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School News

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Covering the Torrance Unified School District

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 14

JUNE 2017

Reflecting On Our Accomplishments



Dr. George Mannon
Superintendent

Another demanding but productive school year is coming to an end. As we transition into a summer state of mind, I would like to take a moment to reflect on all that we have accomplished this year.

First, I am so proud to work with such an extraordinary group of educators. Thank you for your service! I would like to thank our teachers, staff and administration for their dedication, energy, positive attitudes, and commitment to our students and

their families. Together, we continue to provide our students with the learning environments they need to be successful and thrive.

Over the past year, we continued to focus on student-centric teaching and learning. Once again, our 97-percent high school graduation rate is one of the highest in the state. For this reason, our high schools are consistently recognized as some of the best in the nation and state by Newsweek and U.S. News and



TUSD Middle School students compete in the LA County regional Math Field Day competition

World Report. The district was also recognized as one of the top 20 Honor Roll districts in the state by the Campaign for Business and Education Excellence. This year, five of our schools received the Gold Ribbon Award, and Shery High School was named as a Model Continuation School by the state. These distinctions are worthy of celebration and reflect the positive effects of the leadership, collaboration, and perseverance of our administrators throughout our district.

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Board of Education				
Terry Ragins President	Michael Wermers Vice-President	Martha Deutsch Clerk	Don Lee Member	Mark Steffen Member

West High Science Olympiad Team



1st place winners of the LA Regional competition and 10th place winners in the State tournament. A few STEM competition events included, Forensics, Microbe Mission, Dynamic Planet, and Invasive Species. Congrats to the West High Team!

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Thank You!



Terry Ragins
President

As another school year winds down, I am reminded that it takes a village to raise a child. I am so proud to be part of our Torrance village. As a longtime Torrance resident, PTA member, and community leader, I have seen the tremendous positive impact our parent volunteers make for our schools and students. As a School Board member, that perspective has broadened to include the relationship that Torrance Unified School District (TUSD) has with our community partners, organizations such as the Torrance Education Foundation, the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce, and the city of Torrance, and our service organizations, including the Rotary Club, whose members support our mission to prepare our students for college and career.

A heartfelt thank you to our parents, whose volunteer hours and resources make possible programs such as Project BOSS, Project HOPE, the TUSD College Fair, Parent Education Nights, the Reflections competition, and Sacramento Safari. A hearty thank you to the city of Torrance leadership, especially our mayor, Pat Furey, for the continued support of educational programs such as Students in Government Day for our middle-schoolers and civic education for our high school students. Another thank you to the Torrance Education Foundation for their commitment to enhancing our science curriculum with their funding of supplies for the new elementary science labs,

See **BOARD OF EDUCATION** • Page 16

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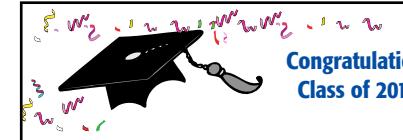
Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



It is the end of another successful
school year for Torrance Unified
School District. Thank you for
including *School News* among your
reading choices.

Please be sure to include the
library among your summer
activities. We have book reviews and
lots of summer ideas on pages 17-22.

Our next issue is October 25 just
in time to bring you up to date on a
new school year. Have a fun summer!



Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach

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Causes of Sore Throats

At some point in your child's life, they will experience a sore throat. While allergies and irritations can contribute to a sore throat, viral or bacterial infections are the main causes of a sore throat.

It's important to learn the difference between viral and bacterial infections to ensure your child receives the correct treatment. Because viral illnesses, like a cold or flu, are the most common cause of a sore throat, it's best not to use antibiotics to treat them. Antibiotics are not effective in treating viral infections and the overuse of antibiotics may kill good bacteria and possibly lead to the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in your child.

Viral causes of sore throat can include:

- Common cold or flu
- Infection of the voice box (laryngitis)
- Mononucleosis (mono, "the kissing disease")

Bacterial causes of sore throat can include:

- Strep throat
- An inflammation or infection of the tonsils (tonsillitis) or the adenoids (adenoiditis)
- An infection of the tissues around the tonsils (peritonsillar abscess)

If your child's sore throat is severe, lasts more than five to seven days and is not associated with an allergy or irritation, seek medical attention for your child.

There are several other symptoms that may indicate a more serious illness. If your child experiences any of the following symptoms, consult your child's doctor:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| • Difficulty breathing or swallowing | • Fever (over 101°) |
| • Difficulty opening the mouth | • Joint pain |
| • Blood in saliva or phlegm | • Frequently recurring sore throat |
| • Earache | • Lump in neck |
| • Rash | • Hoarseness lasting more than two weeks |

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Torrance Council of PTAs

www.torrancecouncilofptas.org

Myriad Accomplishments!

By Michelle Van Lerberghe, President

Torrance Council of PTAs is extremely proud of the accomplishments of the council and unit PTAs for the 2016–17 school year. Our 30 units and the council have served a total of 368,919 volunteer hours. Volunteering is the heart of PTA.

This year, Torrance Council of PTAs won the 33rd District PTA Membership Contest. We set out at the beginning of the year to have a membership increase and take home the trophy, and we accomplished both. All 30 units helped us meet this goal, and we thank everyone who joined PTA at their local school site. We have 15,784 members, and that number is still rising.

Each of our 30 units will be awarding scholarships to graduating high school seniors who are PTA members. Torrance Council will be awarding nine scholarships as well, two at each high school and one from Shery.

Our PTA units have provided a multitude of programs for the schools, including Healthy Ever After, Adventures in Art, science assemblies, social studies assemblies, carnivals, robotics, spelling bees, skate nights, multicultural weeks, fun runs, service clubs, Read Across America, test-prep classes and parent education!

Our council and units are already preparing for next year. Several board members from our units and council will be attending training sessions at the California State PTA Convention in San Jose. This annual convention is also a great place to get ideas for programs, fund-raisers and membership drives.

Our goal is to effectively advocate for all students. You can help us attain that goal by joining your unit PTA. Everyone is welcome!

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You can help us attain that goal
by joining your unit PTA.
Everyone is welcome!

Torrance Education Foundation

P.O. Box 1397, Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/972-6418 • www.torranceeducationfoundation.org

13th Annual Raffle Raises \$67,000

By Susan Swinburne, Executive Director



On April 1st, one lucky mom from Arlington Elementary School received the phone call of a lifetime. Karrie Dooley, whose Kindergartener is enrolled at Arlington, purchased the winning ticket and very shortly will be driving a brand new 2017 Toyota RAV4 hybrid SUV!

Each Spring, the Spectacular Toyota Car Raffle participatory fundraising for Torrance schools. Families and other community members who purchase one or more raffle tickets to support Torrance Education Foundation may elect designate a TUSD school as a beneficiary of their support. When they do, two thirds of their total purchase is donated by TEF to their chosen school.

The 2017 Car Drawing raised more than \$67,000, and almost \$40,000 was designated to support individual schools for their specific needs and priorities.

TEF thanks everyone who purchased car raffle tickets this year. And, congratulations to Karrie Dooley and her family!

Be Part of the Largest National Study on Brain Development and Child Health at UCLA!

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Adams Elementary

2121 238th St., Torrance, CA 90501 • 310/533-4480 • adams.tusd.org

Full STEAM Ahead!

Recently, Adams's students participated in their first-ever STEAM Fair Family Night. STEAM, which stands for science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics, is an interdisciplinary approach that connects all areas in real-world problem-based learning.

With the support of our fantastic teachers and PTA, student projects were aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Students from transitional kindergarten (TK) through fifth grade proudly displayed their projects and explained their hypothesis, process and results to our guests. At the end of

the night, a first-place winner was recognized at each grade level. These six students then moved on to represent Adams at the TUSD STEAM Fair. As a district, students from each elementary school came together to celebrate a love of learning, discovering and exploring the world of STEAM.

To learn more about STEAM, visit: www.ed.gov/stem, www.stemedcoalition.org and www.livescience.com.



Anza Elementary

21400 Ellinwood Dr., Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4559 • anzaelementary.org

Resourceful Students!

Our Anza Elementary School students took science and concern for the planet and put them together to create a new earth friendly graffiti-removal product. The students incorporated their math, science, and nature studies to develop a non-toxic way to dissolve graffiti from tables, desks, and steel!

Milani Vo and Danielle McClain discovered some writing on the walls of a bathroom and wondered who did it. They then asked how it could be safely removed. The girls went online and read about the removal products currently on the market and all the hazards involved with these chemicals.



So they decided to study the natural properties of fruits like lemons and oranges. Olive oil works to remove paint from clay materials, but the most difficult substance was bricks. Milani and Danielle entered their idea into the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Fair (STEM) and won first place for their invention!

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Arnold Elementary

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A Fond Farewell

What a great year 2016–2017 has been at Arnold Elementary School! Our students have read lots of new books, researched topics of interest on the internet, solved real-world math problems, invented and designed, traveled back in history, and learned what it means to be a productive citizen.

They have also collaborated with each other as well, as their teachers have provided them with many active-practice opportunities. With the help of our Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS), they also pledged to be respectful, responsible, safe, and use their best effort every day. They even met the principal's challenges to be kind, polite, and get along with others.

Our Arnold parents have been busy logging thousands of volunteer hours too. We cannot thank them enough for all of their support in the classrooms, on field trips, and at our many fun PTA activities. The staff at Arnold Elementary has also worked hard this year to develop a new Mission Statement that reflects our vision of an inclusive school that believes in each student's ability to achieve.

Dream it. Believe it. Achieve it. These three sentences represent the heart of our Arnold community, and they have been adopted as our official Mission Statement. As part of the work of our Professional Learning Community (PLC), we have defined our mission and vision to more accurately represent our school, and reflect the high standards of teaching and learning that are part of everyday life here at Arnold. We are excited to spread the word about our new Mission Statement, and are planning to literally paint it on the walls!

As we say goodbye, we look back fondly on a year full of fun, discovery, and lots of learning. We thank all of those who made it possible: our staff, our parent volunteers, our community, and our Amazing Alleycat students!



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Arlington Elementary

17800 Van Ness Ave., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4519 • arlingtonpta.com



STEAM Learning

Arlington Elementary School recognizes the importance of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education for our Super Stars!

Our teachers create a variety of STEM science lessons each week for our students. These lessons are aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards and are designed to foster student interest and inquiry.

Recently, Arlington participated in our annual Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) Fair, extending the opportunity for students to apply their learning, interest, and discovery. Students were encouraged to pursue their wonderings, create design improvements, and showcase their evidence as they gathered information about a variety of phenomena. Arlington's top student projects for each grade level were recognized at the district STEAM Fair.



This fantastic event was held at the Torrance High School library, where families had a chance to check out projects from many TUSD elementary students and hear explanations from the projects' student inventors.

Calle Mayor Middle School

4800 Calle Mayor, Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4548 • callemayor.tusd.org



A Great Year

Our Calle Mayor students had the opportunity to showcase their many talents at this year's fourth annual Talent Show!

Calle Mayor teachers Mr. Balderas, Mr. Stavropoulos, and Mrs. Acosta-Snustead helped to put together this amazing talent-packed night for our community to enjoy. Our Calle Mayor students sang, danced, and played musical instruments in front of a supportive crowd that was chanting and clapping in pure excitement. If you missed this wonderful event, remember that it happens every year, and so be sure to watch our school marquee or check our website for its return.

Calle Mayor is extremely excited to announce that we were recently awarded the California Gold Ribbon Schools Award. Calle Mayor was recognized as one of 275 California Gold Ribbon Schools for 2017. Our seven after-school clubs were especially identified as an educational model practice that has helped to improve student academics and behavior.

The California Gold Ribbon Award reflects our success in creating a positive learning atmosphere for our students. We are extremely excited about this amazing recognition, and would like to thank the PTSA, the Calle staff, our wonderful Calle Mayor community, and our business partner Torrance Memorial Medical Center for all of the support that we have received for these awesome after-school programs.

We hope that you have a wonderful summer, and are looking forward to seeing you in the fall.

Carr Elementary

3404 W. 168th St., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4467 • carr.tusd.org



Read to Achieve

On April 10, over 100 Carr students from grades one to five were transported to the Los Angeles Lakers' training facility for a day full of fun activities. This was a grand prize award to Carr for its 95 percent completion rate in this year's "Lakers Read to Achieve" reading challenge.

During the months of January and February, our Carr students were challenged to read for 15 minutes a day, or complete six chapter books in a six-week period. For their participation, each student who completed the challenge received a certificate of completion and a Lakers prize. In addition, the top school in Southern California with the highest overall completion rate was chosen to spend a day with the Lakers at their facility in El Segundo.

As a part of the day, our students were entered into a lay-up competition with some of the Lakers who were chosen to be on each team. In addition, the children had books read to them by Lakers players and cheerleaders. The students were also provided with lunch by the team.

We are very proud of the fact that our students have won this grand prize for the second year in a row.

Casimir Middle School

17220 Casimir Ave., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4498 • casimir.tusd.org



Humanities Night

At Humanities Night, Casimir Middle School students took over the role of instructing parents as they showed their knowledge in English and social studies. In addition, for the first time in 20 years, there was a live drama performance on the Casimir stage.

Students, assisted by staff members, created a short play based on Washington Irving's story "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," which eighth-grade students used earlier in the year to examine the Revolutionary War. Two eighth-grade students also gave a TED talk on grit. Students are looking forward to more opportunities to create dramatic and informational presentations related to the curriculum.

Families were able to participate in English and social studies games in Mrs. Carim's classroom. In Mr. Donde's room, students and parents had the opportunity to solve a social studies mystery using computers. Mrs. Thom's students taught their parents how to create clay tablets and write their names in cuneiform.



Edison Elementary

3800 W. 182nd St., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4513 • edison.tusd.org



Keeping it Real

Multicultural Week at Edison is a fantastic event that highlights the diversity of our school. It is a wonderful week for celebrating and highlighting our many diverse backgrounds.

Student cultural performances were held daily at the morning assembly, from hula and koi balls, to Armenian and Indian dances, to Italian songs and grade-level cowboy/cowgirl performances. Our PTA also organized and set up a cultural museum where various country facts, artifacts, and clothing were displayed in the cafeteria.

A cultural potluck activity was also held in the evening for our families to enjoy and taste foods from other countries. We ended the week with a parade of classes wearing their family's traditional clothing.



Appreciating and accepting our differences and various backgrounds makes Edison a wonderful and happy place. Our students are "keeping it real" with Respect, Empathy, Awareness, and Learning!

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Jefferson Middle School

21717 Talisman St., Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4794 • jefferson.tusd.org



Rocking STEAM Education

Jefferson is engaged and excited about offering many different STEAM opportunities, from Family STEAM Night to electives, tutorials, Math Counts, Robotics Teams, and clubs. We now want to highlight two such STEAM programs: "Rock and Roll: An American Story"; and "Project Lead the Way" (PLTW).

Rock and Roll: An American Story brings a unique STEAM perspective to JMS through a partnership with music. This course focuses on various eras of American popular music.

Lessons are tailored for standards in social studies, language arts, geography, science, and music. The students learn instrumentation, sound, history, and also incorporate language arts skills.

The first era, the "Birth of Rock and Roll," explores the roots of rock and roll, its emergence, and its later entrance into the cultural mainstream of America. The students learn how this music brought people together from across regions, race, class lines, and oceans. It was the beginning of a historical turn that changed daily life in the modern world.

Our second highlighted course is PLTW. Students in this course focus on design and modeling. The design process is discovered and developed with creativity and innovation at its core. Students are challenged and empowered to use and apply what they have learned throughout the unit to design an actual usable outcome. A meaningful example of this design and research process was a student PLTW challenge to design and develop a therapeutic toy for children with cerebral palsy.

JMS understands that middle school is a time of exploration; a time when students are figuring out what they are interested in and passionate about, and how these interests and passions can relate to their future. These hands-on STEAM offerings increase student engagement, guide collaboration, and inspire our children's critical thinking, application skills, and pathways to the future.

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Fern Elementary

1314 Fern Ave., Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4506 • fern.tusd.org



Students + Art = Learning!

In conjunction with a Los Angeles art museum, Fern students showcase their artistic talents six times throughout the year by participating in artist-led workshops in their classrooms. Fern is participating in a two-year partnership with the museum that is designed to create a sustained arts presence in the lives of students, families and staff.

Artists from the museum provide lessons based on various styles of art; students learn about the process of creating art, respond to the museum's artifacts and make personal connections, and then create their personal masterpieces.

At Fern, we recognize that students have many talents, and we strive to provide creative programs that allow students to further develop their abilities. We are proud that the arts are very much alive and fun in our learning community! Thank-you goes to our museum partner!



First graders create various types of lines, modeled after a LACMA artifact (Jar with Dragon and Clouds" Joseon dynasty).

Hickory Elementary

2800 W. 227th St., Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4672 • w1.hickory.tusd.org



Our Terrific PE!

Thursday at Hickory is a favorite—it is PE Day! Each grade from first through fifth has a full one-hour PE class with three amazing, highly qualified physical education teachers. Classroom teachers use this time to collaborate and plan.

Meanwhile, out on the field...

Students participate in jump-rope activities, hoops and Chinese jump rope. The games HELP and Chinese jump rope are favorites of students! For HELP, the H is for "jumping high wires," the E is for "one eye closed," the L is for "one leg," and the P is for "pepper"—jumping at a fast speed! Ask your child to demonstrate the pattern for Chinese jump rope.

Students also practice dribbling with their dominant hand and their nondominant hand. They also practice the bounce pass, chest pass and overhead pass. Along with practicing basketball skills and drills, students are participating in mini-games and activities. They work on running stamina and physical-strength training.

During the month of May, students practiced track-and-field events. Tryouts for the district track meet on June 9 were held at Hickory during May. Some events introduced to students were the relays, the long jump and the standing broad jump.

We encourage all third-, fourth- and fifth-grade students to try out for the Hickory Track Team. Go Hounds!

J.H. Hull Middle School

2080 W. 231st St., Torrance, CA 90501 • 310/533-4516 • hull.tusd.org



Color Me Hull Spring

Spring time is here at Hull Middle School and the 8th grade Ceramics class is putting on their annual fundraiser, Color Me Hull Spring. The students in the Ceramics class work all semester in making all types of figurines to sell to families and friends on the evening of Friday, April 28th.

Patty Grgis
Principal



They work to help sell, glaze, and kiln the figurines for those who come enjoy this fantastic family fun-filled evening.

The class holds this event twice a year: once in November and once in April. They represent the best of being Hawksome at Hull Middle School!

Lincoln Elementary

2418 W. 166th St., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4464 • lincoln.tusd.org



Two Worthwhile Programs

At Lincoln, literacy and service went hand in hand as we implemented our 2017 Read Across America Program activities. Read Across America is an initiative created by the National Education Association. It is a reading motivation and awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading by commemorating the birthday of the beloved children's author Dr. Seuss. Lincoln's weeklong festivities included celebrating various Dr. Seuss books by doing fun things such as wearing a wacky outfit to celebrate the Wacky Wednesday book or wearing a favorite hat to celebrate the classic

Cat in the Hat book.

However, in addition to all of the fun, we encouraged our students to work together in support of others in our community who have needs greater than our own. This year, we collected canned food for the Volunteer Center's Food for Kids program. This program was created to provide underserved school-age children with nutritious food on the weekends to help ensure that they do not arrive to school hungry on Monday mornings but rather ready to learn and achieve academic success. With that, Lincoln was able to support the good work of the Volunteer Center by donating 780 pounds of food!

A great time was had by all this year during Lincoln's Read Across America Program, and more priceless than the fun was the ability to give back to our community.

Lynn Middle School

5038 Halison St., Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4495 • bertlynn.tusd.org



Junior Scholarship Federation

Bert Lynn Middle School's California Junior Scholarship Federation (CJSF) fosters high standards of scholarship, service and citizenship. Our purpose is to service the school and the community while fostering pride in scholastic achievement.

All CJSF members are required to participate and keep community-service hours. Some of the events that we have promoted and participated in are the Friendship Walk, a food drive during Thanksgiving, a toy drive for a local orphanage,

LeRoy Jackson Jr.
Principal



Madrona Middle School

21364 Madrona Ave., Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4562 • madrona.tusd.org



Spring Has Sprung

Early this spring, Madrona Middle School tied the record for the greatest number of students selected to participate in the City of Torrance Students and Government Day. On May 2, three Madrona students, along with students from other middle schools, shadowed a city official for the day and ran the city council meeting. Congratulations to Bianca Contreras, Erin Jung, and Tristan Minter!

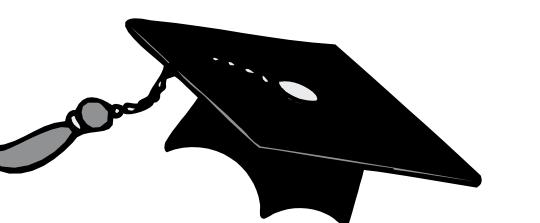
On May 3, Madrona's drama class showcased "Comedy Shorts," a series of comedic skits. This was the second production under the direction of our new drama instructor, Mr. Heussenstamm. Madrona looks forward to having more than one performance per year as "Mr. H" continues to expand our drama program.

Our award-winning Science Olympiad team presented the annual Madrona Family Science Night on May 9. This event was entirely student-driven, as our team did the research, conducted an inquiry into supplies and costs, and provided detailed instructions for parents and students to make the most of this night. Events included candy-launching catapults, bubble gum making, quaking castles, and more!

And finally, Madrona's band was selected to play the national anthem during the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim's home game on May 13. We were excited to have them perform in front of a stadium-capacity crowd! If you were not able to catch the game, hopefully you were able to listen to them on the telecast on Fox Sports West just prior to the 6 p.m. first pitch.

Go, Wildcats!

Congratulations Class of 2017!



Magruder Middle School

4100 W. 185th St., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4527 • magruder.tusd.org



Tomorrow's Leaders

For many years, Juvenile Diversion in Torrance has been a strong supporter of Torrance schools. Their leadership program through the Torrance Police Department is one thing they do to support our students. Its mission is promoting leadership, facilitating life-skills instruction, instilling accountability in our youth, and preparing students for their journey through high school and into adulthood.

This year, Magruder eighth-graders again participated in this spectacular program facilitated by effective instructors.

It was invaluable in guiding students through the process of making sound decisions in critical areas of their lives. Students participated in several team-building activities that culminated in a day at the ropes course, making

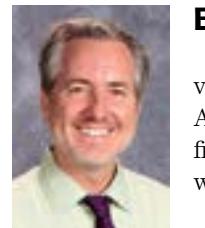


students aware of how strong and resilient they are. These engaging lessons and conversations greatly benefit our students as they mature and aspire to becoming successful adults.

Magruder faculty and staff are grateful for the support offered through this program. Their ongoing work positively impacts our students' lives.

Richardson Middle School

23751 Nancy Lee Lane, Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4790 • richardsonmiddleschool.org



Experiential Learning

Richardson Middle School's eighth-graders have had some valuable experiential learning experiences recently. Grade Gifted And Talented Education (GATE) students attended a three-day field trip to the Catalina Island Marine Institute (CIMI), which was an inspiring experience for all.

The students went snorkeling twice on their very first day. Before beginning, they learned about the types of fish they might see. Then they were introduced to the complicated

process of putting on the necessary snorkeling gear and multi-layer wetsuits. Finally, they plunged into the bay near the camp. The students managed to spot at least one Garibaldi, the California state marine fish. The second snorkeling experience took place at night. The students saw some interesting sea creatures that are visible only in the dark, including crabs and bioluminescent phytoplankton that glow!

The CIMI field trip also included marine lab time. Students learned about many of the marine animals that inhabit the ocean waters of California. Much of this lab time was hands-on experience with these sea creatures. Every student on the trip overcame fears to pet a shark.

Also last month, our entire eighth-grade class visited the Museum of Tolerance. There, the students had a powerful emotional experience, learning as they viewed replica elements of the Holocaust. They saw and heard the propaganda of Nazi Germany that led to this horrific occurrence in history. Students also saw what the concentration camps were like for those of the Jewish faith and other races that were persecuted during this terrible time.

While students and parents are sometimes concerned about the time spent out of class as a result of field trips, I cannot emphasize enough just how powerful and valuable this experiential learning was for the RMS students who attended.

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Riviera Elementary

365 Paseo de Arena, Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4460 • riviera.tusd.org



Our Garden Club Friends

Riviera Elementary School partnered with our neighborhood Riviera Garden Club (RGC) to plan an exciting Arbor Day celebration. During flag assembly on May 1, a Tristania conferta tree was planted. This evergreen tree will bloom with yellow flowers. Outdoor planter benches were purchased to furnish Riviera's Reading Garden, and nature and ecology books were purchased for the Riviera library. Lastly, members of the Riviera Garden Club worked with an arborist and Torrance Unified School District's fabulous Grounds & Maintenance Department to identify all of the trees on the Riviera campus. The trees are now labeled with placards that include the name and country origin, so that students and community members can enjoy taking "walking tree tours" on campus for years to come.

This project was made possible with a generous donation of \$2,500 from the Riviera Garden Club! The Riviera Garden Club was founded in 1957 as a nonprofit organization of amateur gardeners. The club objectives are to: mentor youth; educate and increase interest in gardening, plant and bird life; promote conservation of all natural resources; and enhance the beautification of the Riviera community.

Visit www.rivieragardenclub.org to learn more about the RGC. And come visit the Riviera campus on the weekend to enjoy a walking tree tour!

Torrance Elementary

2125 Lincoln Ave., Torrance, CA 90501 • 310/533-4500 • torranceel.tusd.org



Full Steam Ahead!

Torrance Elementary School has welcomed the new STEAM Fair Engineer Design Process approach to creating science projects.

Kudos to fifth-grade teacher Ann Marie Frank for organizing ideas and detailed information for each grade level to help introduce the new perspective, based upon Next Generation Science Standards, that uses science, technology, engineering, math, and art. Students in each grade level have created experiments and projects to help learn the process.

The kindergartners and first-graders for instance have been enthusiastically sorting and counting math manipulatives such as buttons, shells, and rocks. They've worked in groups, pairs, and alone to find many new ways to sort objects by their physical attributes. The second- and third-graders have built catapults, rafts, cars, and marshmallow launchers with much enthusiasm. They were also challenged to make improvements to perfect their prototypes.

The fourth- and fifth-grade students watched engineering videos to learn the process of developing, creating, testing, and improving their prototypes. They then engaged in groups to share their "wonderings," and were actively encouraged to problem solve, persevere, and just have fun!



Our volunteer judges, all with engineering and science backgrounds, were very impressed with the quality and originality of our students' projects.

Seaside Elementary

4651 Sharynne Lane, Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4532 • seaside.tusd.org



Colorful Blast!

Every year, Seaside students and family members launch spring break by taking full advantage of the expansive 11-acre campus and grassy fields. Together with PTA, the school hosts the Family Picnic Lunch and Fun Run. The hills and fields are dotted with towels and blankets, and children of all ages buzz around in delight, dancing and playing while the energetic beats of the DJ music bounce them along in the background.

This year, the Fun Run took on the added element of color. Children ran the course while adults used condiment bottles filled with colorful cornstarch to puff a powder blast of fun onto the shirts of the students. Children were provided with free glasses and shirts to wear during the run to help them remember the day well after the baths and showers made them clean! I can't think of a better way to start spring break!



Shery High School

2600 Vine St., Torrance, CA 90501 • 310/533-4440 • shery.tusd.org



Looking to the Future

This year at Shery High School we took our students on special tours to four different college campuses. These were El Camino College, Harbor College, CSU Dominguez Hills, and UCLA.

The students had a great time exploring these schools, and many of them said that it was the first time they had been on an actual college campus. It was great to see how excited they were after their return!

Also this year we have over 50 seniors who have been meeting with an El Camino College counselor who visits our school every week. Here they can do their orientation, enroll for college in the fall, and take their English and math placement tests, as well as learn all about the financial aid process.

A number of our students have also participated in the ASVAB test (the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery). This is a career exploration assessment that measures developed abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success. This test is widely used to help students see what strengths they have that could lead to future school attendance, enrollment in a vocational program, or other career opportunities.

At Shery High, we believe that school is about more than just getting a high school diploma. We also strive to help guide our students in their post-secondary career and educational choices.

South High School

4801 Pacific Coast Highway, Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4352 • shs.tusd.org



Prestigious California Gold Ribbon Recognition

South High School has proudly achieved the recognition as a California Gold Ribbon School. Earning Gold Ribbon recognition is a three-part process. First, South HS achieved proficiency targets on last year's SBAC testing in Math and English. Second, South submitted an application to the state, identifying a "signature practice" that has transformed the school. After a rigorous review of applications, selected schools received a validation visit from the County Office of Education, to view first-hand and validate the impact of the practice.

For South, we selected "Open Access to Honors and AP Classes" as our signature practice. For the past 12 years, South has employed an open access policy that has seen Honors and AP classes grow dramatically over time. The table below represents the growth in honors and AP courses since the inception of open access.

	2004	2016
Total Enrollments in Honors and AP Courses	1090	2623
Students Taking At Least One AP Exam	192	579
Total AP Exams Taken	430	1270
School Wide AP Exam Pass Rate	70.0%	82.4%

This represents a near-tripling of the enrollment in Honors and AP classes, the number of students taking at least one Honors or AP class, and the total number of AP exams taken. In addition, the pass rate on AP exams went from 70.0% in 2004 to 82.4% in 2016.

Along the way, South added classes like AP English Language, AP Japanese, AP Chinese, Multi-Variable Calculus H, AP Computer Science, AP Physics 1, AP Physics C, AP World History, AP Psychology, AP Human Geography, and AP Music Theory.

South is so incredibly proud of the students who challenged themselves to do more, work harder, and ultimately succeed at significantly higher levels, and of the teachers who worked so tirelessly to support them and promote their success.

Torrance High School

2200 W. Carson St., Torrance, CA 90501 • 310/533-4396 • ths.tusd.org



Stellar Performances

Our performance groups have excelled this year. Our drill team has won back-to-back state and national titles. Coach Kelly Gasset brought the program back six years ago, and the young ladies have continued to progress and bring great pride back to campus. The color guard also experienced great success this spring, finishing their season with a second-place performance at the Winter Guard Association of Southern California Championships.

Once again, the choir was able to perform at Carnegie Hall in New York City. Under the leadership of David Wright, our students were able to experience the thrill of performing in one of the greatest venues in the United States. They followed up that experience with an outstanding performance at the Fullerton College Jazz Festival.

To see all of groups on display, please check out Torrance High LipDub 2017 on YouTube. The video was organized, filmed, and edited entirely by our students!



Torrance Adult School

2606 W. 182nd St., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4689 ext. 8400 • www.tastusd.org



Preparing for College

Torrance Adult School (TAS) is creating articulated courses with El Camino College (ECC) so students can earn college credit for courses taken on our campus. We also partner with ECC to facilitate enrollment through the assistance of ECC counselors and outreach coordinators and coordinated college campus visits. One ECC counselor currently works with students on our campuses to better facilitate the transition from adult school to community college.



TAS has also developed college math transition courses to prepare students who are planning to enroll at ECC. These no-cost courses are designed to help students succeed in college-level math courses, and they have been a great success in providing the level of rigor that is required for students to matriculate to ECC. These preparatory courses allow students to devote their time at ECC to classes which will count towards graduation.

Towers Elementary

5600 Towers St., Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4535 • towers.tusd.org



A Global Hello!

Ann-yeong-haseyo! Hello—in Korean, that is! Towers Elementary school celebrated diversity with its annual International Day. Every class walked into the cafeteria with their passports to experience the Philippines, Puerto Rico, Japan, India, China, Bulgaria, Cuba, Korea, Iran, South Africa, Great Britain, Ireland and Mexico. Students danced to music in multiple languages from the representative countries.



West High School

20401 Victor, Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4299 • www.whs.tusd.org



A Winning Robotics Team!

West High FRC 5124 Robotics team worked its way through regionals and ended up winning it all and moving on to World Finals in Houston.

WHS teamed up with FRC 330 and FRC 696 to set a record high score at LA Regionals. They are heading to Houston April 19-22 to compete against the best teams in the world. The team gets 6 weeks from start to finish to design and build a robot. The process includes using 3D Solidworks software to create a design, building the robot, programming the robot and driving it during competitions. Roles on the team include programmers, builders, drivers, grant writers, and publicists. The process is student driven, and the entire team supports each other in the growth and learning that takes place throughout the process.



Walteria Elementary

24456 Madison St., Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4487 • www.walteriaelementary.org



Full STEAM Ahead

Thanks to a generous donation from the Torrance Education Foundation (TEF), as well as tons of work from our staff and fifth-grade student body, Walteria Elementary School recently put on a very successful STEAM Night. More than 300 participants attended this special evening to take advantage of a highly educational STEAM-filled experience.

Mad Science first hooked our guests with an “exciting” science-filled presentation. Then, both children and adult participants took part in four of 17 student-led STEAM stations.



They explored everything from chemical reactions when making slime to understanding the laws of physics after constructing catapults.

Our community members also explored an additional five Mad Science stations. One was a science and cooking station presented by “Kidz Cookin It Up,” and another was an art station led by our “Adventures in Art” parent docents.

This event was a wonderful way to bring our community together. It well showcased our students’ mastery of concepts in science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics.

Wood Elementary

2250 W. 235th St., Torrance, CA 90501 • 310/533-4484 • wood.tusd.org



STEAM Fair

Wood Elementary School recently held its first annual Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) Fair, which aligns with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

The fair encouraged students to wonder about the world around them with a focus on the STEAM areas. It was great to see kindergartners and first-graders creating collections of objects, including rocks, seashells, and building blocks. Second- and third-graders asked questions, which they investigated, researched, and created models to illustrate. Fourth- and fifth-graders used the scientific method to conduct experiments.

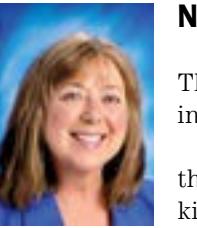
Besides viewing STEAM fair projects, visitors were able to gaze at the night sky. Thanks to the hard work of the STEAM Fair Committee, the South Bay Astronomical Society brought their collection of telescopes to allow families to see the stars and planets.

Our Woodchucks did a great job on their projects! Our school-wide STEAM Fair and Stargazer Night was a great success.



Yukon Elementary

17815 Yukon Ave., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4477 • yukon.tusd.org



Next-Gen Scientists!

Yukon’s new science lab is fully equipped and up and running! The students are able to view science programs on the new 70-inch flat-screen while sitting on a beautiful green-leaves carpet.

But watching is not the main activity in this science lab—there’s so much to do! There’s a butterfly pavilion, hydroponics kits, owl pellets, a rocket kit and a root tank, just for openers. There are stations equipped with a hot plate, funnels, beakers, syringes and flasks, test-tube sets, timers, tuning forks and a generator!



Interested in the solar system? Check out the telescope, the orbit model, the star projectors, or the far-out solar-system tape measure. Interested in biology? There’s a life-size human-body model. Learn about prisms, solar panels and renewable energy.

Projects go from robot hands to chemical reactions. The children could not be more excited! Yukon thanks the Torrance Ed Foundation for this state-of-the-art science lab!

Victor Elementary

4820 Spencer St, Torrance, CA 90503 • 310/533-4542 • victor.tusd.org



GATE Enrichment Classes

It has been a productive year for the GATE program at Victor Elementary School. With over 60 GATE students, Victor has been fortunate to hold before-school enrichment sessions twice a week for our third-, fourth- and fifth-grade GATE Students. These enrichment sessions allow for additional opportunities for students to explore various topics and interests that go beyond classroom instruction.

Fourth-grade teacher Ms. Perez and fifth-grade teacher Mrs. Paulson are Victor's GATE coordinators. Important skills such as grit and perseverance were taught through these sessions by creating cars from recycled items and through growth mindset, in which they made art-bots come to life. These lessons are essential for their progress into the higher and more demanding grade levels.

The students were exposed to advanced-technology tools by integrating coding. The Sphero bots opened up a new door of possibilities as they navigated and worked together as teams to create a maze for their bots. Collaboration and teamwork are emphasized in these classes to help students work more efficiently in their peer groups.

BOARD OF EDUCATION • From Page 1

allowing our budding young scientists to explore scientific concepts with valuable hands-on lessons. I would also like to thank the Torrance Rotary Club for their continuing support of our Elementary Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM) Fair and Elementary Track Meet. Lastly, a genuine thank you to the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce for their commitment to providing opportunities for educators to bridge classroom learning with the needs of the workforce. What a great assist to TUSD, allowing us to better prepare our students for college and career.

In ways large and small, our Torrance community, our village, makes amazing positive differences in the lives of our students. I, as well as my colleagues on the Board, deeply value the efforts and commitment made by each and every one of you every day. Thank you for being part of our TUSD village. Here's to a fun and relaxing summer vacation for all. See you in September!

SUPERINTENDENT • From Page 1



Educating over 24,000 students every year is a monumental task and an immense responsibility. Every day, our teachers find ways to provide students with rich learning experiences. A few highlights of this year's achievements and activities include: we celebrated Los Angeles County spelling bee champions at Calle Mayor Middle School and Victor Elementary School; West High School won the Los Angeles County Science Olympiad; the South High School Cyber Patriots team won several medals at regional competitions; Torrance High School and Madrona Middle School hosted a Girls' in Action Engineering Cardboard Regatta; North and Torrance High Schools hosted Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Aviation Day, our elementary families enjoyed Science, Technology,

The recently identified third-grade GATE students joined our upper-grade classes in learning how to deal with perfectionism through art. The students just finished our potato-chip challenge with the third-grade class, and they'll meet again to see if their chips survived the journey through our district mail.

It's been an exciting year, and we can't wait to see what next year has in store for us!



Bill Baker
Principal



Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) nights, and we held a middle school math field day.

While our school sites were busy providing learning opportunities for our students, at our district offices, administrators, and staff found ways to better engage our families and build a stronger parent community. District events such as the District English Learner Multicultural Advisory Committee (DELMAC) Conference, the Gifted And Talented Education (GATE) Parent Conference, and the district's first Wellness Fair brought together valuable resources for our parents in an effort to support student success at home.

I hope everyone has a chance to re-energize over their summer holidays, and we look forward to welcoming all of you back in the fall.

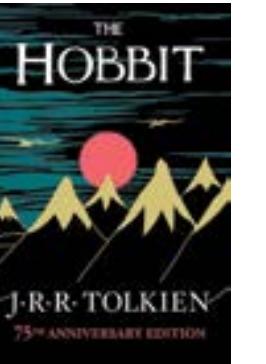
Kan's Noveldom

A Classic Tale of Intrigue



The Hobbit: Or There and Back Again, a Hobbit's Tale
By J.R.R. Tolkien

Welcome to Middle-Earth, a fantastical land of graceful elves, hardy dwarves, and peace-loving hobbits in their hobbit-holes. J.R.R. Tolkien draws readers into a masterful fairy-tale, following the perilous adventure (aided by luck) undertaken by a quiet-desiring hobbit, Bilbo Baggins, snatched from his second breakfast—whose journey, internal and external, is central—as he joins forces with wizard Gandalf and the 13-dwarf company of Thorin, a mighty dwarf determined to reclaim his conquered home of Erebor. Across dangerous Wilderland, friend and foe, therein lies their destination, Erebor; they must liberate it from their archenemy, Smaug, the Fire-Drake. Full of intense force and simple luck, Tolkien sets the foundation for a modern fairy-story. A classic tale of intrigue with a nail-biting Quest, outdoing any expectation, globally successful and immensely entertaining, the novel has rightly earned its full 10 stars, navigating the reader throughout the landscape with both pure bravery and tremendous luck.



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Kan is a seventh-grader who enjoys life at its fullest, most prominent, of feeling the thrill of vivacity run through him. With a passion for Tolkien, learning (of all subjects, particularly math and English), activity, politics, and commerce, he presses on through his existence with vigor, as a peacock would displaying its pulchritudinous plumage. Ten is his utmost book-score, and one the lowliest.

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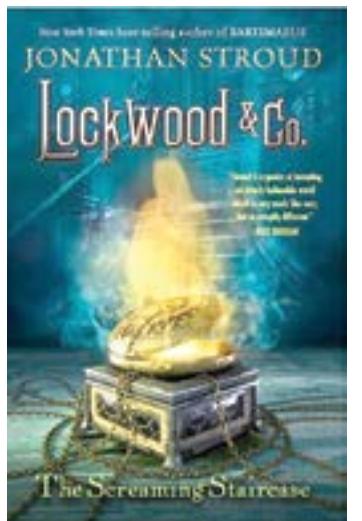
Book Review by Abbas

A Creepy and Fun Read



Lockwood & Co. by Jonathan Stroud is a novel about teen psychic agents, Lucy Carlyle, George Cubbins and their leader Anthony Lockwood. Together they run the smallest ghost-fighting agency in London, Lockwood and Co. There is an increased outbreak of ghosts in England known as The Problem which is where Lockwood & Co. comes in to help, with each member using their talents such as listening to ghost activity and seeing ghosts in plain sight. After they are offered a ghost hunting job in one of the most haunted places in London, Lockwood and Co. must work together to fight a fearsome ghost. Will they survive the night and work together?

This book was filled with many twists and unexpected sharp endings. I give this creepy tale 5 smiley faces.



Abbas D. is a fifth grade student who enjoys cooking in his free time, swimming and loves roasted marshmallows. Abbas will rate the books 1 to 5 smiley faces with 5 being the best.

Lucy's Book Review

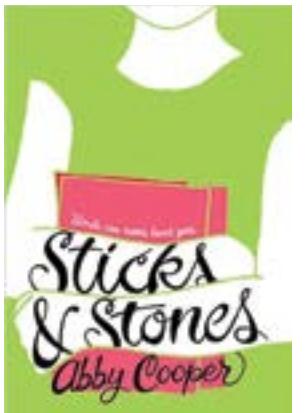
Sticks and Stones



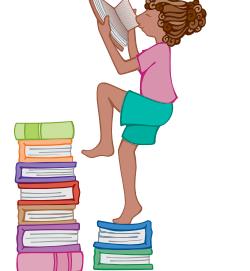
Author: Abby Cooper
Elyse started middle school with her best friend Jeg, with a tiny fear. A condition that occurs whenever someone says anything about her (good or bad!) it appears on her skin. It gets worse as Jeg is whisked away by the mean girls and she is suddenly all alone. That is, until blue notes started showing up in random places. Written by an anonymous person who wants to help, Elyse is motivated to put herself out there and try for her grade's most-wanted position, Explorer Leader; the person who is in charge of the biggest trip of the year. If she wins and the students all have fun, the compliments would look (and feel) good, don't you think?

I give this book four and a half bookworms, because this story is really inspiring. The main character shows not only how to deal with bullies, but how to move on from mistakes.

Lucy is a fifth grade student that enjoys theater, playing guitar and singing. She's a Harry Potter fanatic and hopes to one day publish a series of her own. Lucy will rate the books 1 to 5 bookworms with 5 being the best.



First we learn to read...Then we read to learn.



Book Review By Katrina

Captivating Read



Born Wicked by Jessica Spotswood is the first in a series about a trio of sisters named Cate, Maura and Tess. Living in a world where their roles in the world are rigidly controlled by a group known as the Brotherhood, the Cahill sisters must strive to stay under the radar of

these powerful men or risk being shipped off to asylums as witches. However, the fact they actually are witches puts them at a greater risk than anyone else. Eldest sister Cate takes up the role of leader for her motherless sisters, attempting to protect the three of them from being discovered. But when Cate comes of age to either marry or join the Sisterhood, what choices and sacrifices will she make? This book is absolutely captivating with a Salem Witch Trial feel to it and an enchanting plot. With a touch of romance and a dash of magic, this book is a must read for all YA lovers. This book was given 5 crescent moons.



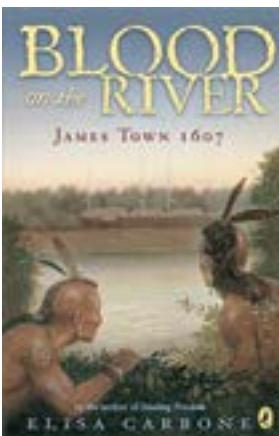
Katrina is a ninth grader who loves reading books as much as writing her own stories and enjoys watching anime. Katrina hopes to be an author one day very soon. Katrina will rate her books from 1 to 5 crescent moons with 5 being the best.

Alana's Book Review

Blood On the River



By: Elisa Carbone
Samuel Collins, a tough and hardened preteen boy, was only a young child when his mother passed away. Now snarky, immature (yet undoubtedly intelligent), and living on the streets of England, he isn't personable in the slightest. But when he's given the chance to have a fresh start in the recently discovered "new world," will he take it? Will he put his aggression, pride, and past behind him, or will he endanger all those that care for him?



I'd give this book 5 stars because, while reading this, I couldn't help but compare Samuel to my younger self. Seeing the main character overcome the same social and ego issues that I overcame really made me appreciate this book. Elisa introduces young children to characters with more complex troubles and personalities than those in other children's literature, and that is truly amazing.

Alana is a student columnist. When she doesn't have a book in her hands, she enjoys playing video games and writing fiction. She rates books on a scale of 1-5 with 5 being the highest.

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- July 17 – 21: LA Galaxy Volleyball Courts, 540 Maple Avenue, Torrance, 90503
- July 24 – 28: LA Galaxy Volleyball Courts, 540 Maple Avenue, Torrance, 90503
- July 31 – August 4: LA Galaxy Volleyball Courts, 540 Maple Avenue, Torrance, 90503
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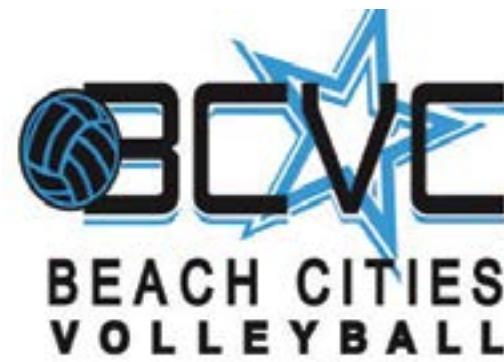
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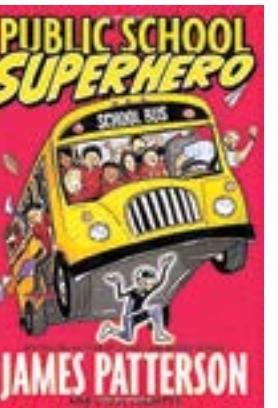
Christina's Book Review

Power of Determination



Public School Superhero

By James Patterson and Chris Tebbetts
The story is about a middle school student named Kenny Wright, who imagines being a powerful superhero named Stainlezz Steel. Kenny lives in a bad area that has gangs and drugs on the streets and he meets older students, trying to influence him into doing things that will get him into serious trouble.



Christina J.

Kenny goes to an underfunded, overpopulated school run by bullies. Kenny is known at school as "Grandma's boy" and, while he is constantly a target for the 7th and 8th grade bullies, he must try to get through the school year without being peer-pressured into doing wrong things that his alter ego Stainlezz Steel would never, ever do. At one point Kenny meets a bully named Ray-Ray, whom he has to teach chess to. After a while Kenny sees that Ray-Ray is a normal person, living in a bad home environment, and starts to understand why he is so aggressive to everyone. Overall, the book is about a boy's determination to get through life with the best possible outcome, with a little bit of action comics mixed in. I liked the book and it's fun, quirky attitude, and it's deep emotional conflict that gives the story a deeper meaning. I give the book a 4 out of five stars, with 5 being the best..

Christina J. is a 7th grader. She is an avid reader, who enjoys some peace and quiet with a good book about some great adventure. Christina is a young author herself, in 5th grade she wrote a book *Melody's Stories: I Am a Spy Now*, published by Studenttreasures Publishing (PIN #3582798).

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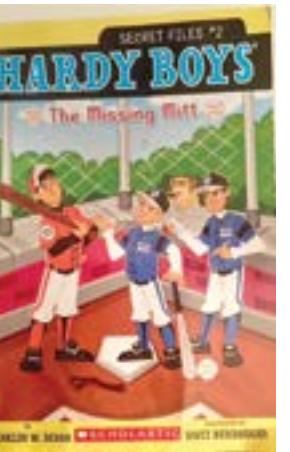
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Michael's Book Review

The Missing Mitt



This Hardy Boy case is about Joe and His brother Frank. They try to figure out who took Jason Prime's baseball mitt. Their team, the Bayport Bandits, were ready to win the final little league game of the season using their good luck charm. Jason's mitt was special because his dad, Winner Prime, had used it to win the world series. Right before each game the whole team would touch it for luck.



Michael H.

Jason thought it was Conner Hound from the opposing team, because he had seen him snooping around their bags while they were practicing. Jason was upset and did not want to play until the mitt was found. After some detective work they figured out what had happened to the missing baseball mitt. They remembered that earlier that day Mr. Mack's dog Lucy had Jumped on Jason. Lucy loved to play fetch especially with things that people threw on the ground. You had to be very careful around her because anything thrown might end up buried somewhere. They decided to throw another mitt. Lucy immediately picked it up and began to run. Jason, Joe and Frank chased her. When Lucy stopped she dug a hole and there in the hole was Jason's mitt. The Hardy boys were very happy. Secret File Case #2 was solved.

I give this book 4 stars I really enjoyed the mystery. The only thing that would have made this book more exciting was if Lucy the dog wasn't the one who had taken Jason's mitt.

Michael H. is a 4th grade student. Besides his love for reading, he also enjoys Karate, playing guitar and sharing new adventures with his mom. He will rate the books 1 to 5 stars with 5 being the highest.

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Courtney's Book Review

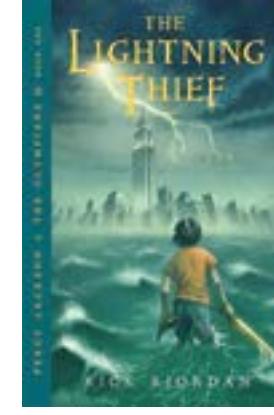
A Real Adventure Book



The Lightning Thief
by Rick Riordan

If you want adventure, you should really think about reading this book. Have you ever been the new kid at a school or camp? Percy Jackson knows how that feels. Percy Jackson goes on a very interesting quest with his two friends just so he can save his mom from Hades, the God of the underworld.

I'm rating this book a big 5.



Courtney likes to play softball, football, and volleyball. She also draws, sews and sings on the worship team at her church. She will rate the books 1 to 5 with 5 being the highest.

Keira's Book Nook

The Prophecy of 7



The House of Hades by Rick Riordan

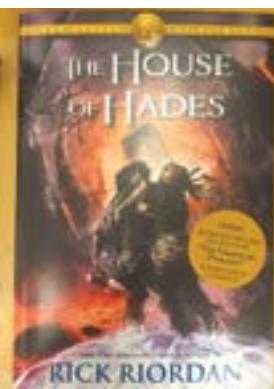
This unpredictable book shows what friendship is all about.

Percy and Annabeth have fallen in to Tartarus while the rest of their crew is facing a crossroads. Their first choice is to return to Camp Half-blood with the Athena Parthenos statue to stop the oncoming Greek vs. Roman war. Or, they could continue

their quest to the House of Hades and open the Doors of Death to save their friends and stop the monsters from being reincarnated.

Whatever they choose, the world and everyone they love will depend on it and they will have to finish by August 1st, when Gaea the evil earth-mother will unleash her wrath. To stop this, every demigod both Greek and Roman must work together.

I can't wait to read the rest of this series; each book leaves me begging for more. I rate this book five out of five apples.



Keira Fukuda is a fifth grader. In addition to her love of books, she enjoys jazz dance, art, crafts and traveling. Keira rates books 1-5 apples with 5 being the highest.

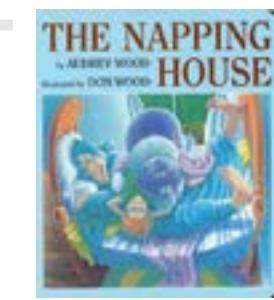
Richard's Book Review

Fun Campy Story



The Napping House
By Audrey Wood

The characters of the rhyming story of The Napping House are the Granny, the Child, the Dog, the Cat, the Mouse and the Flea. One rainy, lazy day all the people and animals in the house climb into grandma's bed and fall asleep, one after another, stacked on top of each other. Then, while everybody is fast asleep, one character — the Wakeful Flea ends up rudely waking everybody up! It bites the Mouse, who scares the Cat, who claws the Dog, who thumps the Child, who bumps the Granny, who breaks the bed, so that nobody is sleeping or napping in the Napping House anymore! The style of this story is similar to the rhyming story of The House That Jack Built. I liked this campy story and with its many pictures on every page by Don Wood. It is a fun, colorful and easy book to read.



Richard J. is a second grader who likes math, coloring, fun activities, playing on the playground and reading. Richard rates the book 5 out of 5, with 5 being the best.

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July 31 - August 4

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Ages: Boys and Girls 5 - 12
Fees: \$130

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A Family MovieMarissa
Aldergrae

"Guardians of the Galaxy Volume 2" follows the original movie, "Guardians of the Galaxy." This movie is good for the whole family. It's has a lot of the same space battles as the original movie and has new characters and a new writer. The main character, Peter Quill (Chris Pratt), calls himself

Star Lord. Peter was raised by his Mother who passed away when he was young, and never knew his biological Father. All his Mother would tell him was that his Father was from the stars.

Growing up, he longed for having a Father. This movie explains the history of his childhood. In the end, Peter realized that his friends cared and looked out for him more than his biological Father. The Guardians of the Galaxy really was his family now. The move introduced some new characters who will surprise you with their actions. I enjoyed watching this movie because it was funny and very action packed. I recommend watching this move and I would give this move a 4 out of 5 stars.

Marissa is a 7th grader who loves to watch movies, especially action films. She would love to be an actress or news anchor woman in the future. She rates movies on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the highest.

**Note-ables****Born in the Deep Woods**

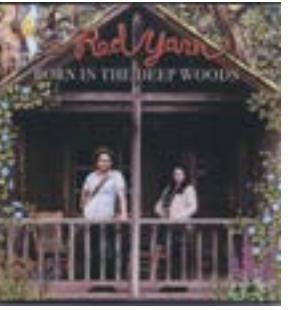
Kate Karp

Red Yarn, alter-ego of performer and songwriter Andy Furgeson, has recorded the third element in his Deep Woods Trilogy. Deep Woods is Red's own conception of a charmingly primal place where woodland animals dwell—an earthly, loamy, good place to live. Each song was either written by Red or adapted from traditional folk tunes, all featuring animals and performed by Red and his wife, Jessie Eller Isaacs and a bucolic multi-instrumental band.

Deep Woods doesn't have the vibe of a traditional children's collection. In contrast to lighter songs associated with young music, it sings something deep and rooted. Red's musical background grew from those roots—authentic country, bluegrass, blues and heartland rock 'n' roll are woven with the lyrics and stitch together a warm, tuneful quilt. The title ballad lets the tortoise and the hare of the fable poetically tell their own story as turtle and rabbit. The traditional "Mockingbird" transforms into a Bo Diddley ditty with a toss of Elvis pepper and a pinch of Ray Charles salt. "Old Mother Goose" is given a new pair of dancin' shoes, and "Frog Went A-Courtin'" hops to a different beat. "Little Baby Born Today" is an old-style Bob Dylan tribute to new life and mothers, particularly Eller-Isaacs, who was pregnant with the couple's second child when it was recorded. The CD's lyric booklet bears some of the most beautiful, evocative illustrations seen in a music collection or anywhere else.

If you go into the woods today, you're in for a big surprise.

Kate Karp is an editor for *School News Roll Call* and a freelance writer and editor.

**Word Search Contest—Words Associated with School****Rules!**

One word in the list is NOT in the word search.
When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you
email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com (Please put Torrance in the subject line)

Entries must be received by July 15, 2017

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win
a GAZUMP card/dice game — fun for all ages!

Achievers	Focused	Principal
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Curiosity	Integrity	Student
Discipline	Learning	Success
Educators	Mentors	Technology
Encourage	Nutrition	Thinkers
Excellence	Parents	Workers

Congratulations to Winner!

Becky Chang

Winner of the April Contest

**Health News**

by Kimberly Cheong, MD

How are ear infections treated?

Ear infections are the most frequently diagnosed childhood illness in the United States, after the common cold. Most children will experience at least one ear infection by the time they are 3 years old.

When functioning normally, the middle-ear chamber passes air and small amounts of fluid through the Eustachian tube, which works as a pressure equalizer for the middle ear. Respiratory problems, such as allergies or colds, may cause congestion within the tube and cause it to swell shut, leading to fluid and air build-up behind the eardrum. As pressure grows, the eardrum becomes inflamed and swollen.

There are two common types of ear infections

Otitis externa ("swimmer's ear") usually occurs after swimming in fresh water lakes or chlorinated swimming pools. It affects the outer-ear canal and is usually caused by a bacterial infection. The second type, otitis media, is a middle-ear infection that occurs behind the eardrum and is typically caused

by viruses or bacteria. Your child might experience a fever and severe cases may cause a hole in the eardrum.

Diagnosis and Treatment

To diagnose otitis media, your physician will examine the ear and look for evidence of fluid or inflammation in the middle ear. Many middle-ear infections are viral and often resolve without treatment.

Viral infections are treated based on your child's symptoms, with acetaminophen or ibuprofen typically suggested for pain and fever control. For infections that turn into bacterial infections, physicians may prescribe a 10-day course of antibiotics. While most ear infections heal without leaving a trace, very severe infections causing permanent damage to the eardrum or the ossicles could potentially cause hearing loss.



For chronic cases, when fluid is trapped in the child's middle ear for three consecutive months, a surgical procedure to place ear drainage tubes may be considered.

Preventive Care

To minimize the risk of infection, children should wash their hands and faces frequently and avoid contact with people exhibiting viral symptoms.

Exercise and having a balanced diet with fruits and vegetables will also provide vitamins and nutrients the body needs to protect itself.



Dr. Cheong is a pediatrician at the UCLA Health office in Torrance, located at 23550 Hawthorne Boulevard, Suite 180

Signs and symptoms of ear infection may include:

- Moderate to severe ear pain
- Fever
- Irritability
- Hearing difficulties in affected ear
- Nausea and vomiting
- Fluid leaking from the ear
- Dizziness

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