

Instrumental Music at Alma del Mar

This year we have launched the Alma orchestra! Third and fourth grade scholars will have the opportunity to study an instrument at Alma del Mar. Scholars will choose between the violin, viola and cello. We can't wait for you to hear our scholars play!

"My daughter getting to play the violin is absolutely a huge blessing. She wants so badly to go to Brown University and become a medical research doctor. Her violin lessons will be one more thing that will help her get into that school. Thank you for that!" (Alma Parent)



Did you see the pictures of our scholars on the first day of school?

If not, you're not following us on Facebook! Follow us on Facebook to see pictures from school events and daily activities, receive updates on daily goings on and interact with others in the Alma community.

Find us at www.facebook.com/AlmaDelMarCharterSchool.



Would you rather receive these newsletters via email?

Email Cara Beller at carabeller@almadelmar.org or call (774) 292-0949.

Keep an eye out for our 2013 Annual Report, arriving in your mailbox in October!

ALMA
del MAR

September 2013 Newsletter

Greetings from Alma del Mar!

I am so excited to join you as part of the Alma del Mar community. Our new school year is well under way and Alma is buzzing with activity. This newsletter will give you a quick look inside the happenings at Alma. As always, you are welcome to come visit us because **you are a very important part of the Alma family!**

Sincerely,
Cara Beller, Development Coordinator

Thank You for Our Playground!

Last year, first grade scholars wrote letters to The Richard and Susan Smith Family Foundation and Mayor Mitchell asking for a playground. After reading their letters and coming to meet with our scholars, The Smith Family Foundation awarded Alma \$35,000 to build a playground.



Over the summer, **100 volunteers**, including parents and friends of Alma, joined with our corporate partners to build our new playground. On August 16, 2013, Mayor Mitchell and Councilor Martins joined Celina Miranda of The Smith Family Foundation and Alma Executive Director Will Gardner for a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Scholars thank Mayor Mitchell for his support.

Meet The Newest Members of the Alma Team!



Cara Beller,
Development
Coordinator;
Hofstra University



Alysa Berbey,
Instrumental Music
Teacher;
Santa Clara University



Grace Faria,
School Nurse;
Salem State
University



Shabrina Guerrier,
Second Grade Lead
Teacher;
Bates College



Shaun Lowry,
Fourth Grade
Paraprofessional;
Rhode Island College



Ashley Nelson,
Fourth Grade
Associate Teacher;
Smith College



Chelsea Poitras,
Second Grade
Associate Teacher;
Bridgewater State
University



Brittney Sousa,
Fourth Grade Lead
Teacher;
Keene State College



Jack Riffle,
Fourth Grade Lead
Teacher;
Hamilton College



Emily Stainer,
Head of Upper
School;
Brown University



Lily Zhao,
First Grade Associate
Teacher;
Boston College

**We hope you will stop in
and say hello to our new
team members!**

We Need You – to be a Literacy Mentor!

Are you available on Thursdays from 4:00 – 5:00 PM?
If so, please consider being a Literacy Mentor! Literacy Mentors act as additional caring adults in the lives of a scholar, providing them with crucial academic support. The relationship mentors form with their mentees helps scholars create aspirations for their futures. We will provide you with training and activities – everything you need to be a mentor.

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a Literacy Mentor, please contact Cara Beller at (774) 292-0949 or carabeller@almadelmar.org



Visit During Town Hall

Every Friday, our school gathers to celebrate the success of our scholars. Scholars share their college chants, we award the Spirit Stick and Commitments Trophy, and teachers award certificates of recognition to scholars who have done an excellent job of demonstrating a particular commitment during the past week. Each week, one class makes a presentation to the rest of the school about something they have learned.

Town Hall begins at 1:20 PM every Friday. We invite you to join us!



Zumba Blue Party

Jessica Summers, third grade lead teacher, is hosting a Zumbathon to benefit the backpack club. **The backpack club is a new program that will send scholars in need home with backpacks of food for over the weekend.** Come dressed in blue. There will be contests and raffles! Everyone is welcome. Come party to support Alma!

When: Friday, October 8 from 5 – 8 PM
Where: the Alma del Mar gym
Cost: \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door

For more information, contact Jessica Summers at 774-292-0937 or jessicasummers@almadelmar.org.