



VOLUME: Dec 2014v

**Our mission is to inspire the pursuit of excellence, one student at a time.**

## Monte Vista Middle School - Pondering Pirate

This time of year is always a whirlwind. Thanksgiving break ends and we rush to put finishing touches on the 2nd quarter in order to be finished by Christmas / Winter break. Sometimes in the rush we forget what's important. A couple of weeks ago, MVMS had an assembly to honor and support one of our students who was scheduled to undergo surgery. Devon Valdez (8th grader) and his family were presented with a new basketball signed by his teammates along with a large numbers of cards, banners and high fives. At this time, Devon is recovering nicely at home and we are all looking forward to seeing his smiling face in our halls once again.



Greg Castro, 7th grade Basketball coach, presents a signed ball to Devon as the team and his family gather around to wish him luck.



### IMPORTANT UP-COMING DATES-

Dec 5th and 6th– SLV Middle School Boys Basketball tournament. Sanford CO.

Dec 15th– Soup with the Sup. 6:30pm Bill Metz

Dec 18th– 4:10-6:00 pm– MVMS Christmas Dance

Dec 19th– Teacher workday. No Students

Dec 20th-Jan 4th– Christmas/Winter break

Jan 5th– beginning of 3rd quarter

January 21st– MVMS Ski Trip permission forms due

January 23rd– MVMS Wolf Creek Ski trip.

## New Graduation Requirements

### SOUP WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT

- Who: Everyone is welcome
- What: Conversation about the NEW GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS that will take effect with students currently enrolled in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade or under.
- Where: Bill Metz Elementary School cafetorium
- When: Monday December 15, 2014: Starting at 6:30 PM
- Why: So that you may be informed about changes required by Colorado State Law to earn a high school diploma.

Enjoy a bowl of chicken noodle soup while we talk about this important issue.



# 2015 Knowledge Bowl Dates

## MVMS SIT Team

January 19	@Sargent
February 26	@Monte Vista
March 26	@Del Norte
April 16 <sup>th</sup>	@Creede
April 23	@Center
April 30	@Lake City
May 6	@ASU (All Day)

The school improvement team (SIT) will be meeting on the 2nd Monday of each month starting at 5:00pm. Even if you can only come to part of the meetings, please come and check it out. We will talk about student achievement, school finances, and safety issues each month. We also always welcome other questions and topics as well. Our next meeting will be next Monday, December 8th. Hope to see you here!

## 7th grade Theater trip– It’s a Wonderful Life

Tuesday, December 9th, the 7th grade will be attending the theater presentation of "It's a Wonderful Life" on the Adams State University campus. As the date draws near, the 7th grade teachers will be using the PRIDE matrix to discuss accepted behaviors on a trip such as this, plus discussing the theme of the play and how it can be meaningful in their lives. Participation in this experience is mandatory, and as there will be Language Arts assignments / grades associated with the play, it is imperative that students do not miss this day. Also, since the timing of the play will insure that these students are not at school during our lunch period, your student needs to bring a sack lunch to eat at Adams State University We are looking forward to seeing the college campus as well as experiencing a great stage production!

## Counselor Corner

Happy December!

We have had a productive and busy 2nd quarter here at MVMS. Last month, we sent several students to the peer mediation training sponsored by the Center for Restorative Programs (CRP). There, we had several CRP staff and other schools comment about how impressive our young adults are. A few of the trained students have had the opportunity of conducting a peer mediation and we have heard positive feedback from all involved.

Here at MVMS, we also had the special opportunity of having our little kindergartener friends from Marsh Elementary visit and parade around our classrooms on October 30<sup>th</sup>. We were all proud of how sweet and encouraging our students were to their younger peers, it was a great day! Peggy Haslar, Marsh School Counselor, sent a thank you and reported that it "Warmed our hearts to see middle schoolers 'high fiving' little ones. It was a delightful experience and we loved it!"

We are in the process of starting a new group, formerly known as the Anti-Bully Committee. The students have named the group "The Justice League." There will be many components to the Justice League, some of them include: a peer mediation team, a mentoring team, a community outreach/service team, and a sunshine team. The Justice League is in the final stages of development and we hope to have established teams out and about doing their jobs before Christmas Break.

Thanks to everyone for donating candy for Halloween. The end of the quarter fun afternoon was a huge success! Thank you for all of your hard work and support in making MVMS a wonderful place!

Have a wonderful Winter Break

Mrs. Shawcroft

Monte Vista Middle School Counselor

## MVMS SKI DAYS



At MVMS, Students have the opportunity to participate in three ski trips each year. Held on one Friday each in January, February and March, 6th, 7th and 8th graders (and staff) have the opportunity to travel up and spending the day enjoying the sun and the snow at Wolf Creek Ski Area.

MVMS Ski Day's are open to all middle school students. Students have the opportunity to attend all three sessions, tentively scheduled for January 23rd, February 27th and one more TBA. Although in the past parents have paid for all three days ahead of time, participants can choose to pay one day at a time and students who didn't go to the first trip are encouraged to attend one or both of the remaining days. Cost for Skiing- are \$22.00 per day, Snowboarding- \$42.00 per ski day. The cost **includes equipment rental, all mountain lift ticket, and an all day lesson.** Students with their own equipment will receive a reduced price.

**'Giving students an opportunity to experience something new and get outside'**

If parents would like to be a chaperone there are discounted parent rates, inquire with Mrs. Davey There are opportunities for skiing scholarships (not snowboarding) if needed, please ask Mrs. Davey for details. Parents are encouraged to come up and ski with the kids/ However, due to liability issues, only parents or guardians may only check out students at the ski hill.



Congratulations to 6th grader Brie Valdez, who won the SLV watershed poster contest sponsored by the Colorado State Conversation Service. The poster contest was sponsored by the Colorado State Soil Conversation Service which works each year with local schools to promote conservation of our natural resources...this years focus was on the soil. The students are required to draw and color a poster showing conservation practices. They must include the theme on their poster as well. This years theme was "Dig Deeper, Mysteries in the Soil"

Following her win in the regional contest, Brianna went on to win the Colorado state contest. So her poster will be **representing Colorado in the national Contest.** Congratulations Brianna!!!!

## Classroom Focus- 7th grade Sci-

Ms. Glidewell's science class has been hard at work learning about cells, the mitosis flip books looked amazing! Chemistry has also been working hard experimenting with the properties of matter!

