



# THE VISTA REAL SUN



## • SPRING SEMESTER

**ldk. Lol. Brb.**

**By Ms. Kathleen O'Donnell, VRCHS Math Teacher**

Look familiar? Most teens and their parents will recognize the above abbreviations for *I don't know*, *Laughing out Loud*, and *Be right back* common in text messages and emails. Capitalization, punctuation, correct spelling and grammar may all be disregarded in today's communications. Students have amazing technology and video products such as Halo and World of Warcraft which may prove addicting and keep them from reading for pleasure. These reasons and more have led to a decline in students' ability to write in Standard Written English. Unfortunately, this is happening at a time when writing skills are being tested by high school exit exams and college entrance exams. The California High School Exit Exam, commonly referred to as the CAHSEE, and the Scholastic Aptitude Test, or SAT, both have writing components.

Vista Real's English program incorporates a great deal of writing, including essays and short response, into the curriculum to prepare students for testing. Students read excellent, award winning literature such as *Frankenstein*, *The House on Mango Street*, and *The Old Man and the Sea* to increase their awareness of good writing.

Schoolwork is only one component of developing good writing skills. Students can improve their writing by taking a break from technology and reading more. Reading and writing are reciprocal processes; that is, better readers make better writers and vice versa. Reading a variety of genre exposes the student to the elements of good writing. Good writing improves reading comprehension. Better writers read more, thus completing the cycle.

Finding books to engage students is easy. Libraries often have young adult sections and librarians are happy to recommend favorites. Bookstores feature bestselling authors. The website of the Young Adult Library Services Association, <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/booklistsawards/outstandingbooks/outstandingbooks.cfm>, provides lists of outstanding books for high school students. The availability of audio books makes reading more accessible for many students. Additionally, many books have been made into popular movies, such as the *Twilight* series by Stephenie Meyer and *My Sister's Keeper*, based on the book by Jodi Picoult.

Do something different, grab a book!



If you are more than 15 minutes late to your appointment, it WILL be an absence

## Attendance Policy Reminders

► Please be sure to keep the following attendance policies in mind:

- You must be ON TIME to your weekly appointment! If you are more than 15 minutes late, you will be absent.
- You must come PREPARED to your appointment. If homework is incomplete at the time of your appointment, you will be absent.
- If you receive any more than three absences in a semester you will be dropped from VRCHS.
- If you fail to comply with any school policies, you may be marked absent.

◦ Absences are only excused in the following instances:

- You are sick, AND bring a note from the doctor
- You have to go to court AND you bring proof from the Court
- There is a death in the family AND you bring proof
- You have to work AND you bring proof from your employer

► If you are excused on one day, you MUST reschedule for another day in THE SAME WEEK!

## Remember the Dress Code

► The VRCHS Dress Code is STRICTLY enforced.

- No hats, bandanas, beanies, or hoods
- No socks pulled up with shorts
- No gloves
- No short shorts or short skirts. Shorts and skirts must be longer than your fingertips when arms are placed by your side.
- No midriff tops, no stomach showing
- No low-cut shirts, no cleavage
- No logos of any kind on clothing
- No sports team apparel of any kind
- No chains connected to wallets, no key chains with sport team logos
- No under garments exposed
- No white shoes with black laces

► Failure to comply with the dress code will result in an absence for the week!



Tutoring is offered Monday-Friday  
8:00am- 6:00 pm

# Vista Real Credit Crushers!

Completing a semester's worth of credits on independent study takes hard work, but making up credits (or getting ahead!) takes even more dedication and endurance! That is why we created the Credit Crushers incentive program to recognize all students who earn more than 30 credits per semester. Students receive a certificate of achievement, their name on a wall of recognition, and prizes donated by local businesses including **Paschen Management Corporation** (owner of several local McDonald's restaurants) **The Habit**, and **Fresh and Fabulous Café and Bakery**. For Fall semester, we had 118 students earn more than 30 credits, with over 30 of those students earning more than 40 credits! These students are full-time achievers!

## HOURS for Success Now!

The Success Now! program is **required** for students who have scored below the 9<sup>th</sup> grade level in Math and Reading. It consists of weekly 60 minute small-group classes with emphasis in Math and English/Language Arts.

### ► Aaron Freyschlag teaches Success Now! Math

<u>Monday:</u>	<u>Tuesday, Thursday:</u>	<u>Friday:</u>
9:00 – 10:00	9:00 – 10:00	9:00 – 10:00
10:00 – 11:00	10:00 – 11:00	10:00 – 11:00
11:00 – 12:00	11:00 – 12:00	11:00 – 12:00
	1:00 – 2:00	12:00 – 1:00
	2:00 – 3:00	

### ► Chari Farias teaches Success Now! English

<u>Monday:</u>	<u>Tuesday, Thursday:</u>	<u>Friday:</u>
9:00 – 10:00	9:00 – 10:00	9:00 – 10:00
10:00 – 11:00	10:00 – 11:00	10:00 – 11:00
11:00 – 12:00	11:00 – 12:00	11:00 – 12:00
	1:00 – 2:00	12:00 – 1:00
	2:00 – 3:00	

## CREDIT CRUSHERS TOP EARNERS!

Cassandra Acevedo	Andy Garcia	Joanna Portillo
Florencia Aguilar	Ashley Garcia	Anthony Puentes
Damiana Alaniz	Sandra Godinez	James Ramirez
Stephanie Ambriz	Victor Gomez	Jacob Ring
Yesenia Arechiga	Breanna Gonzalez	Ashley Rios
Miguel Arzola	Claudia Gonzalez	Araceli Rodriguez
Melinda Avila	Francisco Vladish-Gonzalez	Joash Rodriguez
Cynthia Ayala	Rachel Grider	Sa' Fire Rojo
Jacqueline Ayala	Eric Gutierrez	Jessenia Rosales
Alberto Barragon	Bryant Hall	Mackell Rosales
Diego Betancourt	Colby Hill	Libni Ruiz
Alexandra Beverly	Omar Huerta	Jennifer Saldana
Julieta Bravo	Richard Jaloma	Jose Sandoval
Dakota Brewer	Bernadette Johnson	Ruben Santillan
Iris Briones	Rachel Jones	Stephanie Santoyo
Jamari Brooks	Sara Kabel	Kevin Schooler
Alexandra Buenrostro	Harrison Kerr	Alejandra Sendejas
Rafael Cabrera	Jessica Limon	Jessica Serrano
Jose Calderon	Erenia Lopez	Briana Smith
Yaneth Casas	Yazmin Lopez	Ashley Stein
Francine Casillas	Adam Magdaleno	Tabittha Thomas
Katya Castro	Vanesa Marquez	Danielle Torres
Stephany Centeno	Hector Martinez	Georgina Torres
Carly Charbonneau	Nzinga McCrary-Swader	David Valdez
Josephine Chavez	Jazmine McIntire	Francisco Vega
Kameron Conlon	Yvonne Melero	Paola Vega
David Correlejo	Elizabeth Morales	Christian Villa
Gabriel Cortez	Mark Morales	Nelly Viramontes
Katie Dawson	Monica Nieves	Dakota Voje
Richard De La Cerda	Melody Nuno	Yusuku Wakasa
Clarisa Delgado	Destinee Ordonez	Taylor White
Bliss Denisyeva	Lupita Ortiz	Brenda Zavala
Rebekah Diaz	Stephanie Padilla	Rosalie Zendejas
Ramiro Fernandez	Yaminna Pedroza	Stephanie Zimmerman
Ricky Frausto	Amanda Perez	Alanna Zolman
	Priscila Plasencia	

## Our Education Staff

<u>Morning Teaching Team</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
▪Ms. Day-Palma – English	201-9926
▪Ms. Drew – English	512-7464
▪Mr. Murphy – Math	201-9914
▪Ms. O'Donnell – Math	201-9916
▪Mr. Roberti – Social Studies	201-9940
▪Ms. Smith – Math	201-9938
▪Ms. Tidwell – English	201-9924
▪Ms. VanEnkevort – Science	201-9933

<u>Afternoon Teaching Team</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
▪Ms. Bowen – Social Studies / Art	201-9911
▪Mr. Cohen – English	201-9930
▪Ms. Hill – English	512-7465
▪Ms. Jacobs – Science	201-9920
▪Mr. Morris – Math	512-7462
▪Mr. Novak – English	201-9904
▪Ms. Rooney – Math	512-7479
▪Mr. Trunz – Math	201-9917

### Tutors

- Aaron Freyschlag 201-9939
- Chari Farias 512-7478
- Allison Hawley 201-9912
- Eva Novak 512-7459

### Administration

- Corrine Manley – Principal
- Jon Oates – Education Support Assistant
- Julia Gocke – Administrative Assistant

*Vista Real Charter High School  
401 South A Street  
Suite 3  
Oxnard, CA 93030*

# Important Dates to Remember!

**-February 12<sup>th</sup>-** Lincoln's Birthday- No School  
(Friday Students – see your teacher to reschedule)

**-February 15<sup>th</sup>-** President's Day- No School  
(Monday Students – see your teacher to reschedule)

**-February 19<sup>th</sup>-** Parent Advisory Committee Meeting  
4:00 pm at the Oxnard Campus

**-March 14<sup>th</sup>-** Daylight Savings Time- Spring Forward

**-March 22<sup>nd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>-**Spring Break- No School

## TESTING

**-March 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>- CAHSEE 10<sup>th</sup> grade make-ups**

**- April 19<sup>th</sup>-April 30<sup>th</sup>- STAR TESTING (9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> graders)**

**- May 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> - CAHSEE 12<sup>th</sup> grade**