



# March 2019 Newsletter

## Principal's Message

Greetings! We could not be more excited to enter a new month of learning and growth. To have met and surpassed fundraising goals, with Community Fund Hearts Campaign, outdoor education, and a wildly fun winter dance, Glow D'Alene, makes clear the commitment of our community at ensuring all children receive a world-class education, with experiences in the literary and fine arts, the sciences, problem solving, gardening education, theater, and dance. Our goal is to create an opportunity for children to find their niche, pursue their passion, and build on their strengths; and the support of our Booster Club enables us to do that. Thanks go out to Polly, Paige, and their team for coordinating our dance, to Lisa, Fiona, Tania, Danielle and Myriam for helping us reach 100% giving for our community fund, and to Joi for making sure our 5<sup>th</sup> graders attended science camp. Hearts that glow go all around! ❤️💜💚💛💖

As we march into spring, our teachers continue to refine and hone their craft, recognizing that our work is ongoing and builds naturally on itself. We wrapped up our work with Erin Donelson, our balanced literacy expert, in February, and we are looking forward to our last session with Matthew from the UCLA Science Project. All of our grade levels have spent a day collaboratively designing units of study around our new Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), first grade being the last to accomplish this work this month. These days and our work with Matthew have created exciting opportunities for our students in class. We will continue our work with the UCLA Science Project and Erin next year through Cotsen Foundation grant monies and have set as a goal incorporating intrinsic motivation and mindfulness into our work with students. We are also excited about an opportunity to secure grant monies from Cotsen to support our teachers with an onsite coach. Collaboration is a vital component of our work.

March will be one of our more exciting months and a long one to boot! We are excited for our upcoming Jogathon (3/29) and thankful to our teachers and students as they busily prepare to share student progress at family conferences, during which we will have minimum days (8:05 AM – 12:35 PM) from March 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>. Take time to celebrate all of the efforts your child has made and set goals for the last leg of our school year. Research shows that when students are aware of what they need to learn and where they are on that learning trajectory, they are more likely to reach learning targets. We recognize that all students have potential and can maximize learning when their families and school staff work collaboratively. This year, like so many others, has been tremendously rewarding, as our students, families, and teachers continue to exceed expectations. Thanks as always for your support. ❤️ *Principal Jenkins*

## Attendance

Our goal is for 71% or more of our students to be in attendance 96% of the time. The numbers below, though, simply reflect attendance numbers for February. Congratulations to Ms. Gonzalez's class for having the best attendance overall and to fourth grade for their excellent attendance. Ms. Gonzalez's class wins the Mad Science class, and the teachers in fourth grade will have a PE class taught by Coach Jordan. All classes with the best attendance in each grade will receive 10 extra minutes of recess. We will also recognize students with perfect attendance in February with our very own CDA trading cards. Attendance is critical to the success of our students. Let's continue to send our students to school on time. © **Keep it under 7!** Thanks.

## Cumulative Attendance Data as of February 28, 2019

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		% in Attendance	
Mackavoy	96.34%	Kindergarten	95.16
Kauffman	95.34%	First Grade	94.47
Oppel	95.55%	Second Grade	94.17
Jenkins	96.24%	Third Grade	95.04
<b>Gonzalez</b>	<b>96.81%</b>	<b>Fourth Grade</b>	<b>96.58</b>
Buck	96.69%	Fifth Grade	95.42

## The Role of Feedback: Family Conferences & Grades

Family conferences are an excellent time to recognize how effort yields growth. There has been a body of research around the subtle and direct messages we send students through the use of words like "smart", "gifted", and "not good at". Students who hear these words in relation to themselves develop fixed mindsets and begin to lose confidence in their abilities. When we communicate to students that effort matters and/or that an accomplishment was achieved because of hard work, they begin to believe that any task or challenge can be completed. All children have potential, and we must recognize their stamina and perseverance. To that end, use reports cards as a gauge for yourself; and while we want to celebrate growth, feedback is so much more useful to a child than a number.

## John Hattie's Visible Learning

Over the past few years, we have spent time studying research that has shown what works best for students in classrooms. We have been affirmed that our approaches with balanced literacy and Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI) have embedded in them what John Hattie considers "high impact" practices. In his meta-analysis of research studies, he developed a formula that created effect sizes (ES) for practices and determined that any practice with an ES greater than 0.4 was shown to produce over a year's growth for students. Below are some of the practices that our teachers use regularly that meet that threshold. Feel free to email me ([andrew.jenkins@lausd.net](mailto:andrew.jenkins@lausd.net)) if you want clarification on any of them.

- Collective Teacher Efficacy (ES: 1.57)
- Self-Reported Grades / Student Expectations (ES: 1.44)
- Response to Intervention (ES: 1.07)
- Teacher Credibility (ES: 0.9)
- Micro-Teaching (ES: 0.88)
- Feedback (ES: 0.75)
- Reciprocal Teaching (ES: 0.74)
- Teacher-Student Relationships (ES: 0.72)
- Metacognition (ES: 0.69)
- Self-Verbalization and Self-Questioning (ES: 0.64)
- Problem-Solving Teaching (ES: 0.61)

## Important Dates

03/04/19 CAASPP Window Opens	03/18/19 Emergency Drills
03/05/19 Ms. Aver's & Ms. Block's Field Trip	03/20/19 Fifth Grade Panorama Picture
03/06-08/19 Minimum Days (8:05 AM – 12:35 PM)	03/21/19 Booster Club Meeting
03/06-07/19 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade OLSAT Testing	03/22/19 Fifth Grade Fitness Exam Window Closes
03/07/19 CAASPP Readiness Test (Gr. 3-5)	03/25/19 Spring Portraits
03/07/19 Shelter in Place Drill	03/27/19 Prospective Family Tour
03/09/19 Scripps Regional Spelling Bee	03/29/19 Minimum Day (8:05 AM – 12:35 PM)
03/11/19 Jogathon Kickoff	03/29/19 Jogathon
03/12/19 Ms. Neri's, Ms. Romero's and Ms. Jenkins' Field Trip	04/01/19 No School
03/13/19 Second Grade Field Trip	04/02/19 Enrollment for 2019-2020 Begins
03/13/19 Ms. Mead's & Ms. Mackavoy's Field Trip	04/02/19 Coffee & Tea with the Principal
03/14/19 SSC/ELAC Meeting	04/04/19 SSC/ELAC Meeting
03/18/19 Kindergarten Field Trip	04/05/19 STAR Nova Session 3 Ends