



Linda Vista Adventist Elementary School

"Where children grow closer to God while learning to master the world"

Dear Parents,

On March 7, our school board voted to install a nature-inspired playground this summer. We shared this proposal with you about a month ago, and our students have been incredibly excited about this possibility. I am proud to say that we are on the Bears Playground installation calendar for the week of July 11!

As you know, Linda Vista is a non-profit, and it is our goal to provide the best educational program while also keeping our tuition rates some of the lowest in Ventura County. The budget for this playground is around \$98,500. Our goal is to raise at least \$45,000 by the end of the summer and to take out a low-interest loan from the Pacific Union Conference for the remaining amount. I believe that this is the right investment right now for our children, but I would also love to see this playground installed this summer without needing to borrow a single penny to make it happen. Would you join with me in fundraising whole-heartedly and in asking that God will pour out his blessing on our efforts?

We began the fundraising effort with the Fall Fair, and to date, we have about \$9,600 raised. Our next big fundraising drive will be our spring read-a-thon. This fundraiser will encourage our students to develop their love of reading while also helping to make our playground a reality. The read-a-thon will take place for two weeks, beginning Monday, April 18, and ending Monday, May 2. Students will acquire donors to sponsor them as they pursue their reading and fundraising goals. Students will only be able to count reading time outside of school hours. Any reading time at home will count, whether that be reading individually or family reading time. There will be small incentives for students along the way, but the biggest incentive will be the playground coming this summer.

Donors can sponsor students per hour read or a flat amount. Donors who give at least \$500 total will earn a permanent donor commemoration, which will be a plaque affixed to the playground or placement on a donor mural wall. Plaques will include the donor's name, a short personal message (or a business's logo), and the total amount donated (optional). This is a perfect option for alumni, longtime supporters of Linda Vista, or businesses, since the commemoration will be there for many years to come.

Students who raise at least \$1000 will earn a personal brass plaque on the play structure, with their name, year and grade level, and amount raised. This is very exciting as these kids will feel famous, and these name plates will be read by future Linda Vista Falcons for many years to come.

Parents, would you please help this read-a-thon be successful in the following ways?

1. Help your child gain sponsors.
2. Help your child stay well-stocked with interesting books.
3. Provide your child with lots of individual or family reading time.
4. Keep a daily reading log.

Sponsor Material

We will provide each child with the following items, which can also be downloaded at www.lvaes.org/read:

- Sponsor cards. These can also be used to help solicit corporate sponsorships.
- Sponsorship record keeping log and envelope
- Individualized 99pledges.com webpage
- Donation letter you can mail out along with a sponsor card.

Gaining Sponsors

We encourage asking everyone that you might know, including neighbors, work colleagues, church members, Linda Vista alumni, and of course, family and friends.

1. Ask in person.
2. Email your child's 99Pledges page to everyone you know. You will receive information about how to access and edit your child's page in an email on Monday, April 4. 99Pledges is an easy way for people to pledge and for money to be collected.
3. Ask businesses, community organizations, alumni, and supporters of Linda Vista to sponsor a **commemorative plaque** by donating at least \$500. Laurie Ross is our corporate sponsor manager and is willing to help with guidance if you'd like some tips. Ask in the front office for her contact information.
4. Mail a physical donation letter and sponsor card to friends, family, church members, and supporters of Linda Vista.

Important Dates

April 4, Monday - Begin acquiring sponsorships

April 17, Sunday - Get a stack of fun books to read

April 18, Monday - Begin reading! Don't forget to fill out your daily reading log.

April 25, Monday - Turn in your first week's reading log!

May 2, Monday - Read-a-thon ends. Turn in your second week's reading log!

May 9, Monday - Last day to turn in sponsorship funds.

May 13, Friday - Grand prizes distributed.

I'm excited about the new playground and an opportunity to boost our kids' love of reading!

Sincerely,



Jonathan Fox
Linda Vista Adventist Elementary School
(805)263-8138
principal@lvaes.org