



# CORREIA COUGAR NEWS

January 2005

## Included in this Issue:

- Planning for Future School Years
- Landscape Project
- Testing Information
- Library News

## Correia Cougar News

is a quarterly newsletter of the

Steven V. Correia

Jr. High Association

4302 Valeta Street

San Diego CA 92107

(619) 222-0476

www.correiajunior.com

Linda Taggart, Principal  
Kris Spathas, President  
& Editor

## Principal's Message by Linda Taggart

Happy New Year! It is so wonderful to see everyone back with renewed commitment and energy. I hope you were able to spend time with your loved ones over the holidays.

There are many exciting new things happening this school year. You may have noticed that the four bungalows are gone from the upper parking lot. They were removed because our new science rooms have been completed in the 300 buildings and the teachers are now settling in to the new state-of-the-art rooms.

Our new digital classrooms have now received all of the equipment ordered and teachers are planning and training like mad. In the month of January, six staff members will train the rest of the staff on using web lockers and a variety of on-line databases for research products.

After the teachers are trained, they will be training our students. Web lockers will enable students and teachers to work anywhere in their buildings, at the library, or at home. Students will be able to finish up a project they started in class when they get home from school. Parents will love it, too, because when you ask how your child's report is going, you will be able to go on-line to see the assignment yourself.

The application is truly the digital equivalent of an analog locker or file cabinet. Most students usually start and end their day at their locker. So for schools, access to a locker is considered a basic need.

It is anticipated that at the end of three years:

- Correia will model the integrated use of technology for instruction, student learning, class-



room management, and professional development.

- We will have teacher leaders in English, social studies, mathematics, and science using technology as a tool for presenting content, and they will be demonstrating its use within the curriculum.
- Technology will be integrated as a tool for instruction and learning in *(continued on pg. 5)*

## Correia Association . President's Message

by Kris Spathas

Happy New Year, everyone!

I hope you had a very special holiday season.

Our first Correia Association meeting of 2005 was held Thursday, January 6th. Our guests were Go Ozeni and Sean Gaardinier, two of our 8th grade science teachers. Go started a Correia Surf Team! He has over

20 students signed up already and he and Sean meet the surf team participants at the beach two mornings a week at 6 am!!

At the February meeting on Thursday the 3rd, we will welcome Bobbi Samilson, the new Principal of Point Loma High School. Kevin Gormly, PLHS's



Vice-Principal, will join her. Please come meet them!

The first half of the school year has been full of activities for the Association, with the Crystal Celebration, Annual Giving Campaign, Sally Foster, Scholastic Book Exchange, Pizza Thursdays, . . .

*(Continued on page 6)*

PARENT AND STUDENT PLANNING FOR UPCOMING SCHOOL YEARS

Four Year Planning

Counselors will be doing 4-year planning in English classes for 8th graders in January. On January 25th Melina Gozalez, Correia's head counselor, will offer a night meeting discussing high school requirements. This will be from 6:00 to 7:00 pm in the auditorium for all parents.

We will be having a big event on March 8th at 6:00p.m. in the auditorium called "College—Making it Happen" This event will give all parents at Correia information on college requirements and information on financial aide and many other important facts that parents need to know before students enter high school.

Articulation for 8th Graders

Point Loma High School will be doing articulation for our current 8th graders planning to attend Point Loma. This will be in room 801, February 14-17. All students will have the opportunity to meet their counselor and submit articulation cards. Point Loma will have a PARENT NIGHT for all current 8th grader parents at Pont Loma High on January 20 at 6:30 p.m. in the main gymnasium.

Articulation for 6th Graders

Also, the Correia counselors will be doing articulation for current 6th graders at Dana. They will meet with the students on February 1st and with the teachers on February 10th.



. . . 7th grade . . . 8th grade . . . 9th grade . . . 10th grade . . . 11th grade . . . 12th grade . . . College . . .

Major Project Scheduled to Improve Famosa Blvd. and Valeta Street Hillside

Our guest at the December Correia Association meeting was Glen Gundert, a Civil/Environmental Engineering Coordinator with the San Diego City Schools Engineering Department. Glen reviewed the current plan for improvements to the school and the Famosa/Valeta area.

The project is 90% designed, and will include a retaining wall running down Valeta and along Famosa Blvd., irrigation, landscaping, improvements to the drainage on the field and flatwork repair around the school.

The final plans should be to the city this month. Project should begin in 3-4 months. Construction will take approximately 90 days.

CORREIA STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN SCIENCE OLYMPIAD . . . .

Science Olympiad is basically a track and field competition for science. There are 21 different events the students can choose from. Each event usually has 2 participants per school. The events include building items such as: Naked Egg drop, Bottle Rocket, Paper Airplane Building. Other items are paper-pencil tests. All the events

THE UNIFORM POLICY IS STILL IN PLACE

Please talk to your student and let him/her know how much their effort is appreciated!

The atmosphere on campus is very different from past years and the uniform has added to this change.

It takes all of us, students, parents and school staff, to make this work . . . so please continue to support the "bigger picture."

use the scientific method to solve the problem. The competition will be held on Feb. 5th for San Diego County and it goes all the way to Nationals.

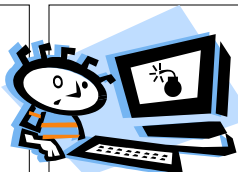


## SPACE AVAILABLE IN AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

### YMCA "6 to 6" Program Now Accepting All Students

*Operating from  
6:30 AM—6:30 PM*

Leann Bristol, from the "6 to 6" was our guest at the December Correia Association meeting.

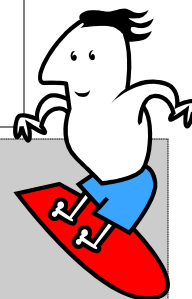
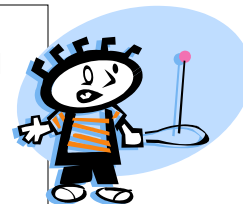


Leann gave an overview of the free program offered at Correia. Current enrollment is 129, with a maximum enrollment of 210, so there are many spots open. If you are finding that you cannot pick your student up from school

until after 4:00pm, consider having him/her enroll in this fun, productive after-school group.

Correia teachers assist the students with homework, and there are also clubs, sports, and activities.

Simply contact **LeeAnn Bristol**, site coordinator, at 619-838-0901 should you have any further questions.



### Testing Information By Debby Penfold, VP

I hope everyone in our Correia community had an enjoyable holiday. It is hard to believe that 18 weeks have gone by so quickly and the end of the first semester is upon us. The first day of the second semester is January 31, 2005. This is a good time to review your child's academic progress. Give her/his teachers a call or contact the counselor to arrange a parent/teacher meeting.

February is the beginning of the testing cycle for the San Diego Unified School District. On February 14, 2005, Correia Middle School will be testing a random sampling of 8<sup>th</sup> graders for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), referred to as "The Nation's Report Card." This test measures the academic achievement of students in our state and across the nation. It reports to the public what students in America know and can do. Congress and state legislatures often use the NAEP's benchmark data for educational policy development. Students are tested in one of the following subjects: math, reading, or science.

This test is administered by the U.S. Department of Education and is the only nationally representative, ongoing assessment of student achievement by which states can compare themselves to the nation, other states, and selected urban school districts. Schools within a school district are chosen on a random basis to participate. Students are only tested at the 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. At each school chosen for testing a random number of students

**Do you like to surf?  
Sign up for  
Correia's Surf Team!  
Go Ozeni is the person you  
want to talk to, an 8th grade  
science teacher,  
gozeni@mail.net**

are selected to be tested. Since Correia has been selected as a NAEP school, approximately 260 of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders have been identified to participate in the NAEP testing on February 14<sup>th</sup>. If your child has been selected to be tested for NAEP, you will receive a letter informing you about the process the week of February 1, 2005.

In March all 7<sup>th</sup> graders will be given the STAR writing test. This test is part of the California State mandated tests. Testing for writing will take place on March 1<sup>st</sup>. From March 7<sup>th</sup> through the 11<sup>th</sup>, all students will be given a reading test, Degrees of Reading Power (DRP). This test will give us information about your child's reading proficiency. In late April Students will take the STAR California Standards Test (CST) and California Achievement Test (CAT6). More information about these tests will be sent home as we get closer to the scheduled dates. If you have any questions about testing you can call Debby Penfold at 619-222-0476 or e-mail at dpen-

## CORREIA CORPS NEEDS YOU . . . .

Are you looking for a great opportunity to be involved in your child's school experience? By joining **Correia Corps** and giving just 30 minutes on the school campus once a week, you can make a huge difference in your child's safety and security. We are a group who assist administration and staff in the supervision of our student population before, during and after school, at key supervision locations on campus. We provide extra sets of eyes and ears to prevent problems before they start. We reward students for their good behavior and citizenship and offer assistance to students in need. To all the parent and community volunteers who have joined our group, we send resounding THANKS! Take pride in the fact that YOU are making a difference.

## Counseling Center Office Hours . . . . .

Counselors will be having office hours two days a week in order to meet with parents regarding their student. Office hours are on Tuesdays, period 1-3 (8:45-11:30) & Thursdays, period 1-4 (8:45-11:30). Please call and make an appointment for one of those days if you would like to meet with a counselor.

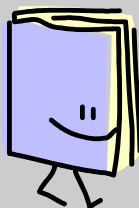
## DON'T FORGET— PIZZA THURSDAYS

Students can now buy a slice of pizza for \$1 and a drink for \$.50 every Thursday right after school at 1:35pm. Money raised from pizza/drink sales will go towards the school and ASB events. If you would like to volunteer, please contact **Sharlene McKinstry** 619-225-8543 or [jsmckinstry@juno.com](mailto:jsmckinstry@juno.com)



## Library News . . . . .

**Heartfelt thanks** are extended to all those parents and grandparents and guardians who have given their time to volunteer in the library. We would be unable to provide such extensive services to Correia students without your support. Processing new textbooks, distributing and collecting student textbooks, Scholastic Book Fairs, shelving books, donating books, gifting money to the library for additions to the collection, donating magazine subscriptions – every minute of your time is appreciated and your gestures of kindness are heartwarming. On behalf of our students, staff, and faculty ...



**THANK YOU!!!!!!**

Marcia Abbott, Library Media Teacher

Correia's library collects **Boxtops for Education** and greatly appreciates all donations. If you no longer have students in elementary school but cannot stop collecting those Campbell's soup labels, we have a contact in our cluster, so send them in too!

Our **commemorative brick program** is ongoing - an order form is available on the [www.correiajunior.com](http://www.correiajunior.com) website. Forms and checks can be dropped off at the library. Purchasing a brick is a great way to honor your student. Bricks will be installed in the library courtyard this spring.

The "**Correia Connection**" – parent/student book club is looking for new members. We meet once a month at 7PM in the library to discuss a book that we have all read. The club, which is supported by a parent involvement grant, provides the books and is open to **all** students and their parents/guardians. Our current book is *Surviving the Applewhites* by Stephanie Tolan, and our next meeting is Tuesday, February 8. Please RSVP to the library so we have sufficient refreshments. 222-0476, x 2902

The library will host a spring **BUY ONE/GET ONE FREE Scholastic Book Fair**; watch for details.

The library is hosting the **Science Fair** during the last week in January. 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will display their projects for judging and for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade science classes to see from January 21-28.

## Principal's Message . . .Cont' from pg. 1

the majority of literacy, social studies, mathematics, and science classes.

Correia, a Benchmark School, was selected from among those schools that already have a base level of up-to-date technology and that meet the following criteria:

- The school climate for technology is positive with no less than 15% of teachers using technology effectively with students.
- There is a key teacher who currently serves as mentor and resource, and other teachers are willing to learn to integrate technology.
- The site administrator(s) have shown strong support for technology integration by providing time for professional development, funds for software and hardware, and encouragement to teachers to use technology in the curriculum.
- There is enough equipment to integrate technology with the capability of achieving a ratio of one computer for every four students.
- Each school has at least one teacher presentation system for classroom use.

Last week the same team of teachers trained their colleagues on ProQuest. Built with your students in mind, eLibrary Curriculum Edition is a comprehensive educational resource that meets an expanding



### "Thank you" to Hard-Working Parents!

by Kris Spathas

Have you seen the **Correia Corps volunteers** in their bright orange vests? Well, they are to be commended for committing to the well-being of our students and making the campus a safer place. Thank you **Sandra Stee-Ogle** for coordinating this group, this year and last!

Has your student commented on the great pizza set-up on Thursdays in the main courtyard? **Sharlene McKinstry** is there every week, setting this up with some of the ASB students, and

she also put this entire fundraising effort together.

Thank you, Sharlene!

**Maria Annen** worked on the student directory and **GeorgeAnne Smith** finalized the format, put the ads in and coordinated the printing of it. It is a huge job and they are to be commended.

Students earn Cougar Cash if they are "caught" being respectful, helpful and displaying leadership qualities. The Cougar Cash can be redeemed each Friday in the lunch arbor. The person responsible for keeping the prizes stocked and

the "booth" manned is **Sandy Teel**. She managed this last year, also.

**Joanna Wright** put together the red licorice treats for the students during Red Ribbon Week.

The Welcome packets were ready for distribution the first day of school due to the efforts of **Sally Todter, Sandy Teel, Cheryl Louie, Sandra Stee-Ogle, and Mary Melone**.

We had a large group who worked on the Crystal Celebration including **Liz Stewart, Sandy Teel, Lisa Vieira,**

Correia Association Meetings  
are the first Thursday evening  
of each month,  
6:00 pm,  
in the library/media center  
... *i-brary*

range of curricular and research needs.

Last, but not least, we will have a new look and a new name. The new name is Correia Middle School. I received this information from the California Department of Education a few weeks ago. Actually, the middle school philosophy fits the goals Correia is working towards.

The last wonderful surprise is a 1.5 million dollar project that has been in the works for the past four or five years. This landscaping project will begin in February and last through the summer. It will include the total renovation of the corner of Valeta Street and Famosa Street and continue down Famosa Street until just before Bill Cleator Park. It will include a retaining wall and landscaping, instead of the dry, brown, weedy dirt that collects trash and continually erodes the slope. I know Correia's neighbors will be delighted and so are we!

**Ann Cleator, Lourdes Johnson, GeorgeAnne Smith, Sally Todter, Maureen McGrath, Cathy Edging, Sylvia Nantista, Steve Hall . . . .** It was a fun event. . .

Thank you to everyone who has given of their time and energy so far this year!

. . . . .and . . . . . Thank you to those who contributed to the Annual Giving Campaign, Sally Foster, Library Bricks, volunteering on picture day, Sally Foster tallying, assisting the office staff, selling pizza, . . . . I know I probably missed some people, and I apologize if I did . . . so, keep volunteering and I'll mention you next time . . . tee hee ..

HAPPY NEW YEAR to all **CORREIA CORPS VOLUNTEERS** from the Correia administration, staff and your faithful coordinator, Sandra Stee-Ogle. Likewise, the same good wishes are extended to all of the **CORREIA COMMUNITY** from your dutiful Correia Corps volunteer.

It has taken some real fortitude to brave the unpleasant weather and for all the colds, flu, and discomfort experienced, we emerge a stronger force. It is nice to see the students trying to maintain Correia's uniform policy now that the warmer weather has returned. For all you parents who meet resistance about uniforms, remember that statistics prove uniforms contribute to a safer, sounder school atmosphere. It is a comfort to know that we are ALL interested in contributing to safety and security measures at Correia in whatever way we can.

For their Correia Corps volunteers efforts **SPECIAL THANKS** to: Richard Chester, Ann Cleator, Dyana Davis, Annette Garcia, Jackie Givens, Bonnie Gomez, Ray Gomez, Frank Gonzales, Steve Hall, Gary Jackson, Rick Kennedy, Gloria Lopez, Maureen McGrath, Sharlene McKinstry, James Melone, Trish Narwold, Vicky Otsuka, Charry Palma, Lorraine Peck, Jill Polese, Jorge Reyes, Carolina and Vicente Romero, Anabel Sardo, Kathy Tappero, Karen Tisdale, Sally Todter, Ruth Tobin, Lucia Vargas, Renee Walker and Linda Zubiato. You are a special group of people, indeed! You have carried the bulk of the work and all of us on and off campus are grateful.

**WELCOME** to the new volunteers who will begin duties in February and March. **ITS NEVER TOO LATE TO SIGN UP AND GET STARTED** doing your part. By participating in this fine program at Correia we all get to win!

Our monthly meetings continue on the last Tuesday of each month. They are held in the Library at 11:30 and last about 30 minutes. All interested parties are invited to attend. The next one will be on Tuesday, January 25.

Seasoned participants, **YOUR BADGES ARE IN AND WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**

**If your e-mail address changes, go to [www.topica.com](http://www.topica.com) and make the change!  
IT'S EASY & YOU CAN SIGN UP TO RECEIVE INFORMATION FROM OTHER CLUSTER SCHOOLS.**

President's Message . . . *continued from pg. 1 . . .*

. . . plus, conducting our meetings which are casual, and I think, informative. They give parents an opportunity to ask questions and give input to the principal and some staff members. So, try to come . . . remember, Feb. 3rd . . .

Articulation time is approaching. I remember feeling reticent about sending my oldest child to Dana for a short time, then to Correia, with another move to Point Loma High School. I have since had two sons make these changes, and they haven't had a hard time at all moving from campus to campus. I hope you are experiencing smooth transitions, as well. The kids always seem to manage much better than we think they will.

Remember to use the school website as your first source of information - [www.correiajunior.com](http://www.correiajunior.com) . . . and if you are not receiving Correia update e-mails from me with school information, contact me at [kspathas@cox.net](mailto:kspathas@cox.net), plus sign up at [www.topica.com](http://www.topica.com) Have a great day!!

### Correia's Music Department has been busy . . .

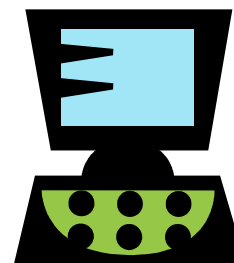
The Annual Winter Concert was held on Dec. 14 with beginning, advanced and jazz bands playing as well as several solos and small group performances. That evening, they kicked off the "Adopt and Instrument" program hoping to raise money to help repair and purchase instruments. If you would like to adopt-an-instrument or make a monetary contribution in general, please contact Kathy Tappero, [tappero@cox.net](mailto:tappero@cox.net).

In January, all of the Correia music groups will be trying out for the competition band that will be competing in a number of events this spring.

## Ways to Raise Money for Correia:

- The **Campbell's Labels for Education**™ Program Save labels from Campbell's Soups, Pepperidge Farm baked goods and soups, Swanson's broths, Franco American pasta and gravies, V-8 drinks, Prego sauces and more. See [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com) for more product info and bring your labels to Mrs. Abbott in the library.
- **TARGET CREDIT CARD**  
Steven V. Correia Junior High ID# 35109  
Through the Take Charge of Education program, Target will donate an amount equal to 1%.
- **Box Tops for Education** can also help our school, products from Pilsbury, Yoplait, General Mills and more carry the designated box tops. See [www.boxtops4education.com/products/index.asp](http://www.boxtops4education.com/products/index.asp) for all the different products that contain these little gems! Give them to Mrs. Abbott in the library.
- **Albertson's = \$4 Correia**  
To support Correia through your purchases at Albertson's stores, you now use your Albertson's Preferred Savings Card.  
Go to this link:  
[http://www.albertsons.com/abx\\_inthecommunity/](http://www.albertsons.com/abx_inthecommunity/) and click on "Albertson's Community Partners", you will be able to register your card with our school and a percentage of your payment to Albertson's will come to Correia.
- **eScrip Advantage**  
Our school is enrolled and active . . .  
**The Steven V. Correia Junior High School eScrip Group ID# is 137957913**  
eScrip is a hassle-free way for schools and groups that support children's programs to raise funds through everyday purchases made at eScrip merchants. Go to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com)

## What's New at Correia?



### .....Weblockrz .....

Correia was selected to pilot a web-based information storage and transfer program called Web Lockrz. All Correia teachers were trained in January, and training is now being delivered to Correia students as lab time permits. Web Lockrz provides a secure cyber locker for each student to use for the electronic storage of work. Assignments begun at school can be stored in the "locker," downloaded at home, completed and uploaded to a teacher's homework folder. Teachers can download homework and comment on it to the student, all electronically. The program also provides a message board for threaded discussions around appropriate class topics. Web Lockrz' success depends on our students having access to the Internet to log into their locker so they can download teachers assignments or messages. Web Lockrz is a free service to our students and is accessible via the Internet from anywhere (home, school, vacation, Public Library). Ask your students if they have received their introduction to this new program and ask them to demonstrate it for you! Log onto [correiajunior.com/dobrien](http://correiajunior.com/dobrien) (click on resources), [correiajunior/jshedden](http://correiajunior/jshedden) (click on research links) or [sdcs.weblockrz.com](http://sdcs.weblockrz.com) to access the sign-on page.

## Donors Unite for a Better Correia

**Special thanks to the following families for their contribution to Correia's Annual Giving Campaign!**

Ackerson	Hawes	Pitta
Annen	Hernandez, S.	Plummer
Archuleta	Hernandez	Polese
Atkins	Hoh	Pollock-Garcia
August	Hopf	Quinn
Barbosa	Huerta/	Rapoza
Bartz	Camacho	Riley
Baughn	Husted	Rios
Berridge	Jackson	Rochfort
Bruce	Jaros	Rodeheaver
Carter	Jellison	Russell
Chester	Jesus	Salemi
Cintas	Jesus	Sardo
Cleator	Jijon	Schmersal
Coyne	Kennedy	Scribner
Crivello	Kocivar	Seaman/Bartlett
Cruz	LeClair	Shields
Davies	Leslie	Sims
Davis	Loomis/Troast	Smith
Day	Lorhan	Smoyer
Doft	Louie	Spathas
Donovan	Luz	Spicer
Duffy	Madan	Stephens
Edging	Mahoney	Stewart, T.
Elmore	Mansfield	Stewart, D.
Fayer	McKinstry	Taylor
Finster	Medina	Teel
Flores	Melone	Thayer
Fox	Mercado	Thompson
Franklin	Miles	Tisdale
Friedman	Mulvaney	Tishler
Friszell	Mulvey	Tizapaneco
Gaarder	Murrin	Todter
Gage	Navarrete	Truesdale
Garcia	Noble	Truver
Garduno	Ogle	Vargas
Garnica	Oliver	Vieira
Gerstner	Orsi	Virissimo
Givens	Ortega	Walker
Glavaz/	Otsuka	Walsh
Stephen	Palomino	Warren
Goodpasture	Paola	Washburn
Graham	Parks/Tamura	Webber
Greer II	Parris	Young
Grenis/Palma	Paschal	

Steven V. CORREIA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

**PAVE A PATH TO THE NEW LIBRARY!**

Dear Correia Community Families,

The Correia Association is offering engraved bricks for sale to individuals, clubs and local businesses to help support our new library, which opened Sept. 2004. The bricks will be placed in the library courtyard for all to see and enjoy. Buy a brick and have you name and message to the school community engraved in stone!



ORDER FORM

I would like to purchase a SMALL BRICK\_\_\_\_\_LARGE BRICK\_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: Correia Association  
Maximum 15 characters per line

SMALL BRICK 4" x 8", 1-3 lines, \$30

LINE 1 \_\_\_\_\_

LINE 2 \_\_\_\_\_

LINE 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Optional

LARGE BRICK 4" x 12", 1-3 lines, \$55

LINE 1 \_\_\_\_\_

LINE 2 \_\_\_\_\_

LINE 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Steven V. Correia  
 Jr. High Association  
 4302 Valeta Street  
 San Diego CA 92107

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**CORREIA CALENDAR**

<b>FEB</b>	3	Thurs	6:00 PM	Correia Association Mtg., - library Guest: Bobbi Samilson, PLHS Principal
	11	Fri		No School—Lincoln’s Birthday
	16	Wed	6-7 PM	ELAC Meeting at St. Jude’s
	18	Fri		No School—Staff Development Day
	21	Mon		No School—Washington’s Birthday
	25	Fri		ASB Assembly
<b>MAR</b>				
	3	Thurs	6:00 PM	Correia Association Mtg., library
	7-10			Spirit Week at Correia
	8	Tues	6:40-8 PM	College: Making it Happen -Library/Aud
	9	Wed	8:45 AM	Awards Assembly
	9	Wed	12-1PM	Hawaiian Luau lunch
	21-25	M-F		Spring Break—No School
	31	Thurs	6-7 PM	East Coast Trip Meeting—Auditorium

[www.correiajunior.com](http://www.correiajunior.com) . . . . Check it out . . .