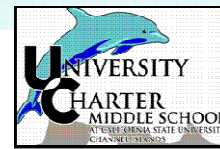


# Dolphin Update-April 2014

## School and PTSA Newsletter



Volume 13 - Issue 3

### Upcoming Events

- ◆ April 7<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> - Spring Break
- ◆ April 25<sup>th</sup> - Board of Directors Mtg.
- ◆ May 1st- Volunteer Tea UPS
- ◆ May 2<sup>nd</sup>- Movie Night at UCMS
- ◆ May 5<sup>th</sup>- Parent Info Night Child Care
- ◆ May 6<sup>th</sup> -School Advisory Committee
- ◆ May 8<sup>th</sup> - Ballet Folklorico-Mother's Day Performance
- ◆ May 9<sup>th</sup> EY Mother's Day Tea
- ◆ May 16<sup>th</sup> - Dine Out- Chuck E. Cheese
- ◆ May 16<sup>th</sup> UCMS Volunteer Celebration
- ◆ May 21<sup>st</sup>- Leadership Banquet
- ◆ May 22<sup>nd</sup> -Kinder Orientation
- ◆ May 26<sup>th</sup> -Memorial Day
- ◆ May 30<sup>th</sup> - Luau and Auction
- ◆ June 13<sup>th</sup> - Minimum Day /Last Day of School
- ◆ June 13 - 8th Grade Promotion

**PTSA**  
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## *Goodbye, STAR Testing... Hello, CAASPP Testing!*

As you may already know, we, along with thousands of schools across California, are participating in a field test of a modern assessment system designed to help shape teaching and learning in the classroom. Known as the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress – or CAASPP – these computer-based tests, also known as SBAC (Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium) replace the STAR program.

These tests are aligned to the Common Core State Standards for English and math, which California adopted in 2010 to describe what knowledge and skills students need to be well prepared for college and careers, no matter where they come from or where they live.

Part of the goal of the field test this year is to determine how well individual questions allow students to demonstrate what they know and still need to learn. We are also taking this opportunity to see how well our technical capabilities meet the demands of computer-based assessments and to see what resources our teachers and school may yet need.

Finally and importantly, this year also gives your student an opportunity to try out the new system without consequences. All of this combined means that we will not be capturing scores this year. Instead, we will use what we learn from this field test to help ensure a successful full launch of the system in the 2014-15 school year.

Our next step in that transition is to administer the field test to students in grades 3 - 8 from April 22 - May 16. To comply with federal regulations, our students in grades 5 and 8 will also participate in the Science test as part of the old STAR system. If you want to see what types of questions students will be asked in the new SBAC test or how the test will be presented, there is a practice test available online at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/practicetest.asp>.

If you would like more information, please visit the California Department of Education Smarter Balanced Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/smarterfieldtest.asp>. If you have any questions regarding your child's participation, please contact Sara Ahl at 805-484-1872 or [sahl@pvsd.k12.ca.us](mailto:sahl@pvsd.k12.ca.us).

Sincerely,

*University Charter Schools Administration*



## Class Placements for the 2014-2015 School Year

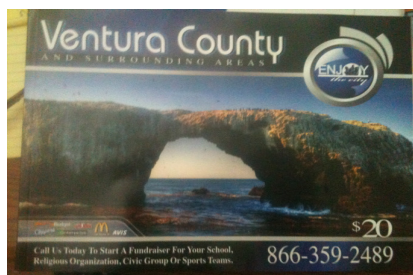
Many important considerations go into forming classes and making balanced decisions that support student achievement. Team teaching and flexible grouping strategies are in place to support student needs. We will continue implementing our research based philosophy that is set forth in our Charter. If you have a particular comment about your child's learning style or concern about your child's placement, please put it in writing and send it to the office, attention Charmon Evans, UPS OR Sara Ahl, UCMS, by Friday, April 25. This request will not guarantee a placement. It will be considered as one piece of the criteria in forming classes for next year.

Sincerely,

Sara Ahl  
Charmon Evans



### Coupon Book



PTSA would like to thank you for such a successful fundraiser. This year our coupon book fundraiser brought in \$4,382. All funds collected directly benefit your child. These funds support after school clubs and programs, class materials, fieldtrips and many other activities at school.

### Yearbook!

If there are any parents, teachers or students that would like to contribute photos please contact the UPS office or via email [VickyLewis.yearbookpiz@cheerful.com](mailto:VickyLewis.yearbookpiz@cheerful.com) or [Charterschoolsphotos@gmail.com](mailto:Charterschoolsphotos@gmail.com). Any and all photographs are welcome (school events, field trips, sporting events, etc...), **We still need Dolphin Fun Run, fieldtrip, and sports.** Please drop off a disk to the UPS office or quickly upload them to the emails above. Please share your photos to help make this yearbook a wonderful. Yearbooks will be ready soon. Please make sure you submit pictures ASAP!!!!

## UPS Child Care Program.....Coming this Fall!!!



Sign-ups for the UPS Child Care Program, 2014-2015 are underway. We had a successful first year of the Child Care program. The students participated in many engaging enrichment projects in both the after school care and the child care provided during breaks. One of the many things they did in the 2013-2014 school year was learning about different artists and then having an "art walk". During school breaks they participated in different themed activities including Space Camp, Dinosaur Camp, and Science Camp. This program is for students in grades K-5. We will be having a parent information night on May 5, 2014, 6:00-6:45 to provide more information and/or you can check the website.

## Luau/Silent Auction Update

Luau, which is May 30, is just around the corner! Don't forget to ask local companies for donations for our Silent Auction. Please see Heather, if you need a tax ID letter or if you would like to donate an item for this year's Luau. Thank you!

**A Big Thanks to  
Gisselle Gutierrez  
and Ana Dutra for  
all the work they did to  
make this event such a  
huge success!**

## Dolphin Fun Run

Thank you to all the parents that came to cheer the students and helped mark their lap counter. Special Thanks to the parents that went to get the water for us to keep all our students well hydrated and those of you who donated a healthy snack of oranges for our athletes.

This year we raised over \$ 8,000. We will send home more information about prizes for students who raised the highest amount and also information about the fieldtrip to the pool for the students who raised \$ 50 or more.







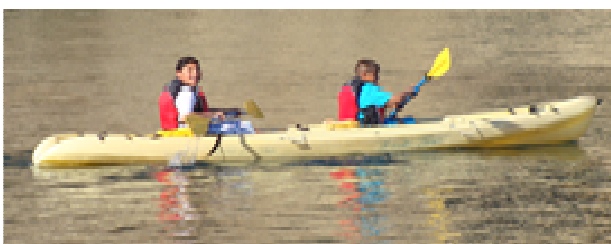
### Intermediate Key Experience Fieldtrip to Catalina Island Marine Institute

The CIMI trip was a success and it wouldn't have been possible for students in our Intermediate Years to attend without the support from our after school sales that our community supports.

Thank you

Students in the intermediate years participated in a wonderful experience this year. In February, students boarded a boat and traveled to Catalina Island for a 3 day and 2 night stay. They visited and participated in the following experiences:

- Snorkeling
- Kayaking
- Tide pools
- Marine Biology
- Hiking
- Evening Camp Fire
- And much more!



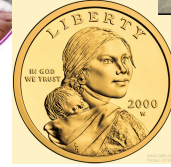
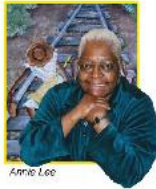
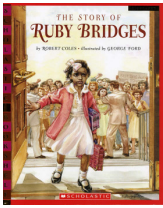
A special thanks to the Intermediate Years teachers and the parent chaperones who helped make the Santa Catalina Island excursion a trip to remember for our students. Students were able to snorkel, kayak, hike, explore tide pools, and many other exciting things. What an adventure!

**Luau is Friday, May 30. Each class is being asked to supply a basket for our silent auction at the event. Please send in all items by Friday, May 23.**

**Thank you for your support!**

<b>Preschool</b>	<b>Legos</b>
<b>Alargunsoro</b>	<b>Coffee and Tea</b>
<b>Gout/Cano</b>	<b>Beach and Pool Fun</b>
<b>Vigil/Tso</b>	<b>Arts and Crafts</b>
<b>King</b>	<b>Puzzles and Games</b>
<b>Sullivan/Bedwell</b>	<b>Movie Time</b>
<b>Kruse/Ingram</b>	<b>Sports</b>
<b>Maldonado</b>	<b>You Hit the Lottery!</b>
<b>Cregor</b>	<b>Italian</b>
<b>Johnston</b>	<b>Baking</b>
<b>Pereyra/Gutierrez</b>	<b>Camping</b>
<b>Eggebraten</b>	<b>Disney</b>
<b>Hemperly</b>	<b>BBQ and Grilling</b>
<b>Cachú</b>	<b>Dr. Seuss</b>
<b>Bullicer</b>	<b>Healthy Snacks</b>
<b>Smith</b>	<b>Chocolate Lover</b>
<b>Rangel</b>	<b>Pets</b>
<b>Lira</b>	<b>Super Heroes</b>
<b>Reynolds</b>	<b>Hello Kitty</b>
<b>Kent</b>	<b>Baby Bliss</b>
<b>Randolph</b>	<b>Garden Joys</b>
<b>UCMS</b>	<b>Gift Card Garden</b>
<b>UCMS</b>	<b>Donations of soda/ water bottles/ box drinks</b>





## Women in History Week Concludes

March 10-14 marked our annual Women's History Week at UPS and UCMS. The American Association of University Women (AAUW) and UCS PTSA hosted an amazing group of women to portray famous women in history in your child's classroom. Performers included:

- ◆ **Ruby Bridges - Performed by LaSonia Davis** - Spent a year in school alone because Caucasian parents wouldn't allow their children to go to school with an African American child during the first days of court ordered integration. Students learned of her experiences as a child and how what she is doing was influenced by her childhood experience.
- ◆ **Jan Brett - Performed by Charmon Evans** - Is a popular modern author of favorite children's literature. Students learned about her interest in being an illustrator from the time she was in kindergarten, her travels, and several of her books, like The Mitten and The Hat.
- ◆ **Elma Gonzales - Performed by Suzy Maraboto** - Grew up as part of a migrant family and wanted to go to school but couldn't because no bus would come to pick her up. As a result, she did not start school until age 9. The students learned how she became a well-known professor at UCLA in science through effort and determination.
- ◆ **Annie Lee - Performed by Stephanie Williams** - is a popular African American artist whose paintings are about everyday life. Students learned how she took a chance at age 40 by doing what she had always dreamed of rather than just working at an ordinary job. She became one of the most successful African American artists to ever live.
- ◆ **Deborah Samson - Performed by Amy Wallace** - Disguised herself as a man and enlisted as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. Students learned what she did during her time in the military and also how it was discovered that she was a woman.
- ◆ **Susan B. Anthony - Performed by Mary Adler** - Was one of the most influential people in the Women's Right Movement and helping secure the right for women to vote. Students learned what how hard it was to make this happen.
- ◆ **Mary Pickersgill - Performed by Angelica Rodriguez** - Students will saw a 42-foot strip of fabric the size of one stripe of the flag that Mary Pickersgill sewed by hand. This flag, which flew over Fort McHenry, inspired the writing of the Star Spangled Banner.
- ◆ **Sacagawea - Performed by Caroline Chey** - The only woman for the majority of time traveling with the Lewis and Clark expedition from Fort Mandan, North Dakota to the Pacific Ocean. Students learned how she helped members of the expedition find edible and medicinal plants, how she saved valuables when a canoe tipped over, and how she helped get horses and other supplies for the expedition.
- ◆ **Eugenie Clark - Performed by Anita Scott** - Achieved her three dreams. She walked on the ocean floor, swam with the sharks, and become a teacher. She still is active in oceanographic research with a focus on sharks.



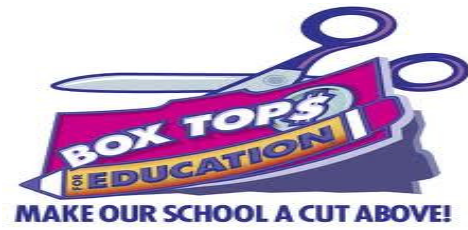


Thanks so much for all of the community support that helped to make the Early Years bake sale at Open House a success! We had an overwhelming amount of Early Years parents send in baked goods, and we made over \$270!! This money will be used to help fund our Los Angeles Zoo Field Trip in June. Thanks so much! -The Early Years Team



### Volunteer Hours Update/Reminder

Thank you to all of you that have volunteered in any school/PTSA activity this year. We still have a few more fundraisers/events coming up to volunteer your time. Thanks to all who recorded and submitted your volunteer hours. If you haven't done so, please send them in. The last day to submit your volunteer hours is May 15, include estimated June hours too. Thanks again! - PTSA Historian



### Box Tops

We would like to thank all our families for helping collect Box Tops. Please keep on collecting and sending them in to our school. This year we have raised \$640. We are still collecting Box Tops, so keep collecting and sending them in to school.



We are also collecting Labels for Education. Last year, we collected 1278 points. These points help purchase playground equipment. Help us beat last year's record. Please continue to send in Labels for Education.