

RIO REPORTER

QUARTER 4

APRIL 2012



COSTANZO'S CORNER

Spring Break has come and gone as we head towards the end of the school year, but there is still plenty of work to be completed.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at Open House on April 19 at 6:30 p.m. It is an opportunity for you to meet your son's/daughter's teachers, and understand what they have been doing during class. In addition, there will be group performances and class demonstrations.

During the following week, Rio Norte students will be taking their STAR Tests. It is an exciting time because the test results will indicate the level of student achievement for each and every one of your kids. The testing days are April 24-26 with school starting at 7:45 a.m. and ending at 2:00 p.m.

As you can see the Solar Project is completed and the changeover to solar power is in the very near future. All schools in the District will go on line at the same time. This project will result in energy efficiency and a savings of 20 million dollars over 25 years.

Our eighth grades have the end of year activities to look forward to with the Eighth Grade Dance on May 24 and our Disneyland Trip on May 31. These are great events for our students and I know the students truly enjoy these activities and they will have lasting memories of them.

I want to thank all parents for their continual support of Rio Norte. It is through our joint efforts that we are able to offer a quality education to all students. I have another year with my seventh graders and I want to wish all eighth graders best of luck as they take another step into their futures.

John M. Costanzo
Principal



PTSA

It was fun seeing the incoming 7th graders and their families at the Sixth Grade Jamboree in March. Next year's River Hawks seemed excited and ready to join in on life at Rio Norte. As we anticipate a new class of 7th graders, we bid a fond farewell to our 8th graders moving on to high school and wish them continued success in their academic careers.

I'd like to thank the Board Members, Committee Chairs, and many Volunteers who have turned out in force to help with so many activities on campus. From chaperoning dances and volunteering in the library to serving pizza at Student of the Month events and supporting the River Hawk Walk, PTSA has done its best to support and serve every Rio student.

After a refreshing summer, PTSA will be back in August with a full calendar of activities. Our PTSA-sponsored field trips to the COC Performing Arts Center will continue to be a cornerstone of our enrichment efforts ensuring that every Rio student experiences the arts in a theater setting.

PTSA leadership and parent volunteers are always needed! Check the school website for next year's meeting schedule. To get involved, including helping at Summer Check-In, email me at [kadahlquist@gmail.com](mailto:kadahqlquist@gmail.com)

Kari Dahlquist
PTSA President

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

STAR TESTING INFORMATION



- Students will take the STAR tests on Tuesday April 24th, Wednesday April 25th and Thursday April 26th.
- Please be on time for school each morning at 7:45.
- These are not minimum days. Students will be dismissed at 2pm.
- Students test in the morning and then attend classes in the afternoon. Periods 1 and 2 meet on Tuesday afternoon, periods 3 and 4 meet on Wednesday and 5 and 6 meet on Thursday.

SCHOOL NEWS

- Open House is on Thursday April 19th. Our program starts at 6:30 and classroom visitations start around 6:55pm. We look forward to seeing you!
- Drama production is excited to present the Spring musical, GREASE on Thursday May 3 at 7pm, Friday May 4th at 7pm, and Saturday May 5th at 1pm and 7pm. Tickets are \$5.
- Our final E day is on Wednesday, May 16th. The last day of school, June 1st is a min day. Students will be dismissed at 11:35.
- Yearbooks will be distributed on Friday May 25th. They can still be purchased for \$58 in the office. The price will go up to \$68 (cash only) on May 15th.(quantities limited)
- The 8th grade dance is on Thursday May 24th from 6pm-8pm.
- Our 8th grade Disneyland trip is on Thursday, May 31st. Permission slips are due in the office by Friday May 4th. The cost is \$85, with an annual pass it's \$33.



HISTORY DEPARTMENT

All History teachers at Rio Norte collect "Box Tops" for Education. Thank you for your support!



ELECTIVES DEPARTMENT

The Electives Department is trying to earn some new technology by collecting old CD's and DVD's. The CD's and DVD's must be in their original cases with complete front and back cover art (dusty or broken cases are ok). CD's and DVD's must be void of visible scratches. All genres of music will be accepted; even classical, opera, jazz, spoken word, and from all time periods! Boxed sets of DVD's are also accepted. Students should bring the CD's/DVD's to school and they will be collected in their homeroom class. Students will receive a ticket for each CD/DVD turned in and will be entered into a drawing for an Amazon Kindle. Collection will start April 16th and run through May 4th. Any questions, contact Mrs. Moore or Mrs. Petrovich.

Mrs. Moore Foods Class is hosting a Pampered Chef Fundraiser in hopes of earning some new equipment for the Food's classroom. The fundraiser starts April 19th, and goes through April 30th. You can check out the new catalog and support Rio Norte by placing an order online by going to: <http://www.pamperedchef.biz/stacykupfer> and enter Rio Norte as host where prompted. Come by room C-3 during Open House on April 19th to see a Pampered Chef display!

PE NEWS

- **Volleyball Intramurals** just finished up with Obey Delight in first place for the PRO Division and The Spikers in first place for the College Division. Great job to all!
- **3 on 3 Basketball** Intramurals are going on at lunch and should finish up in May.
- **The District Track Meet** is scheduled for Thursday, May 17 at College of the Canyons from approximately 10am-3:30 pm. The students who qualified will be notified and permission slips to be sent home. Please return those ASAP. Practices will be scheduled in May during lunch.

- **The River Hawk Walk** was a big success! Thank you to all who helped support our PE Department and Intramural Program.
- **A special thanks to the following business donations of \$300 or more:**
Valencia Veterinary Center at 263-9000
Equity Residential Skycrest Apartment Homes 661.263.0404 www.equityapartments.com
Dermacure of Valencia 661-257-8400
B. T. A Bill Thomas Associates
FMC Automotive (foreign and domestic car experts)
Waiste Connections Chaquita Canyon Landfill
Subway #22923 on Newhall Ranch Road
Eggs N Things
- We brought in over \$25,000. A special thanks to Audrey Yamamoto and to all the PTSA for their time and effort in helping the event be so successful!!!

TEAM COLUMBIA

Algebra is flying by! We are tackling world problems before facing the 2nd semester final. After that, we can breathe a sigh of relief and enjoy using logic to solve mysteries. In pre-algebra, we'll finish off our stellar year with some STAR review and geometry.

Mrs. Kaplan's English class is reading the novel *Stargirl* and they look forward to learning more about Shakespeare and attending *A Midsummer Night's Dream* on May 15. Mrs. Davis' class is also deep in study of Shakespeare's world and words in preparation for our amazing day at the Will Geer Theatre.

In Columbia science, we are studying the diverse kingdoms of life in preparation for the evolution unit. Highlights are labs on invertebrates, squid dissection, and snail races!

Ms. Kratofil and Mrs. Shaw say a big "THANK YOU" to all the families who have been helping their children learn the "100 Terms" for history--keep up the hard work! An exam on all of the words will be given at the end of May!

TEAM RIO VERDE

Team Rio Verde will be going on an end of the year fieldtrip to Valencia Lanes on May 22. Student will earn the trip with their good behavior and by having good homework turn in rates.

In English classes students are reading The Diary of Anne Frank. We are bring in a guest speaker to help further the students' understanding of the Holocaust. In Science classes, Mrs. Robb and Mrs. Swanson are wrapping up the school year with Astronomy.

Mrs. Ratliff's history class is learning how differences of opinion can cause Americans to see other Americans as their enemy. No, I'm not talking about the 2012 Presidential election; I'm talking about the Civil War! Since this is an election year, we are also spending time discussing and learning about the candidates and issues that are making news.

TEAM NILE

While a rainy day, Friday the 13th was good luck for many Team Nile students as they traveled to College of the Canyons, COC, for a treat to a stellar jazz performance. Sponsored by COC and our PTSA, students were afforded the opportunity to an hour long education in the history of jazz which included how jazz reflects our culture and how it parallels the history of the twentieth century.

In history, we're concluding our work on the Civil War. Soon we will cover Reconstruction, expansion west, the Progressive Era, and the early 20th century. This sets up the curriculum for students to study the 20th century in depth during their junior year in high school.

As students prepare for upcoming math tests, please think of how they would prepare for a speech. Initially they would need to read directly from the paper, soon they would only refer back to the paper for prompts, and finally-before they present the speech, they would need to be able to complete the speech without looking at the paper. Students should refer to notes, study buddies, or hotmath while in the learning process. But before the test date, they need to be able to complete problems **without** any prompts from notes, parents, or the text. Remember, 8th grade math classes are semester classes and have a final worth approximately two normal tests. The final will cover all concepts covered during the second semester (December through May.)

It's hard to believe that we're in the final weeks of 8th grade. Soon our students will be ending their junior high days and starting high school. For the final quarter, students are learning many things to help them get ready for high school. So it's important for students to continue to focus on learning, complete all work, and strive for excellence. Parents, please check Infinite Campus regularly and encourage your child to do so as well. Informed students and parents are usually better prepared for what lies ahead.

TEAM THUNDER

See the lightning; feel the THUNDER!

The school year is quickly coming to a close. Let's keep up the good work and study habits to the end for a strong finish!

Thanks to all our supportive parents and terrific students. Have an enjoyable summer break and an awesome eighth grade year!

TEAM ZAMBEZI

Happy fourth quarter Team Zambezi! You've almost completed your first year of Junior High School- Congratulations! We had a fabulous field trip to Medieval Times last month! In history we will be taking journeys of exploration and have already discovered artifacts on a sunken explorer's ship! In science, we have been exploring the animal kingdom. Next on our agenda is animal adaptations and survival. In Pre-Algebra we are working on geometry and more mystery logic with CLUE. In English, our fourth quarter challenge will be to discover (and enjoy) the words of Shakespeare. "All the world's a stage," including our 7th grade classroom. Our final field trip is on Wednesday May 30th. We are looking forward to a fantastic day at the beach!

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

Rio Norte's Science Olympiad Team comes home with medals. On February 25 2012 the Rio Norte Science Olympiad Team competed against 35 Junior High Schools at Occidental College in Los Angeles. Our team medaled in 6 events including a first place in Mousetrap Vehicle, fourth place in Disease Detectives, fifth place in Keep the Heat, fifth place in Microbe Mission, fifth place in Road Scholar, and a fifth place in Towers. We also placed in the top ten in Anatomy, Awesome Aquifers, Compute This, Crime Busters, Dynamic Planet, Meteorology, Mission Possible, Optics, Rocks and Minerals, and Water Quality. Congratulations to the entire team:

Tyler Adair, Parker Arnold, Bradley Fong, Bryce Gally, Shane Huey, Andy Jung, Jared Kawasawa, Connor Lewis, Matthew McCardy, Robbie Meehan, Tyler Moroso, Trey Nguyen, Sam O' Grady, Purva Parwal, Jonathan Schallert, Eric Siegel, Alex Striff, Doug Sullivan, Scott Svendsen, and Akshay Trisal.



RIO NORTE VISUAL ARTS

The California Art Education Association held its Annual Youth Art Month Exhibit at the California State University, Northridge West Art Gallery from March 17th through March 21st 2012. The curators selected artwork and photography from the following students: Erin Kim, Safuwra Wizzard, Daniella Fenelon, Janelle Brosnan, Kaylene Lim, Gryffon Benepe, and Voulette Hattar.

Congratulations to Janelle Brosnan for placing 2nd place in the exhibit. Her winning photograph goes to the next level of competition for the Southern California area.



THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS ARE MEMBERS OF THE
CALIFORNIA JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIP FEDERATION

FOR THE SPRING 2012 SEMESTER:

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENT!

KEEP UP THE HARD WORK!



*Tyler Adair
Shannon Agnes
Tori Alandy
Yumna Azrar
Heather Baer
Kimmy Baggelaar
Joey Ballentine
Tom Bambrick
Allie Banks
Nisha Bansal
Bridgette Barajas
Daniel Barrett
Brian Barry
Joel Beckwith
Gryffon Benepe
Jared Berger
Joshua Bigley
Dean Bishop
Isabella Bomben
Katie Book
Reid Bowman
Jackson Bright
Mason Brown
Alex Buckley
Brittany Buhtz*

*Andie Campbell
Madi Cassulo
Val Casteel
Nidhi Chalgeri
Margaret Chang
Melanie Chen
Bethany Choi
Peter Christiansen
Jenny Chun
Diego Contreras
Megan Cook
Maddy Cromidas
Kyle Davis
Brooke Dawson
Stephen De Vita
Dante Del Rosario
Justine Du
Adam DuForest
Aidan Durkin
Ariana Escala
Pia Angela Esguerra
Blake Fairbanks
Stephen Fallon
Tiffany Farfan Herrera
Daniella Fenelon
Gabriella Fenelon*

*Nathan Fernandez
Amanda Finn
Austin Fischer
Lauren Fischer
Christina Fletcher
Nicholas Fletcher
Ashley Fong
Bradley Fong
Gabiella Fontal
Natalie Fung
Jacob Gandara
Jessica Ganley
Joseph Ganley
Ali Gobulukoglu
Lindsey Gollom
Melia Gomes
Camron Gonzaga
Isabel Granados
Alex Guerrero
Kayla Hadjiandreou
Mikayla Hand
Ryan Hannemann
Sumeeyah Haq
Alyssa Higdon
Sak Holter
Shane Huey*

Tom Hurst
Katie Ironfield
Bradley Iverson
Noah Jacobs
Chloe Jacobsen
Nicole Jarel
Arun Jayanthi
Christopher Jensen
Emmy Jensen
Katherine Jiang
Emily Jimenez
Kelsey Jirikils
Caryn Johnson
Will Jones
Ryan Kaneshiro
Priyanka Karthik
Garrett Karzin
Stephanie Keith
Brenna Keogh
Aaron Kim
Allison Kim
Chang Ho Kim
Ji Soo Kim
Kyung Jin Kim
Erin Kim
Victoria Kim
Bryan Koh
Kayla Konrad
Hailey Kovacs
Kayla Kukaua
Rachel Kupfer
Christina La Vine
Simren Lakhotia
Alyssa Lederman
Alex Lee
Vivian Lee
Jiwon Lee
Rebecca Lee
Linda Lee
Alessandro Leon
Connor Lewis
Megan Liddiard
Eric Lieberman
JaeYeon Lim
Kaylene Lim
Ryan Linow
Alexa Lizano
Amanda Lottermoser
Tiana Loving
Race Ludwig
Joelle Lum
Jeannine Mari

Mimi Mason
Molly McAnany
Kelly McCann
John McCloud
Kennedy Menifield
Kendall Mesa
Nicholas Meyer
Caley Mike
Jaclyn Mills
Noelle Min
Emily Minkus
Kyle Money
Marianne Moore
Emerson Moreira
Dana Morgan
Tyler Moroso
Jared Morrow
Kyler Motoyasu
Andrew Mourad
Alice Myung
Kyle Naftel
Clarissa Nassar
Taylor Nelson
Beverly Newton
Trey Nguyen
Alaina Nicholas
Calista Nocella
Sarah Nussbaum
Justice Nyberg
Grace Oh
Ryan Olstad
Pauline Ordonez
Joey Osbron
Brent Owens
Alannah Paren
Purva Parwal
Kendall Payne
Camryn Permann
Dominic Peters
Cole Pitner
Erica Pobanz
McKenna Powell
Chad Ramos
Alyssa Rappoldt
Jana Rebele
Jolie Ren
Cindy Rivas
James Ross
Brittney Ross-Smith
Gracie Rusk
Ruby Saied
Jasmin Salcedo

Isabel Salvadori
Sneha Sambandam
Ethan Sanchez
Caterina Santelli
Nicole Sarkiszadeh
Ayana Sarrieddine
Jonathan Schallert
Steven Sebastian
Derek Seo
Jack Shabro
Riley Shute
Eric Siegel
Jake Simon
Nicholas Sin
Chloe Skidmore
Fox Smith
Julie Smith
Maddie Sosa
Ally Spencer
Rebecca Stanley
Justin Stere
Stacey Storaker
Trevor Strem
Elena Subbotin
Hye-Ji Suh
Scott Svendsen
Kristen Tabia
Christy Tak
Jeff Taylor
Noelle Tempesta
Raven Thio
Ashley Thota
Madelyn Tiengerd
Rebekah Uhl
Zachary Ungerman
Reshmi Vadapalli
Michael Valenzuela
Skyler Villanueva
Oliva Vinci
Annaka Vong
Tim Watters
Cameron Williams
Claire Williams
Garlon Wizzard
Safuwra Wizzard
Lauren Wolf
Alexis Wolfe
Zachary Wong
Kaylee Woodard
Ian Woodworth
Brooke Yamamoto
Romeo Yannicelli
Kayla Yoo
Kate Zeile
Marisa Zimmerman