



# January 2017 Newsletter

## Principal's Message

Greetings. It feels like only yesterday that I wrote a newsletter to mark the end of December, and now we are two days away from February. Today at our morning assembly we marked that we had passed the halfway point of our school year and how we must continue to set goals for ourselves as we show what we have learned at home and in school. Our students continue to shine as they celebrate their published writing, discuss what surprised them in their reading, and debate and defend thinking as they solve rich problems in mathematics. I am always astounded at the level of discourse and involvement in our classrooms. Hopefully you've witnessed some too at home or as a volunteer.

We are incredibly proud of our teachers as they hosted teachers from three LAUSD elementary schools who are learning about our approach, Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI), to the teaching and learning of mathematics. Teachers were able to observe and debrief lessons taught by some of our teachers, and the discussions were rich and centered on student learning. On Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, we met together with teachers from Charnock Road Elementary and engaged around discussion protocols from a book that we have been studying, *Intentional Talk*. We are discovering that when we focus our discussions around making connections, thinking about why a strategy works or is more efficient, or troubleshooting and revising through a misconception, the potential for deep conceptual understanding is maximized.

In addition to our learning in mathematics, we have been examining the impact our work has on student learning through the work done by John Hattie in *Visible Learning*. Our teachers have been considering how clear they are in their work with students by communicating goals or learning intentions and establishing success criteria that our students can use to measure their progress toward meeting the goals we have set. What we expect of students should not be a mystery; and when students have ownership of the learning process, they are more likely to be invested in the learning. ([www.visible-learning.org](http://www.visible-learning.org))

Finally, we are incredibly grateful to our Booster Club for their continued efforts to raise the money we need to sustain and improve on our programs and staff. If you have not already, please make an effort to attend their monthly meetings, the next one of which is this Wednesday (2/01/17). Together we can make a difference for our students!  
*Principal Jenkins*

## Attendance

Our goal is for 76% or more of our students to be in attendance 96% of the time. Our school-wide attendance rate is 65.1%, which reflects a drop of 4.5-percentage points since our last newsletter. **An attendance rate of 96% is no more than 7 absences.** We continue to do our best to reach out to families to ensure that our students are in school as much as possible. Please make sure to schedule trips on weekends and over holidays. Spring Break will be the week of April 10<sup>th</sup>, and we have two long weekends coming up: February 18-20 and March 31 - April 2. Attendance is such a critical factor in our students' success. Please support us in this effort. Second grade wins the extra PE class, and Mr. Rothschild's class wins a free Mad Science™ class for an attendance rate of 97.94%! Congratulations!

## Cumulative Attendance Data as of January 27, 2017

The class with the best attendance wins a free Mad Science class! All classes get 10 minutes of extra recess.		The number in parentheses represents the percent change since December's newsletter.	
Percentage in Attendance by Class		% of Students with 96% Attendance	
Mackavoy	96.09%	Kindergarten	46.4% (-9.38)
Tepas	97.53%	First Grade	68.5% (-3.7)
<b>Rothschild</b>	<b>97.94%</b>	<b>Second Grade</b>	<b>74.3% (-1.1)</b>
Neri-Muñoz	96.85%	Third Grade	69.8% (-6.7)
Saxton	97.55%	Fourth Grade	72.9% (-2.7)
Payne	96.35%	Fifth Grade	67.5% (+1.2)

## Great American Spell Check and Spelling Bee

Thanks to all of our families who have helped their children collect pledges for our Great American Spell Check pledge drive. Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, is the last day to turn in pledges. We will announce the two students and the two classes who raised the most money as we recognize our spelling bee competitors and winners at our morning assembly on Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. Below are the students who will be competing tomorrow, January 31<sup>st</sup>, in our auditorium at 02:00 PM. We are so proud of them!

First Grade	Second Grade	Third Grade	Fourth Grade	
Cannon C.	Jaden A.	Mia C.	Johnny P.	Brian F.
Betty P.	Eli F.	Max T.	Emily E.	Gabe E.
Leo R.	Claire J.	<b>Fourth Grade</b>		Ellie K.
Raghavan S.	Napili Y.	Constantina C.		<b>Fifth Grade</b>
Mikaella K.	Joya L.	Kali L.	Lane L.	Jack H.
<b>Second Grade</b>	<b>Third Grade</b>	Chloe B.	Adityan S.	Daisy T.
Carson L.	Nyriah W.	Yaeli M.	Alicia L.	Kyaiah M.
Loretta D.	Maisie I.	Sisi E.	Carter J.	
Roxana B.	Yugo K.	Fateh A.	Isaak E.	
Austin S.	Ramon A.	Finn Z.	Jacob G.	

Click on this link to learn what your child should be learning!

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/index.asp>

## School Experience Survey

Each year, our teachers, students (grades 3-5), and families provide input on our programs through the School Experience Survey. Please take part in the survey by going to <http://achieve.lausd.net/Page/8397>. The deadline is February 7, 2017.

## Important Dates

01/30/17 STAR Nova & Japanese Session 3 Begin	02/03/17 After School Theater Begins
01/31/17 Annual Spelling Bee (2:00 PM)	02/03/17 DIBELS MOY Ends
01/31/17 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Field Trip	02/03/17 Spelling Bee Pledge Drive Ends
02/01/17 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Fitness Exam Begins	02/06/17 Coffee & Tea with the Principal
02/01/17 Mad Science Session 2 Ends	02/07/17 Second Grade Field Trip
02/01/17 Booster Club Meeting	02/08/17 Mad Science Session 3 Begins
02/03/17 Fourth Grade Field Trip	02/09/17 SSC / ELAC Meeting
02/03/17 4 <sup>th</sup> / 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip	02/10/17 Mission Code Session 1 Ends
02/03/17 Mad Science (K) Session 3 Begins	02/11/17 Winter Dance Fundraiser