



Blue Valley School



Bulletin No. 15

SPRING SEMESTER

MAY 17, 2016

APP EDMODO IN MOBILE DEVICES

Parents and students in Montessori through Fifth B can now access communication and information about academic activity from Edmodo, like secondary school has been doing for several years.

Using the code on the note that your youngest child will bring home today, please download from the App Store the Edmodo PARENTS

application on your mobile devices (see Attachments). We will generalize the use of this tool in our community to benefit school-home communication.



“PUSH & PULL” COMMUNICATION

We are intensively working on improving our communication with parents and have classified two types of messages:

1. For the “push and pull” messages, where we issue notifications and welcome parents’ feedback or respond to their inquiries, we are receiving expert advice on how to synchronize all our present paths into one efficient system. In the meantime, we will continue as present: sending our bulletin by email and using Facebook, Weebly, and Edmodo for those “push and pull” messages.

2. “Push” messages: massive communication messages to all parents (such as “No school tomorrow because of the earthquake” or to specific groups for related issues: “The game against St. Jude, soccer, 2006-7 boys varsity, May 2nd, ACEP, has been cancelled”) we are implementing a “push” system using a WhatsApp application that we expect to be working in two weeks. For this purpose, we need a valid cell-phone number for every BVS parent. Every parent must add this number to their contact list:

89 89 89 08

The system will allow sending the message only to the parents who need to receive it. Numbers will be kept private because the system does not allow parents to address one another or to respond. On Tuesday, May 24th, the youngest child in each family will take a note home for parents to fill in and return signed to the child’s homeroom teacher by Friday 27th. Please expect a trial message by then.

ACADEMIC NEWS



True learning happens when new concepts are related to previous knowledge. Children’s own experiences are their best prior knowledge. Fourth B1 students arduously worked in the garden preparing the soil and filling up bags with compost to sell on Family Day. First grade students approached them, interested in what they were doing because they also wanted to plant. So fourth graders taught first graders how to prepare compost and plant. When 1B was on their plant unit for science, they were ready to plant and watch their products grow. They enduringly learned the needs of plants in the curriculum: soil, sun, water, and air. Students in 4 B1 were able to understand and participate during their recent field trip when students from EARTH University were showing them how they produced organic fertilizer. Learning can be fun!



LAST WEEK'S WOW

James Murphy, 1B, left the play area to help a high school student when he saw that she had dropped all her pencils on the floor and no one was helping her. Excellent example of solidarity and empathy!

THE EXPANSION HAS STARTED

We have started breaking ground (first permit achieved from Municipality), and we hope to continue with our three stages of Phase 1. **Phase 1a:** Terrain preparation, terracing and infrastructure work (basically sports areas). **Phase 1b:** Elementary gymnasium. **Phase 1c:** Classroom building. Since Blue Valley does not ask parents for special contributions for construction, this work will be done as the budget allows. Our goal is to complete all of Phase 1 by FS17 or at least to complete two of the three stages. We appeal to the community's patience with the inevitable inconveniences.



REFERENDUM FS15 PROPOSALS

In reference to the Referendum results where 709 out of 1449 people voted:

1st AIR CONDITIONING in the Sala Magna won. The cost surpassed the budget since the electricity grid cannot hold this load and this duplicated the cost of the installation. We are analyzing solar panels, now regulated by ARESEP. The total cost of the project is under study.

2nd SYNTHETIC FIELD is planned for the extension of the field into regulation size (in the expansion plans) and hopefully also for the U10 field as well. At least the foundations for them will be laid.

3rd A THIRD LANGUAGE was the third petition, and we are analyzing Mandarin lessons after school if enough parents request it. See initial proposal in Attachments.

MATH IS GREAT!

Out of Ms. Artiñano's 93 Sixth and Eighth A students who participated in the Kanguro Math Competition on March 31st, eight brought back a medal. Sixth graders, Silver: Ana Sofía Ángel and Gabriel Setton; bronze: Camila Núñez, Lucía Rodríguez, Fiorella María Cordero, María Palacios and Camila Pacheco. Eighth grader Karolina Zajackowska took bronze. ¡Congratulations to all of them and our appreciation to Marco Cabrera, 11 B, for his academic and logistical support!

EIGHTH GRADE B RESEARCH ORAL PRESENTATIONS

You are all invited to the Sala Magna on Friday, May 27th. See Attachments for times and themes.

TICKET SALE FOR THE 5th GRADE MUSICAL "SNOW WHITE & THE SEVEN DWARFS"

Thursday, May 12th, fifth grade students took home a pre-order ticket form, giving their families preference for the Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs presentation. Pre-ordered tickets may be paid for and picked up from doña Elza starting May 19th. All others who would like to attend the show may also begin purchasing tickets from Elza for ₡1000 on Thursday, May 19th, first come, first served. Tickets will be on sale until our May 26th and 27th performances or until we are sold out.

TEACHERS' IN-SERVICE weLearn

Tomorrow will be the third annual weLearn conference in which important experts in educational technology will come to share their knowledge with our teachers and also colleagues from other private and public schools. We remind parents that students do not come to school on Wednesday, May 18th so that all teachers can participate in this important event.



REMINDERS

NEW 6th to 11th PARENTS: Sharing and questions meeting on May 20th, 2:20 pm, administration building.

BOOKS: Last day to check books out of the library is June 10th since all books must be returned to the library by June 17th. Students and parents can check out books during the break if accounts are cleared.

LEADERS FOR A CHANGE CAMP: Click [here](#) for details. Don't miss the opportunity to share with international students from around the world of this camp, organized by United World College.



COMMUNITY SERVICE

Half of Second A2 class will visit Joaquín & Ana on May 24th to celebrate the elders' birthdays.

BAKE SALE

Eighth A students will have a bake sale on May 19th from 11:40 to 1:30 pm to raise funds to paint the wall that protects the water reservoirs in Turrúcares. Please come and enjoy their wonderful cooking!

FROM THE CAFETERÍA

MENUS: In Attachments the monthly menus.

ELEMENTARY RECYCLING CONTEST: For three weeks, big containers for plastic, tetrapacks and glass will be located and labeled in the cafeteria. The generation that gathers the most recycled items will have a Free Sundae Party. This material will be used to decorate new recycling and garbage containers for our daily use in the cafeteria. Let's join in the project!

SPORTS

| COMING GAMES | SPORT | CATEGORY | DATE | LEAVE | GAME | COMMENT |
|-----------------|--------|----------------|----------------------|-------|-------|---------------------------|
| St. Jude vs BVS | soccer | 2004-5 boys | May 17 th | 10:30 | 11:30 | Pick up at BVS, 3:00 |
| PAS vs BVS | soccer | 2008 boys blue | May 21 st | - | 8:30 | Parents drive and pick up |
| PAS vs BVS | soccer | 2006-7 boys | May 21 st | - | 9:30 | |
| PAS vs BVS | soccer | 2004-5 boys | May 21 st | - | 10:30 | |

| RESULTS | SPORT | CATEGORY | DATE | SCORE | TOURNAMENT | COMMENT |
|------------------------|------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------|------------|-----------------|
| Calasanz vs BVS | basketball | 4 th to 6 th girls | May 10 th | 2-15 | friendly | Excellent score |
| BVS vs Lighthouse | volleyball | Elementary mixed | May 12 th | 1-2 | friendly | Nice match |
| CDS vs BVS | soccer | H.S. boys | May 13 th | 1-2 | ACEP | Good game |
| CDS vs BVS | soccer | 4 th to 6 th girls | May 13 th | 0-7 | ACEP | Excellent! |
| WEST vs BVS | soccer | 2004-5 boys green | May 13 th | 0-2 | Festival | Great effort |
| St. Paul yellow vs BVS | soccer | 2006-7 boys green | May 13 th | 5-0 | Festival | Keep training! |
| St. Paul yellow vs BVS | soccer | 2008 boys green | May 13 th | 4-0 | Festival | Need extra work |

Field Trips of the Week

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|-----------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Fourth A | Guachipelín School | May 19 th | 8:45 am to 11:15 am |
| Elective | La Carpio | May 19 th | 11:30 am to 2:50 pm |
| Fifth A | National Library | May 20 th | 8:45 am to 11:15 am |
| Second A2 | Elderly Home | May 24 th | 12:00 n to 2:30 pm |