Milillo. Thank you Mr. Milillo for all of your hard work!

**Orchard School is the best school ever!**



### More Upcoming Events

- ◆ May 26<sup>th</sup>:  
Graduation  
Breakfast 1<sup>st</sup>  
and 2<sup>nd</sup> periods
- ◆ May 28<sup>th</sup>:  
Memorial Day  
(No school)
- ◆ June 1<sup>st</sup>: Eighth  
Grade  
Graduation  
Dance 6:30 to  
9:00 pm in the  
MPR
- ◆ Minimum Days:  
June 6<sup>th</sup> and  
14<sup>th</sup>
- ◆ There is no  
Minimum Day on  
Wednesday  
June 13<sup>th</sup>.
- ◆ June 8<sup>th</sup>: Eighth  
Grade Grad Trip  
to Six Flags  
Discovery  
Kingdom
- ◆ June 14<sup>th</sup>: Last  
day of School ,  
Kindergarten  
Graduation, and  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Graduation

### **Eighth Grade Graduation Breakfast**

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation breakfast is quickly becoming a Bruin tradition thanks to our office specialists, Kim Delapaz and Susan Loo. They work throughout the year with local businesses to fund this event. On May 28<sup>th</sup>, during first and second periods we will celebrate our 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduates with a special breakfast treat. The students always seem to reminisce and look back at their time with us during this breakfast. A big Bruin thank you to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade teachers and Ms. Kim and Ms. Susan!

### **Middle School Memories! 2011-2012 Orchard Middle School Yearbook on sale now!**

60 pages, all color! Orchard is partnered up with TreeRing Corporation, an online company, to produce the yearbook. Softbound yearbook: \$16.99 plus tax (Total of \$18.22) or Hardbound Yearbook: \$23.94 plus tax (Total of \$25.68) **All yearbooks are sold online ONLY.** See Mr. Wong, the yearbook editor, or email [bwong@orchardsd.org](mailto:bwong@orchardsd.org), for a flyer with more information. The deadline to order/purchase a yearbook is Sunday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. All yearbooks ordered by or before May 13<sup>th</sup> will have the yearbooks delivered to Orchard by Monday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. No books will be offered for sale at Orchard.

You can order yearbooks after the deadline, but there will be an additional shipping charge to ship the yearbook directly to your home address.



### **Ideas for Spring Outings**

**At the Tech Museum in San Jose -MathWorks** is a free, bilingual Spanish program for children and their families. These math and science activities are designed to teach parents and families how to help reinforce math skills that are being taught in school. These basic skills have been identified as those needed in order to be successful in math and science. Snacks are provided for participants. Each *MathWorks* happens on each Saturday through May 19.

### **At Lick Observatory**, summit of Mount Hamilton, San Jose, CA

The Observatory gives free tours starting at 10:30 am on Sundays. They last about 15 minutes and include an informal history lesson and a look at the 36-inch telescope. There are plenty of displays and exhibits to keep stargazers busy. Hours: Sunday, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm Costs: Free

**Mother's Day at Hidden Villa Educational Farm**-Bring a blanket and picnic and relax away the day on our big green lawn to the laid back sounds of *The Jazz Duo* – mellow and smooth. Dance cheek to cheek with your baby, it's music guaranteed to have you swaying. We'll have a special craft area too... make a little present for the mom in your life. Come early and enjoy a visit to see the farm and our beautiful garden in bloom... what a nice way to celebrate the day! Toddlers and infants under age 2, no charge. Pricing: 5.00 per person

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