

November 10, 2009

Dear Victor Parents/Guardians/Caregivers:

I first want to state my apologies for not getting a formal "Principal's Message" out to since the beginning of the school year. As you know, an abundance amount of information goes out to you by me through the Bulletins page on the Victor website, via our weekly E-Blasts, and our frequent Teleparent messages. Still, all of this information should not supplant a "personal" message from your Principal and I do apologize.

November is the month where we recognize all for which we are thankful. I personally try and do my best to regularly show my great appreciation and gratitude towards all members of our superb faculty, staff, PTA and volunteers, but given that it is November, the month of being thankful, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all people who make Victor Elementary School a fantastic place to work, learn and grow.

To our Victor faculty and staff- I give thanks. Your allegiance to Victor students, willingness to take on new challenges, and your professionalism are only a few of your many attributes that make Victor Elementary school so successful. During these difficult times with fewer resources and larger class sizes your resiliency and dedication say so much about you!

Thank you to our PTA. I am very grateful for your selfless dedication. You have the best interests of all students in mind. The enriching activities such as *Adventures In Art* and the family centered programs like *Hand N Hand for Reading* and *Family Math Night*, and your fiscal support by purchasing classroom materials and sponsorship of capital upgrades, enhance the lives of many of our students and members of our community. This would not be possible without your selfless dedication and love for Victor Elementary.

Thank you to our Parent Volunteers. Teachers are clearly overburdened. Larger class sizes, imited means, and the challenge of meeting the needs of all the diverse learners can add pressure to any teacher. Your help alleviates some of this pressure and allows for our children to get the best education possible. Without you, Victor would not be the distinguished school that it is.

Thank you parents! I have worked at several schools within Torrance during my fourteen years as teacher, Assistant Principal and Principal. I do have to say that Victor kids are some of the most respectful, hard working, and more importantly, happy, students that I have interacted with. This is a huge credit to you! I thank you for raising such a fantastic group of kids.

In closing, I would like to share a couple of "business" related items. Please visit our website to see the schoolwide goals we have established for the 2009- 2010 school year. Also, our PTA needs your support, if you have not done so already, please make your direct donation today. Information can be found on our website.

I wish you and your family a wonderful Holiday Season, (yes it is approaching fast!). Do know that my door is always open to you.

Sincerely,

William Baker  
Principal