

August 25, 2008

<http://www.eca.com.ve/cnews/>

Weekly ECA Parent Bulletin

This Week at ECA

August 28

HS Back to School Night
6:30 pm

August 29

Welcome to ECA Coffee
8:45 am STAR PLAZA

**Co-curricular program
 to begin Monday,
 September 8th. More
 information on page 4.**



Late buses leaving at 4:45 will begin on September 8th. Students who are already bus clients can use either the 3:30 or 4:45 pm bus. It is also possible to use the bus service only in the afternoons.

For more information and costs contact the bus company at 993-1862; 993-3922 ext. 1503

REMEMBER TO UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Update any changes to your contact information with the Admission Office. If you are currently in a temporary home or hotel, please make sure we have a current cell phone or other phones for emergency contacts. joan_bastianini@eca.com.ve or voice mail: 993-3922 ext. 1011

The Parent Teacher Association of
 Escuela Campo Alegre
 cordially invites
 all new and returning ECA parents
 to the

ECA PTA
Welcome Breakfast



Friday, August 29, 2008
 8:45 a.m.
 Star Plaza

Come enjoy a Venezuelan breakfast!

The Campo News is distributed each Monday with your family's youngest child for students in elementary and middle school. Each week it is also posted at :

<http://www.eca.com.ve/cnews/>

High school families can check the CN electronically. Some paper copies are always available in the Main Offices and each division office if you wish to have a paper copy.

Elementary School News

Welcome back to an exciting new school year. We had a wonderful first week in the elementary division. 99 new elementary students joined the 183 returning students. Teachers report that students worked hard and tried their best every day. The first fire drill of the year on Thursday went smoothly. ECA runs emergency drills throughout the year so children feel comfortable and confident when the siren sounds. Students and teachers are getting used to new locations for classrooms and recess.

Due to our construction project, there will be many procedures that are different than past years. Starting Monday all ES students will go to the tennis courts at the top of the parking ramp when they arrive at school. At the end of the day students going home by car will wait for their parents on the blue benches. Parents who are in the STAR Plaza to meet their children need to wait for the children to be seated before taking them. This allows the teacher to quickly scan the benches to assure that all students safely arrived at the STAR Plaza. We ask that parents who wait in the STAR Plaza for their children keep the walkway clear to allow classes to pass on their way to the bus.

Thank you for your patience as we put new procedures into place. We will keep you informed if we see better ways to move children safely around the school campus.

Kurt Nordness
ES Principal
kurt_nordness@eca.com.ve

Virginia Udall
ES Assistant Principal
virginia_udall@eca.com.ve

Your Library



The ECA Library is one of the many wonderful things

about our school. Parents are welcome to become members of the library and take advantage of the wide variety of books and magazines that they can borrow.

Parents may visit the library at any time, however, if there is a class in the Elementary Library, parents are asked not to enter until the class is over.

The library is open from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm from Monday to Friday. Starting on August 23, the library will also be open on Saturdays from 9:00-12 noon.



Welcome to our new teachers!

Back row:

Catalina Fernandez-MS ESL; Judith Bartosz-MS Language Arts; Leah Brownell-MS Math; Sandra Robledo-Kindergarten; Jill Carper- ES Librarian; Jean Boyd Molly-HS English; Michael Anderson-MS Art; Christophe Faria-HS French; Catherine Van Fleet-5th grade

Seated: Matt Bernanding-MS Drama; Linda Sloane-ES Tech; Brian Arleth-HS English; Andrew Swiderski-MS P.E.; Sascha Simkaninch-ES Tech; Andy Orth-4th grade; Abram Cosby-ES Science Coordinator

Welcome to the new school year!

Middle School News

We are well into the first week of the new school year. We had an Orientation Meeting for all new parents and students and it was well attended. We hope that your questions were all answered and that we gave you the feeling that your child will be cared for and supported as they begin this important transition. After a very busy first day, things now are calm (if that is possible in a Middle School!) and everyone has a schedule that works. We have about twenty five new students and they are fitting in well with the support of the teachers and their assigned buddy and mentor.

Every family has now received a school calendar and a copy of our Middle School Handbook. Please go over the Handbook with your child so the whole family understands how the MS operates. You will find details on dress rules, how to report absences, our attendance policy and classroom expectations. We are stressing the importance of being in school each and every day unless a child is ill. We consider absences before and after school breaks as unexcused and they count as double absences. Missing school days can be very disruptive to the learning process and making up missed assignments and assessments may be difficult.

We have our annual Back to School Night scheduled for September 9 at 6:30. Please attend this very important and informative evening. You will have the opportunity to meet all the teachers and to get an overview of our curriculum, structure and after school activities and sports programs.

Our after school activities program begins on September 8. We strongly encourage all students to get involved in these activities. You will receive information very soon about dates and how to sign up.

The Middle School trip is planned for September 17-19 to Camp Lagunazo not far outside of Caracas. Because of the location of the camp we will not require the extensive paperwork as for some of our trips. Your child will bring home information about this activity in the next week or so. It is our goal this year to have all students attend as we will all be at the same location. This beginning of the year activity is important in getting to know everyone and to set the appropriate tone for the year. All teachers will also be expected to go with our students. It truly is great fun!

If you have any questions or need clarification on any of our school programs, please do not hesitate to call or email us. We would also encourage you to just stop by the main office. We are here to help you in any way we can. Good communication between parents and school is one of our top priorities.

Again, welcome to an exciting new year!

Alicia M. Brown
Middle School Principal
alicia_brown@eca.com.ve

Welcome from the High School

Welcome to new families in the high school!

We are so glad to have you here. Please know we will do everything we can to make your transition to Venezuela and ECA comfortable.

School Calendar

Every family will be receiving an ECA calendar for 2008-2009. Please pay special attention to the dates of holidays. When planning vacations, please understand it is an expectation that students are in attendance every day. We do not excuse students for being absent due leaving before a vacation or returning after school resumes. Such absences, even for a few days, can be disruptive to the learning process. If you are unsure of our policy on attendance, please refer to the **High School Handbook**. Your son or daughter will get a copy next week and it is also accessible on the school website: www.eca.com.ve.

Back to School Night

The high school back to school night is Thursday, August 28th. Please mark this date on your calendar. We hope all you can attend this important event.

Communication

Communication is very important to us. Please do not hesitate to call, email, or stop by to visit if you have questions. At ECA, we are committed to providing the best possible experiences and learning opportunities for your children. We have an "open-door" policy and sincerely want to hear from you. It is our goal to keep lines of communication open between students, parents, and staff at all times during the school year.

Here's to a GREAT school year!

Jeff Paulson
High School Principal
Escuela Campo Alegre
Tel. 993-3922, ext. 4001

High School News

Upcoming Events

August

- 28 HS Back to School Night 6:30 pm
- 29 Welcome Back Coffee 8:45 am

September

- 6 IB Retreat
- 8 Co-curricular program begins
- 9 MS Back to School Night 6:30 pm
- 11 ES Back to School Night 6:30 pm
- 16 PTA Monthly Meeting-MPR 2:00 pm
- 16 College Evening 7:00 pm
- 18 ECIS College Tour
- 25-26 Class Trips for 9-11th grades
- 25-27 Class Trip for 12th grade

2008-2009 ECA Co Curricular Program

At ECA we consider our co-curricular program to be an integral part of our educational mission which is designed to complement and enhance our academic program. The creative, physical and social development of our students will help to form a fully integrated student. Students will have the opportunity to learn valuable life lessons such as decision making, organizational skills, tolerance and the ability to work cooperatively with others. Our goal is to offer a stimulating and comprehensive program of sports and activities accessible to our student population. Our objective is to implement a school wide CAS (Creativity, Action, Service) program following the International Baccalaureate model where the emphasis is on experiential learning.

The co curricular program will be divided into three sessions:

- Session I September 8-November 28
- Session II December 1-March 6
- Session III March 9-May 29

Registration Process:

Elementary School Students- Registration packs will go home the week of Monday, August 25.

Middle School Students- Students will receive registration packs the week of Monday, August 25 and will also receive additional information through their advisory program.

High School Students-will have a CAS Fair/Assembly on Wednesday, September 3 in the Plaza from 12:15-1:00pm. At this time students can sign up for an activity of their choice.

Please contact the following faculty members if you need more information about our program:

Scott Banack Athletic Director, in charge of sports in the HS and MS, the swimming and tennis programs for ES, MS and HS. Scott_banack@eca.com.ve 9933922, ext. 5601.

Kathy Furrer PK-12 Activities Coordinator, in charge of school wide activities that are not sports related. Kathy_furrer@eca.com.ve, 9933922, ext. 4006

Interested in Scouting?

All boys age 11 and up are welcome to visit BSA Troop 8 at their first meeting: Wednesday, September 3rd, at 7:30 pm in the ECA Covered Court. Contact Scoutmaster John Olson, jwolson@mac.com, 0414-800-9725



ECA PTA OFFICE
Mango Tree Office
North Patio ext. 2005
Email: pta@eca.com.ve

ECA PTA OFFICERS 2008 - 2009

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PUBLICITY

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Latin American Literature Book Group

The Brief
Wondrous
Life of
Oscar Wao
Junot Díaz

Saturday, August 30
11:00 a.m.
ECA Library

ECA PTA Friends of the
Library



The New Ballet Studio

Registration days: Monday 1st and
Thursday 4th from 3:30 -4:30

Grades PK - 12th grade

For information please contact Mariana Aitken at:
0412-2220415