

# School News

*Education + Communication = A Better Nation*

**Covering the Ocean View School District**



Volume 19, Issue 114

November 2023

## Building Stronger Connections to Enhance Learning



## SUPERINTENDENT



**Dr. Michael Conroy**  
*Superintendent*

### OVSD: Connections Before Content

When we began the school year, the message and theme I wanted Ocean View School District staff to focus on was connections - 'Connections Before Content.' For teachers to establish strong connections with their students, they need to take the time to familiarize themselves with each student on a personal level. We know teachers have the role to educate, but it is evident that students tend to excel in the classroom, achieve their goals, and have improved behavior when they have an interpersonal connection with their teachers and trust is in place.

Students flourish when they are in healthy and supportive relationships. John Hattie, a Professor of

Education and Researcher, reported that students "having teachers that care, that take time to listen, possess empathy, and demonstrate a positive regard for them as individuals, have a greater impact on students than those who do not."

Knowing that positive relationships with others lead to happier, healthier, and more satisfied lives, I set forth a challenge to our teachers to write a positive and encouraging note to be delivered to each student's home reflecting on something noteworthy they observed at school. I have had conversations with several families who've shared the excitement of their children when receiving the hand-written notes. It is heartwarming to hear about the positive impact these messages have had on the OVSD students. Teachers have the potential to have the greatest influence on their students' outcomes, and these acts of kindness are creating lasting memories.

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*By Patricia Singer, President, Board of Trustees*

During the Ocean View School District Board of Trustees' Meeting on September 26, we recognized all 14 of our schools for their amazing achievement in earning the 2023 California Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Coalition Awards. Circle View, Golden View, Harbour View, Lake View, Spring View, Vista View, and Westmont received bronze certifications; Hope View, Oak View, Marine View, Mesa View, Star View, and Village View collected silver certifications; and College View School was honored with the coveted gold award.

PBIS is a framework used in educational settings to promote and support positive behavior, teaching and reinforcing those behaviors, and using data to make informed decisions to create a more positive and effective learning environment.

The goal is to facilitate an atmosphere where positive behavior is the norm, and distributive or challenging behavior is minimized through prevention and support. By using this framework, schools aim to improve overall school culture, reduce disciplinary issues, and enhance student's social and emotional well-being.



**PBIS Gold Award Winner – College View Elementary School**

As a result of our staff's unwavering dedication and hard work in implementing PBIS, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to all our esteemed schools for the recognition they've earned at the State level. Our staff's commitment to fostering a positive and effective learning environment is truly commendable, and the entire Board of Trustees is proud of the accomplishments. Congratulations!

## PBIS Silver Award Winners



Hope View Elementary School, Marine View Middle School, Mesa View Middle School, Oak View Elementary School, Star View Elementary, and Village View Elementary School.

## PBIS Bronze Award Winners



Circle View Elementary School, Golden View Elementary School, Harbour View Elementary, Lake View Elementary School, Spring View Middle School, Vista View Middle School, and Westmont Elementary School.



**Kay Coop**  
Founder/Publisher



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*Neta Madison*  
Netragrednik

# School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

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advertisers in this publication.

Dr. Conroy begins this issue with his message on page 2 highlighting the importance of connections. Everyone wants to be feel valued and know someone is really listening and cares.

This year is quickly coming to a close and we will soon be celebrating Thanksgiving. I have many reasons to be thankful and included are you, our readers, who continue to support public education. For 24 years we have been publishing *School News* and bringing you information directly from the classrooms. Readers may sign up on our website to receive issues from the districts of their

choice. Interest in public education is at its highest in our years of publishing. I sold real estate for many years before founding *School News* and every buyer asked what the schools were like in the community they were considering. Even if they didn't have children, buyers knew the quality of the schools set the standard for the quality of the community and would determine their selling price. The Ocean View School District *School News* is often requested.

Our next issue is January 24.

Happy Holidays from the *School News* staff!

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By Kay Coop  
Illustrated by Melanie Florio

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# City of Huntington Beach Office of the Mayor

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**Tony Strickland**  
Mayor

## Thank You, Surf City!

I want to take a moment to express how wonderful it has been serving the residents of Huntington Beach as part of your City Council, and how honored and thrilled I am to have served as your Mayor. While I will remain on City Council through 2026, I'm pleased that Mayor Pro Tem Gracey Van Der Mark will step into the role as Mayor in December 2023.

As we close out 2023, I want you to know as your Mayor I thoroughly enjoyed meeting one-on-one with you – whether at one of many the Coffee with the Mayor events, Town Hall meetings, or celebrating your accomplishments at our monthly Mayor's Community Spotlight Awards – getting to know you and what matters to our community made me appreciate and value Surf City even more.

I want to reiterate how privileged I am to have served as your Mayor. I am eager to see what the new year will bring!



**Mayor Strickland honors the Huntington Beach High School Boys Varsity Baseball Team**

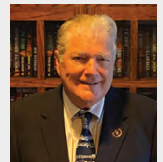


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# Huntington Beach Public Library

7111 Talbert Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 • 714/374-5338 • [www.hbpl.org](http://www.hbpl.org)

## 17th Annual Children's Writing & Illustrating Contest!

By Laura Jenkins, Senior Youth Services Librarian

The Huntington Beach Public Library and Friends of the Children's Library invite children in preschool through 12th grade to participate in the 17th Annual Children's Writing & Illustrating Contest! This year, the library is asking young authors and illustrators to dream of an amazing beach discovery. Write a story or create an illustration filled with descriptive language or imagery surrounding your beach discovery, including as many sights, sounds, smells, tastes, and feelings as possible.

Entries should be accompanied by an official entry form, which will be available at the Children's Desk at Central Library (7111 Talbert Ave) starting in early November. All submissions are due on or before Saturday, December 16. Winners from each grade level

will receive an award certificate and gift card. Detailed instructions on contest requirements and the submission process will be available in early November through the Children's Library website at [hbpl.libguides.com/kids](http://hbpl.libguides.com/kids).

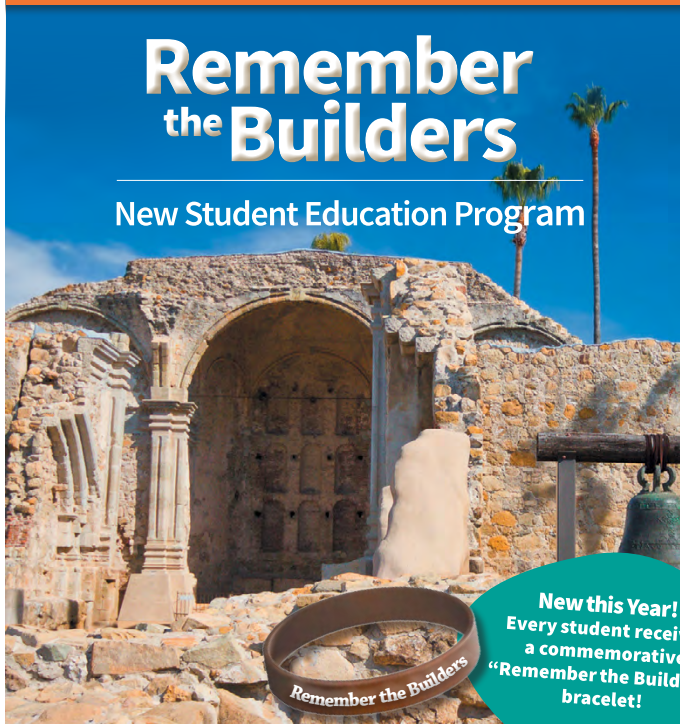


HB City Council Members Natalie Moser and Gracey Van Der Mark congratulate winners from the 2022 Children's Writing & Illustrating Contest.

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**Sue Broderson**  
Coordinator

## Some Exciting Projects in Store

The year has gotten off to a great start! Our after-school program has quadrupled in numbers thanks to our new Expanded Learning Opportunities Program called ELOP.

Students in transitional kindergarten through the sixth grade who qualify for free and reduced lunch, or are foster youth or English learners, will meet the eligibility requirements for ELOP. These students will be offered nine hours a day of combined in-person instructional time and expanded learning opportunities during the school year, and 30 days during the summer or intersessional periods.

Our school sites have been given some exciting enrichment activities provided by outside professionals in art, STEAM, dance, sports, and skateboarding instruction. Many of these programs have a long history of involvement with our students, but they have traditionally been offered for a fee. ELOP covers the cost of these activities, which now allows those students to participate who may not have had a previous opportunity to do so.

One of the students' favorite activities is learning to skateboard. They are provided the skateboards, helmets, and safety gear for every lesson. They then learn about skating safety, the fundamentals of skateboarding, and basic ramp riding and tricks. Our students are loving the chance to learn a new sport!



As the students learn new activities, so do our staff members. Our childcare staff recently participated in two full days of professional development to learn more about working with students who come from trauma. They are learning how to support them, how to design developmentally appropriate practices, how to become familiar with expanded learning quality standards, and how to use interactions and hands-on activities to extend learning.

Staff will also be participating in a third day of professional development in November to continue to refine and develop those skills. I encourage our parents to check the weekly lesson plans posted outside of each of the school sites to see the exciting after-school projects that our students are working on.





# Circle View *Elementary (K-5)*

6261 Hooker Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/893-5305 • [www.ovsd.org/circle](http://www.ovsd.org/circle)



**Jessica Haag**  
*Principal*

## Eagle Artists

Circle View has a very active Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). They fundraise all year to pay for amazing programs for our students.

One of the programs at Circle View we participate in is Art Explorers. Art Explorers was created by a parent in the district named Karen Jeffries. Art Explorers is dedicated to opening the world of art to children by using different art mediums, exposing them to art masters and teaching them about opportunities and careers in art. We participate in six art lessons per year. The students learn about the art master and medium at the beginning of the week with an interactive assembly.



Then they get to create their art in a guided lesson. Some of the art masters we have the privilege of learning about this year are Claire West, Piet Mondrian, Gustav Klimt, Berth Morisot, and Claes Oldenburg. They will also be creating animation at the end of the year. Art Explorers also offers after school classes on Wednesdays as part of our PTO after school programs. We are fortunate enough

that our PTO also offers an Art Camp during our both parent-teacher conference weeks. We are so grateful to our PTO and Ms. Jeffries for providing us with this amazing opportunity.



# College View *Elementary (K-5)*

6582 Lennox Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-3505 • [www.ovsd.org/college](http://www.ovsd.org/college)



**Allen Mendrin**  
*Principal*

## PBIS GOLD!!!

College View is extremely proud of its accomplishment in earning the Positive Behavior Support System (PBIS) Gold recognition.



Through partnership with all College View staff, students and parents, College View was able to emphasize the below four integrated elements:

- data for decision making
- measurable outcomes supported and evaluated by data
- practices with evidence that these outcomes are achievable
- systems that efficiently and effectively support implementation of these practices

As a result of the integrated elements, College View was able to apply the following six principals of PBIS:

1. Develop a continuum of scientifically based behavior, social, emotional, and academic interventions and supports.
2. Use data to make decisions and solve problems.

3. Arrange the environment to prevent the development and occurrence of problem behavior.
4. Teach and encourage pro-social skills and behaviors.
5. Implement evidence-based behavioral practices with fidelity and accountability.
6. Screen universally and monitor student performance and progress continuously.

The College View PBIS team organized their evidence-based behavioral practices and systems into an integrated collection or Multi-Tier System of Supports Framework in which students experience supports based on their behavioral responsiveness to intervention. A three-tiered prevention logic requires that all students receive support at the universal or primary tier. If the behavior of some students is not responsive, more intensive behavioral supports were provided, in the form of a group contingency (selected or secondary tier) or a highly individualized plan (intensive or tertiary tier).

I am so proud of College View Elementary PBIS Gold recognition. I look forward to the continued progress and implementation of PBIS at College View and help to ensure all students are supported!

## We Love Our Dogs Word Search Contest

**Rules!** One word in the list is NOT in the word search.

When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: [Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com) (Please put Ocean View n the subject line)

Entries must be received December 15, 2023

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

Thank you [www.BarkateNehiSmiles.com](http://www.BarkateNehiSmiles.com) for sponsoring our contests!

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# Golden View *Environmental Science School*

17251 Golden View Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-2516 • [www.ovsd.org/golden](http://www.ovsd.org/golden)



**Lori Florgan**  
*Principal*

## TK Pumpkin Science

The TK students at Golden View school welcomed the month of October with a special science investigation focused on pumpkins. We are learning all about pumpkins by making discoveries in our classrooms and garden. We are exploring

the parts of the pumpkin, life cycle, and characteristics of a pumpkin. We are investigating like real scientists, using our hands and tools in our classroom science centers. We dissected a pumpkin in class and used magnifying glasses to explore the gooey strands and seeds found inside. One of our favorite discoveries was using the water table to discover that pumpkins can float!



# Harbour View *Elementary (K-5)*

4343 Pickwick Cr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-6602 • [www.ovsd.org/harbour](http://www.ovsd.org/harbour)



**Francesca Ligman**  
*Principal*

## Students Supporting Students in Learning

Reading Buddies has been a longtime tradition at Harbour View. However, we have taken it to a new level. Initially, two classes buddy up, an upper and a lower class, and they read together. This pairing has evolved to include several different skill-building activities, such as teaching the little ones how to log into clever art projects that

involve intricate fine motor skills, and learning new songs together.

Additionally, we have also implemented Cross Age Tutors, also known as CAT Tutors. This is a huge honor that our fourth- and fifth-grade students strive to be selected for. They are assigned to a lower grade classroom to be a teacher assistant, and help provide academic support to the students during their recess. They may also assist with learning high frequency words, help with reading or writing lessons, practice math facts, and more. We also like to match our Dual Language Immersion students with the younger students to help support the development of Spanish.

Building relationships is key to a child's social and academic success. These are some of the ways that students support students at Harbour View.



# Hope View *Elementary (K-5)*

17622 Flintstone Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/847-8571 • [www.ovsd.org/hope](http://www.ovsd.org/hope)



**Christina Luckey**  
*Principal*

## Encouraging Great Leaders

Fall has arrived, and we are now beginning to vote for our next Student Council members. A few candidates have hung their posters and are gearing up for their class speeches.

At Hope View, we strive to develop not only outstanding scholars but also great leaders. Those who are elected to Student Council will represent our school and help with campus activities such as dress-up

days, community of caring events, skate nights, and so much more. Students who join Student Council as class representatives to elected positions play important roles on campus, as all grade levels benefit from the work they put in to making Hope View a great place to be.

We find multiple ways to encourage and promote good leaders and good character. As Heraclitus once said, “Good character is not formed in a week or a month. It is created little by little, day by day.”

We even tie our PBIS and SEL activities to our student council events. Character counts at Hope View Elementary!



# Lake View Elementary (K-5)

17451 Zeider Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-2589 • [www.ovsd.org/lake](http://www.ovsd.org/lake)



**Jill Van Der Linden**  
Principal

## Awards Assembly

Lake View is focused on student achievement. Our teachers work hard to bring engaging learning opportunities to their students. At Lake View, we celebrate student achievement in many different ways.

One of our school's favorites is the monthly Lion Pride Assembly. This is a monthly event that highlights the students who are working hard, showing improvement, and demonstrating a character trait.

We kicked off the year with our first Lion Pride Assembly. Our newly elected student council was introduced, and the Girl Scouts led the Pledge of Allegiance. Parents of students receiving awards were invited to share in their child's recognition.

One of my favorite parts of this assembly is the support of all of the students in the audience. When their classmates' names are announced, they break out in applause and cheer them on. After the awards are distributed we get a visit from Leo the Lion, our school mascot. The students go crazy with cheering as Leo comes walking into the assembly.

Leo accompanies the PTO leaders who announce the upcoming events. The assembly ends with the Lake View chant and an opportunity for our parents to take photos with their children. These events support student achievement and help motivate our students to excel in learning.



# Marine View *Middle School (6–8)*

7721 Juliette Low Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-0624 • [www.ovsd.org/marine](http://www.ovsd.org/marine)



**Sara Schaible**  
*Principal*

## Lunchtime Intramural Program

There is much excitement radiating through campus as Marine

View welcomes back our lunchtime intramural program. The program is run by our intramural coordinator Mr. Becker with the assistance of students from our leadership class. This past month our teams have squared off against each other in some very intense and exciting games of volleyball. Each advisement class put together teams to compete in grade level competitions. As the teams play each other, spectators gather around the court to cheer and encourage their friends, classmates, and some of our teachers playing alongside their students. Our leadership class keeps the students up to date regarding the schedule and results during our morning announcements. Intramural play focuses on teamwork, collaboration, encouragement and working together. We have seen the camaraderie and teamwork ensue throughout the campus since we've implemented the program. During the school year, students will have the opportunity to participate in other sports including basketball, soccer, and flag football through our intramural program.



# Mesa View Middle School (6-8)

17601 Avila Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-6608 • [www.ovsd.org/mesa](http://www.ovsd.org/mesa)



**Jadyn Grunbaum**  
Principal

## Athletics: Strong Start!

Mesa View is proud to have some amazing student athletes and dedicated teacher coaches to support the growth of our program and students. In OVSD, seventh- and eighth-grade students can try-out and participate in four athletic offerings: track and field, volleyball, basketball, and cross country. This year, our sixth-graders were also able to participate in cross country, and

we had first-place runners for the boys and girls sixth-grade heats!



This year, we were able to take our cross country students to the Mt. Sac Invitational as a field trip, and the students were so excited to participate! We took over 90 students, and they had a fantastic time! For cross country, Mesa View placed second overall, with first-place finishes for the eighth-grade boys and girls teams. Throughout the meet, all OVSD students displayed excellent sportsmanship, cheering athletes on from all school sites and congratulating each other.

Our Mesa Cross Country team practiced at the interim site, and I am sure they are looking forward to next year when they will once again be able to practice at Central Park. We commend them for their hard work and look forward to seeing future athletic success for Mesa View!



At Mesa View, we typically have over 100 students participating in track and field and cross country. Our basketball and volleyball teams all played in the final matches in our OVSD tournaments, and we were so excited to see students fully engaging in athletics after the last couple of years of COVID-related alterations to our athletics program!





# Oak View Elementary (K-5)

17241 Oak Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/842-4459 • [www.ovsd.org/oak](http://www.ovsd.org/oak)



**Jenna Landero**  
Principal

## Family Reading Night

Oak View Elementary welcomed over 100 families at our first Family Reading Night of the school year. In our first of four STREAM (Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Art, Math) Nights our gym was transformed into a magical camp of reading fun. From exciting Science experiments, reading by the campfire with Dr. Hoefler, decorating book boxes to store our favorites and other fun activities, our students were immersed in multi leveled reading experience that were fun for all families. Parents engaged in learning activities that they can utilize at home to increase their student's ability to read and to strengthen our home to school connection. Students from the Business Academy at Ocean View High School led by their teacher were on hand to help our team of Mighty Owl teachers lead the students in all of their activities. We are looking forward to another night by the STREAM in December where we will be focusing on the A in STREAM for Art!



# Spring View Middle School (6-8)

16662 Trudy Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92647 • 714/846-2891 • [www.ovsd.org/spring](http://www.ovsd.org/spring)



**Isis Ortiz**  
Principal

## Spartans Are Reading!

Middle school students have either a love or a hate relationship with reading. At Spring View, we are working on building a love of reading with our students. All students participate in monthly activities to widen their reading lens and introduce them to new and exciting books.



Our sixth-and-seventh-grade ELA teacher, Mrs. Hansen, has been holding book cafés in her classroom. Starbooks Cafe students are given the opportunity to “taste” different books and make connections with them. Mrs. Hansen gives them the opportunity to be introduced to different books each month and then lets the students check out the books and creates book-study groups.

The first Friday of each month, our entire school is exposed to a new book with First Chapter Friday. In each ELA class, students listen to the first chapter of a high-interest book read to them by the author on YouTube. Short interviews about how or why the author wrote the



book are also shared with the students. Students are asked to fill out a form to say what they like about the book and how they would rate it. Then, if they would like a copy of the book, they can put their name in for a raffle to get their own copy.

Spring View will also be implementing a Mentor and Friendship Reading Program with our TK and kindergarten buddies at College View Elementary. Our librarian and our ELA teacher are working on implementing a program where our seventh-grade students will be reading buddies with our little learners at College View. Our seventh-grade students will visit College View and read to the students. Eventually, our students will be creating a book that will be presented to their little reading buddies at the end of the year when they come to Spring to View to celebrate their reading path throughout the year.



# Star View Elementary (K-5)

8411 Worthy Ln., Midway City, CA 92655 • 714/897-1009 • [www.ovsd.org/star](http://www.ovsd.org/star)



**Jeanne Bentley**  
Principal

## Partnership for Kids

Star View enjoys numerous benefits through partnering with our after-school childcare program. Kids Club students are Star View students. Together, we help working parents by offering a safe and engaging environment.

Facilities and resources are shared to make learning fun. The time spent at childcare aligns with school's policies and safety standards. Ms. Julie and the school staff talk regularly, collaborating on learning programs that promote enrichment for children. In Kids Club, our students read minutes contributing to Star View's "Read a Million Minutes" program. Our Monthly Character Traits are woven into lesson plans during and after school each week. In October, we are learning how to be inclusive with our peers. Childcare shares yarn, big wheels, and classrooms during the school day, and teachers and the principal are available before and after school to share student successes or support strategies.

The future holds bright plans, including Musical Theater, Talent Shows, and Career Exploration.



**Staff Collaboration**



**Engineering Fun**



**Skate Dogs**

# Village View Elementary (K-5)

5361 Sisson Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92649 • 714/846-2801 • [www.ovsd.org/village](http://www.ovsd.org/village)



**Tami Benane**  
Principal

## Sea Horse Month

September is the month of the Sea Horse at Village View. Our focus on Marine Science is floating through Mrs. O'Connor's kinder and first grade class.

Students are learning all about Math and Language Arts in a kindergarten and first grade combo class.

Mrs. O'Connor lead an engaging Marine Science lesson about a Sea Horse. Students learned what a Sea Horse eats, how they lay eggs, move in the ocean, and camouflage their bodies in the sea.

During Math students arranged a variety of shapes to fit together to form a Sea Horse. Students decorated their Sea Horse adding art to this fascinating multi-curricular lesson.



# Vista View Middle School (6–8)

16250 Hickory St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • 714/842-0626 • [www.ovsd.org/vista](http://www.ovsd.org/vista)



**Dr. Rasheedah Gates**  
Principal

## Fostering Inclusivity and Creativity

One of the staples of Vista View Middle School is the intentional work that staff and students do to create inclusivity and encourage creativity. We focus on academics but also are all about nurturing a sense of belonging and collaboration among students.

One great example of this is our fine arts class that also functions as our best-buddies class on campus. In this class, special education students and general education students come together to create art projects and build lasting bonds. We could not be prouder that the class is taught by our very own Diane Cho. She has taught general education classes, special education classes, and GATE classes during her tenure at Vista.

Through the fine arts class, we foster inclusion, which has long been recognized as a fundamental principle in education. The work Vista is doing to promote diversity and ensuring that all students have equal opportunities to learn and grow are at the core of what we do as a school community. In this innovative class, students with special needs are paired with their general education “buddies.” These pairs work together on various art projects, allowing each student to bring their unique perspectives, skills, and talents to the creative process. The results are often stunning works of art that reflect the beauty of collaboration.



We chose an art class to incorporate an inclusive atmosphere because art is a universal language that transcends differences and provides an outlet for self-expression. In the class, students are encouraged to explore their creativity freely regardless of their abilities or limitations. The fine arts class provides a safe and supportive environment where every student’s artistic voice is valued. Mrs. Cho has also developed a creative process that helps students develop problem-solving skills, critical thinking, and the ability to think outside the box – skills that are valuable in all areas of life—all while working alongside a friend. The shared experiences in class translate to Vista’s larger school community by creating a form of acceptance that can positively impact a student’s overall well-being. Students also learn important life lessons about empathy, patience, and understanding, and they have opportunities to learn to appreciate the strengths and challenges of their peers, breaking down stereotypes and preconceptions.

The fine arts class at Vista serves as an inspiring example of the power of inclusion where special education students and their general education peers develop deep connections through their shared experiences in the class. As we continue to strive for inclusivity and diversity in education, programs like the fine arts class at Vista remind us of how the profound impact of viewing others through their strengths and abilities influences the lives of students and the world they will help shape. Vista Falcons, SOAR!

# Westmont Elementary (K-5)

8251 Heil Ave., Westminster, CA 92683 • 714/847-3561 • [www.ovsd.org/westmont](http://www.ovsd.org/westmont)



**Diana Bianco**  
Principal

## Safety for Students

On Thursday, October 5, Westmont school conducted a safety walk with the City of Westminster. This partnership allowed city representatives to work alongside Westmont staff, district employees, and parents with the goal being to evaluate safe routes to school for students. We had over 40 people involved in this collaboration which was facilitated in both English and Spanish. After gathering input and reviewing drop off and pick up procedures, and participating in a campus walk, suggestions were made as to how we could provide students with a safer route to school. We are proud to say that we have started to implement changes in our parking lot already, and many families have expressed their gratitude for putting student safety as a top priority. We are grateful for the City of Westminster and thank them for their ongoing commitment to our students.



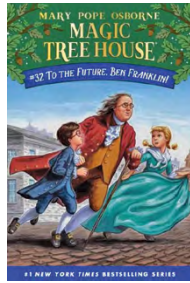
## Aubtin's Review



**Aubtin M.**

### Back to The Future

Title: *Magic Tree House #32 To The Future. Ben Franklin!*  
Author: Mary Pope Osborne



Magic Tree House book series is a #1 New York Times bestselling series. This book series is about a brother and sister named Jack and Annie. The two go inside a Magic Tree House that takes them through time to finish a mission.

In this book, they will travel back in time to 1787 to help Benjamin Franklin sign the United States Constitution. They find a way to get close to him, which is delivering his lunch. They want to know about Ben Franklin, but he has a different idea. He wants to learn all about them! They take him to the present day, but Ben gets scared by the machines. Can Jack and Annie get him to sign the Constitution? I recommend you read this book to find out.

This book is also educational and historical. I hope that you will like it and learn about Ben Franklin who was a scientist, inventor, businessman, diplomat and more.

Aubtin is a 2nd Grader. When not playing, Aubtin does writing, reading, and drawing. He also likes sports, swimming, trains, cars and computers. He cares a lot about his family and friends.

## Madeleine's Review



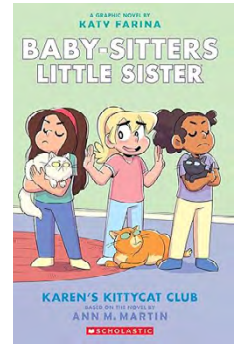
**Madeleine J.**

### Karen's Fun Club!

*Karen's Kittycat Club* by Katy Farina is one book of a series called "Baby-Sitters Little Sister." It is about a girl named Karen who has an older stepsister named Kristy that

works with her friends to babysit. This gave Karen an idea! She decided that she would get together with her friends, Hannie and Amanda, and start a "kitty cat club," which is like babysitting but with cats.

One emotion I felt while reading it was surprised, because at first I thought they wouldn't even get through their first meeting. They would waste too much time arguing over simple things, because they are younger kids and not that mature. Karen and her friends were really excited about cat-sitting, but they found out it was harder than they expected to get adults to hire them! You should read this book because it has suspense, and laughs!



Madeleine is in 4th grade, and she likes to do martial arts, and she has a passion for drawing, swimming, making stories, and reading books.

## Musical String Instruments Word Search Contest

**Rules!** One word in the list is NOT in the word search.

When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: [Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com) (Please put Tehachapi in the subject line)

Entries must be received by **March 15, 2023**

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

Thank you **Barkate / Nehi Orthodontics** for sponsoring our contests.

[www.BarkateNehiSmiles.com](http://www.BarkateNehiSmiles.com)

BALALAIKA	LUTE
BANJO	LYRE
BASS VIOL	MANDOLIN
CELLO	ORGAN
CLAVICHORD	PIANO
CONTRABASS	SITAR
DULCIMER	UKULELE
GUITAR	VIOLA
HARPSI- CHORD	VIOLIN
	ZITHER

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F	K	L	M	A	N	D	O	L	I	N	N	I	V	H
C	X	A	H	Y	G	I	A	I	S	C	O	O	K	K
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## Orange County Department of Education



**Dr. Al Mijares**  
*Superintendent*



**Dr. Ramon Miramontes**  
*Deputy Superintendent of Instructional Programs*

Times and technologies may change, but ensuring students feel a sense of connection at school is just as crucial as ever. Arguably, it's never been more important.

I'm talking specifically about being involved with

clubs, sports, music and other activities that not only enhance personal growth but have also been shown to improve students' academic performance and their well-being.

Research from the National Institutes of Health tells us that when students feel connected to their school, they are less likely to feel anxious, sad or have thoughts of harming themselves. The American Academy of Pediatrics suggests these benefits are long term, leading to improved health outcomes into adulthood.

Now, let me introduce you to two OCDE programs that have a history of engaging students across Orange County: the Academic Decathlon and Pentathlon.

The Academic Decathlon was established in 1968 as the brainchild of former Orange County Superintendent Dr. Robert Peterson. Students take on 10 challenges, giving speeches, doing interviews, writing essays and answering questions in such subjects as art, economics, literature, math, music and social science. Think of this as a mental Olympics, culminating with the Super Quiz Relay, an exciting live competition.

For middle school students in grades six, seven and eight, OCDE offers the Academic Pentathlon. This is a five-event competition that focuses on fine arts, literature, math, science and social science, building up to its own Super Quiz Relay.

Both events bring students from different achievement levels together to compete, but it's not just about winning and losing. These are months-long endeavors that are equally about learning, growing and making the kinds of lasting friendships that emerge when students tackle challenges together. This year's decathlon theme is "Technology and Humanity," reflecting one of the most important issues of our time.

Scholarly competitions like the decathlon and pentathlon aren't the only options available. Public school students in Orange County can also connect through campus clubs, sports teams, career exploration programs, student government, community service projects, the performing arts, cultural clubs, peer mentoring, service learning projects and much more. Ultimately, it's about understanding the aptitudes and interests of each student and finding the activities that will most engage and inspire them.

So here's my call to action: As parents and educators, let's envision education beyond the classroom walls. Let's introduce each learner to activities that will help them truly belong to their school. Let's consistently inspire the next generation of leaders, thinkers and achievers to engage in transformative experiences that will enrich their lives and potentially impact their communities.

The connections they forge today will not only shape their current academic achievements but will also lay the foundation for more resilient, fulfilled and empowered individuals in the future.

For more information about the Orange County Academic Decathlon and Academic Pentathlon, or if your middle or high school is interested in starting a program, contact OCDE Coordinator Kristin Rigby at 714-966-4435 or [krigby@ocde.us](mailto:krigby@ocde.us)