

Monthly Matador - APRIL 2018



Shehzad Bhojani, Principal
Kay Hoard, ELS
Jen Veneracion, Title I Coordinator
Kelly Howard, IB Coordinator
Phone: 909-594-0053
Fax: 909-595-9438



APRIL 2018 Events

APR 2-6: Spring Break
APR 9: Return to School
APR 10: ELAC Parent Meeting:
8:30-9:30am-MPR
APR 11: Santa Ana Zoo (Kinder)
APR 11: Julian Mining Co. (3rd Gr)
APR 13: Chuck E Cheese Fundraiser – 3pm
APR 16: Volunteer Tea: 7:45-9am - MPR
APR 17: CJMCC Meeting: 9:30am – Annex
APR 19: Job Fair (Kinder): 8:15-9:45am-MPR
APR 20: Student of the Month Assembly
APR 23 – MAY 4: CAASPP TESTING WEEKS
APR 23: Huntington Library (1st Gr)
APR 25: Walking Field Trip to Post Office
(Kinder)

Social Tip / Attitude for April

Mrs. Oshiro / Speech

"Welcome back to school." "Hope you had a good spring break." Those are two good socially appropriate comments I heard today when returning to school. It makes returning to school a little easier when we hear kind thoughts from others. And, quick review, that was the IB attitude of Respect, "being polite and kind to yourself and others."
In March we talked about "feeling like you can do or try most things." We were focusing on increasing Confidence in learning and in making new friends. Now let's add in some Independence, "thinking and doing things for yourself", and Integrity, "being honest" and remembering to tell the truth. This is a great formula for success in completing standardized tests, (grades 3, 4 and 5) and finishing the school year strong academically as well as socially (everyone).

Principals Message

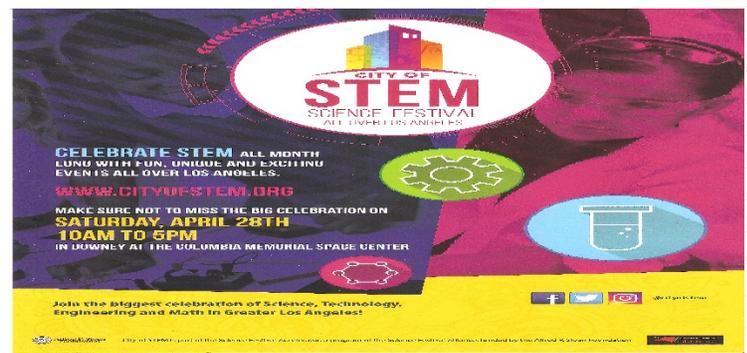
Dear parents,

Welcome back to school. I hope you had a restful and enjoyable spring break with your children.

In the month of April, our school along with others in our state, participate in the statewide testing (CAASPP). Our 3rd, 4th & 5th grade students get a chance to demonstrate what they know in the areas of Language Arts and Mathematics. Our teachers have been working hard to teach students the different content standards that comprise of the information covered on the test, so that they are able to do their best. Please make sure that your child gets a good night's sleep, eats a good breakfast and comes to school with an upbeat attitude. A positive ATTITUDE & continued EFFORT is what we expect from our kids. Please visit <http://www.caaspp.org/practice-and-training/index.html> to learn more about the tests.

Our Open House & Showcase was a tremendous success. Thanks for your participation and support in making all of our events, including the Jog-a-Thon and the Book Fair a success. CJMCC is also hosting a Chuck-E-Cheese fundraiser on April 20th. 30% of all sales will go to support our children. Thanks,

Mr. Bhojani



Transitional Kindergarten

Our TK students are blossoming like spring flowers! Our beautiful art work, creative writings and projects truly shined at our Open House! We were so happy to have so many visitors see all of our accomplishments! This month we will continue to focus on the initial letter sounds and *final* sounds in words, as well as review print concepts (title, punctuation marks, etc.). We will also continue to attempt to phonetically spell out words, and to correctly formulate letters. In math, we will further our number sense with hands-on activities that will encourage our students to explore patterns, shapes and numbers. For the next month, we will begin to work on the second half of our final IB unit, "Sharing the planet." We will learn about extinct Ice Age animals and endangered species in our world. Some topics we will discuss, will include resources, habitats and adaptations for survival. To support this learning unit, we will be going to the Orange County zoo to observe and learn about different animals.

Kindergarten

In April, Kindergarten will finish our IB unit on How we Organize Ourselves: Community Helpers. We will be going on two field trips to explore our community. Those field trips are to Vons and the Post Office. We will see a variety of community helpers at the sites and learn about the tools they use to do their job. Kindergartners will also be hearing about other careers at our annual Job Fair. We will then start our final IB unit, How the World Works: Forces and Motion. We will be learning about forces, motion, pushes and pulls, friction, gravity, and levers. It will be a super fun month!

First Grade

We want to introduce our new first grade teacher Mr. Kyle Simmons who has a background in technology and inquiry teaching. A perfect fit for our IB/PYP school. It was hard to say good-bye to Mrs. Sandoval who did an amazing job as our long-term sub for Mrs. Chiavetta. We will never forget her love and dedication to our kiddos. We are looking forward to our field trip to The Huntington Library at the end of the month as a culminating experience. We hope our partnership with The Green Pets Program will continue again next year. Students were excited to share their green pets at Open House as well as all of their learning. It was great to see so many families join in our celebration of knowledge and growth. First Graders are fabulous!

Second Grade

Our second graders just finished their "Earth's changes" science planner and the corresponding language arts studies. Now we begin our final planner of the school year which will center upon the economy. The students will learn about the importance of the buyer-seller relationship both locally and globally. Look for a related field trip in May! In math, our focus shifts from adding and subtracting up to 1,000 to arrays (a great introduction to multiplication) and fractions. In addition, we are learning to write strong informative paragraphs on a variety of factual topics.

Third Grade

Welcome back from Spring Break! We were very excited to have Julian Mining Company visit and share all of the realia and demonstrations of the Native Americans who lived in our area. This month our students will be learning about the Tongva/Gabrielino Tribe. In Language Arts, we will be focusing on nonfiction texts comprehension skills, focusing on climate and weather. We are continuing our exploration with fractions! This is the first year of CAASPP testing for third graders and we will be preparing for the test and positively motivating them to do their very best! Look for more information regarding our end-of-the-year Decathlon.

Fourth Grade

In fourth grade we are wrapping up our study of the gold rush. We are continuing to read By The Great Hornspoon, a novel which tells the story of two gold seekers trying to strike it rich in the gold fields of California. Since we read almost every day, it would be a good comprehension check to ask your student, "what is the setting of the story now?", "what problems are the characters dealing with and how do you think they will solve them?", "how is a character feeling about the situation they are in?" and "what do you think will happen next?" We will begin our next Planner in April, which is How the World Works. We will be looking at earthquakes, landforms and how the changing landscapes can effect humans. We will also study what makes a structure able to withstand an earthquake.

Fifth Grade

Students are going to love the month of April! We have so much to look forward to, Open House, Spring Break and CAASP Testing. Please make sure your students come well rested and eat a hearty breakfast before coming to school on testing days. In math, fifth grade students will be diving into the world of geometry. Students will learn how to draw, sort and classify polygons by their attributes, and learn how to convert metric and customary units of measurement. Students will learn how to use visual models and apply concepts to real world situations to illustrate these important concepts. In language arts, we will be learning about author's point of view and text structures. In writing, students will be developing their research skills and learning how to write informative essays. Exhibition is right around the corner and students have already chosen their research topics, developed a central idea, and will begin to research their topics for our planner "Who We Are." Let the journey begin!

Mrs. Howard: IB/PYP

Spring is in the air and after a restful spring break we are back for the final stretch. This is an exciting time of the year because students are able to pull the many tools and strategies they have learned throughout the year and apply them to their learning. As an International Baccalaureate school, we give many strategies to our students to equip them to be life-long learners. We call these the, "Approaches to Learning." The skills we focus on in the approaches to learning are: Self-management, Research, Thinking, Communication and Social. These are 21st century skills our students need to be global citizens. As your children are sharing projects, portfolios and performances ask them to think about what skills they used to complete those tasks. Remind them to use all of their skills as they embark on spring testing and make sure they get plenty of rest!

Mrs. Veneracion: TITLE 1

Hello Matadors! Students in the Learning Lab have been working hard with word work and test prep for the upcoming State Testing. Primary students have been working on different vowel patterns as well as practicing their reading in small groups. The upper graders are continuing to work on reading comprehension strategies (we've even mixed some art in) as well as personalized attention while preparing for our state test. We are excited to be planning for our Celebration of Growth in May and will keep you updated on what is to come.

"You Is Smart, You Is Kind, You Is Important" - Rochelle Mortensen

Over spring break, I watched "The Help" with my daughter. The movie is about African Americans working in white households in Jackson, Mississippi during the early 1960's. One of the main characters is a woman named Abilene who is a domestic worker. One of her responsibilities is to take care of a family's young daughter who is ignored by her mother because she is not pretty. Abilene loves the little girl and teaches the little girl the mantra "You is smart. You is kind. You is important."

Our child's self-image is created through the words spoken to them each and every day. As parents, we cannot control everything that is spoken to our child, but we can control what we say. We can help counter negative things they hear by being proactive like Abilene and daily reminding our children, verbally, that they are smart, they are kind, and they are important. You can add to or exchange the words "smart" and "kind" with any other positive attribute that you want to be your child's "truth". Words like, creative, committed, confident, empathetic, enthusiastic, or loving are great words to add to your child's own personal mantra.

The truth is we were ALL are born smart, kind, and important. We just sometimes let outside sources convince us otherwise. So, tonight as you tuck your child in bed, tell him/her, "You are smart. You are kind. You are important."