

Victory Villa Elementary School PTA Newsletter

February 2011

Vanessa Prescott/President ■ Anne Harris/Vice President
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Upcoming Events

- ◆ Chick-Fil-A Night
2-24-11 5-8pm
- ◆ PTA Meeting
3-9-11 @ 6:30pm
- ◆ Villa Scape
4-8-11

Dear Parents

Why is Attendance Important? That is a good question!

Attendance is important because students are more likely to succeed in academics when they attend school consistently. Even though a Parent might think my child is only in kindergarten if they miss a day or a week that won't hurt them, it will.

School Attendance= Student Success
Research is increasingly showing that attendance at all ages is incredibly important and is directly correlated to student success and graduation rates. According to a study conducted by *Hedy Chang and Mariajose Romero* they found that when students are chronically absent during kindergarten (both excused and unexcused absences) that these students perform lower academically in first grade. It's difficult for the teacher and the class to build their skills and progress if a large number of students are frequently absent. In addition to falling behind in academics, students who are not in school on a regular basis are more likely to get into trouble with the law and cause problems in their communities. A 2008 study conducted by the Rodel Community Scholars at Arizona State University that tracked students from kindergarten through high school found that dropout patterns were linked with poor attendance, beginning in kindergarten. Gregory Hickman,

director of the Rodel Community Scholars program and former director of the Arizona Dropout Initiative, notes they discovered that as early as kindergarten, behavioral differences are apparent between those who go on to graduate and those who drop out, with dropouts missing an average of 124 days by eighth grade. School budgets may suffer when students don't attend. In many states, school budgets are based on the average daily attendance at a school. If many students enrolled at a school fail to consistently attend, the school has less money to pay for essential classroom needs.

What can parents do to help their children get to school?

- Have a back-up plan (weather and cars not starting)
 - Know that school attendance is a parent and student responsibility
 - Start the habits of a regular school day at an early age and stay interested in what your child is doing in school
 - Make a contract with the child to improve their attendance rate
 - Help your child to understand the state's and school's attendance policies
 - Keep a school calendar on the refrigerator at home so that you know when your child does and does not have school
 - Talk to your child about issues that may be making them late for school
 - Don't give up, reward good behavior and take it one day at a time
- (Sources: www.greatschools.org, www.youthserviceslc.com)

News & Information

School Closings, Delays, Cancellations & Postponements:

*PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL
Information about school operations is announced publicly as soon as possible on local radio and television stations and other media including the Internet.
*BCPS Web Home Page links to page displaying emergency announcements
*The Education Channel, Comcast Cable

Channel 73, Verizon FIOS Channel 35
*BCPS Telephone Information
410-887-5555
*Local radio and television stations
*Schools-out.com

Remember, when school closes early, there will be no after school programs.



Fundraising

We would like to extend a BIG Thank you to everyone who participated in the Joe Corbi Pizza Fundraiser.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!



Family Fun Night

February's Family Fun Night is:

Chick-Fil-A

Thursday 2-24-11

5-8pm

(Martin Plaza)

Teacher News

A Note From Ms. Darney:

Save the Date!

Our Victory Villa
Family Reading Night

will be held on

Thursday, March 31st, 2011!

We are planning a
Chinese New Year celebration,

including a performance by Interact Theater, door prizes, and a FUN activity packet!

The doors will open at 6:30 p.m.

Bring your family and join us for an exciting evening!

You will receive more information soon.

“Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.”

-William Butler Yeats

School Store News



FEBRUARY's School Store



Sale is HERE!!!

The Month of February Only: Buy Any Pencil and get a Valentine eraser Free!!!

(SALE IS FEBRUARY ONLY)

DON'T MISS OUT!!

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST ONLY!

PTA Going Green

Are you tired of getting folders full of paper, misplacing a flier or important event information?

We have a solution! We are going green. Not only can you opt out of all the clutter, you can help do your part for the environment too!

Go to our website:

(www.victoryvillapta@yahoo.com) Print and Fill out the Form, Send the form back in with your child & you will only receive PTA correspondence (that can be emailed) through email!

(*Please note, there may be an occasional item that must be sent home on paper, also please note this is PTA only, not school items)



Box Tops & Campbell Labels

Continue to help your school by collecting box tops. We pull 3 student names who participate each month to win a prize.

Keep up the great work, keep saving and sending in your box tops. Please make sure the student's name and teacher's name is marked on each bag or sheet.

Thank You!

We collect soup labels that get us points

for special school items. We also collect ink cartridges and old cell phones, (but no toner please) to earn cash for our school! If you have any questions please contact the PTA at

victoryvillapta@yahoo.com. All you need to do is just cut, collect and send to school. If you are not sure about the soup label, just send the whole label thank you.

Coke Rewards



You can continue this all year!!
Go to www.mycokerewards.com to enter codes on the bottle caps of all coke products.
So far Victory Villa has collected 1572 entries, AWESOME! Keep em' coming!!

VILLA SCAPE

Villa Scape is around the corner, on **Friday, April 8th.**

It was a huge success last year and we are eagerly looking forward to another successful night to showcase YOUR child and their Specials here at the Villa!

More information will be coming out soon, so keep an eye out!

“Tell me and I'll forget. Show me, and I may not remember. Involve me, and I'll understand.”
~Native American Saying

Photos

If you have photos of your family from a PTA event and would like to share them for our Website or Facebook, please email them to: victoryvillapta@yahoo.com
Then visit our website, download a photo release in the picture gallery section form and send it in. 😊

Facebook

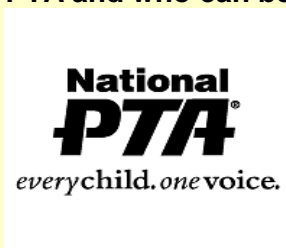


Become a friend of Victory Villa Elementary PTA on Facebook.

Do not forget to check out VVE PTA on facebook for PTA News and Updates!

PTA Info.

What is the PTA and who can be a Member?



Our PTA is part of the national Parent/Teacher Association that strives to enhance children's educational experiences. Being part of a national organization, we must pay annual dues. To offset these dues, every year, we have a membership drive. Becoming a member does not mean you automatically sign up to volunteer, it just means you support our group and believe in what we're doing.

All parents and caregivers, along with school faculty can be members, for only \$7! Please enroll or renew your membership for 2010-2011 and help us achieve our membership goal!





Victory Villa Elementary
500 Compass Rd.
Middle River MD 21220

***THE FUTURE
STARTS HERE!***



Please contact any of us with questions or
comments.

Victory Villa PTA Email:
victoryvillapta@yahoo.com

We're on the Web!

www.victoryvillapta.com