



Mesa Grande Academy

Here's What's Happening...

Principal's Newsletter * 909 795-1112 * www.mesagrandeacademy.org

May 2011

Mesa Grande Academy and Adventist Christian Education

Did you know that the Adventist Education System is the 2nd largest private education system in the world. With almost 8000 schools and an enrollment approaching 2 million students, our system is having a positive effect on many students around our world.

Over the last 6 years our K-12 schools in North America have participated in a scientific study of the academic performance of students enrolled in SDA schools, called Cognitive Genesis. The results of that study have been revealing. **Students attending our schools are performing above the national average in all areas of study. In addition they are performing up to a year above what would be predicted for their native cognitive ability. That increases the longer they attend our schools.**

When you combine that with the spiritual development that continues throughout the week as an extension of what takes place at your church, and the positive social and physical development that are a part of our educational experience, Mesa Grande Academy Christian Education is a smart choice for your students and you.

Prayer at the Flag Pole - Wednesday's 7:45 am

You may have seen the announcement on our sign about prayer at the flag pole on Wednesday's at 7:45 am. We are a Christian school and we believe in the power and value of prayer.

This time is not just for staff members. **Anyone wishing to stop in and pray, as you start your day, is welcomed.** Of course we always pray for our students, our families, and our school. We'll see you at the Flag Pole. Everyone welcomed!

Golf Tournament Report

We wish to thank all of you who supported our recent golf tournament. Approximately \$15,000 was raised which will be divided between the Varsity program and the Student Assistance Program. We were also very fortunate to have a recent \$10,000.00 grant from the Jane Bainum Fund that was designated for Student Assistance program. All of this will be able to help families keep their kids in excellent Christian Education.

K-8 New Classroom/Teacher Visit Event and Spring Concert

Wednesday, May 11, 2011 at 6:00 pm, is our Parent Appreciation and New Classroom Visit Event. This will be followed by our 2011 K-8 Spring Concert.

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| 6:00 - 6:45 pm | Parents and Students Visit Next year's Classroom |
| 6:00 - 6:45 pm | Corn Dogs and Salad dinner available for purchase (Home & School) |
| 7:00 pm | K-8 Music Concert |

Parents: This is a great time to fill out your application for next year and turn it in. Find your application that was mailed and bring it with you.

Add This to Your Calendar

Join us on May 22, 2011 from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon for the annual Mesa Grande Academy Work Bee. Put it on your calendar right now. We are focusing on three areas:
1) Door trim on the Elementary Building (last painted 1996) – No professional skills needed - Need people to tape-off and people who can paint;
2) Help with trimming and planters – light grounds duties;
3) Computer network mapping – Need people who can help trace and document data circuits for our network.
Support your MGA students by your time and care.

Staff Changes for the 2011-2012 School Year

We are continuing to plan for an excellent 2011-2012 school year. Most of our staff is in place and ready to help our students reach their peak learning potential.

However, you can count on the fact that there will be changes in life situations. We are very sad to announce that our 7th grade teacher Mrs. Weaver, and our 4th grade teacher, Mrs. McKinstry, have had situational changes that will not allow them to be with us for the 2011-2012 school year.

We are in the process of interviewing teachers to fill these important positions. As these positions are filled, we will keep you informed. Our goal is to have these positions filled by the School Board meeting, May 19, 2011. If you have suggestions or input, contact me by email: alfred.riddle@mgak-12.org or call me at (909) 855-5193.

Calendar of Events May-June

Below is a list of important dates. Make sure these dates are on your calendar:

May 11	6:00 - 6:45 pm K-6 Open House 7:00 pm K-8 Spring Music Concert
May 12	SA Picnic
May 15	Jr / Sr Banquet
May 18	7:00 Favorite Script Drama Night
May 22	7:00 pm 9-12 Musical - 1 st showing
May 23	6:30 pm 9-12 Musical - Dinner Musical
May 25	7:00 9-12 Awards Reception
May 27	2-5 pm Barnes and Noble Music Fund raiser (shop anytime from 9:00 am to 11:00 pm, including online)
June 1-3	Semester Finals
June 2	8 th Grade Graduation
June 3	7:00 pm Consecration Service
June 4	11:00 am Baccalaureate Service
June 5	10:00 am Commencement Service

School Continues Use of Edulink Notification System

You may have received a recent telephone call that had a recorded message from the school. We are please to be able to offer you this additional means of communication.

This system will be used in at least three ways:

1. In the event of an emergency or other safety concern at the school, we may need to quickly notify all of our parents. This would include weather-related school closures.
2. When there are significant changes in our normal schedule such as vacation days, we will use the system to provide a courtesy reminder.
3. We will use this system to remind you of upcoming events and activities, both school-wide and by individual classes.

We will need your help as we work to create a more accurate notification system. If you did not receive a message / call (or too many calls), please let our office know so that we can correct this error. Be assured that we will be judicious in our use of this resource.

We will also be using this system for school-wide notifications by email and eventually by text message to your phone (currently in development).

BoxTop\$ For Education

We have reached our goal of \$750.00 in BoxTop\$ coupons for this year. Thank you so much for cutting boxtops. Also, a big thank you goes to Trish Parker, who keeps our BoxTop\$ program working



well. Keep the clipping going all summer! You are making a difference for the students in our school.

Tid-Bits of Information

Below are several important bits of information that will be useful for you to know:

1. The Business Office is requesting that you keep your Hot Lunch balance in the positive after May 13 through the end of the school year. This will allow our Hot Lunch Caterer to receive the funds for their services as we complete the school year. If there are any unused funds left on your account(s), these will remain on record for your use next year (or refunded by request).
2. If you (your children) are missing clothing, please come in and take a look at our Lost and Found racks (located in the far Hallway of the Elementary Building near the 4th Grade classroom. We have a plethora of clothing that has been worn to school and left here. We will be sending it on to charity if not picked up.
3. If you have older (or newer) computers that you are not using, please donate these to Mesa Grande Academy. We are able to put many of these computers into service, or upgrade and repair these machines. ***For your security, we physically wipe all data from all hard drives before reinstalling our own operating system and software ***.
4. Thank you for using SCRIP. Your purchases have made a big difference for our school through the years. Besides the school projects, your student account benefits also. We need more of you to participate... Stop by M-Th mornings or Friday after school - or you can drop off your order anytime or call it in (ext 251) it will be filled when the SCRIP volunteer arrives.



Music Program at Barnes & Noble, Citrus Plaza, Redlands

Don't forget: the next Barnes and Noble fund raiser will be on Friday, **May 27, 2011**. Our Chorale will perform at the store as well. The time at the store is from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. However, purchases may be made from 9:00 am to 11:00 pm and online as well. Plan some of your book purchases for that time.

Mesa Grande Academy to Plant Native California Plants (Finally)

We are finally going to plant those elusive plants for our front planter. We are working with the Inland Empire Resource Conservation District to plant drought resistant, native Californian plants in our front planters.

The Inland Empire Resource Conservation District (IERCD) provides resources to schools, businesses and governmental agencies to facilitate the healthy use of environmental resources through education, invasive species removal and mitigation / grants / partnerships

Our students will participate in the planting of the plants on May 17, 2011. We will have several educational presentations for students at each grade level to show the impact we can have on our environment.

MGA to Help Tornado Victims

Your students will be working as classes to make a difference in the lives of so many affected by the recent tornadoes in the Southeastern United States. We are putting together P.A.L. Kits (Personal Activity and Learning Kits) that will be distributed to students in the areas hit by the vicious storms.

The goal is for each student to raise \$2.50 per student. If all of our students participate, our students should be able to create at least 30 P.A.L. Kits. We would like to complete this by May 20, 2011. See flyer for more details.

[The kits include the following items:](#)

10 Pencils with Erasers
Pencil sharpener
Large Eraser
Coloring Book
2 spiral notebooks
1 box of 12 colored pencils
50 sheet pkg notebook paper
Blunt nose scissors
Stickers
Three folders with inside pockets
Zippered pencil bag
Toy
Storybook
12 inch plastic ruler
10 Pencils with erasers

YOUR SCHOOL NEEDS YOUR ASSISTANCE

Annual Mesa Grande Academy Work Bee

May 22, 2011

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Everyone Can Help



OUTDOOR PROJECTS

- Plant flowers front planter
- Detail gym planters
- Pressure washing campus areas

INDOOR PROJECTS

- Paper/tape masking of door jams in Elementary building / painting trim
- Computer Mapping of Network

Contact (909) 795-1112 for additional information

Before, In-between or After You Start Work PLAN TO EAT YOUR BREAKFAST AT MGA

Pancake Breakfast Fund Raiser

(Support the Varsity Boosters)

May 22, 2011

7:00 am to 10:00 am



- ★ Delicious Pancakes
- ★ Fruit
- ★ Breakfast Patties/Links
- ★ Juice
- ★ Whipped Cream
- ★ Great Breakfast Conversations with Friends
- ★ Only \$5.00

MESA GRANDE ACADEMY MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Proudly Presents

THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE



Sunday, May 22 & 23, 2011

7:00 pm and 6:30 pm

at the MGA McAnally Center (Gymnasium)

- ★ Full set and costume musical performed by talented students
- ★ 85 Member Cast
- ★ 1 ½ Hour performance
- ★ May 22, 2011 - Admission \$5.00 / person or \$20.00 / family (Parents of performers free). *Fund raiser to support Music Program*
- ★ May 23, 2011 - 6:30 pm - Admission \$15.00 Catered Spaghetti Dinner / Musical (age 7 and under free). *Fund raiser to support 7th grade student's future 8th Grade History Tour.*

Contact (909) 795-1112 for additional information
