



February 2019 Newsletter

Principal's Message

Greetings! What a rollercoaster of a month we had! I was just sharing with one of my colleagues that it hardly felt like we were moving into a strike when we returned from winter break, and now that we've resumed our routines, I am so impressed with how everyone has picked up so effortlessly where we left off. I know the impact of the job action was felt most keenly by our teachers, nurse, school psychologist, and speech pathologist, though, and they could have not felt more supported by our incredible community of parents and staff. It is in challenging times like the one through which we just navigated that the strength and creativity of a community are tested, and ours passed with flying colors. I am so honored to be a part of this team and more committed than ever to move us onward and upward.

As we barrel into February, we are incredibly grateful to our teachers for their continued collaboration and dedication. Our second-grade team spent a day in early January designing units of study and lessons around our new Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), around which for the first time our fifth graders will take an assessment in April; and our third-grade teachers took a day creating ways to engage their readers and writers in the work of argument and opinion. We are so grateful that our Booster Club has partnered with us to create a professional development fund that not only covers the cost of conference attendance fees for our teachers but also their lodging and travel. One of the lessons I learned from the stand our teachers took in their strike is if we want to attract and retain a corps of high caliber teachers, we need to create an environment in which they have the supports and resources they need to do their work effectively. Professional development is one of those necessary components, and we appreciate that our families recognize that with us.

February looks to be action packed as we kick off the month with our 10th annual spelling bee on the 5th at 2:00 PM. We are so proud of all of our spellers and look forward to celebrating our champions and announcing fundraising totals at our assembly on the 19th. Please make sure to turn in your pledges this week or next. Also, February launches our second wave of Community Fund requests, aptly named the Hearts Campaign. Our goal is 100% giving, any amount, toward essential staff and programs that our school budgets would not otherwise allow. If you want to know more about how monies that we raise are spent, we welcome you to our monthly Booster Club (2/12/19) or SSC/ELAC (2/28/19) meetings. ❤️ *Principal Jenkins*

Attendance

Our goal is for 71% or more of our students to be in attendance 96% of the time. Because of our strike, we are not reporting this month the grades with the best attendance because numbers were adversely affected by the great number of families who held their students out in support of or because of the strike. We will resume recognition at the end of February. The numbers below reflect attendance from 1/7/19 – 1/11/19 and 1/23/19-1/31/19. Ms. Neri Muñoz's class gets a Mad Science class for their attendance rate. We are so proud of them. Also, many families were concerned about how absences would affect perfect attendance. We will recognize students for perfect attendance with our trading cards for the months of December and January combined, minus the strike days. Trophies will be awarded at the end of the year for students with perfect attendance, also minus the strike days. Let's keep our students in school to maximize learning. ☺ Thanks.

Cumulative Attendance Data as of January 31, 2019

The class with the best attendance wins a Mad Science class and all classes below get 10 minutes of extra recess.

Percentage in Attendance by Class

Mackavoy	98.25%
Gill	97.91%
Rothschild	97.21%
Romero	97.22%
Neri Muñoz	98.54%
Payne	97.84%

Update on Volunteer Requirements

We are so thankful to all of our parents who worked with me to schedule livescan appointments as a result of new fingerprinting requirements for volunteering. The district is relaxing those requirements for the time being for volunteers who work under the direct supervision of teachers in the classroom or on field trips. In order to volunteer in this capacity, parents will need to complete the online application (volunteerapp.lausd.net), provide a copy of it to our main office with proof of TB, and then wait for notification from me. Volunteers who work outside of the classroom, in the library without a teacher present, or with our PE program do need to be fingerprinted. We will be issuing refunds soon to families who paid the initial fee they required. Thanks.

10th Annual School-Wide Spelling Bee and Pledge Drive

Thanks to all of our families who have helped their children collect pledges for our Great American SpellCheck pledge drive. Friday, February 1st, 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 Tuesday, February 19th. Below are the students who will be competing on Tuesday, February 5th, in our auditorium at 02:00 PM. We are so proud of them!

<u>First Grade</u>	<u>Second Grade</u>	<u>Third Grade</u>	<u>Fourth Grade</u>	<u>Fifth Grade</u>
Tommaso R.	Ryan G.	Mikaella K.	Isabella M.	Anaiya T.
Cyrus B.	Noa S.	Sophia P.	Gabriel S-K.	River G.
Noah H.	Braeden C.	Lacy K.		
Remy S.	<u>Third Grade</u>	<u>Fourth Grade</u>	<u>Fifth Grade</u>	
Ry E.	Jacob D.	Jaden A.	Ricardo M.	Yoni F.
<u>Second Grade</u>	Camila N-M.	Yuval E.	Joao S.	Chloe N.
Kobe S.	Cannon C.	Zachary M.	Savannah T.	Tatum A.
Alain M.	Xavier S.	Chase C.	Gabriel B-L.	Sofia A.
Dylan M.	Swarali M.	Mikhail C.		
Lincoln R.	Maya M.	Talia M.		

Important Dates

02/01/19 Mr. Rothschild's Field Trip	02/04/19 Imagine Arts Academy Class Begins
02/01/19 Ms. Mead's & Ms. Mackavoy's Field Trip	02/05/19 10 th Annual Spelling Bee
02/01/19 5 th Grade Fitness Window Opens	02/05/19 Afterschool Cooking Begins (T & TH)
02/01/19 ELPAC Window Opens	02/06/19 4 th Grade NAEP Assessment
02/01/19 Spelling Bee Pledge Drive Ends	02/06/19 Mad Science Begins (Gr. 1-5)
02/01/19 Afterschool Theater Begins	02/08/19 Ms. Oppel's Class Field Trip
02/04/19 Coffee & Tea with the Principal	02/08/19 Mad Science Begins (TK/K)
02/04/19 Hearts Campaign Begins	02/12/19 Booster Club Meeting
02/04/19 STAR Nova Session 3 Begins	02/14/19 Emergency Drills
02/04/19 Session 3 Afterschool Japanese Begins	02/15/19 Prospective Family Tour