



Stallion News

Carbon Valley Academy's Online Newsletter

October 2011

From Principal Gjellum's Desk

Dear Carbon Valley Academy Community,

Now that we are well into the school year it is time for routines to be re-established. A key component to your daily routine is a structured time for homework. Homework helps reinforce what was learned in school and helps students become more responsible.

Many elements of homework help students develop lifelong skills such as reading and following directions, managing time for short and long-term assignments, and working independently.

Homework can be a trying time in a household; here are some ways for parents to help:

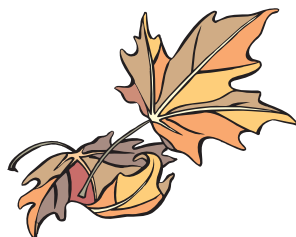
1. Choose a specific time each day for homework
2. Designate a specific place to do homework
3. Only help with clarifying directions on assignments, do not do it for your student
4. Give positive feedback
5. Communicate with teachers

Please do not forget to sign up for your parent/teacher conference on either Thursday, October 13th or Friday, October 14th. The sign up will be online; please watch for an email from your child's teacher with directions on how to sign up.

We continue to strive to maintain a safe, inclusive learning environment in which all our students can reach their potential as learners.

Thank you for entrusting us with the care of your child,

Lisa Gjellum
Principal
Carbon Valley Academy



Important Dates

October 5th – Coffee Talk – 9:30 am at Bella Rosa Golf Course

October 12th – Coffee Talk – 9:30 am at Bella Rosa Golf Course

October 13th – End of 1st Quarter
4:00 pm Book Fair
Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 14th – No School
Parent/Teacher Conferences
8:00 am Book Fair

October 17th – Start of 2nd Quarter

October 19th – Coffee Talk – 9:30 am at Bella Rosa Golf Course

October 20th – Board of Directors Meeting – 6:00 pm Work Session;
7:00 pm Regular Meeting

October 21st – Free Dress Day

October 26th – Coffee Talk – 9:30 am at Bella Rosa Golf Course

October 28th – Honor Roll Assemblies:
8:30 am – Kindergarten – 2nd Grade
2:30 pm – 3rd Grade – 8th Grade

October 29th – Fall Festival

FREE Online Help for Homework

As Principal Gjelleem pointed out in her letter, homework is an important component of your child's education and it can be a trying time in your household, especially if your child doesn't understand the material. Sometimes all your child needs is someone to explain the subject matter in a slightly different way.

Last year I saw a TV interview with a remarkable young man named Sal Khan. He has three degrees from MIT and an MBA from Harvard. He talked about how he had been helping his niece with her homework. She lived quite some distance from him so he started recording videos for her of how to solve math problems. The videos really seemed to help because she could replay the videos as many times as necessary to understand the concept. Then he had the brilliant idea that if his videos could help her, maybe they could help others as well.

Hence, The Khan Academy was born. The website describes itself with the following lead in:

"Watch. Practice. Learn almost anything for free.

With a library of over 2,400 videos covering everything from arithmetic to physics, finance, and history and 180 practice exercises, we're on a mission to help you learn what you want, when you want, at your own pace."

Their mission:

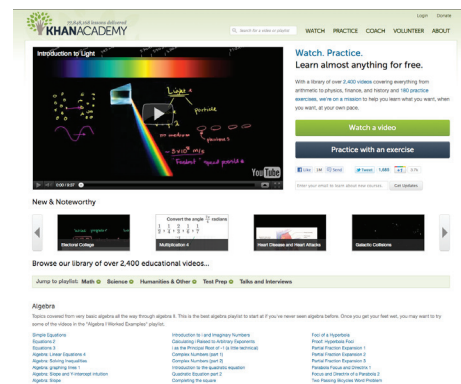
"A free world-class education for anyone anywhere.

The Khan Academy is an organization on a mission. We're a not-for-profit with the goal of changing education for the better by providing a free world-class education to anyone anywhere.

All of the site's resources are available to anyone. It doesn't matter if you are a student, teacher, home-schooler, principal, adult returning to the classroom after 20 years, or a friendly alien just trying to get a leg up in earthly biology. The Khan Academy's materials and resources are available to you completely free of charge."

The Khan Academy library of videos includes math, everything from basic arithmetic to complex calculus, science topics including biology, chemistry and physics, humanities, finance and even test prep such as SAT math and the GMAT. New videos are added all the time. They even have practice problems to help solidify the learning experience.

Check out their website at www.khanacademy.org and see if it might be helpful for your child.



Board of Directors News

These items were either discussed or voted on at our last Board meeting:

- Discussion of background checks for volunteers
- Review of the Draft Audit Report
- Vision Statement update
- Approval of amending the Bylaws to include an auxiliary organization called Friends of CVA. The purpose of Friends of CVA is to assist the Games Manager in holding Bingo/Raffle occasions for the use of fundraising for CVA.
- Additional Games Manager training
- The Board accepted the resignation of Sharon Jarrett. We wish to thank Sharon for her unwavering dedication to our school and we hope the best for her.
- Our next Friends of CVA meeting will be October 10th at 6:30 pm in the Library at CVA. We will be signing up for dates to assist with Bingo.

For more information, please plan on attending our Board Meetings. The meetings are the 3rd Thursday of each month starting at 6:00 pm in our Library. We hope to see you soon!