



# The Vinci Park Explorer

1311 Vinci Park Way, San Jose, CA 95131; (408) 923-1970; fax (408) 254-3790

<http://www.berryessa.k12.ca.us/vinci/site/>

Linh Nguyen, Principal – [linh.nguyen@busd.net](mailto:linh.nguyen@busd.net)

Dr. Marc Liebman, Superintendent

*“Our mission is to ensure that all students have the skills necessary to reach high levels of academic achievement, respect self and others, and become lifelong learners.”*

MAY 2010

## Dear Vinci Park Families:

May is here and we are counting down the last six weeks of school. As we approach the end of the school year, we are also very busy planning for the next school year. The weather is getting warmer, the sun shining brighter and students are experiencing spring fever. Sometimes they will need us to help remind them about their behavior and responsibilities. Please take a moment to remind your child about our behavior expectations – **Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Safe**. It's also important that your children come to school dressed comfortably and appropriately. Please refer to our school handbook for student behavior expectations and dress code. Remind your child to continue to complete all assignments, try their best, and make good decisions about how they should treat others. Let's have a great rest of the year!

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for helping to make our Earth Day tree planting event a tremendously successful one. It was a plus to have San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed as our special guest to kick off the event. Did you know that the Mayor's daughter is an alumni of Vinci Park School? We are also very thankful to the volunteers from Intel, Kohls, PG & E and Americorp, and especially the Tree Amigos with the Our City Forest organization and our district facilities department. Together with parent volunteers, students, and staff, we were able to plant 52 trees around our school campus. Our task now is to make sure that the plants continue to get watered until irrigation is put in place this summer. Each classroom will adopt one or two trees to water for the remainder of the year. We also will need your help over the summer months. We will be sending home some information as to how families can also adopt one or two trees and help us keep them fed. Stay tuned.

We also want to thank all of you for coming to our Open House on April 22<sup>nd</sup> and participating in our Silent Auction fundraiser for the school library. We had a great turn-out. It was wonderful to see all of the student work on display throughout the school, especially the students' science projects and 4<sup>th</sup> grade missions. Our teachers and staff have worked very hard to prepare our students and it certainly shows in their work. We especially want to thank Mrs. Matsu, our media tech, for organizing the silent auction. With your participation and financial

support she was able to raise more money for our school library. It's one more extraordinary thing that the teachers and staff like Mrs. Matsu do in support of Vinci Park.

On that note, National Teacher/Staff Appreciation took place during the week of April 26-30. We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated and passionate group of teachers and staff. If you did not get the opportunity last week, take the time before the school year ends to do something special for your child's teacher or a staff member. They serve your children and you every day because they care deeply about what they do and the lives of the students they touch. We appreciate and are grateful for everything they do for Vinci Park School.

Finally, as we look forward to the next years, we are very much in need of parent support for our Home & School and School Site Council. We are currently planning for the Family Fun Night that will take place on May 27<sup>th</sup>. We are in need of parent volunteers to help with the activities and organization. Please join us at our next parent meeting on May 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30p and help this last community event be a successful one. All monies raised from our school fundraisers go back to the classroom to support your children. Without the support of our parent volunteers, we would not be able to provide all our students with the wonderful programs, field trips, assemblies, and community events we currently offer. Your support and involvement makes a tremendous difference to Vinci Park School. Your input and participation will make a big difference in the educational experience of our students.

Respectfully,  
Linh Nguyen, Principal

Trong trường hợp yêu cầu, bản tin này có thể được dịch sang tiếng Tây Ban Nha, Tiếng Việt, Tiếng Trung Hoa và Tiếng Phi. Quý vị có thể gọi số 923-1903 và sẽ có người nói Tiếng Việt gọi lại nói chuyện với quý vị về bản tin này để quý vị biết điều gì đang xảy ra tại trường học.

Esta información puede ser solicitada para ser traducida en español, vietnames, mandarin, cantonese y tagalo. Español: 923-1902. Alguien le llamara para que usted pueda saber que esta pasando en su escuela.

## CITIZEN OF THE MONTH



**Congratulations to the following students for being recognized as Citizen the Month for April.**

Gr.	Teacher	Rm	Citizen of the Month
K	Mrs. Katsuyama	1	James W.
K	Mrs. Emoto	2	Jeremy C.
K	Mrs. Carr	3	Matthew B.
K	Mrs. Hashimoto	7	Anna N.
K	Miss Nowak	4	Mary Jane V.
K	Mrs. Huynh	5	Janzen S.
1 <sup>st</sup>	Mrs. Pitts	17	David N.
1 <sup>st</sup>	Miss Salvador	18	Trinity H.
1 <sup>st</sup>	Miss Nguyen	9	Travis T.
1 <sup>st</sup>	Miss Tanaka	8	Emily L.
1 <sup>st</sup>	Mrs. Jenzen	6	Humberto G.
1 <sup>st</sup>	Mrs. Wilson	12	Lorace T.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mrs. Shem	11	Naerya O.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mrs. Kirby	13	Khaleb L.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mrs. Plaza	16	Johnny P.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mrs. Trowell	15	Mindy N.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Miss Wong	14	Richard T.
2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mrs. Patterson	27	Diamond H.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mrs. Wong	21	Brian N.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ms. Finkas	19	Justin E.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Miss Fujikawa	22	Kiarra C.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mrs. Byma	PB	Vanessa H.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mrs. Nguyen	PA	Andy L.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mrs. Obara	20	Christian G.
4 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs. Gutterman	24	Kelly L.
4 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs. Stone	26	Diana L.
4 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs. Merritt	23	Kirsten N.
4 <sup>th</sup>	Mr. Kato	28	Erin Grace S.
5 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs. Nakano	25	Yichen X.
5 <sup>th</sup>	Ms. Tsoi	30	Timothy N.
5 <sup>th</sup>	Ms. Schmidt	31	Mary S.



- From April 26<sup>th</sup> through May 7<sup>th</sup>, we will be doing the state testing. During this testing time, it is important that students get to bed early each night and have a good breakfast each morning. Please be sure your children are in school on time and that no doctors' appointments are scheduled during school hours.
- Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from 5:30 – 8:00, we are having our Family Fun Night with lots of food, a raffle with lots of great prizes, and our always popular Basket Raffle! Come join us and enjoy an evening of good food and family fun!
- On Monday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, we will be starting our final Aluminum can and plastic bottle drive of the year.

Please save all those drink containers and send them in any time between May 24<sup>th</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup>.

- NO SCHOOL Monday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. Have a wonderful Memorial Day. See you back on Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>.

### PUNTOS IMPORTANTES

- Del 27 de abril al 8 e mayo, estaremos haciendo el examen STAR del estado. Es importante que durante este tiempo los niños tengan un buen descanso durmiéndose temprano y comiendo un buen desayuno cada mañana. Asegúrese de que sus niños lleguen a la escuela a tiempo y que durante ese tiempo no tengan citas medicas a horas de escuela.
- El viernes 21 de mayo de 5:30 a 8:00 PM tendremos nuestra noche familiar de diversión. Habrá mucha comida, rifas y tendremos grandes premios y como siempre rifaremos nuestros canastas populares. Únase a nosotros para disfrutar de una noche de buena comida y diversión familiar.
- El lunes 24 de mayo tendremos la última semana de recaudación de latas y botellas de plástico del este año escolar. Por favor salve todos estos contenedores y envíelos a la escuela entre el 24 y el 1 de junio.
- El 31 de mayo NO HABRA CLASES. Deseamos tengan un buen día de los Caídos, conocido en inglés como Memorial Day. Nos veremos nuevamente el martes 1 de junio.

### THU NHẬN TIN NHỮNG ĐIỂM CHÍNH TRONG

- Từ Ngày 26 Tháng Tư đến Ngày 7 Tháng Năm, Chúng tôi sẽ làm bài thử nghiệm tiểu bang STAR. Trong suốt thời gian thử nghiệm này, điều quan trọng là học sinh đi ngủ sớm mỗi đêm và ăn sáng tốt mỗi buổi sáng. Xin chắc chắn rằng con em quý vị đến trường đúng giờ và không có những buổi hẹn với bác sĩ được sắp đặt trong giờ học.
- Thứ Sáu, Ngày 21 Tháng Năm, từ 5:30 – 8:00 Chiều, Chúng tôi có Đêm Vui Về Gia Đình với rất nhiều thức ăn, và số xổ với nhiều giải thưởng lớn, và luôn luôn có giờ Bingo như thường lệ! Hãy đến với chúng tôi tham gia và thưởng thức một buổi tối với thức ăn ngon và gia đình vui vẻ!
- Vào thứ Hai, Ngày 24 Tháng Năm, Chúng tôi sẽ bắt đầu việc tái dụng cuối cùng trong năm về lon nhôm và chai nhựa. Xin vui lòng lưu giữ tất cả những thùng chứa lon và chai và gửi chúng đi bất cứ lúc nào giữa ngày 24 và 6/1 Tháng Năm.
- KHÔNG CÓ TRƯỜNG HỌC Thứ Hai, Ngày 31 Tháng Năm. Có một ngày Chiến Sĩ Trận Vong tuyệt vời. Gặp lại các bạn vào Thứ Ba, ngày 6/1 Tháng Năm.

### Character Counts - Megaskill of the Month

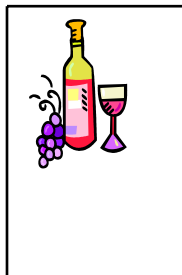
May presents an opportunity for us to really emphasize to our students how important it is to be a good citizen and help them to define what PERSEVERANCE means. This month, we will be discussing the megaskill of perseverance – “completing what you start”. Some things can't be done in a rush because they take more time. Perseverance means that you need to stay with the job until it is completed. You need to show that you are willing to work and wait for results. People need perseverance in order to accomplish and create. Reaching a goal may take time and long days of effort and continuing work, but it's worth it! Take the time to share with your child what perseverance means to you.

## STATE TESTING CONTINUES

The state mandated testing for grades 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> is currently taking place. The California Department of Education provides printed parent guides containing samples of the STAR Program released questions. State Testing 2010 <http://starsamplequestions.org/index.html>

During this testing time, it is very important that your children are well rested and have had a good, nourishing breakfast. Please be sure your child is at school on time every day and try not to schedule any appointments during school hours while testing is going on.

## BERRYESSA ART & WINE FESTIVAL



Our annual Art & Wine Festival will be held at the Berryessa Community Center on Saturday, May 8<sup>th</sup>. This is a great way to support our music program while enjoying the wine & beer tasting, great food, music, activities, and all the wonderful gifts for sale.

## JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

On Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 – 10:30a, all students, teachers and staff at Vinci Park School will be participating in our Jump Rope for Heart event. It's an opportunity for all of us to promote and encourage a healthy heart and healthy choices. Parents are welcome to bring a jump rope and participate. Students are also encouraged to raise funds for the American Heart Association. Look for the information packet to go home.

## FAMILY FUN NIGHT - Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup>

Join us here at Vinci Park from 5:30 – 8:00 PM on Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup> for an evening of fun, prizes, food, and games! You will have a chance at winning many great prizes in both the bingo and basket raffles.

## Memorial Day is May 31st - NO School

## WE NEED YOUR HELP - Volunteers NEEDED!

Vinci Park School annual "Family Fun Night" fund raising event is just around the corner. Last year's "Family Fun Night" event was a great success thanks to strong turn out and participation both by individual and community organization/company volunteers. The funds raised during the event has since helped the school and benefited our students substantially in offsetting budget cuts by the school district this year. The school was able to keep longer library hours, provide class fieldtrips and replace badly needed classroom supplies and equipment. For next year, the cuts will be even more severe, as we have already learned from the district-wide community meetings held this week. Therefore, this year we hope to do as well, if not better, to help our school face the shortages coming next year. We hope you can make an effort to attend the Home & School meeting to help organize this important fund raising event. It would be helpful if you could also pass this along to the parents of

your children's classmates and encourage them to come to the meeting as well.

## YEARBOOKS --ORDER TODAY !!!!

Vinci Park Yearbooks are still on sale for the 2009-10 school year. The yearbooks cost \$20.00 each and will be delivered in June of 2010. Check with our school office if you need an order form.



## FIT FOR LEARNING

**Ready, Set, Go** - May is a month full of tests, both academic and fitness related, so it is important for your body to be in tip-top shape. Remember to stay physically active, eat a healthy breakfast, and make wise food choices every day! Ready? Set? Go!

## KINDER REGISTRATION for 2010-11

Do you have a child starting kindergarten next year? Know someone else who does? Registration packets can be picked up from the school office between 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. and at the Berryessa District Office at 1376 Piedmont Road from 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Completed packets may be turned in to the Vinci Park School office from 9-11am daily. Only parents and guardians can turn in completed packets. If you have a neighbor with a child who will attend kindergarten next school year, please share this information. Children who were born before December 2, 2005 are eligible for kindergarten for 2010-2011 school year.



## HELP US KEEP EVERYONE SAFE!

Please slow down and obey ALL Traffic rules:

- **DO NOT** leave your car unattended in the pick-up & drop-off zones around the school.
- **DO NOT** double-park to pick up your child.
- NO u-turns in the middle of the street.
- **DO NOT** jay-walk. Use the crosswalks.
- Follow the directions of our safety patrol, staff and parent volunteers.
- PLEASE BE AWARE that you will be CITED if you violate these traffic laws by the city traffic officers.

We NEED you to set the example for our children and be SAFETY minded when coming and going from school. We strongly encourage you to talk with your children about traffic safety. Make sure your child knows where you are meeting them at dismissal time. Decide on a designated location – our campus is surrounded by Vinci Park Way and there are many pick-up zones on the entire street. We encourage you NOT to use the front of the school as a meeting place as it is the busiest place. Lastly, it is important that you are ON TIME to pick your child up. Thank you for your support and cooperation.



## BOOK OF THE MONTH

**Mr. Peabody's Apples** is based on a 17<sup>th</sup> century Ukrainian fable. In Madonna's modern retelling, a boy learns how much damage can be done when an untrue rumor is spread. Colorful and appealing illustrations by

Loren Long make this a natural to read aloud and discuss the power of words together. The author, Madonna Ritchie, was born in Bay City, Michigan. She has recorded 16 albums, and appeared in 18 movies, including A League of Her Own. She lives with her husband, movie director Guy Ritchie, and her two children, Lola and Rocco, in London and Los Angeles. Madonna dedicates her book to teachers everywhere. (from [www.callaway.com](http://www.callaway.com), "Mr. Peabody's Apples")

### DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- What is honesty?
- What is dishonesty?
- What are rumors/gossip? Are rumors different from lies?
- How does honesty relate to trust?
- Why is honesty necessary?
- Ask your child if she/he has ever told a lie. How did that make them feel?

### RECYCLING CANS & PLASTIC BOTTLE

Send in your empty cans and bottles during the week of May 24<sup>th</sup> – June 1<sup>st</sup> and help raise funds for Vinci Park's fifth grade science camp. This is a quick and easy way to help your school, so please send in those cans!

### REPORTING ABSENCES

Every time your child is absent from school, you MUST call the office to report the absence. If you are calling the office after school hours, please leave a message regarding the absence. When calling in, please leave the following information:

- Your child's first and last name
- Room number
- Briefly state the reason for the absence
- State your name and relationship to the child

### MONTHLY MEETINGS

#### Home & School Club

Our next Home and School Club meeting will be held on May 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.

**Buổi họp kế tiếp cho PTA/Home and School Club sẽ là vào ngày 6 tháng 5, 6:30p.m.**

**Nuestra próxima junta del Club Escolar se llevará acabo el 5/6 at 6:30p.m.**

### SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL

Site Council Minutes - April 1, 2010

#### Opening

- a. Roll Call/Introductions: The meeting was called to order at 5:32pm. Those in attendance: Linh Nguyen, Jorge Licea, Nancy Emoto, Linn Trowell, Cuong Luu, Amanda Byma, Steve Kato, JoAnn Snider, Angela Tsoi, Joy Salvador, Bob LeMasurier, Russ Rino, Don Tran
- b. Additions / Changes to agenda: No changes
- c. Approval of February Minutes: Unanimous approval

#### Old Business

- a. School Report (Linh)
  1. 4<sup>th</sup>/ 5<sup>th</sup> grade SI seeing improvement using Imagine Learning English program (see handout)
  2. 1<sup>st</sup> Graders making great progress in SI and will exit some students and consolidate to one class

### New Business

- a. Budget: Measure W
  1. Only received half of funds, rest will come in April/May
  2. Focused this year is to enhance technology infrastructure, support library, and Math/Science teachers
  3. Oversight Committee makes sure board is using money according to legal compliance
- b. New Timeline for submitting School Plan (SPSA) – see handout
  1. Instead of submitting in September, new deadline will be December 1<sup>st</sup>; Approval in January instead of October
  2. A mid year review will be done in April to monitor implementation of plans

### Committee Reports

- a. BDAC (Bob)
  1. Not supporting the closure of school
  2. Discuss dress code and reported no changes in budget committee
- b. ELAC/DELAC (Linh)
  1. No updates
- c. Home & School Club (Jorge/Russ)
  1. Cal Skate on April 2, 2010
  2. Earth Day, April 22, 2010 – Tree Planting with volunteers from Intel and possibly high school students from Piedmont and Independence High School
  3. Looking to see if there is a budget for teachers (\$30/students)
  4. National PTA will be presenting at Home & School Club meeting tonight
  5. Family Fun Night coming up, need help to coordinate volunteers and games

### Open Discussion

- a. Site Council election will take place in September Adjournment (6:05pm)

Our next School Site Council meeting will be held on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 5:30pm.

**Buổi họp kế tiếp cho Hội Đồng Nhà Trường sẽ là vào ngày 6 tháng 5 5:30p.m.**

**Nuestra próxima junta del Concilio Escolar llevará acabo el 5/6/10 at 5:30p.m.**

### BERRYESSA DISTRICT BOARD MEETINGS

Location: 1376 Piedmont Rd. San Jose

Tuesdays @ 7p, Board Room - **May 18 & Jun 8**



### DATES TO REMEMBER

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Apr 26–May 7 | State Testing for Grades 2 <sup>nd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> |
| May 6        | Site Council Mtg. 5:30p                                   |
| May 8        | Home & School Mtg. 6:30p                                  |
| May 21       | Berryessa Art & Wine Festival                             |
| May 24–Jun 1 | Family Fun Night 5:30-8p                                  |
| May 31       | Aluminum Can Drive  |
| Jun 3        | NO SCHOOL—Memorial Day                                    |
| Jun 2-4      | School Site Council 5:30p                                 |
| Jun 9        | Olympics  |
| Jun 9        | 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Recognition 10a                     |
| Jun 10       | 5 <sup>th</sup> grade picnic @ Flickinger Park            |

**LAST DAY OF SCHOOL – 1p Dismissal**