

Monte Vista Paw Prints Newsletter



March 28, 2021

SCHOOL NEWS



Dear Monte Vista families,

Tomorrow, Monday March 28th, we begin a new chapter with the onset of hybrid learning for our students. It is new for all of us, and especially for our teachers. We have appreciated the continuous support you have shown for them as they have pivoted multiple times during this entire year amidst a global pandemic. We know that you will be patient, flexible, understanding and gracious as we roll out the "return to school" endeavor. There may be technological issues, glitches and gaps. The plans we have made for student arrival, dismissal, health screening process and recess might need some tweaking. And the schedules we have created may not be exact in the first week or so. Please continue to be patient with us! Our promise to all of our families and students is that everyone will continue to thrive whether in distance learning or in-person learning.

We thank you and love our "pawsitively awesome" Monte Vista community!

Sincerely,

Principal Suzanne Risse

Welcome to School Grades K-2 Monday, March 29: In-person instruction begins for Grades K-2. We are excited to greet our students coming to school for in-person instruction. Please note:

- Kindergarten Students (Doom & Hank): Line up with your students outside the kindergarten gate for health screening.
- Kindergarten Students (Cicciarelli & A. Kim): Enter at the "east gate" of the transition zone for health screening.
- 1st-2nd Grade Students: Drive up/Walk up in Monty Lane for health screening and nametags. Greeters will take students to their classroom area.

We look forward to continuing high quality instruction for all of our students throughout the last trimester of 2020-2021 school year.

GUSD Anti-Hate Resolution: On Tuesday, March 9, the Glendale Unified Board of Education adopted a [resolution](#), "Affirming the Glendale Unified Board of Education's Commitment to the Safety and Wellbeing of our Asian American and Pacific Islander Students, Employees, Families, and Community Members and Denouncing Xenophobia Due to Fears of the Covid-19 Pandemic. This resolution comes in response to a concerning nationwide rise in hate crimes and acts of discrimination against the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities over the past year.

"One of our top priorities as a Board of Education is to foster a positive culture of learning by celebrating diversity and emphasizing inclusion on our campuses and in our community," said Glendale Unified Board of Education President Dr. Armina Gharpetian. "As we welcome our students back to campus for in-person learning, we want to reaffirm Glendale Unified School District's commitment to providing a safe learning environment and supporting the social, emotional, and physical needs of every child."

"In Glendale Unified School District, we are working intentionally to eliminate racism and bias in our curricula, our classroom cultures, and our relationships with our students, our parents/guardians, and each other," said Glendale Unified Superintendent Dr. Vivian Ekchian. "Our schools will continue to be safe spaces where every child can learn and thrive."

Glendale Unified School District serves a diverse community of students in grades TK-12. Of the District's 26,000 students, 16.3 percent identify as Asian American or Pacific Islander. The District

offers dual immersion programs in seven languages, including Korean and Japanese. In the fall of 2020, Glendale Unified convened a districtwide Working Group to Ensure Culturally Relevant and Responsive Education, committed to engaging students, families, employees, and community members to proactively eliminate bias and develop more inclusive school communities.

Food Services Meal Kits

If your students need meals for the days they are 100% distance learning, please ask their parent/guardian to order a meal kit using this [order form](#). This order form can also be found on the nutrition services website. Like all of our meals, **the kit is OPTIONAL**.

- **WHO:** Elementary students
- **WHAT:** 5 day meal kit - 5 breakfast entrees, 5 lunch entrees, plus fruits and vegetables. Note: this meal kit will be modified as the weeks progress. We will adjust the # of meals and vary the menu.
- **WHEN:** Tuesday or Friday. Students will be served hot lunch for the day plus a meal kit so they have food for when they attend school from home for the remainder of the week.
- **WHERE:** Served near exits as students leave your campus.
- **HOW:** Parents/Guardians need to pre order meal kits. An [order form](#) must be completed for each student they want a meal kit for. *Example:* Minnie Mouse is a 1st grader and Mickey Mouse is a 4th grader. Then Mom Mouse must complete the online order form for once for Minnie and once for Mickey.

Frequently asked questions:

- Does a student need to take a meal kit home?
 - **No. They will only be served the kit if they need/want it.**
- What if we don't have a pre-order form for a student, but the student or parent says they need a meal kit because

the student will be learning from home the rest of the week?

- We will serve them the meal kit as they leave your campus. Priority will go to those students who pre-ordered kits.

2021-2022 Enrollment for NEW TK, Kindergarten, 1-6 Students starts on February 23, 2021. Due to COVID-19 enrollment will be done online and by appointment ONLY. Starting February 16, 2021 please click on the link to make an appointment <https://calendly.com/montevistaenrollment/2021-2022> with us.

Updates from LA County Public Health

The Spring break season this year has the ability to derail our recovery journey if it involves increased travel, gatherings and nonadherence to safety measures. While COVID-19 numbers have decreased, transmission remains widespread here in L.A. County and in many states and countries. Postponing travel and staying home is the best way to protect yourself and others from COVID-19 during this pandemic. Los Angeles County residents should continue to avoid all non-essential travel and stay within 120 miles from their place of residence, unless they are traveling for essential purposes.

A [Travel Advisory](#) remains in effect in Los Angeles County. Anyone who is arriving in Los Angeles County from outside the State/Country must self-quarantine for 10 days; please remain at your home or lodging for the 10 days and avoid contact with others. Please do not travel if you are sick. If you have COVID-19 symptoms get tested.

Artwork? Poems? Short Stories? - Our office and hallways are in need of "kid work"! We would love any pieces addressing Black History month, Valentines Day and Presidents' Day to post. Just drop them off in the front office or mail to Monte Vista. Thank you!

PTA

MOVING WITH MONTY!

Let's hear it for Sam Suarez for winning this week's Moving with Monty challenge! He won a \$10 gift card to Once Upon a Time Bookstore! Woohoo!!

Submit your form by **FRIDAY EVENING** to PTA President, Mary Cho, starrymary@gmail.com to be entered into the weekly drawing!

[Moving with Monty Form](#)

PTA Dine or Take out Wednesday, March 31 at NEW MOON in Montrose

Tell your family and friends to come this Wednesday for lunch or dinner at New Moon in Montrose. They will give 10% of the proceeds to Monte Vista. Their patio is open for dine-in or call/order online for in-person/curbside pick-up. But NO delivery (sorry). Show flyer or mention Monte Vista upon ordering.

[FLYER](#)

Reflections Update!

Congratulations to Karen Jeong for placing second in the State Reflections Program! Karen will be recognized at the State PTA Convention this May over zoom. You can listen to her musical piece at our Monte Vista website: <https://www.gusd.net/Page/3188>

IT'S YEARBOOK TIME!

It's time to order your Monte Vista 2020-2021 Yearbooks. How can you commemorate such a different school year? Buy a yearbook so you don't forget. It might look different but will still have lots of memories. You can even have it delivered to your house for an extra \$5. Yearbook price is \$20 each.

Orders will be taken **through April 15, 2021** online by clicking on the following

link: <http://shopstudio1.com/yearbooks/montevista2021/>

PTA Association Meeting – Thursday, April 8, 2021

Please join us for our next PTA Association Meeting on Thursday, April 8th at 7pm via zoom! The link will be sent closer to the date!

Diversity and Inclusion Committee

Stop Anti-Asian Violence

The La Crescenta Town Council unanimously passed an anti-hate resolution this week, joining GUSD and others who have spoken out against anti-AAPI sentiment.

GUSD's resolution can be found here:

<https://www.gusd.net/cms/lib/CA01000648/Centricity/Domain/6/Reso%2010-Affirming%20Commitment%20to%20the%20Safety%20of%20AAPI.pdf>

Coverage of the Town Council's resolution can be found at:

<https://www.crescentvalleyweekly.com/news/03/25/2021/119054/>

For more information on stopping AAPI hate, please see: <https://stopaapihate.org/>

If you are unsure why this is needed at this time, there is some coverage in the LA Times including <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-03-16/anti-asian-hate-pandemic>

In the next weeks, we will try to highlight more resources for adults to learn about how to help stop anti-AAPI hate as well as how to discuss such issues with children.

Passover

The Jewish holiday Passover started at sundown on Saturday, March 27. Passover lasts 8 days, until sundown on Sunday, April 4 (Jewish holidays run from sundown to sundown). The holiday is an annual celebration to remember the release of the Jewish people from Egypt, which is known to many through the Judeo-Christian Biblical story of Exodus. Observance of the holiday includes not eating any bread products, to remember the unleavened bread eaten when the Jews did not have enough time to prepare provisions for their escape.

More information on observances of the holiday can be found at:

<https://pjlibrary.org/beyond-books/pjblog/february-2017/the-passover-story-for-kids>

[https://time.com/5188494/passover-history-traditions/#:~:text=Passover%20commemorates%20the%20Biblical%20story,Moses%20are%20called%20the%20Torah\)](https://time.com/5188494/passover-history-traditions/#:~:text=Passover%20commemorates%20the%20Biblical%20story,Moses%20are%20called%20the%20Torah)

Holi

Also celebrated this weekend is the Hindu festival of Holi, also known as “the festival of colors” or “the festival of spring.” Holi is an annual festival representing the triumph of good over evil, symbolically felt as spring vanquishes winter. Observance of the holiday involves playing with different colors as well as enjoying delectable dishes.

More information on observances of the holiday can be found at:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holi>

<https://time.com/5799354/what-is-holi/>

The Monte Vista PTA would like to wish everyone in our community, particularly those who celebrate, a good Holi and Passover.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FREE Group Voice Lessons for grades 4-6 via zoom on Wellness Wednesdays, offered by CV Choir Student. Please click on the attached link to see the flyer for more information on how to sign up. Space is limited. Classes start March 24 - May 12. [Group Voice Lessons](#)