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**Fremont Elementary Celebrates Read Across America on Dr. Seuss’
Birthday:
Community Leaders Read to Enchant Young Readers, Encourage
Literacy on March 1, 2019**

*“We want our students to love reading and one of the best ways to do that is to bring in these wonderful role models from our communities to partner with the students in reading!”
— Principal Robby Jung*

The Scene on March 1, 2019...

Alhambra, CA — Morning leaps to life as pajama-wearing kindergarten and first grade Fremont students spot Principal Robby Jung dressed in Dr. Seuss garb. They are thrilled, laughing as they shout their guesses about which character Mr. Jung is supposed to be. The Cat in a Hat, the Lorax, the Grinch, and Thing Two can be seen walking the school hallways.

As part of the Read Across America event on Dr. Seuss’ birthday, Fremont Elementary invited community leaders to read to students on March 1, 2019. The staff dress as book characters and K-3 students wear their pajamas to class, ready for story time when visitors arrive at 8:00 am to read to the K-8 students. Fremont is dedicated to instilling a love of words and reading in its students, 71% of whom are Latino, 20% AAAP, with almost 21% are English Learners.

Fremont is also home to the AUSD Spanish Dual Immersion program for grades K-2.

In the richly multicultural, multilingual global haven that is Alhambra USD, there is an education-first, student-centered community spirit that embraces the concept of it-takes-all-of-us to help students flourish.

WHAT: Fremont Elementary Celebrates Read Across America on Dr. Seuss' birthday with a Community Read-In

Fremont has 543 students K-8: 71% Latino, 20% AAPI, 21% English Learners, 71% on free or reduced fee lunch

Fremont is also home to the AUSD Spanish Dual Immersion program for K-2 grade students

THEME: Books in Spanish and English will explore the power of friendship and choosing to do the right thing and include lessons about diversity, acceptance, political tolerance and empathy

VISIT: Ms. Nidia Urena's first grade Spanish Dual Immersion class will have their story read in Spanish. These students hail from families who speak a total of ten home languages. These students are in their second year of the Spanish Dual Immersion program.

Ms. Janeth Bank's third grade class will have their story read in English.

Students in K-3 classes will wear their pajamas as a special treat for storytelling time.

WHERE: Fremont Elementary
2001 Elm Street
Alhambra 91803

Principal Robby Jung
626-943-3340

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Bilingual English and Spanish staff and students can talk about what the Community Read-In means to Fremont.

EFFECTS: Fremont staff dress as Dr. Seuss characters to add to the magic of the day for students. K-3 students are invited to wear their pajamas as part of the festive celebration of storytelling.

WHEN: Friday, March 1, 2019
8:00 am to 9:00 am: Reading in classrooms

WHY: Reading to young children sets them up to succeed. Reading to a child is a powerful secret to inspiring imagination, increasing vocabulary, developing curiosity, and creating thinkers. Reading aloud to a child increases literacy — much more than just talking to a child does. Reading is the Foundation for Learning: Read to a Child

WHO: Some of the community readers include:
Adele Andrade-Stadler, Mayor of the City of Alhambra
Teresa Ybarra, President of Alhambra Latino Association
Tammy Scorgia, President, Alhambra Teachers Association
Teresa Montano, Vice-President of California Teachers Association and on the faculty of Cal State Northridge
Fremont parents and front office staff

QUOTE: “Instilling a love for reading is fundamental to the educational process. At Fremont, we want all of our students to love reading, and one of the best ways to do that is to bring in these wonderful role models from our communities to partner with our students in reading! We are grateful to our School Board, City Council and Alhambra Latino Association for setting an example for our students, paving the way for them to be avid readers and enthusiastic learners.” — Principal Robby Jung

The Community Read-In on Friday, March 1, 2019, is one example of this community spirit.

PARKING: With special permission from the Alhambra Police Department, on this day, especially for press, they can park on Elm Street in front of the school, despite what signage indicates.

Did you know these benefits of reading to a child?

- *Reading to a child from an early age makes a real difference in a child's future.*
- *Reading to a child helps ensure they are able to read well by third grade.*
- *In third grade, students must be able to make the important transition from learning to read to reading to learn.*
- *The more you read to children, the more knowledge they absorb.*
- *Studies show that reading to babies and toddlers gives them a head start.*
- *Reading to a child develops their language skills and vocabulary. The more words a child knows the better.*
- *Reading books to children who speak more than one language is an easy way to help language skills and important to developing fluency.*
- *Reading together enhances a child's concentration, encourages a thirst for knowledge, helps to develop empathy, and builds a bond.*
- *Reading to young children sets them up for success.*

- *Reading together is one of the best ways to prepare and encourage a child to read and is the secret to literacy.*

Reading is the Foundation for Learning

It takes all of us to help children flourish

Read to a Child

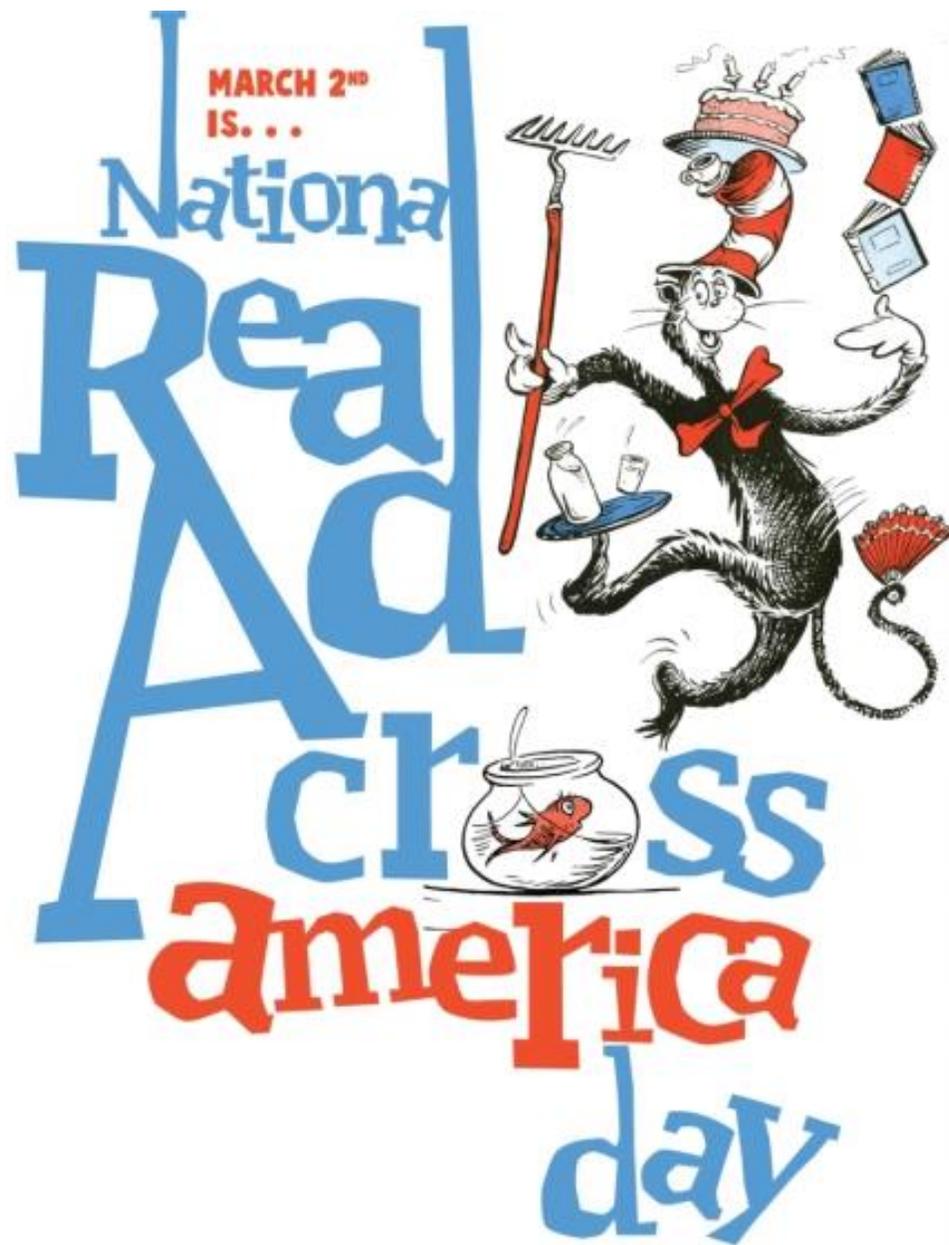
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CAPTION:

Fremont Elementary celebrates the joy of reading with Read Across America on Dr. Seuss' birthday with an event that includes the school staff dressed as book characters, K-3 students wearing pajamas for story time and community leaders as readers. Mayor of the City of Alhambra, Adele Andrade-Stadler; Alhambra Teachers Association President, Tammy Scorgia; Alhambra Latino Association President, Teresa Ybarra; California Teachers Association Vice-President, Theresa Montano, as well as Fremont parents and other community leaders, will be on hand to read to K-8th grade students.



Expect to see Fremont Elementary staff in Cat in the Hat garb for Dr. Seuss' birthday at the March 1, 2019, Read Across America event when community readers read to K-8 students from 8:00 am to 9:00 am



Fremont Elementary celebrates Dr. Seuss' birthday at their Read Across America event on March 1, 2019 from 8:00 to 9:00 am, when community leaders read to K-8 students. in Spanish (for Dual Immersion K-2 students) and English for all others. The Alhambra Latino Association, Alhambra Teachers Association and California Teachers Association members are readers.

Ms. Nidia Urena's Spanish Dual Immersion first grade class at Fremont, here visiting with



LA Times reporter, Esmeralda Bermudez.

Fremont Elementary students celebrate in anticipation of their Read Across America



event on March 1, 2019.