Mt. Vista K-8 School

COUGARS Cat Tracks

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER EDITION



A Message from Mrs. Nehrmeyer
Superintendent

Dear Mt. Vista Cougar Community,

As I write this final edition of Cat Tracks after 10 wonderful years at Mt. Vista, my heart is filled with gratitude. It has been an incredible privilege to work alongside our students, staff, families, and community to make Mt. Vista a place where students grow, learn, and thrive.

Thank you for your unwavering support of our students, our dedicated staff, and our school. You have shown time and time again what strong Cougar Pride looks like, and I know you will continue to do your best each day to take care of one another, work hard, and make Mt. Vista a place we are all proud to call home.

With Gratitude,
Mrs. Nehrmeyer
Superintendent

In This Edition of Cat Tracks:

- December School Calendar
- December Breakfast & Lunch Menus
- Holiday Concert Information
- Toy Drives
- Fundraisers
- Food Drives
- Grocery Distribution (Fueling the Future)
- Opportunities for Community Cheer this Holiday Season

WINTER BREAK

Our school will be closed for Winter Break starting **Friday, December 18.**

We will resume and welcome students back on **Monday, January 4, 2027!**

Happy Holidays, Cougars!

December 2026 School Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Special Lunch for All Students & Staff by Chef Macaluso 12:45 PM Dismissal Wrestling at Eloy 4:00 PM	2 Basketball at HDMS	3 Science Fair 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM	4 Student of the Month Breakfast 7:00 AM	5 Shop with a Cop Community Schools Football, Cheer at Hayden
6	7 Basketball at Home Strategic Planning Committee Meeting 4:00 PM	8 Wrestling at Miami 4:00 PM 12:45 PM Dismissal	9 Basketball at San Carlos	10 Toy Drive Ends! 12:45 PM Dismissal	11 Holiday Concerts	12 Community Schools Football, Cheer at San Manuel Spay and Neuter Clinic Oracle Holiday Light Parade
13	14 Governing Board Meeting 5:30 PM Basketball at Home	15 Wrestling at Hayden 4:00 PM 12:45 PM Dismissal Fueling the Future Grocery Distribution 12:00 PM	16	17 Polar Express Preschool Holiday Concert 6:00 PM Last Day of School (Fall Semester)	18 Teacher Work Day	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 Wrestling at Eloy 4:00 PM	30	31		

Parent Teacher Conferences – December 7 – 11

Student Council's Holiday Shop – December 14 – 17

School Winter Spirit Week – December 14 – 17

Winter Break – December 21 – 31

December

Menu for Mt. Vista K-8 School

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Did you know?

American cheese is not American! This processed cheese is thought of as an American product, but it was actually invented in Switzerland in 1911 by Waltz Gerber and Fritz Stettler to extend the shelf life before it was shipped overseas.





This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Questions or Comments?

Karen Belknap, Food Service Director
520 896 3000, Ext. 3029 and kbelknap@osd2.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Special lunch provided by Chef Teddy Macaluso of SaddleBrooke Ranch House! Pasta, chicken tenders, dessert!	1 **Breakfast** Breakfast Sandwich **OR** Cereal **Lunch** Crispy Chicken Sandwich Seasoned Green Beans	2 **Breakfast** Pancake **OR** Cereal **Lunch** Chicken Parm Sandwich Bean & Cheese Burrito Seasoned Corn	3 **Breakfast** Breakfast Burrito **OR** Cereal **Lunch** Pizza Chef Salad Steamed Carrots	4 **Breakfast** French Toast Sticks **OR** Cereal **Lunch** Corn Dog Cheeseburger Baked Beans
7 **Breakfast** Muffin **OR** Cereal **Lunch** Boneless **HOT** Wings Crispy Chicken Sandwich Steamed Broccoli	8 **Breakfast** Cheesy Omelet **OR** Cereal Lunch Spaghetti w/Meatballs Cheese Quesadilla Seasoned Green Beans	9 **Breakfast** Yogurt w/Grahams **OR** Cereal **Lunch** Soft Chicken Tacos Beef Quesadilla Seasoned Corn	10 **Breakfast** Biscuit and Gravy **OR** Cereal **Lunch** Pizza Chef Salad Steamed Carrots	11 **Breakfast** Waffle **OR** Cereal **Lunch** Chicken Nuggets Hot Dog Chile Beans
14 **Breakfast** Cini Mini **OR** Cereal **Lunch** Orange Chicken Grilled Ham & Cheese Steamed Broccoli	15 **Breakfast** Breakfast Sandwich **OR** Cereal **Lunch** Cheeseburger **SPICY** Chicken Sandwich Seasoned Green Beans	16 **Breakfast** Pancake **OR** Cereal **Lunch** Soft Beef Tacos Bean Tostada Seasoned Corn	17 **Breakfast** Breakfast Burrito **OR** Cereal **Lunch** Pizza Chef Salad Steamed Carrots	18 **WINTER BREAK**
21 **WINTER BREAK**	22 **WINTER BREAK**	23 **WINTER BREAK**	24 **WINTER BREAK**	25 **WINTER BREAK**
28 **WINTER BREAK**	29 Menu is subject to change.	30 **WINTER BREAK**	31 **WINTER BREAK**	

Mt. Vista K-8 School

Special Culinary Lunch

A Delicious FREE Lunch for ALL Students and Staff!

FOR OUR MT. VISTA FAMILY!

Join us on

Tuesday, December 1

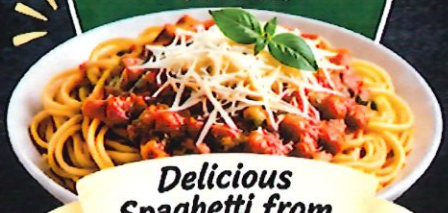
for a special lunch prepared by an amazing team of local chefs!

Chef Teddy Macaluso
SaddleBrooke Ranch House



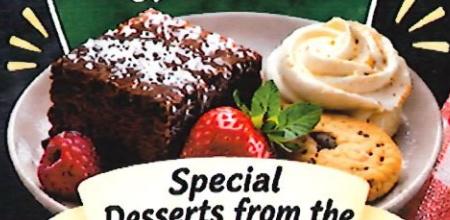
Chef Teddy's Famous Chicken Fingers

Mama Lousia's
Tucson



Delicious Spaghetti from Mama Lousia's

The Gourmet Girls of Tucson



Special Desserts from the Gourmet Girls

The School Will Also Provide:

Fruit and Vegetable Sides | Our Daily Salad Bar



Prefer a Traditional Lunch?

Our Food Service staff will also have a Crispy Chicken Sandwich available for any students who would like their regular lunch option.

MT. VISTA
K-8 SCHOOL

Fueling the Future

8th Annual Program

A special program for Mt. Vista families, created by Mrs. Edie Crall, Board President, Fueling the Future provides **FREE groceries** to help families keep their kiddos fed, happy, and healthy over the Winter Break while the school is closed and not serving free breakfast and lunch.



Fueling the Future plans to provide **50 Mt. Vista families** with **FREE** pantry goods and perishable groceries.

GROCERIES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED:

Tuesday, December 15
at 12:00 PM
at the Mt. Vista Snack Shack

If you would like to be one of the 50 families, **contact Danielle Maestas at 520-896-3070** before December 11.

Mountain Vista School is becoming a LANYARD SCHOOL!



All students will be expected to wear a lanyard with their school ID throughout the school day.

Scan for the bus! Scan for lunch!

Cougar Pins are earned for:

academic excellence, sports, clubs, attendance and more!

Shows school pride!

Builds responsibility!

Together we are making our school safer and stronger!

Oracle Elementary School District

Small Town Roots, Global Expectations.

ORACLE SCHOOL DISTRICT — ESTABLISHED 1905

You're Invited!

Be a Part of Our Strategic Planning Process!

Help Shape the Future of Our Schools!

The Oracle Elementary School District is creating a Strategic Plan to guide our district's direction over the next 3–5 years.

We are forming a Core Team of 12–15 stakeholders to revisit our mission statement, vision, guiding principles, and set goals for the future.

We Need YOU!

We are looking for a diverse group of community members to help plan for what's next — including:

- Teachers & School Staff
- Parents & Volunteers
- Community Members
- Local Business Community

Our First Meeting:
Monday, December 7, 2026
Time: 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Location:
Mt. Vista Growth Room

Over the Next 6–9 Months...

Our Core Team will meet several times to:

- Review our district's mission and vision
- Discuss our guiding principles
- Set meaningful goals for the next 3–5 years

Why It Matters:

This Strategic Plan will provide important guidance and vision for our new district superintendent and our future.

Please consider *joining* our Core Team!

Together, we can build a strong plan for a bright future for our students, our schools, and our community.

Mt. Vista K-8 School

COUGARS

Proud of Our STUDENT ATHLETES!

We are proud to recognize our students who are currently representing Mt. Vista in Community Schools Flag Football and Cheer (Grades PreK–6) and in Wrestling, Boys' Basketball, and Girls' Basketball (Grades 6–8).

Thank you for your dedication, teamwork, and school spirit on and off the court, mat, or field!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEER COACHES!

Holiday Concert

Mountain Vista K-8 School

You're Invited to Celebrate the Season!

Join us for a festive celebration of music and joy as our talented students share their holiday spirit through song and performance!

Event Details

Date:
Friday, December 11th

Location:
Mountain Vista K-8 School Gymnasium

Performance Schedule

Grades 4-8 Concert
Time: 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Grades K-3 Concert
Time: 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

What to Expect

- Festive holiday songs and performances
- A wonderful showcase of student talent
- A joyful celebration to kick off the holiday season

Important Information

- Please arrive 10 minutes early to find seating.
- Families are welcome to attend the performance for their child's grade level.
- Bring your holiday cheer and enjoy the show!

Attire:

- Festive wear: ugly sweater, holiday graphic tees, headgear, etc.
- Formal wear: white top black bottom.

Important: If females wear dresses the dress NEEDS to be covering past the knees when sitting down. If wearing skirts appropriate leggings.

Happy Holidays from Mountain Vista K-8 School!

Lil' Shopper's Shoppe
Where children discover the joy of giving!

HOLIDAY TOY STORE

December 14th- December 17th

OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE



Jingle All the Way!







ATVs, Trucks & Trailers — Let's Spread Some Holiday Cheer!

Everyone is invited to join us on Saturday, December 12, 2026 at 6:30pm, as we gather and drive down American Ave. to show off our holiday spirit! Let's light things up, decorate our rides, and bring some Christmas cheer to the community!

Interested in participating? Please contact Bodie Garcia at bodieaz@aol.com for more details.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND GOD BLESS!



SICK OR READY FOR SCHOOL?

A quick guide for Mt. Vista K–8 families

STAY HOME TODAY IF YOUR CHILD HAS:

- Fever of 100.4°F or higher — including fever with a new rash
- Vomiting more than twice in 24 hours, or vomiting that has not settled overnight
- Diarrhea with accidents, blood, or much more frequent stools than usual
- New or worsening cough, congestion, or other respiratory symptoms that are not improving
- Symptoms that make it hard to participate, or unusual tiredness/weakness

COMMON ILLNESSES — WHAT TO WATCH FOR

FLU

Fever or chills, cough, sore throat, runny/stuffy nose, body aches, headache, and fatigue. Children may also have vomiting or diarrhea.

STREP THROAT

Sudden sore throat, pain when swallowing, fever, red/swollen tonsils (sometimes white patches), swollen neck glands, headache or stomachache.

SCARLET FEVER

Strep symptoms plus a red, rough "sandpaper-like" rash; tongue may look red and bumpy ("strawberry tongue").

WHEN CAN THEY COME BACK?

- **General illness:** Fever-free for at least 24 hours WITHOUT fever-reducing medicine; symptoms improving overall for at least 24 hours; child feels well enough to take part in the school day.
- **Vomiting:** Has settled overnight and the child can keep food and liquids down in the morning.
- **Strep throat or scarlet fever:** Stay home until fever-free AND at least 12–24 hours after starting the prescribed antibiotic. Follow your healthcare provider's advice.

HEALTHY ENOUGH FOR SCHOOL? PLEASE COME!

Minor lingering sniffles or a mild cough do not automatically mean a child must stay home if symptoms are improving, there is no fever, and the student feels well enough to learn.

When in doubt, contact your child's healthcare provider and notify the school.
This guide is general information, not a diagnosis. Follow healthcare-provider and applicable public-health guidance.

Mt. Vista K–8 School • Oracle, AZ

Winter Spirit Week

December 14th – 17th

Monday Dec. 14th



It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!

Ho Ho Ho! Are we feeling jolly yet? Show off your holiday spirit by wearing your favorite **Holiday accessories!**

Tuesday Dec. 15th

Jingle Bell ROCK!



Wear your Jingle Bells!

Our holiday spirit is better than yours—it's competition time!

- Grades K-4: Rock their **Green!**
- Grades 5-8: **Roll in Red!**

Wednesday Dec. 16th



Baby It's Cold Outside!

It's a holiday tradition!

Break out your ugliest, craziest, most festive Christmas sweater and show it off! Homemade or store-bought—nothing says Happy Holidays like an ugly sweater!

Thursday Dec. 17th



Cozy Flannel Day

Stay cozy and warm by coming to school in your favorite **flannel shirt** or **Christmas jammies!**

Even though there may not be snow, we can still snuggle up with the last day of school before winter break!



Friday

No School!

Closed for the Holidays

