



Nixon Academy of Multimedia Arts Production

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April 2019 Newsletter



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I. A Message from our Principal

April has arrived and the beauty of our world is showing through from all our rain and beautiful Southern California Sunshine! I must share that our children are doing so well mastering their math facts. I look at the Reflex Math program and can see each student's growth. **THANK YOU** so much for helping us inspire and motivate them to want to achieve higher. April is a short month for us as we have 3 weeks of school and the fourth week, the week of 4/22-26, is our spring recess. But before we get to spring recess we have a couple of very important events. April 1st is our big community recycling event. April 10 our sixth graders will take the district's writing test. April 17th is a minimum day, and it is also our Nixon Academy Showcase or Open House from 5:30-7:30 pm. We will start off the evening by meeting at the lunch tables to review a few school business items then, I will open the school for our parents to visit their child's room and teacher. That week we will also host a Book Fair. This is a perfect opportunity to purchase a book for your child to read over the break! I have started a Spring Recess Reading Wall. On this wall I would like to put up pictures of the book your child read over the break. Have them draw and color or cut out a picture of their book and put their name on it so I know who read that book! (Please keep the pictures to a 5x7 paper size). Then you must stop by and see all the books we read over spring recess. Friday April 19 is a non-student day and the start of our spring recess. We return from break on the 29th. SO you can see even a shortened month is very packed with great things for our children!

A note from the office

You can upload your student picture at Nixonjaguars@gmail.com

II. Transitional Kindergarten

Spring is here! This month we will learn about things that happen in spring. We will learn that plants grow; the weather changes and baby animals are born! We will also discuss Earth Day this month and ways that we can help to take care of our planet. As a culminating activity, we will be visiting Tanaka Farms in Irvine on Friday, April 5th...we are very excited! In language arts, we are learning the end of our alphabet study and will learn about the letters Jj, Ee, and Yy as well as the sight words: he, she, play. In math, we will be continuing to work on subtraction concepts and learning the numbers 11-20. Finally in social studies, we are learning about our community and the many people that help us in our community each day. This will be our theme for our Nixon Showcase this month. Please come by and check out our room to see all of the things that we have been learning.

III. Kindergarten

Moving along in Kindergarten...Our Language Arts big idea is: From Here to There. We will continue to build phonemic awareness with a focus on phoneme isolation, phoneme deletion and blending phonemes. Our focus letters will be: Jj, Qq, Yy, Zz and the sight words: here, me, this, what is Kindergarten sprouting! We are having fun learning about plants and how to take care of our garden. We will be going to Tanaka Farms to tour the farm and pick our very own strawberries! We will also be learning about different animals and their habitats. In math, we are learning to compose numbers 11 to 19 and decompose numbers less than or equal to 10. We will also learn ways to show numbers as the sum of 10 and some extra ones. Thank you for all your support at home!



IV. First Grade

Spring is in the air! First grade is definitely loving the extra sunshine and warm breezes. With spring, brings spring fever. Please emphasize with your child the importance of our Nixon 4 Be's for strong habits of success. Thank you to all the friends and family for your support in making our Biome Show and Jog-a-thon a great success and memory. Interest forms for chaperoning our annual field trip to the Santa Ana Zoo will go out soon. Please keep up the reading and practice of math facts for fluency, especially during our upcoming spring break. Hope to see you at our Nixon Showcase on April 17th.

V. Second Grade

Happy Spring!

As we start the last trimester of the school year, students are expected to know and follow the Nixon Be's: responsible, respectful, kind, and in control. Students will be sharing their heritage country with posters and presentations this month. Please join us for Open House on April 17 to see all the wonderful work! Spring break will follow from April 19-April 26. Our field trip to the Natural History Museum in Los Angeles is April 29 (the Monday after spring break). Teachers will be contacting parents who volunteered to chaperone. Thank you again for your continued support of second grade!



VI. Third Grade

Spring is in the air! Opening Day for business is April 1. The children will be busy selling to their classmates and going shopping. Last day for selling will be at Open House, April 17, where the children will be selling to the parents. It's the one time that your child will be giving you money to go shopping!

3rd grade will be taking a field trip to Bolsa Chica Wetlands on April 8, from 9am-2pm. We will need parent chaperones to join us.

We are gearing up for SBAC testing! We will be covering geometry, telling time, area, and perimeter. Continue to practice math facts!

There will be a 3rd grade District Math Bee. One 3rd grade student will represent Nixon Elementary on April 11 at AHS.

Continue to read and take AR quizzes within your ZPD. We are stressing with the students do not quiz, unless you have read the book carefully.

VII. Fourth Grade

Spring is in full swing in fourth grade! Your child's *Mission Project* is due on *Monday, April 15*. We look forward to seeing everyone's creations! As your child is working on his/her project, have him/her think about what is unique to the mission? What cool facts will he/she be able to share? What was the purpose of this mission? The fourth grade teachers look forward to seeing everyone at *Nixon's Showcase/Open House* on *Wednesday, April 17*. Please remember this night is a celebration of the students' hard work and not a time to conference with the teachers about your child's progress in class. Mark your calendars for *Gold Rush Day, May 16*! We will need many parent volunteers to help run our program! Finally, please enjoy Spring Break! Get some rest and enjoy time with your families!



VIII. Fifth Grade

Happy Spring! With all of the rain, the flowers are everywhere and we are ready for some warmer weather.

Griffith Park Field Trip: We're hoping to have clear skies for our field trip on Thursday, April 4th to the Griffith Park Observatory. Students will need to be at school by 7:00am. We know this is early but it is necessary for us to get on the freeway and deal with traffic so we don't miss any of the fabulousness that the observatory has in store for us. Please send your child to school with a separated and labeled snack and lunch. We will be back by 3pm so it will be a normal pick up time. We can't wait to learn more about our universe!

What we're learning: This month in **language arts**, the 5th graders will continue to make our way through Unit 2 and 3 which focuses on the following skills: theme, personification, possessive nouns, repetition and rhyme, homographs, prepositional phrases, context clues, and action verbs. In **writing**, we are working on our 3 types of writing styles: informational, opinion, and narrative. In our **math** classes, we are learning about numerical expressions, patterns, and relationships as well as adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions. In **social studies**, we are wrapping up our learning about the Early Explorers and starting with early colonization. In **science**, the different classes are learning about either the engineering design process with parachutes, matter, chemical reactions, or the web of life.

AR Update: We are about a third of the way through our 3rd marking period which will end on May 17th. Please assist your child to make sure they are staying on track to meet their new reading goal so everyone can celebrate at our final AR celebration.

IX. Sixth Grade

6th grade had a fantastic time last month at the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts watching "The Phantom Toll Booth". We are spending April getting ready for you to come visit our Open House!

In **Science**, we will be finishing up our engineering unit. The students are having a great time figuring out how best to insulate shoebox houses. On April 5th, they will be turning in their Civilization reports for Social Studies and presenting their ancient artifacts; the imagination they put into making these artifacts is amazing!

Reading: April starts out as a busy month as we are preparing for our Showcase. We hope to have lots of student work out for parents to see in classrooms.

Students are finishing their Black History/Women's History projects and I am looking forward to seeing what they have done. We will continue working in *Wonders* starting in Unit 5 which has many ties to social studies and science. Please remind your children to read every night and to quiz at school so they can reach their AR goals.

Writing: We are reviewing the three writing types: Informative, Argument and Narrative. **The district writing test is April 10.** Students are prepared to organize their ideas, use information from the sources, have an introduction, body and conclusion, as well as transition words, facts, details and description. I am excited to see all the growth sixth graders have made this year in writing.

MATH: We are so proud of our 6th grade mathematicians! We had a huge group of students meet or exceed the district benchmarks! Well done parents! Thank you for your patience and trust with the process of learning, and the continued monitoring of homework— we are starting to reap the fruit! Continue to stress how important the upcoming SBAC is at home. Cheers to the following 6th graders who have reached 100% fluency in multiplication facts:

P.1: Lianna Arcangel, Jacob Cantu, Ben Chen, Brandon Conwell, Angelika David, Christian Gonzalez, Crystal Jaramillo, Robin Kim, Malik Maniago, Malena Marangos-Nunag, Alea Medina, Luke Nagata, Nicole Pyle, Dylan Takeshita, Kaitlyn Tarampi, Sophia Ucros,

P.2: Viviana Alvarez, Makoa Bocalan, Hope Corrigan, Jacob Courtright, Danikah DAVIS, Jacquelyn Gattoc, Elizabeth Gilmore, Tre Harrison, Natalia Hawayek, Sofia Jimenez, Jacob Kim, Nicholas Lai, Gwen Lambert, Daneil Loera, Scarlett Martinez, Presley Miller, Joshua Pearson, Alex Ramos, Angelo Serrano, Jacob Sikma, Shasha Yasutake

P. 3 Christian Abrazado, Rylee Asumbrado, Augustine Awada, Natalia Becara, Catheryn Cheung, Sharan Ghotra, Robert Gomez, Sohan Gohan, Camila Henriquez, Kaden Huynh, Caliph Johnson, Katelyn Le, Carmen Mehrdad, Anthony Paraiso, Troi Parker, Daniel Ramirez, Hamza Rehman, Gavin Richardson, Karleigh Rios, Sofia Robinson, Codi Thompson

P. 4 Christian Carreon, Gabriella Colombo, Anthony Corea, Shayla Cotright, Cayden Del Rosario, Kinsey Fuller, Penny Gilmore, Maddy Gonzalez, Makayla Gutierrez, Kelley Ikeda, Isabella Jurado, Elyse Lagari, Jayden Lim, Leo Lopez, Michael Meza, Kate Ortiz, Jadalyn Pasana-Hidalgo, Nathan Seto, Kennedy Smith, Ismينة Tejada, Ayden Toveres, Daniella Vargas, Benji Villa



A Note From Mrs. Bales

6th Grade Parents: Your child needs a **Tdap** shot for 7th grade. Please obtain this vaccine **as soon as possible**, and turn it in to the office. See Mrs. Bales for any questions.

X. Computer

Happy Easter and Happy Spring Break! Hopefully you will have a restful week off. Get out and enjoy the sunshine and beautiful flowers! April brings the start of practice testing for 3-6 for SBAC state testing. We will do some training and practicing in the LAB and 4-6 will do some training and practicing on their iPads. 3rd grade is working on a City Building project in the LAB as well. Don't forget to stop by the LAB and say hello at Showcase. Also, don't forget, the Lab is open after school Monday-Thursday from 3:00-3:30 for AR quizzing for grades 1-4.



XI. Wellness Program

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month! This month, I will be doing some programming to help students discuss how they bond with family members and the enjoyable activities they do with family. I encourage you to try a new, healthy family activity this month. Here are some ideas:

- Get outside! Take a walk with your family.
- Have a conversation with your student about who is important to them and why.
- Let your student choose what to eat for dinner and ask them to help you make it.
- Role-play emotions with your child - what do you do when you're happy, sad, or frustrated?
- Take time to praise your student for being a good friend and/or a caring family member.

Don't forget that Child Abuse Prevention Month is also about safety. Have a conversation with your student about who they consider a safe adult and what makes an adult "safe." Review what makes an adult "unsafe" and always encourage your student to come to you when they feel unsafe or see something that doesn't feel right.



XII. PTA

Wow, I can't believe there are just a couple of months left in this school year and we are so packed with awesome events. The next Watch DOGS meeting is on April 4th at Straw Hat Pizza in Cerritos at 7 pm. Our PTA meeting is Tuesday, April 9th in the JAM Center at 9 am after drop off. Family bowling night is on April 18th and tickets will be on sale soon. We are also planning our 1st Science Night for May 8th and our first Camp Out Night on May 17th. More details will follow in the near future.

Nixon also recently received an award at the ABC Council PTA Parent Leadership Conference for our Watch DOGS program. I heard the LA County Board of Supervisors is honoring us too for our efforts. If you or your husband is not a member please consider joining. It is very rewarding. Our Facebook page is growing so please join us at Nixon Academy PTA. We are currently posting photos to be used in our school yearbook. Happy early Easter parents!