



# BOBCAT NEWS

A monthly publication of the Villa Park Elementary Home & School League

## Information in this Newsletter...

- Update from the Health Office
- Dad's Club
- Art Masters
- ...and more

## Happy Reading

## Principal's Message

### Set SMART Goals in the New Year! By Mrs. Little

Welcome to 2018! The new year is an awesome time to teach your children about goal setting. Hundreds of studies demonstrate the effectiveness of specific goal setting in helping both children and adults to achieve their goals. Goal setting is a great family activity where you can model and support effective strategies and demonstrate to your child that productive adults are always learning and growing too! Goals can be academic, social, or extracurricular. The science of goal setting tells us that the most effective goals are:

**S**-pecific. For example “invite at least two new friend for a play date”, is more specific than “make more friends”.

**M**-easurable- Students should think about how they will track their results. Self- made charts can be an effective tool. Even many older kids are still motivated by sticker and star charts!

**A**-ttainable- Going from a D to an A in math might not be attainable, but improving the math grade by at least 10% by spending 20 minutes a week reviewing math concepts on Khan academy is!

**R**-ealistic- Pie in the sky goals like become an “NBA player”, are great, but breaking them down into specific actions, like learning to make a free throw shot consistently, are much more realistic.

**T**-imely-Students need to think about what can be accomplished in the time they can track. For younger kids, a month may be a long term goal, while our 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders can carry a goal through the year, with intermediate checks along the way.

### Secrets of Goal Setting

- Write clear and measurable goals.
- Create a specific action plan for each goal.



- Read your goals daily and visualize yourself accomplishing them.
- Reflect on your progress to see if you are on target.
- Revise your action plans if needed.
- Celebrate your accomplishments.

Working together as a family to set, track, and model goals is an outstanding way to model successful strategies for learning and personal growth for your child. Even better, teaching your child to support everyone in the family as they try to reach their goal helps to foster empathy. Here is to a successful 2018 for all!

## Upcoming Events:

- 1/26: Bobcat Spirit Day  
Teacher Treats—3rd Grade  
6th Grade Visit to CV 9:30am
- 1/30-31: 3rd Grade GATE Screening
- 1/30: Islands Fundraiser 4pm-close
- 1/31: Crazy Hair Day
- 2/2: Art Masters Lecture  
Birthday Club  
Student of the Month  
Bobcat Spirit Day
- 2/5-9: Art Masters Lessons
- 2/7: 4/5 Grade Gate Screening  
College Spirit Day
- 2/9: 6th Grade GATE Screening  
Spring Pictures
- 2/14: Class Parties 11:30am
- 2/15: H&SL Meeting 8:15  
4th Gr. Irvine Railroad 9:30am
- 2/16: NO SCHOOL—Lincoln
- 2/19: NO SCHOOL—Washington
- 2/20-23: Engineering Week
- 2/20-21: 2nd Grade GATE Screening
- 2/22: Girl Scout Info Mtg. 6:00pm
- 2/23: Bobcat Spirit Day  
Imagination Machine  
Teacher Treats—2nd Grade
- 2/27: McTeacher Fundraiser Night
- 2/28: Look alike Spirit Day
- 3/2: Birthday Club  
Bobcat Spirit Day  
Read Across America Day  
Student of the Month
- 3/9: 5th Grade Traveling Scientist  
6th Grade Growth & Dev.  
Bobcat Spirit Day  
STEM Challenge 1:00
- 3/13: Minimum Day—Trimester End
- 3/15: H&SL Meeting 8:15am
- 3/16: School Carnival 4:00-8:00pm

## Presidents Message

### Let's ROCK 2018 together!

We may only be half way through our calendar school year, nonetheless it is a new year! A time when most reflect on the past year's accomplishments as well as shortcomings and look forward to improving upon strengths and weaknesses.

Our Home and School League is continually working hard to ensure we are a great support for the students, teachers and staff here at VPE. I am continually inspired by our volunteers, their ideas and their commitment to making our school an amazing place to be.

This new year, I encourage our new and existing families to become involved in our school community. Step out of that comfort zone and experience something new. I guarantee you won't be disappointed! The feeling of knowing you made a difference for a student and the entire school is immeasurable. There are quite a few committees, events and programs that we offer and lead for our students. From bike rodeo and walk to school day to art masters, membership and yearbook, there are so many positions to volunteer for. It is our close-knit community that I love most about VPE.

The most immediate need at this time is a volunteer for our Carnival Silent Auction and our end of year Lip Sync

performance. The Silent Auction coordinator typically secures donations and organizes the silent auction during our Carnival, which will be held Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. Two volunteers are needed to organize our annual end of the year Lip Sync performances, a treasured activity here at VPE. Typically, a volunteer position is no more than two years to prevent burnout and to have healthy turnover of ideas and include new volunteers.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have an interest in helping with something big or small on our campus.

Happy New Year!  
Michelle Gonzalez

## Dads Club

### VPE Dads are on it in 2018!

In December two VPE families donated their time and talent with the completion of two very cool lunch carts. Thank you to Jason & Jaxon Perry for their great work on Mr. Johnson's new Angels Baseball lunch cart. (Special kudos to Jason who is a lifelong Red Sox fan, but able to tolerate creating an awesome Angels cart.) Also thank you to Jeff, Bella & Aiden Erickson for their completion of Mrs Patel's USC-*Fight On* lunch cart. (See Pictures) ***More lunch carts to more classrooms are coming soon!***



Mrs Roland's classroom had a too much daylight from uncovered windows. To help solve that problem, we installed a large photo banners of a California coast with poppies and beach scenery. Special thanks to Allan Finamore and his company Epilogue for their super assistance!

Special note – **A Social Media Informational Meeting on February 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Cerro Villa Middle School – 6:30 PM OC Sherriff Brian Benzie will be giving an important presentation on the ins & outs of social media with our students. While this meeting covers mostly teens and pre-teens, ALL parents of younger kids are encouraged to attend too. When it comes to your children on the internet, get to know what out there and make a good family plan computer, smartphone, tablet and iPod usage. ***Either you'll make a plan – or a plan will happen to you!***

Dads Club Poker tournament is coming up soon- check emails for that exact Friday night date.

Thanks Bobcat Dads- Looking forward to a great 2018!

Mark D. Kuli  
[dadsclub@vpe-hsl.org](mailto:dadsclub@vpe-hsl.org)



### School Carnival

Our annual School Carnival will be on Friday, March 16 from 4:00-8:00pm.

### 5th Grade Fundraising



January 30 4pm-close



February 27 McTeacher Night

### Box Tops



Our final Box Top collection date for the school year is February 16.

Please turn in any Box Tops you may have by February 16. We will continue collecting Box Tops to submit next school year, so please continue to save your Box Tops.

## From the Health Office

The health and well-being of each child attending our school is very important to us. Please help us keep our school healthy, especially as we step into this early cold/flu season, by keeping your student home when he/she is sick. Although we emphasize good attendance for all students, we recognize children do get sick. Keeping ill children at home helps prevent the spread of disease and is essential for our students with impaired immune- systems. Please talk to your student about positive prevention techniques such as hand washing, coughing into the elbow, and refraining from sharing food and drink. If your child has a major or chronic health concern, please call the school and ask to speak with our school nurse so that we may support your child's needs at school. Doctor's notes are always welcome to document a medical absence and safe return to school.

The health and well-being of each child attending our school is very important to us. Keeping sick children at home helps prevent the spread of disease and is **essential for our students with impaired immune systems**. The following district guidelines can be helpful when determining if a child is well enough to attend school:



Signs & Symptoms	Healthy & Ready to Attend School
Fever: 100° or higher	No fever for 24 hours and child feels well again.
Runny nose with thick or colored secretions	No drainage for 24 hours and child feels well again. However, if drainage persists a written medical release stating the child is not contagious is required prior to returning to school.
Diarrhea Vomiting	No diarrhea and/or vomiting for 24 hours. Child feels well again and is able to eat without stomach upset.
Persistent ear ache and/or drainage; Sore throat and/or difficulty swallowing	Seek medical advice to determine if medication is needed. Child may return after 24 hours of prescribed medication and feels well again.
Redness of the eyes or eyelids, watery eyes, and/or discharge	Seek medical advice. Prescribed medication has been started and eyes are not watery, red, draining, or sensitive to light. Or a written medical release stating the child is not contagious.
Unusual spots, rashes, or oozing areas not associated with injury	Seek medical advice to determine if spot, rash, or oozing area is a result of an infectious process. A written medical release stating the child is not contagious is required prior to returning to school.



## H&SL Nominating Committee

I would like to announce the members of this years nominating committee. Prior to being voted in, committee members must meet briefly in order to ensure the Home & School League Executive Board nominees for the 2018/19 school year are in good standing according to our by-laws.

The members are as follows:

- Michelle Gonzalez
- Julie Krodel
- Michelle Tao
- Veronica Tarnofsky
- Raeanne Little

Alternates:

- Monique McArthur
- Holly Von Ting

Please consider becoming more involved in our school community and the H&SL by contacting Michelle Gonzalez at [gonzofam@mac.com](mailto:gonzofam@mac.com)

## Staff Honorees

**Congratulations to our Fabulous Staff Honorees!**

Villa Park Elementary Teacher of the Year

*Suzette Miller- grade K*

Villa Park Elementary Classified Staff of the Year

*Gina O'Dowd- Library Media Technician*

OC Parenting Top Teacher Nominees

*Melissa Valeriote- Grade 1*

*Lauren Urbanski- Grade 2*

*Sharon Houliban- Grade 3*

*Karen Parrish- Grade 5*

*Jeanne Krever- Grade 6*

## Foundation Games

The 2018 Foundation Games will be held April 20-21. Children born in 2003 thru 2011 are eligible to participate.

Registration forms will be available in the Front Office beginning January 22.

## Art Masters—Mary Cassatt

Students will be introduced to another famous American artist, Mary Cassatt during the Art Master slide assembly presentation. Through slides and stories, students will learn how her great talent enabled her to live in France and exhibit with the famous French Impressionists. After viewing her paintings, pastels and portraits, and after learning about the proportion of the face, students will create their own portraits and hat designs using studio pastel techniques.



## Contact Us

The Bobcat News is the monthly publication for families and students of Villa Park Elementary from the VPE H&SL, the non-profit parent group for our school.

**To report absences, please call operation concern at 714-538-9710**

- Kindergarten to 3rd Grade: 8:00 am - 2:05 pm (12:15-1:00 pm lunch)
- 4th Grade to 6th Grade: 8:00 am - 2:20 pm (11:45 - 12:30 pm lunch)
- Every Wednesday: K - 6th Grade: 8:00 am - 12:15 pm

**Principal:** Raeanne Little [rlittle@orangeusd.org](mailto:rlittle@orangeusd.org)  
**President:** Michelle Gonzalez [president@vpe-hsl.org](mailto:president@vpe-hsl.org)