

ORTEGA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CALENDAR  
2004 - 2005



**September**

- 7 School Begins—Minimum Day
- 23 **Back to School Night**

**October**

- 7 **Ortega School Dedication**
- 8 School Pictures
- 29 Halloween Parade

**November**

- 17 Elna Flynn Volunteer Recognition Dinner
- 11 **School Holiday**
- 12 SIP Day: Non-Student Day
- 24-26 **Thanksgiving Recess**

**December**

- 6-10 Parent Conferences (Minimum Days)
- 17 Minimum Day Schedule
- 20-02 **WINTER RECESS**

**January**

- 03 School Resumes
- 17 **School Holiday**

**February**

- 21 **School Holiday**

**March**

- 25 Minimum Day Schedule
- 14-18 Parent Conferences (Minimum Days)
- 28-01 **SPRING RECESS**

**April**

- 4 School Resumes
- 18-22 Outdoor Ed., 5<sup>th</sup> Grades
- 25-29 STAR Testing

**May**

- 2-6 STAR Testing
- 04 Teacher Appreciation Lunch
- 12 Ortega Open House
- 16 SIP Day: Non-Student Day
- 25 Volunteer Breakfast
- 30 **School Holiday**

**June**

- 15-16 Minimum Day Schedule
- 16 Field Day
- 17 Last Day of School-Minimum Day

**Time Schedule**

**Kindergarten:**

8:30 AM—12:00 PM (Sep/Oct)  
 8:30 AM—2:00 PM (All Day Kinder  
 Class in Nov - Jun)  
 Lunch: 11:30 AM  
*Every Wednesday 8:30 AM—1:30  
 PM*

**Grades 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup>:**

8:30 AM—2:30 PM  
 Lunch: 11:30 AM & 12:00 PM  
*Every Wednesday: 8:30 AM—1:30  
 PM*

**Grades 4<sup>th</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup>:**

8:30 AM—2:45 PM  
 Lunch: 12:30 PM  
*Every Wednesday: 8:30 AM—1:38  
 PM*

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:**

Please call the school whenever  
 your child is absent (phone 738-  
 6670). Thanks for your  
 cooperation.

**Ortega Elementary  
School Community  
Newsletter**

**January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2005**



**Ortega Elementary  
School**

1283 Terra Nova Blvd.  
 Pacifica CA 94044

James L. Rogers, Principal

Tel: (650) 738.6670  
 FAX: 650.738.6672

**KNOW THE PAST;  
 USE THE PRESENT;  
 BUILD THE FUTURE**

**Pacifica School District**  
 375 Reina del Mar  
 Pacifica CA 94044  
 650.738.6600  
[www.pacificasd.org](http://www.pacificasd.org)

-- WHAT'S INSIDE --

**GIFTS OF WINTER**

**GATE TESTING**

**"DRESS YOUR BEST" SPIRIT DAY**



Mid-Year Kinders and Mrs Christiansen

**NEW KINDER CLASS AT ORTEGA**

We welcome our newest students and families to Ortega Elementary School. We begin the new year with a new class; children began as Mid-year Kinders. Anne Christiansen teaches this class providing these children a head start on their educational journey. We are confident the Ortega School experience will make each child a leader next year in his/her regular kindergarten class.

*MARK YOUR CALENDARS!*

**JAN 14: "DRESS YOUR BEST" DAY**

**JAN 14: STRING QUARTET  
ASSEMBLY, 1:30 PM**

**JAN 17: MLK HOLIDAY**

**JAN 20: 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GATE TESTING**

## The Year Ahead

The second half of the school year gives us plenty to care about. We know our upcoming programs and events provide times for excitement, enrichment, and learning, whether you are a student or adult.

**GATE TESTING** for all 4<sup>th</sup> grade children takes place on Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup>. Students who are not already Gifted and Talented may become eligible with high scores on this non-verbal assessment.

All families received information about free **DENTAL SCREENINGS** taking place on campus Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup>. Permission slips must be returned no later than Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, please.

Be reminded that the Pacifica School Volunteers sponsor a Parent Education Workshop on January 20<sup>th</sup>, at the District Office on Reina del Mar, 7:00 PM, **HELPING YOUR CHILD SUCCEED**. Call 355-9432 to register and look for the flyer in your Wednesday packet.

The Ortega School Winter Fundraiser begins on January 21 with a kick-off assembly at 9:00 am. Here is your opportunity to purchase spring holiday gifts and chocolates for the entire family while supporting Ortega School enrichment programs at the same time. We ask you to respond generously.

Finally, our Parent-Teacher Organization invites all families to a **GENERAL PTO MEETING** on Wednesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM. Come hear a presentation from Dr Leslie Chui, Backpack Awareness Day. In the last few years a growing concern about backpacks too heavy or worn improperly prompted more attention to this issue.

Dr Chui will address solutions that not only make sense but result in more attention to studies with less physical stress. Please join us for this provocative and important discussion.

~ **James L. Rogers,**  
**Principal**

### **NEW TRAFFIC SIGN**



Please look for and comply with our new traffic sign to make drop-off of children that much smoother on school mornings. Your support and cooperation prevents traffic snarls and respects our intent to keep school safe.

### **PACIFICA HOMEWORK CENTER**

All families are welcome to attend a Homework Center at the Pacifica Library, 2:45 pm – 5:45 PM, 104 Hilton Way. Trained tutors staff the library to help students of all ages. For more information call 355-5196.

### **CARE FOR TSUNAMI VICTIMS**

Two Ortega School classes initiated a program to support victims of the Indian Ocean tsunami. For the next few weeks through February 14<sup>th</sup>, Mrs Manassis and Mrs Chikhale's classes sell candy heart grams and class-made pins during lunch period. For \$1.00 a child may purchase a sucker to send to someone else or use personally; profits are donated to organizations that provide food and medical supplies. Thank you for participating in this community outreach.

### **“DRESS YOUR BEST” SPIRIT DAY**

To honor the memory of Martin Luther King, Student Council sponsors a Spirit Day January 14<sup>th</sup>, Friday; the theme is “Dress Your Best”: good slacks, shirt, sweater, skirt or dress with nice shoes. This Spirit Day aligns with our character development curriculum: respect, compassion, self-discipline, and responsibility.

### **5<sup>th</sup> GRADE MIDDLE SCHOOL EVENT**

Save Wednesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, to attend an important film about Middle School Students and their struggles with bullying, a film called **“Let's Get Real”**. This FREE event will be at Ingrid B Lacy Middle School, open to all 5<sup>th</sup> Grade families.

REMINDER!  
Assembly, Jan 14<sup>th</sup>, 2005, 1:30 PM  
String Quartet