

THE DARBY DISPATCH

A Dolphin Safe Publication



Darby Avenue Elementary School PTA Monthly News

10818 Darby Ave. Northridge, CA 91326 818-360-1824

www.darbypta.com

Lisa Vargas
President
Virginia Ghoniem
Principal
Doug Howard
Assistant Principal
Sandra Escartin
Treasurer
Becky Parraz
Jennifer Shurtz
Publishers / Editors

31st District PTSA-NWVC

June 2010

Vol. 27

Issue 8

A Letter from Our PTA President

Hello Darby Families,

Well, we made it! This is the last Darby Dispatch issue of the year. Time has flown by, and I have enjoyed so many wonderful things about this year. One of the best things was getting to know the students and you, the parents. I want to take a moment and thank all of you who have helped in so many ways. From the countless hours some have put in, down to the ones who have simply picked up trash as they pass by. All of you have made Darby what it is...a great school! I send a special thank you to the members of this year's PTA Board, who really have been amazing. Thank you for all your help and support all year long. I have enjoyed working with you. Being your PTA President for the past 2 years has been an honor, one that I will treasure deeply for years to come. I have learned how important we are to our children's future. That is why I encourage you all to get as involved as you can. Not just for your child, but for the entire student body at Darby.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing many of you in September. Just remember...there is always a job for you in the PTA. If you would like more information on how you can get involved, please contact your new PTA President, Karen Green at president@darbypta.com.

Together we can make a difference,

Lisa Vargas

PTA President

Darby Elementary Family Fun Night

Come Celebrate the End of the Year With All of Your Darby Friends

Souplantation

Thursday, June 17, 2010 5:00pm to 8:00pm
19801 Rinaldi Street (818) 363-3027

Hope to see you all there!

A Letter from Our Principal:

Dear Parents,

Every June, when we take a gander at your children, we see very different individuals than we did when they first entered the classrooms in September. Your children have grown and not just physically. Your children's knowledge has increased in so many ways. Most importantly, your children have learned the California standards for their grade level. I hope you realize that California has one of the most rigorous set of standards in the nation. Please take a moment and go to the California Department of Education website to show your children everything they have learned, and while you are there you can show them what they will be learning next year.

The big question you all have is "What am I going to do with the kids ALL summer long. The easiest and most beneficial is to take your children to your local library and let them find new adventures, fun and relaxation in a book. The local librarian will help you find books at your child's independent reading level. The days are long in the summer, so please borrow a few books at a higher reading level that you can read aloud to your children. Believe me, your child is never too old to have someone read to them.

Time will pass very quickly this summer as you enjoy the special times with your children, such as a trip to the park or a museum, don't forget to read and read and read some more.

On another note, I want to say what an honor it has been to work with Lisa Vargas, your PTA president, for the past two years. The school is more picturesque, thanks to the murals that were painted during her tenure, and we are healthier because of the jog-a thons that she has so successfully promoted. As PTA president she helped every Darby student achieve via the many projects, programs and fundraisers that have occurred under her presidency. Most importantly, she has worked to create a positive atmosphere at the best school in the district.

I know the budget cuts have created an air of apprehension in education, but I just wanted you to know that the staff at Darby is committed to assuring that your children are successful. The staff and myself take great joy in seeing the accomplishments of your children. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to help them grow.

School begins again on September 13, 2010. See you in September!

Sincerely,

Virginia Ghoniem



Have a Safe and Happy Summer!

A Note from the PTA Treasurer:

**Not a complete list*

In the month of May we deposited funds from*:

Greeting Card Fundraiser

Box Tops

Script Inventory

Pizza and Popsicle

We spent our funds on*: Scrip Inventory Staff Appreciation Luncheon

Scholastic Spring Book Fair

Darby Gold Medals

Pizza and Popsicle Sales

Science Night


Greeting Card Fundraiser

LA Opera Assembly

Commemorative Bricks

June 2010

Winners of Unit of the Year and Best Newsletter 2 Years in a Row!!

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 1:38pm Dismissal	2	3	4 8:10am Morning Assembly	5
6	7	8 1:38pm Dismissal	9	10 8:00 School Starts 12:38pm Dismissal	11 8:00 School Starts 8:00am Morning Assembly 12:38 Dismissal 5th Grad Dance	12
13	14 8:00 School Starts 12:38pm Dismissal	15 1:38pm Dismissal	16 8:00 School Starts 9:00am —5th Grade Culmination 12:38 Dismissal	17 8:00 School Starts 11:00—5th Grade Luncheon 12:38 Dismissal	18 8:00 School Starts 12:38pm Dismissal LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!	19 

Message from the President-Elect:

Hi Everyone! Summer's almost upon us. Check out our DarbyPTA.com website to find FREE/low-cost summer activities for your family. They're, also, listed under "Parents Corner for the Summer" in this newsletter. The new PTA elected board takes office July 1 and we're already working on finding great PTA activities for next year!

Survey Results....We surveyed all the Darby parents, teachers and staff to see which PTA programs, activities and fundraisers would be value and supported the most. Here are your top choices (as of May 25): *Spook-A-Rama Darby Reads, PE Program, Supporting the Computer Lab & Field Trips, Fall Jog-A-Thon, Spring Book Fair & Silent Auction baskets.*

Thank you for taking the time to complete your survey and for all your comments! Next year's activities will definitely be planned with your top choices in mind.

Join us for our first Association Meeting in July, where we're going to begin approving next year's activities and preliminary budget. We want all PTA members to come! See the website mid-June for more details.

This month is a very busy time for parents and teachers. So, when things calm down some and you'd like to help make Darby a better school for your child and all our children, we have some activities that we need some help with. We'll list them on the website. Please periodically check it during the summer to see if you can help out with just one of our summer needs.

I wish you all a safe and fun summer!

Karen Green

E-mail: president@darbypta.com

Parents Corner for the Summer

I'm bored.....

- FREE days at museums and other FREE or low-cost Los Angeles attractions and activities, you'll find them here: www.latourist.com/index.php?page=free-activities
- Explore our local mountains: www.LAMountains.com

Reading is so important, so how can you encourage reading throughout the summer?

The Los Angeles Public Libraries have [summer reading programs](#). Visit your local branch. (or create your own incentives) ...30 minutes a day....

Are your children watching a little too more TV than you like? Try "[Read Your TV](#)" and use the closed caption option on your TV.

Keep you child up on his/her math facts: www.mathsisfun.com, search "Math Trainer" and you'll get timed addition, subtraction, multiplication problems and a resource for higher levels of math.

Going to be in the car this summer? Check out www.MomsMinivan.com for 101 ideas to keep your babies, toddlers and children entertained in the car. *Make sure your child is safe in his/her safety seat: www.SeatCheck.org

Don't forget to visit www.DARBYPTA.com