



May / June 2020 Newsletter

Principal's Message

Greetings. As I write this from home, again, I am incredibly grateful to our students, families, and staff for taking a seemingly insurmountable task and making it seem like a seamless undertaking. While there have been bumps along the way, what we have learned is there is no mountain too high for us to climb. What has most impressed me are the ways in which we have communicated with each other, asking the right questions, being patient for the answers, and problem solving together. The lessons learned for our students are invaluable. When they see us working together, they understand the power of collaboration. Thanks CDA for your tireless devotion to ensuring the security of our futures by educating with such grace our youth.

April and May have been full of virtual adventure and discovery. From our first ever virtual Jogathon to the passion projects our teachers have launched with our partnership with author Kristi Mraz, our students have learned to make the most of our stay-at-home time. Thanks to Coach Stacey and Kara Rossi for executing such an inspirational platform for our community to celebrate their fitness. As I navigate through each video, I am so impressed with the joy our students take in sharing their fitness passions. I have been equally buoyed by the dedication our students have brought to their remote classrooms and visiting each of their classrooms at least once a week has been a highlight of these days that we have spent physically apart. While we have been learning from a distance, we have managed to strengthen our emotional and cognitive bonds with each other. Hearing and seeing the ways in which students are able to interact with each other and their teachers has shown me the power of our community.

As we wrap up the school year and celebrate virtually our fifth graders, take time to express gratitude to all of the people who have made a difference during this time. We are truly fortunate to have so many talented people among us. We are so proud of our fifth graders and the ways in which they have taken in stride this time. They are 91 strong and truly one of the more special classes who have passed through our halls and Zoom calls. Thanks to the class of 2020 for showing me why I love my job. *Andrew Jenkins*

Teaching Staff for 2020-2021

This year we wish the best to four of our more beloved teachers. For a combined 75+ years, they have instilled joy and wonder into the hearts and minds of hundreds of students. Parents and students regularly sing their praises; and they each have unique talents and strengths, but they share a passion for and commitment to the education of youth that has been worthy of emulation. I have been honored to work with each of them and have grown as an educator because of them. We know that Ms. Alberi will continue to touch the lives of students and teachers alike. Ms. Block, Ms. Aver, and Ms. Flaxman, though, will be able to pursue their own interests as they enter a well-deserved retirement. I can hardly imagine our school without them. Thanks for all of the passion you have shared with us in the work. Your impressions will be lasting.

Below is our teaching staff for next school year. (Combo class indicated.) We are thrilled to welcome three new teachers to our team and a familiar face. Welcome back Kristin Welch. We are so excited to have you back and look forward to learning from you as you worked with the UCLA Math Project this past year. Congratulations to Deanna Chin, Madison Colli, and Kieu Nguyen, instructional aide and teachers' assistants who were selected by our interview committee to teach at our school. That they are so familiar with our approaches and culture will make them a continued asset to our school. Together the four of them will bring fresh eyes to our work and help us in our continual pursuit of excellence and innovation.

OUR TEAM

Kindergarten	First Grade	Second Grade	Third Grade	4th Grade
Fielding (TK)	Ruttenberg	Oppel	Rothschild	Tepas
Mackavoy	Rybak	Kells	Jenkins	Cashman
Lira	Masi	Chin	Neri-Muñoz	5th Grade
Mead	Colli	Gonzalez	Nguyen	Payne
Victorin	Resource		3rd/ 4th Grade	Yin
	Jackson		Welch	Buck

Avoiding the Summer Slide & Remote Summer School

Summer is a time to relax and connect with family and friends. Research shows, though, that students who do not maintain reading, writing, and mathematics practices often lose progress from end of year to beginning of a new school year. Families can avoid this by looking for opportunities to talk "math" with their child, providing them time to journal their summer fun, and ensuring they have rich reading material at their fingertips. Help us maintain their progress by being their resource for learning at home. Our teachers can share menus of activities from which you can choose. In addition, LAUSD is offering remote summer school for all students, which is the first of its kind. There are a range of opportunities from Sports Medicine with the L.A. Chargers (June 22 - July 16) to elementary themed programs (June 24 - July 22). Parents can register at the link below!

<https://achieve.lausd.net/summer2020>

Tips for Working with Your Children at Home in Literacy

- Children should read and write every day, and that can come in many forms
- We can use their writing to develop them as readers, and reading to your child daily a book of interest to them matters
- When we provide the space and time for our readers and writers to try out what we have taught, we learn about them and can decide on next steps
- Talking and writing about what they read will deepen comprehension and writing is a vehicle for communicating messages and information
- Reflection matters. Books and writers change us. Considering that will make a difference

Important Dates

05/25/20 Memorial Day	06/02/20 Morning Assembly
05/26/20 Morning Assembly	06/03/20 Coffee & Tea with the Principal
05/27/20 SSC/ELAC Meeting (3:30 PM)	06/05/20 5 th Grade Culmination
06/01/20 Coffee & Tea with the Principal	06/12/20 Last Day of School