

GRANT WEEKLY BULLETIN

APRIL 23-27

THE FIFTH GRADE CLASS PRESENTS...
“LISTEN TO THE STORIES”
SATURDAY, APRIL 21ST 2:00 AND 6:00 PM

2ND - 5TH GRADE TESTING SCHEDULE ON PAGE 2

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday	4/21	The Fifth Grade Play – “Listen to the Stories” – 2:00 and 6:00 PM
Tuesday	4/24	4 th Grade Chat with the Principal – 8:45 AM - Auditorium
Friday	4/27	Bingo Family Night - 6:30 pm
Monday	4/30	Awards Assembly – Upper – 9:00, Primary – 10:30, Kindergarten – 12:30 After School Enrichment Program Session #3

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK - A VERY DIFFICULT WEEK FOR ALL

The last several days have been difficult ones for our nation, our school and your principal. The horror of the mass shootings at Virginia Tech only remind us of our vulnerability in an open society. What makes someone so angry that the only recourse is taking innocent lives is beyond our comprehension. Our hearts go out to the victims, their friends and families for this senseless act. As parents you can help by monitoring the amount of news that your children listen to and watch on a daily basis. You can check in with your kids to see that they feel safe and if they have questions, you are there to answer them. At school we will do the same. There’s no reason to hide what happened, but there is the ability to “sense” where your kids are and how to respond to questions, feelings or thoughts they may have.

On an entirely different note, during spring vacation Grant School was burglarized. Five classrooms were vandalized or had items taken from them. The vandalism was probably kids, but the more severe crimes were the acts of older individuals. Two classes were vandalized and three classes had items stolen. One of our upper grade rooms had its LCD projector stolen (it was mounted to the ceiling) and 16 of our iBook laptop computers were stolen from the mobile lab cart. All of this with no signs of a forced entry. We contacted the police on all matters and the investigation is proceeding. The district came by the last weekend of spring break and cleaned up one of the rooms so that the children would not know anything had happened. We are taking measures to secure all window latches and double check locks. We are also considering rekeying critical storage areas. Insurance will help us replace missing items. After a conversation with Superintendent Talarico, she is very concerned about the crimes and wants to discuss the issue of security in light of the future purchases of thousands of dollars of technology that will occur with Measure BB funding.

Finally, on a personal level, your “never gets sick” principal was brought to his knees by a kidney stone. Let’s just say my last week of spring vacation was horrible. I did have surgery to remove the cute 6.5mm stone on Tuesday and feel much, much better today. I do have a greater appreciation for childbirth and want to thank those parents who learned about my plight and emailed or phoned with words of encouragement.

NEWS, NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCIENCE EXPO UPDATE...The PTA sponsored a Mad Science assembly on Thursday to kickoff our annual Science Expo. We are hoping everyone will participate in this year's Science Expo & Open House on Wednesday, May 23rd. Projects can be an experiment, an observation or an invention. . Children can work in teams or individually. Project boards to display your results are available from the office. PTA will also be holding two after school workshops to help kids with their projects - May 3 and May 17 from 3-4:30. Look for more details about the Science Expo coming home in a flyer and Science Expo packet this week. If you would like to help with the Science Expo or for any questions, please call Stephanie Furlong 310-396-6888. This is a non-judging Science Expo – where all students will receive participation certificates at our final Awards Assembly, June 11th.

JOGATHON SPONSOR SHEETS... are due Monday, April 23rd.

THE FOURTH GRADE CHAT WITH THE PRINCIPAL... will be held on Tuesday, April 24, at 8:45 a.m. in the auditorium. Topics will include state testing, the upcoming 5th grade year, Measure BB and security issues at Grant.

BINGO NIGHT... B-I-N-G-O after the Break - Remember the last installment of BINGO will be April 27th, the second Friday back from Spring break. Same Gecko time (6:30 pm), same Gecko location (the cafeteria).

TESTING SCHEDULE...From May 2-18, all second through fifth graders throughout California will be taking the California Standards Tests (CST). Third grade has the privilege of also taking the California Aptitude Test. (CAT 6). The grade levels have met and determined their testing schedule. It is possible that a test date has been changed so you should ask your child's teacher if there have been any changes to the schedule. It is imperative that all students be on time and not miss any of the tests. Make up testing will take place on the May 17 and 18. Please mark down the dates and try to avoid making any doctor, dentist or other appointments during the days of testing. If you have to make an appointment, please make it after 11:30 a.m. All tests are untimed (except for the CAT 6). Testing typically takes place between 8:30 and 11:30 a.m. Thank you.

2nd Grade May 3 – Language Arts 1 May 8 – Language Arts 2 May 10 – Language Arts 3 May 14 – Math 1 May 15 – Math 2 May 16 – Math 3	3rd Grade May 2 – Language Arts 1 May 3 – Language Arts 2 May 4 – Language Arts 3 May 8 – Math 1 May 9 – Math 2 May 10 – Math 3 May 14 – CAT 6 – Language Arts May 15 – CAT 6 – Spelling and Math	5th Grade May 3 – May Language Arts 1 May 4 – Language Arts 2 May 8 – Science 1 May 9 Science 2 May 15 – Math 1 May 16 – Math 2
2nd Grade (Hopkins) May 3 – Language Arts 1 May 8 – Language Arts 2 May 9 – Language Arts 3 May 10 – Math 1 May 15 – Math 2 May 16 – Math 3	4th Grade May 2 – Language Arts 2 May 3 – Language Arts 1 May 9 – Math 1 May 10 – Math 2	

**CHILDREN WHO ARE LATE TO SCHOOL ON A TESTING DATE WILL NEED TO SIT IN THE OFFICE DURING THE ENTIRE TEST.
MAKE UP TESTING WILL TAKE PLACE ON MAY 17 AND 18.**

AWARDS ASSEMBLY...Our third Awards Assembly will take place this Monday, April 30th. All parents of students being recognized will be notified this week. We will also honor players of the Junior and Major Kickball Leagues championship teams. The upper grade assembly begins at 9:00 a.m., the primary awards assembly starts at 10:30 a.m., and the kindergarten ceremony will take place at 12:30 p.m.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM AT GRANT...We are offering 26 classes including five new ones for the After School Enrichment Program's third and final session that will begin Monday, April 30. The cost of a six-week class is \$50. Please bring all completed applications to the office. Scholarships will be available for those who need financial assistance.

TALENT SHOW NEWS FLASH!!!!...Talent Show 2007 is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, June 1st & 2nd. Rehearsals will begin the week of April 30 and the sign-ups will be posted near the front office one week prior to rehearsals (Monday, April 23). Here's an example of how things will work: Your child will sign up for a specific day and time. Each week he or she will have that time slot for rehearsal. So select a day and time that works best for your schedule. All acts should be no more than three minutes. (No lip syncing allowed). This year were hoping for at least one or two skits. Any parents who are interested in getting involved just let me know (tggsell@aol.com). Looking forward to a great show!! Dorie Gsell - Talent Show Coordinator

BOOSTER BUDGET MEETING...We are meeting on Tuesday, April 24th at 6:30 p.m. in the library to discuss the 2007-2008 budget. Please join us as we look at ways to expand our programs. Any questions please call Paul Meek 310-453-4500 or Becky Turk 310-581-4909.

PTA/BOOSTER MEETING MAY 1ST 8:45 AM...Make plans now to attend our second to last meeting of the year. Agenda items will include approving next year's budget and voting for next year's officers. The meeting will be held in the reading room adjacent to the library. See you there!!

IS THERE A TALENT SCOUT OUT THERE?...Every year the Music Center hosts a Showcase of Artists for schools to view various assembly possibilities in one location. This year the Showcase is May 2nd from 8:30 - 2:00 p.m. at the Walt Disney Hall. If you would like to help select some great and exciting assemblies for next year and are available on May 2nd, please contact Becky Turk 310-581-4909.

WANTED DANCERS "FIRST THROUGH FIFTH GRADERS"...Learn a dazzling Mexican Dance and perform at the Saturday May 19 Carnival. Sign up sheet going out this week, practices begin Friday April 27, 2007, from 3-4pm at Grant School Auditorium. Contact Celia Balderrama at (310) 482-9655 or email Celia at Cbenitezbalderrama@yahoo.com

VIOLET IS THE APRIL RESTAURANT OF THE MONTH (SUNDAY-THURSDAY, APRIL 22-26) - Please pamper yourself and support Grant by dining at Violet. 20% of the bill will be donated to Grant Elementary (excludes alcohol). **Please mention Grant to your server.** Violet - 3221 Pico Blvd. - 310-453-9113 (Closed on Mondays.) Any questions, call Janie Docter (310)452-0982

ATTENTION 5TH GRADE PARENTS...We are extending the memory book dedication page return date to April 24th. It is crunch time for the memory book. Any photos from this year's events, previous year's events and the baby photos must be turned in to the office box by the afternoon of the 24th. ALSO, we are having a mandatory memory book meeting on April 26th at 8:30AM in the conference room across from the main Grant office. Questions – call Maryellen Mulcahy 310-858-0333 during days or email mem@frameworkent.com