Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

It's hard to believe that we have been in school for a whole month already, but we are off and rolling! I'd like to thank the Chaparral community for being so supportive this past summer through the Target Take Charge of Education program as well as our PFA’s SOS program! It is our community’s support that allows us to offer our students so many learning opportunities here at school. Thank you to all of the parents who came out to Back-to-School Night! We had a great turn out on both nights. Thank you to all of our volunteers who have helped in some way or another! Your help and time is greatly appreciated by staff and students.

Sincerely,

Red Ribbon Week
October 22-26

Thank you for your financial generosity in participating in the PFA SOS Fundraiser

Hats off to our two very important school community groups – PFA & SSC. We are enthused and excited to see so many returning and new faces at the meetings. Our PFA meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month @ 7:00 pm in the Music Room and our SSC normally meets on the third Thursday at 3:00 pm. This month, SSC will meet on Oct. 18th. Please feel welcomed to come and “check out what’s happening” at either or both. Your “voice” is very valuable!

PFA Officers:
President Heather Sotolongo
1st VP Kelly Reis
2nd VP Marci Colomey
3rd VP Melinda Warren
4th VP Susie Weisman & Kathy Settles
Secretary Elizabeth Saelzler
Treasurer Kim Hinson
Parliamentarian Michelle Coats
Vol. Coordinator JoAnne Tatar

SSC Members
John Ferrari
Trina Keil
Michael Crozier
Jenny Haushalter
Michael Orrison
Jeff Olson/Kathy Thomas
Annette Reed
Jean Merrill
Donna Jackson

Alternate: Silvia Porter
Traffic Report

A MILLION THANKS!

To all the drivers in the morning who are pulling clear up to the next available spot when dropping off your child(ren). If there is no curbside spot available, consider pulling into the “bus lane” drop-off outside Rooms 1-3. We have wonderful volunteers to assist your child. However, this is a “drop-off ONLY” lane. All it takes is one parent getting out of the car to back up the traffic…….even if it is just for a few seconds to watch your child walk to class. Also, thank you for NEVER leaving your car unattended on the north side of Chaparral Dr. in front of the school. Again, thank you to the amazing volunteers who help us out each morning with the crosswalks and drop-off.

Some other traffic concerns that have been reported:

- Students getting out of cars on Mills while parents stopped at light/ in no stopping zone
- Cars arriving for pick-up way too early and sitting much longer than 3 minutes
- Cars blocking our neighbor's driveways

***Traffic Tip: There is a booster seat safety law that passed and took effect for 2012 which states:
Children under the age of 8 must be secured in a car seat or booster seat in the back seat.
Children under the age of 8 who are 4'9” or taller may be secured by a safety belt in the back seat.

Please join the Chaparral Staff and Volunteers in keeping our students safe and traffic flowing.

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Congratulations: Our Estimate API is 931
(California will release official scores this month)

Wow! A huge “way-to-go” to all the students, teachers and parents who worked so hard, spent numerous hours studying, participating, paying attention and learning.

Our API (academic performance indicator) on the Spring 2012 CST (California Standards Test) was 931!

BUILDING BLOCKS OF SUCCESS

This year, Chaparral will continue on its Journey to Success with Building Blocks of Success. This philosophy is based on Coach John Wooden’s book Inch and Miles: The Journey to Success. This is a fabulous book based on his world renowned Pyramid of Success, but from a child’s perspective. The building blocks will be our monthly themes, and quotes or phrases as our “thought for the week.” The entire pyramid is on the next page. We encourage the student’s to write poems and stories about the theme for the month, and we’d love to share them during morning announcements. In addition, we will recognize one child from each classroom who exemplifies these character traits!

October’s Themes: Friendship and Loyalty
Attendance Counts!
Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school and about themselves. Start building this habit at an early age so they know right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance is an important skill that will help children do well in school, college, and a job.

“When should I keep my child home from school?” When child has
- A fever of 100 or higher
- Persistent vomiting/diarrhea
- Excessive tiredness or lack of appetite
- Intense headache, sore throat, body aches, chills or earache
- Persistent, productive cough

To return to school:
- Student must be fever free for 24 hrs
- No vomiting/diarrhea in 24 hrs
- Appetite and energy level returned

For more tools and tips for parents, visit: www.attendanceworks.org/tools/for-parents/

Claremont After-School Tutoring Programs (CLASP)
CUSD students in grades K-6 are invited to register for CLASP which provides homework help, mentoring, a healthy snack, and recreation at four conveniently local sites in Claremont. CLASP is a nonprofit organization that works in collaboration with CUSD and the City of Claremont to offer after-school programs off school sites to CUSD students. Registration forms are available at your school office or may be downloaded at the CLASP website at www.clasp4kids.org Please call Maia Dean, CLASP director, at 909-204-0127 or email her at clasp.office@gmail.com for more information. Volunteer positions available! They can also be found at: facebook.com/Claremontafterschoolprograms

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE BEST PARTY IN TOWN!
It's still not too late to attend the Roadrunner Golf Classic Dinner and Auction on Monday, October 15 @ 5:30 PM at Via Verde Country Club in San Dimas. It's an awesome time to meet new Chaparral families and socialize with old friends and teachers. Dinner is $40.00 - the excitement and fun is priceless. Childcare is free! Call Charlie Gale @ 626-5656 or Marc Furstman @ 815-9821 for additional details.

Library Birthday Books
Would you like your son or daughter to leave a legacy in the library? On their birthday, donate a new, hardback book to the library. They will have their name announced on Tuesdays or Fridays by Dr. Olesniak and a placard will be placed inside the book with their name and birth date. All Chaparral students will be able to check it out for many years! Just come by the office to pick up a sheet of suggested books for both primary and upper. Happy Reading!! - Mrs. Hammill, Librarian
Study Corner

The newest edition to our Chaparral newsletter this year will be the Study Corner! Many of our parents have expressed an interest in receiving tips for homework and recommendations for creating a better home study environment. Soon, you will be receiving a monthly newsletter via the website and e-mail that specifically focuses on these types of tips. In addition, we will throw in a few tips right here. Also, Chaparral parents would love to hear from its own parents as well. If you have a tip that works for you and your family, please share with the office staff or Dr. Olesniewicz so we can publish it. Thank you!

Homework Tip: Math & Science Homework Help
Harvey Mudd College Homework Hotline offers over-the-phone assistance for grades 4-12 in the area of Math and Science. Visit their website at http://www.hmc.edu/homework-hotline. The phone number is 1-877-8-ASK HMC (1-877-827-5462). They can help with homework or even help you study for a test.

1. Let your child know that you believe homework is important. Calmly and firmly tell your child that homework is just as important as classroom work and that it will help your child to practice needed skills. Say that you expect homework to be done each night and the homework is your child’s job... not yours. If your child argues with you about homework, say calmly, “I understand. However, the expectation is that you are to do your homework.” If your child continues to argue, continue to repeat firmly and calmly, “The rule in our home is that you are to do your homework and we will work together to make that happen; however, I will not do your homework for you.”

2. Schedule a daily homework time. This is a pre-planned time, determined by you and your child, set aside each day during which your child must do homework. Try sitting down during the weekend, looking at all other social and time obligations and scheduling enough homework time each day. Consider writing the time for each day of the week on a calendar and displaying it where it can be seen. Encourage your child to stick to the schedule. This will help eliminate arguments about when homework is to be done.

3. Set up a homework area. Help your child choose a spot at home in which to do homework. Keep the study area quiet (no TV!) and off limits to others not actively studying during homework time.