



March 2018 Newsletter

Principal's Message

Greetings. Recently I wrote my yearbook message which hopefully you can read when our yearbooks arrive when the school year ends. We are in the home stretch with just 10 weeks left this school year. These last 10 weeks, though, are just as critical as the first 10 weeks, as we still have lots of ground to cover: learning in all content areas, assessments for our English learners in the months of April and May, end of year CAASPP assessments on the Common Core State Standards in the month of May for our grades three through five students, a host of field trips, one more session in dance and gardening, another round of enrichment in Mad Science and STAR Nova, and three important fundraisers: our Jogathon (4/6/18), Ms. Nelson's Book Fair, and our Spring Fling in May. We can do this! ☺

In March we exceeded fundraising expectations with our annual Winter Dance. We are incredibly grateful to Sarah, Leah, and their team of volunteers for creating a wildly fun event for our students. We are also thankful for our teachers, students, and parents who came together the week of March 5th to reflect on the growth achieved in our second marking period and set goals for our third and final instructional period. These opportunities are important as we use feedback and reflection to help our students chart their course in learning. Finally, March marked our 2nd CGI Lab Day during which we hosted over 100 educators from across LAUSD and beyond, so they could see mathematics teaching and learning in action in transitional kindergarten through second grade. 10 of our teachers opened their doors and taught two periods of mathematics and afterward answered questions around how we work together to strengthen understanding and build on students' innate abilities. This event was received so positively, and we could not have accomplished it without the tireless dedication of our team. Thanks go as well to our room parents who organized breakfast for our visitors. After all was said and done, we were ready for Spring Break!

April will be a long but fun month as we continue to use our professional readings to strengthen our practice, showcase our students' accomplishments at our annual Open House on April 26th, host one more Ms. Nelson's Book Fair, get fit and raise tens of thousands of dollars at Jogathon on April 6th, and gear up for a final full month of assessment, reflection, and one more festival in May. With each meeting, assembly, fundraiser, and event, we grow stronger as a community! ❤️❤️❤️ *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 60.9%, which represents a 9.1% decrease from last month. **An attendance rate of 96% is no more than 7 absences in a year.** We look forward to improving our rates. Attendance is such a critical factor in our students' success. Thank you for supporting us in this effort. **Third grade wins the extra PE class, and all the classes with the best attendance will get an extra 10 minutes of recess.** We will also be awarding students for perfect attendance each month with our very own CDA trading cards. Finally, **Ms. Querrey's class gets a Mad Science class for their attendance rate.** Bonus! Let's keep coming to school!

Attendance Data for March 2018

The class with the best attendance wins a Mad Science class and all classes below get 10 minutes of extra recess.		The grade with the best attendance gets a PE class with Coach Jordan.	
Percentage in Attendance by Class		% of Students with 96% Attendance	
Pippin	95.38%	Kindergarten	54.1 (-8.7)
Masi	96.47%	First Grade	61.9 (-7.2)
Flaxman	96.90%	Second Grade	59.6 (-7.0)
Romero	98.04%	Third Grade	66.7 (-8.8)
Saxton	97.34%	Fourth Grade	63.7 (-15.5)
Querrey	99.29%	Fifth Grade	63.7 (-7.7)

Mathematics Problem Types

Lately I've been reflecting on our work in classrooms and our families' role in the work with their children at home. With our new approach to homework, we want to make sure that parents have tools that they can use at home if they have the time and inclination. We can't stress enough allowing our students the freedom to solve problems in ways that make sense to them. When we teach students an algorithm or trick, we take away the opportunity for them to discover these in their own strategies to a problem. To that end, I am sharing a chart with you that shows different kinds of problems for addition and subtraction. Find a context, plug in some numbers, and then let your children solve the problem. Ask them to detail their thinking. You'll be as full of wonder as we are when we do the same at school. Have fun! Mathematics is creative and fun.

Math Story Problem Types		
Joining Problems		
Join (Result Unknown) $6 + 3 = \underline{\quad}$	Join (Change Unknown) $4 + \underline{\quad} = 7$	Join (Start Unknown) $\underline{\quad} + 4 = 6$
Mrs. Mackavoy had 6 magnetiles. America gave her 3 more. How many magnetiles does Mrs. Mackavoy have now?	Ms. Lira had 4 pencils. Enzo gave her some more. Then, Ms. Lira had 7 pencils. How many pencils did Enzo give Ms. Lira?	Ms. Flaxman had some apples. Maite gave her 4 more apples. Then, she had 6 apples. How many apples did Ms. Flaxman start with?
Separating Problems		
Separate (Result Unknown) $7 - 4 = \underline{\quad}$	Separate (Change Unknown) $5 - \underline{\quad} = 1$	Separate (Start Unknown) $\underline{\quad} - 4 = 4$
Ms. Jenkins had 7 oranges. She gave 4 of them to Brian. How many oranges did Ms. Jenkins have left?	Mrs. Saxton had 5 markers. She gave some to Jordyn. Then, she had 1 marker left. How many markers did she give to Jordyn?	Ms. Querrey had some bananas. She gave 4 to Finn. Then, she had 4 bananas left. How many bananas did she have to start with?
Comparing Problems		
Compare (Difference Unknown) $5 - 3 = \underline{\quad}$ or $3 + \underline{\quad} = 5$	Compare (Quantity Unknown) $3 + 2 = \underline{\quad}$	Compare (Referent Unknown) $8 - 5 = \underline{\quad}$ or $5 + \underline{\quad} = 8$
Mrs. Mead had 5 flowers. Ayva had 3 flowers. How many more flowers did Mrs. Mead have than Ayva?	Ms. Masi had 3 blocks. Alex had 2 more blocks than Ms. Masi. How many cookies did Alex have?	Ms. Tepas had 8 shells. She had 5 more than Bodie. How many shells did Bodie have?

Important Dates

04/03/18 School Resumes	04/11/18 Mad Science Session 4 Begins (Gr. 1-5)
04/03/18 Coffee & Tea with the Principal	04/13/18 Gardening Session 2 Ends
04/03/18 Enrollment Begins for 2018-19	04/13/18 TK/K Field Trip
04/03/18 STAR Nova Session 4 Begins	04/13/18 1 st Grade Anti-Bullying Assemblies
04/03/18 Yui Japanese Session 4 Begins	04/13/18 Mad Science Session 4 Begins (K)
04/04/18 Booster Club Meeting (6:00 PM)	04/18/18 3 rd Grade Field Trip
04/05/18 SSC/ELAC Meeting (3:00 PM)	04/19/18 Gardening Session 3 Begins
04/06/18 Minimum Day (8:05 AM – 12:35 PM)	04/20/18 Mid-Term Notices Go Home
04/06/18 Jogathon (12:35 – 03:45 PM)	04/20/18 Prospective Family Tour
04/09/18 First Grade Anti-Bullying Assemblies	04/26/18 Open House (05:00 PM)