

Osprey News Welcome Back!



Playa Vista Elementary, 13150 West Bluff Creek Drive, Playa Vista, CA 90094

August 14, 2015

Dear PVES Families

Excitement is building around the first day of school! We had a great turn out for our new student and transitional kindergarten and kindergarten orientations. A warm PVES welcome to all our new families. We are thrilled that you have joined our learning community.

Tomorrow we have our campus beautification day from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. We need to weed, garden, power wash, and more. Please come and help a great group of parents prepare the grounds of our school the first day.

There are a few changes and additions to our August calendar. First, Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten parents please take note of the dismissal times for your child this first week of school: Tuesday's dismissal is 12:36, Wednesday at 1:36, and Thursday 2:36.

Second, volunteer training is on Wednesday, August 19th will be held at 2:15 and the training on Friday, August 21st, will be at 8:30. Both will be held in the MPR and are for new volunteers only. These are new times, so be sure to check your calendars. Returning volunteers need to update their LAUSD volunteer application and make sure that the TB clearance on file is still valid and then they're ready to be in classrooms.

The Friends of Playa Vista will be hosting a welcome back breakfast on Wednesday, August 19th, right after drop off. Come and learn about the great things this dynamic group of parents provides for all students and how you can be involved. Parent involvement is such an important part of PVES and it's fun too!

Our fifth grade trip this year is to Catalina Island Marine Institute or CIMI and we are going October 12th, 13th, and 14th. All of my daughters have gone to this camp and I have attended twice myself! It is a great experience. Thursday, August 20th, right after drop off, there will be an orientation meeting for fifth grade parents in the MPR. Please plan on attending.

Below is the Welcome Back Letter from Superintendent Cortines.

See you Saturday morning!

With kind regards,

Mrs. Johnson

Principal



CALENDAR

Mon., August 17th

Pupil Free Day
Teacher Development

Tues., August 18th

First Day of School
12:36 Dismissal for
Kindergarten
1:36 Dismissal for
1st - 5th

Wed. August 19th

8:30 FPVS
Welcome Back Meeting

Volunteer Training
2:15 MPR

Thurs. August 20th

Fifth Grade Parent
CIMI orientation
8:20 MPR

Fri. August 21st

Volunteer Training
8:30 MPR

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tues. August 25th

Volunteer Training
8:20 MPR

Thurs. August 27th

Volunteer Training
2:15 MPR

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

STEVEN ZIMMER, PRESIDENT
MONICA GARCIA
DR. GEORGE J. MCKENNA III
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DR. REF RODRIGUEZ
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RAMON C. CORTINES
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

August 18, 2015

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is my pleasure to welcome you as we embark on another school year.

This year's theme is: *Investing in LAUSD*. One of the greatest investments we can make in this District is to develop stronger partnerships between parents and schools. Parents are the first and most enduring teachers in a child's life. Only by working together can we prepare all students to graduate college and career ready. I would like to share a few steps you can take this year to support learning:

- **Hold Us Accountable**: We have restructured LAUSD into six local districts so that parents have more access and input into their child's education. You are encouraged to share feedback about your child's school with your local district so that we can continue to improve the quality of instruction. Information about your local district can be accessed at <http://achieve.lausd.net/d>.
- **Support Language Development**: Reading, writing, speaking, and listening are essential to academic success because these skills are what students use to demonstrate thinking and learning. It is important that you work closely with teachers and principals to ensure your child is mastering these skills, and that you regularly ask your student about what is being taught in class so that she or he can practice using academic language. If you have young children, you should read to them frequently during the week (in your native language or in English) and ask them questions to ensure they comprehend the text.
- **Monitor Progress Toward Graduation**: The journey to graduation begins in preschool. It is critical that you continuously communicate with teachers about your child's academic progress. If your student is in grades 3 through 8, or in grade 11, carefully review the Smarter Balanced test results when these are mailed in the coming weeks; schools can help you analyze these results if you would like. Perhaps most important, if your student is in high school, familiarize yourself with the District's graduation requirements and regularly talk with the school counselor to ensure your child is on-track to graduate.
- **Learn Best Uses for Technology**: Digital technology is quickly becoming integral to how people work, learn, and communicate. To better prepare students for the digital world, we have distributed more than 200,000 instructional devices to schools during the last two years. The educational success of this initiative depends on the full participation of parents/guardians. To learn how you can monitor and support your child's use of digital technology, visit <http://achieve.lausd.net/Page/8566>.

We are excited to continue building a common vision to help all students reach their fullest potential.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ramon C. Cortines".

Ramon C. Cortines
Superintendent of Schools