



# ECA CAMPO NEWS

June 8, 2009

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

Weekly ECA Parent Bulletin

## This Week at ECA

**June 8-10**  
HS Final Exams

**June 8**  
ES Class Award  
Ceremony  
MPR

**June 9**  
MS Sports Award 9:30  
am  
Theater

**June 10**  
5th Grade Moving On  
Ceremony  
Theater  
10:30 am

**June 11**  
8th Grade Moving On  
Ceremony  
1:15 pm  
&  
No HS Classes  
&  
Last day for all Red  
Shirts

**June 12**  
Last day of classes for  
1st-11th grades  
11:30 am dismissal



## Farewell to ECA

Dear Parents,

In a few days, the 2008-09 school year will come to a close. Each year I acknowledge those faculty and administrators who are leaving and thank them for their service to our students. Thus we have done in this issue. Personally, I want to thank the students, parents, Board of Directors and the faculty and staff for the wonderful seven years that I have experienced as the Superintendent of Escuela Campo Alegre.

As I reflect on these seven years, I am amazed at what we have accomplished as a school community. Below are a few of the highlights:

- \* There has been a significant increase in the quantity and quality of student performance in the academics, fine arts, and athletics.
- \* For the past three years the successful completion of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program by our students has been 95%, 100% and 95% when the World Average is 74%.
- \* In two exemplary re-accreditation visits (2003, 2008) by the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges in the US and the Council of International Schools, ECA was recognized as: "Providing a challenging high quality academic program in an unpredictable political and social environment. ECA has a vision and mission that support and define quality teaching and learning. The college entrance results, IB results, standardized testing results and annual student, staff, and parent surveys all demonstrate academic achievement, climate satisfaction and school safety."
- \* 95% of our student body is involved in the student activities and athletic programs.
- \* Community service programs at all divisions involve over 90% of our students.
- \* A consistently effective recruitment effort has brought to ECA a cadre of outstanding teachers and administrators with international backgrounds to join our existing highly qualified faculty.
- \* Active parental involvement in school programs and activities continues.
- \* Expansion and improvement of school facilities provided better teaching, athletic, activity and parking space.
- \* The school climate emphasizes **Every Child Achieves** and reflects the warmth, caring and attention to individual needs of students, faculty, and community.
- \* Maintenance of sound financial procedures ensures ECA's future development.
- \* ECA has a reputation as one of the leading international school in the world: attested by parent recommendations, student university acceptances, and faculty applications to teach at ECA, and strong respect in the international school network.

I am confident that your new superintendent, Jeff Paulson, will take ECA to greater heights and I look forward to hearing of the continued future progress of ECA. I thank each and every one of you for your support, warmth, and commitment to our programs and mission. You will always be in my heart. Please stay in contact.

Jean K. Vahey  
[jeanvahey@ecis.org](mailto:jeanvahey@ecis.org)

## **ECA Bids Farewell to Faculty & Staff**

The end of the school year is an exciting time but also brings with it the sadness of saying goodbye to friends. Several of our faculty and staff are also moving to new assignments. We are saying good-bye and thank-you to our superintendent, Jean Vahey as well as the elementary principal, Kurt Nordness and ES assistant principal, Virginia Udall. 16 faculty members, one instructional assistant and one administrative assistant will also be leaving this year.

We thank these fine educators for their dedication to our students and for helping to make ECA the strong, positive school it is. They are:

### **Elementary School**

Stacy Banack  
Cristina Orjuela  
Claudia Soto  
Marisol Steere  
Catherine Van Fleet  
Karla Maynard  
Andrea Sum  
Alexandra Penzini

### **Middle School**

Tom Bonnet  
Paul Curran  
Bill Vahey

### **High School**

Jeff Aitkin  
Scott Banack  
Tim Best  
Brewster Campbell  
Chris Goodman  
Jeremy Jimenez  
Lucia Linares  
Ann Nordness  
Travis Temple  
Cy Udall  
Maria Elena Abraham

### **Elementary School News**

## **Summer Wishes from ECA Elementary School**

Dear Families of ECA Elementary Students,

Thank you for making this a fantastic year in the Elementary School. As you begin your summer, we wish you safe travels as you re-connect with family and friends. We send a special farewell to families who are moving to new locations. Please keep in touch with ECA to let us know how you are doing. For those who will return in August, please remember that school begins on Monday, August 17 for Grades 1-12. School will begin on Tuesday, August 18 for Nursery, Pre-kindergarten, and Kindergarten.

Mr. Nordness and Mrs. Udall send a special thank you for the kindness and support you have shown them during their time at ECA. As they re-locate to China, the warmth and friendliness of the ECA children and families will be memories remembered forever.

We look forward to hearing about all the great things happening at ECA next year!

Warm regards,  
Virginia Udall

Kurt Nordness

## Middle School News

Dear Middle School Parents:

Thursday, June 11, is the Grade 8 Moving Up Ceremony at 1:15 in the Theatre. There will be an opportunity for family pictures by a professional photographer after the event. A reception on the covered court will immediately follow the ceremony. All Grade 8 students and their families are invited and encouraged to attend this special occasion.

Tuesday, June 9 at 9:30, will be our Sports Awards assembly in the theatre. Friday, June 12, at 8:35 will be our end of the year Academic Awards Assembly also in the theatre. This hour long program will feature many students and their accomplishments this year. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend both special events. School is officially dismissed at 11:30 on Friday morning.

Thank you for your continued support of the Middle School. We are closing the chapter on another excellent year!

Alicia Brown  
MS Principal

## High School News

This is the time of year for goodbyes. Students, families, and teachers are all dealing with the emotions that come from saying farewell to friends and colleagues. Within the ECA community, where relationships, trust, loyalty, and support are so valued, these emotions are especially powerful.

On behalf of all ECA parents and students, I thank the faculty members who are leaving for their contributions to ECA and to the education of your children. Their talents to our school community will be sorely missed.

And finally, to all our high school families - whether you are leaving ECA or will be with us again in August, I wish you a relaxing summer. Stay healthy, happy, and relaxed!!

The 2008-09 school year has been one of the best!

Jeff Paulson,  
HS Principal

## LIBRARY NEWS



Dear Parents,

There are still a number of students who have not yet returned library books. Please check with your children to make sure they have returned all library materials so that they will be able to receive their report cards on the last day of school.

If you are in Caracas this summer, be sure to stop in the library which will be open:

**June 15 to August 7**  
**Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays**  
**9:00 am-12noon**

The library will be closed on **June 24 & July 24** for the national holidays.

Have a wonderful summer.

Your Library Staff

## Upcoming Events

### June

8-10	Final Exams
10	5th Grade Moving On Activities
11	8th Grade Moving On Activities
11	No classes-HS Last day for Red Shirts
12	Last day of 1st-11th grades- dismissal 11:30 am
13	ACT

## 2009–2010 ECA Academic Calendar

August 10-14	New student orientation week
August 14	Orientation day 1-12th grades
August 17	Classes begin (1-12th grades) Orientation Nursery, PK & K
August 18	Classes begin (Nursery, PK & K)
October 12	National Holiday
October 19-23	Fall Break
<b>December 18*</b>	<b>Last day of class for 1st semester</b>
January 11	Classes resume; 2nd semester begins
February 15-16	Carnival
March 29-April 2	Spring Break
April 19	National Holiday
June 11	Last day of school

Returning ECA students are expected to begin classes on the first day. Double absences will be assigned to all consecutive days.

**\* Incorrectly listed in the previous calendar. The last day is Friday, December 18th**



The ECA PTA wishes all our school families a very happy summer! To those who are moving, please know how much we appreciate your contributions to the school and how much we will miss you and your children. To those who will be returning in August, we look forward to another wonderful year together!

## ECA Camp Cougar 2009

Victor Simone, Director

Session One: August 3-7

Session Two: August 10-14

9:00 am-12:30 pm Nursery & PK

(The child must be 3 years old to enter the program; daycare is available for N & PK from 12:30-3:00)

9:00 am - 3:00 pm Kinder-8th grades

Elementary & Middle School Activity Programs

Sports & Activities in English

Lunch & snack provided

**Only for current or entering**

ECA students enrolled in

Grades Nursery-8th

grades

Cost: Per Week Bs. 425 N

& PK

Bs. 600 (K-5th or with

daycare for N & PK)



# ECA PTA

## The Jean Vahey Parent Buddy Program



The PTA is proud to announce a new program to help welcome families to ECA, the Jean Vahey Parent Buddy Program. We are establishing this program in honor of the strong and supportive sense of community that Mrs. Vahey has built and fostered here at ECA during her tenure. Will you be returning to ECA in August? Would you be interested in serving as a "buddy" for a new parent? Here's what you would be asked to do:

Contact the new parent with whom you have been paired.

Introduce yourself and provide your telephone numbers.

Offer to help find out answers to any questions they might have about the school or family life in Caracas.

If you like, invite the new parent to meet for a coffee and meet some of your friends!

Help us get the Jean Vahey Parent Buddy Program off to a great start and help introduce a new parent to the ECA community! To sign on to help with this program, please contact [PTA@eca.com.ve](mailto:PTA@eca.com.ve).