

**Covering the Brea Olinda Unified School District** 

Volume 7, Issue 23 March / April 2021

## **Academics, Arts and Athletics...**







# ...A Return to Normalcy





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# A Return to Normalcy



**Dr. Brad Mason** Superintendent

The Brea Olinda Unified School District has proven resilient and enthusiastic in our return to in-person instruction on February

16th. As the health metrics improve in Orange County and activity restrictions are relaxed, students are returning to school for inperson instruction, athletic

workouts/competitions, and to pick up their instruments and make beautiful music. Throughout the pandemic, our students and staff have continued to think, learn, teach and create as we all reimagined schooling as we knew it. We are excited to add back arts and athletics to the mix as we pursue a return to normalcy, while enjoying the



camaraderie of others in shared experiences. There are things we will take away from this time that will serve us well as we continue to hone our instructional practices. There are technology platforms we were all forced to learn to use as a means of delivering instruction. We will have a more robust instructional skill-set moving forward as we work with students at all grade levels. As we plan end of the year

events and activities, our focus will be on maximizing the experiences of our students and families. We proved last year that we could create a wonderful experience for our graduating seniors and we are looking forward to this year's opportunity to honor a class that has shown great resolve.









**Kay Coop** Founder/Publisher

challenges.

This is our 7th year publishing

the BOUSD School News. This year

has been like no other due to the

pandemic; however, educators are

innovators and they have met the

Superintendent Dr. Mason

begins this issue with his message

on page 3. As with all experiences





distance learning was definitely a learning experience for educators. students and parents.

Personally, I never mastered Zoom. After a meeting I realized the black square on the screen was supposed to be my picture. Apparently, it does help to turn the camera on.

Our next issue is May 12, 2021.



#### www.schoolnewsrollcall.com

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## Arovista Elementary (K-6)

900 Eadington Dr., Brea, CA 92821 • 714/529-2185 • arovista.bousd.us



Dr. Mike Trimmell Principal

#### **Dual Immersion** Kindergarten

The back and forth of distance learning and hybrid schedules has not been easy for our families or teachers. These schedule changes have been in the best interest of the health of staff and students alike. However,

now that we are back to hybrid learning. our teachers have not missed a beat. Our students are now actively engaged in learning!

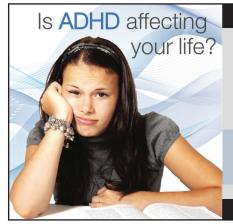
One of our newest programs, the Dual Immersion Spanish program, continues to excel. We are in our second year of the program, and our students are learning to read, write, and communicate in Spanish. We have kindergarten and first-grade

classes with a plan to add a second-grade class next school vear.

The success of this program is due in large part to collaboration between our school, the district, the



community, and, of course, the amazing teachers in the program. We are excited for the Dual Immersion program to continue to expand, and to see the continued growth of our staff and students alike. ¡Estamos animados para continuar el éxito en el siguiente año escolar!



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## Brea Junior High School (7-8)

400 N. Brea Blvd., Brea, CA 92821 • 714/990-7500 • bjhs.bousd.us



Kelly Kennedy Principal

#### **School-Community Wellness**

During this global Covid-19 pandemic, Brea Junior High (BJH) has continued to focus on the health and well-being of our entire school community! The BJH Virtual Wellness Center website was created for students, families and staff to find resources, tools and strategies to help manage emotions

and feelings

and to promote overall wellness. Through the Wellness Center, the Brea community has access to a variety of mindful exercises, deepbreathing strategies and physical activity resources as well as access to crisis-support hotlines and a variety of different apps that support mental and emotional well-being.

Additionally, the Wellness Center provides information regarding academic support, a social-emotional learning platform and services our families can receive through Project Kinship, an organization rooted in restorative practices. The goal of the BJH Virtual Wellness Center is for our community to have access to a full range of resources and practices to promote overall mind and body wellness now and in the future. Check it out here.



## Brea Canyon High School (9-12)

689 N. Wildcat Way, Brea, CA 92821 • 714/990-7882 • breacanyon.bousd.us/



**Dr. Kristin Risberg** *Principal* 

## **Return to In-Person Learning**

We were so glad to welcome back the Brea Canyon Coyotes to our Den! On Tuesday, February 16, our students returned to their regular classrooms for instruction, and all of our staff members were there ready to welcome them.

The morning started with greeting students on campus, handing out face masks when needed, and serving breakfast provided by our wonderful cafeteria staff

members. Once the first bell rang, the students made their

way into their assigned classrooms and were met by teachers, support staff, and restorative practitioners. Our support staff included our school psychologist, our restorative practitioners from Project Kinship, our school counselor, and all of our daily school staff.

Each class participated in community circles where the students and adults on campus had an opportunity to reconnect, share experiences, and realign themselves to their goals. After their circles were complete, the students then created a smart goal based upon their current credit standing with the help of teachers and staff. Upon completing these activities, they were excused to their snack break where they were treated to treats by our PTO.

After snack, the students headed back to their classrooms focused and ready to learn. We are so thrilled to be back and operating in-person for all of our students. Our BCHS Coyotes are howl-ing!



## Brea Country Hills Elementary (K-6)

150 N. Associated Rd., Brea, CA 92821 • 714/990-3221 • countryhills.bousd.us



Lana Merha Principal

#### Friendship Festival

In January, Country Hills' Peer Assistance Leadership (PAL) students hosted a 3-day virtual "Friendship Festival" to foster friendship and fun. PAL members worked diligently to plan games that were engaging, interactive and, most importantly, fun! Whether students were playing Kahoot trivia,

freeze dancing, or guessing a mystery song, it was a guarantee that every student had a smile on their face. PAL member Evelyn shared, "It was a great way to see faces and socialize with other kids and teachers." Although the virtual festival was a success, some PAL members had to get creative when their technology wasn't working. PAL member Vishva stated, "It was really fun to do, but sometimes things got challenging." PAL members are already brainstorming creative ideas for next year and eager to think outside the box. One thing's for sure, these PAL members definitely know how to get kids out of their seats and excited for the next event.





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## Brea Olinda High School (9-12)

789 N. Wildcat Way, Brea, CA 92821 • 714/990-7850 • bohs.bousd.us



**Dr. Joshua Porter** *Principal* 

#### **Sports are Back**

Brea Olinda hosted its first athletic competition against Valencia High School on Saturday, February 13, 2021, since schools physically closed last Spring due to the COVID Pandemic. Overcoming many of the challenges associated with distance learning and COVID safety protocols, both the boys and girls varsity cross country squads were victorious over Valencia. The girls cruised to a 19-40 victory, led by a 1-2

finish by juniors Kendra Painter and Nikki Ammermann. Jrs. Emily Wernli, Cassie Apahidean, along with freshman Laci Armenta and sophomores, Gwen Maddox and Taylor Debarros, all finished in front of the number 3 Valencia runner to seal a runaway victory. In the boys race, Sophomore Drew Biegler placed 3rd to lead the boys to a 25-30 victory. Derrick Garica (4th), Cameron Thuman (5th), Cominick Garcia (6th) and Michael Galentine (7th) all beat the number 3 Valencia runner to seal the win.

Brea Olinda will open the league season this Saturday at BOHS versus Foothill.



## Brea Online Academy (TK-6)

689 N. Wildcat Way, Brea, CA 92821 • 714/990-7882 • https://onlineacademy.bousd.us



**Dr. Kristin Risberg** *Principal* 

#### Same Standards, Different Practices

In a traditional classroom, there are standard practices that most teachers use to build their desired classroom culture. At the Brea Online Academy, we have made a commitment to fostering an inclusive, diverse and engaging environment.

In shifting to online learning, traditional classroom strategies sometimes are not the right fit.

Therefore.

within the Brea Online
Academy community, our
teachers collaborate to
provide content standards,
support for all students
and social-emotional
learning. Culture can be
built in the online setting;
however, it requires
different techniques
based on trust, respect
and responsibility that
our teachers at BOA

have mastered. We teach and work every day with the intention of increasing the well-being of virtual-learning atmospheres, which are wonderfully rich, diverse, creative spaces. In these online classrooms, our students are engaging in amazing lessons, participating in learning experiences, and collaborating with their peers. Our students have been participating in many lessons that celebrate their own diversity, most recently Black History. We are so proud of this online community that we have created!



## Falcon Academy of Science & Technology (K-6)

650 N. Apricot Ave., Brea, CA 92821 • 714/529-3908 • https://falcon.bousd.us/



**Karen VanDine** Principal

#### **Student Council Leading the Way!**

Our Falcon Academy Student Council leaders, under the direction of Mrs. Klodge, have shown creativity to promote cohesiveness, school spirit and fun. Even

over Zoom we were able to celebrate. as well as be entertained by the comedy routines

and entertainment our Council provided. Our student leaders produced and published two assemblies, hosted a game show with teachers as contestants, and told a few jokes to bring joy and laughter to our community. In February, the Student Council also developed a Kindness Spirit Week encouraging our students to look beyond themselves and promote kindness towards one another in large and small ways.

These past months have taught us all to show gratitude and kindness and look at the positive side to our circumstances. The Falcon Academy leaders have done so much to maintain our traditions in this year of distance and hybrid learning.



## Laurel Elementary Magnet School of Innovation and Career Exploration (K-6)

200 S. Flower Ave., Brea, CA 92821 • 714/529-2520 • laurel.bousd.us



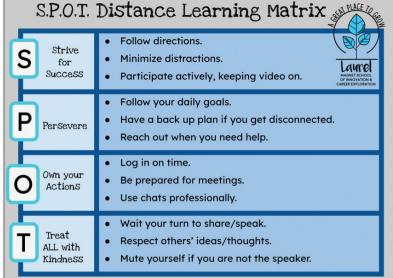
**Lauren Tovar** Principal

## **Focus on Challenges**

One of the greatest challenges of the 2020-21 school year has been student motivation and engagement, and the staff at Laurel Elementary Magnet School of Innovation and Career Exploration identified these as areas of focus for the year. School climate and culture have been site priorities,

and the new challenge was how to transition our previous PBIS structures that had been so successful into our new virtual and in-person learning environments.

Through collaboration, reflection and creativity, the staff has transitioned PBIS. schoolwide activities and class activities to support students in both learning models. This included the development of distancelearning and hybrid behavior expectations, a digital-recognition point system with monthly rewards, and monthly themes with digital activities for students to participate in either individually or with their class. Additional professional development has been provided for



our classified staff in the areas of PBIS, Zones of Regulation and restorative practices.

As we welcome students back to campus in the hybrid model, we strive to maintain a positive school environment as we educate students both virtually and in person.

## Mariposa Elementary (K-6)

1111 W. Mariposa Dr., Brea, CA 92821 • 714/529-4916 • mariposa.bousd.us



**Rick Torres** Principal

#### **Staying Active**

It's no secret that this has been a challenging school year for our staff and students, but positive attitudes and a lot of preparation have gone a long way to help support our Monarchs. The protective measures and additions to technology are widely known, but Mariposa knows that these are not the only important things we

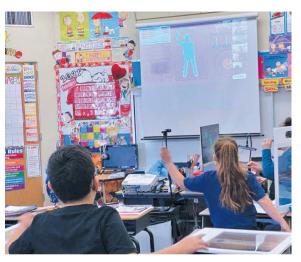
need for healthy children

Our teachers have now substantially increased the frequency of brain breaks, which allows students an opportunity to stand up and get the wiggles out. Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) is also at the forefront of our teachers' minds. We began the year with professional development in SEL Competencies, and with followup learning opportunities for

teachers throughout the year. Ideas like "Student-Centered Discipline" and "Responsibility of Choice" are also hugely beneficial to our students in navigating through the struggles of COVID.

Character development has also continued, giving students life tools to deal with the challenges. A perfect example is February's focus on the traits of fitness and skill. This reminded our students that it is more important than ever to be physical and active.





## Olinda Elementary (K-6)

3145 E. Birch St., Brea, CA 92821 • 714/528-7475 • olinda.bousd.us



**Dr. Preetom Bhattacharya** Principal

#### **Strong Bodies, Strong Minds**

Physical education remains an integral part of the work our team is doing with students. Although the pandemic and distance learning has presented challenges, our PE team has done an excellent job working through ways to engage with students and in pursuit of their physical fitness goals. The PE team

has created a plethora of videos that support student development of motor, fitness, cognitive, behavioral, and active lifestyle needs. Their instructional videos cover a



variety of movement forms, such as sports, dance, yoga, recreational, and fitness activities in addition to healthy practices and nutrition. The team has also recently started to record interviews with teachers, administrators, and local community leaders so students can see how adults

that they recognize continue their commitment to healthy habits and staying active. Their efforts represent the creativity and relentless will of all school staff who have remained devoted to overcoming obstacles for our kids.







### Yoona's Review

Yoona C.

#### Magic goes...

Title: Upside Down Magic Author: Sarah Mlynowski, Lauren Myracle, and Emily Jenkins

This book is a book where magic is real. A girl named Nory Horace lived with her father, sister, and brother. Nory was



a fluxer. Fluxers turn into animals. Every single time she wanted to become an animal she would have turned into that animal, but the other half would be another animal. When she turned into those things she would cause a lot of problems. Nory wanted to get to Sage Academy but she failed. After that her Aunt comes and takes Nory to Upside-Down School. Upside-Down School is a school where people go if they have Upside-Down magic. She enjoys Upside-Down school but she wants to be normal still. She then uses a box to help her and Elliot get out of Upside-Down School. She succeeds but she starts thinking how she is going to miss Upside-Down magic and her friends. Will Nory leave the school or not?

Yoona is a 3rd grader. She likes to read books and create stories. She also enjoys singing and listening to music.

## Tyson's Book Review



Tyson

#### Monsters aren't real...are they?

Percy Jackson's The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan is a page turning book with tons of actions on mythological monsters and gods of Mount Olympus. It's also the start to the Percy Jackson series and what a



start it is! I've read this book before and I just had to read it again to say how much I recommend this to all tween readers. Most people have heard of the series but if you haven't, Percy Jackson is the main character who has trouble with school and is about to be kick out. He also has dyslexia, or trouble with reading. As you go deeper into the story, things will happen that you would have never thought of, and it makes you wonder if it all is even real. Percy Jackson, The Lightning Thief, is a must read and Percy Jackson is waiting to start his adventure with you!

Tyson is a 7th grader who enjoys playing basketball, skateboarding, and video games. His favorite subjects at school are math and PE. The best thing about quarantine was having extra time to take care and play with Chewie, his dog.

## Taegyoung's Book Review



Taegyoung K.

## **Being Normal**

Title: Wonder Author: R.J. Palacio Do you think you are normal? What is being normal? This book is the story about the boy, August, who has facial

deformity and wants to be normal. He had surgeries many times and he couldn't go to

school. When he becomes a 5th grader, his parents decide to send him to school. He often gets bullied by other kids at school because of his appearance, but he doesn't stop going

In addition, this book shows the stories of his family and his friends. You can read their stories as their views because it is written by multiple perspectives. So, you can know what they think and why they say or do that.

What will happen to August? How can he make a real friend? If you wonder, find out from the book, Wonder. Also, if you are looking for a warm-hearted story, this book is just right for you.

Taegyoung K. is a 5th grader. She loves reading books and writing her own stories. Also, she likes to play video games, board games, and badminton with her family. She would like to be a person who is kind and helps others.

### Sean's Book Review



Sean

#### Middle School Can Change Your Life

Finding the Worm by Mark Goldblatt, is about a 7th grader, Julian Twerski, who attends McMasters Middle School. There, 9th graders are a real problem, as they are the bullies. Julian is seen



admiring a painting of a historical picture, and then is accused of messing it up! Julian's friend, Quentin, suffers from a tumor in his head, and due to this, is promised a visit from a famous baseball player. Another friend, Beverly, is constantly asking Julian to race her in running, but he always says no. This book has a lot of side stories that contribute to the main idea, making the book interesting, suspenseful, and funny. Mark Goldblatt did a great job connecting this book to his previous book, Twerp. In conclusion, Finding the Worm is really cool, but you should read Twerp before this, as you will have a much better time!

Sean is a 6th grader who enjoys playing basketball and volleyball. He loves to teach his dog, Chewie, tricks and taking him on walks. His favorite subjects at school are math and PE. The best thing about quarantine was spending time with his family in nature.



#### **History of the Wheel**

What seems like a simple idea was a long time in development. Humans had most likely build Stonehenge and pyramids using logs to roll the heavy stone block from one place to another. The wheel had been used for pottery, irrigation and milling farm crops. The first pottery wheel was found in the area that is today called Slovenia, around 3500 BC. The oldest chariot was found in Poland, and there is evidence that the origin comes from the Ukraine since the word wheel is derived from their language.

The chariot, iron horseshoe and stirrup most likely originated with nomadic people who were herders and not farmers. The chariot shows up in the Fertile Crescent of Mesopotamia and Egypt, also around 3500 BC. This new invention was made possible by the development of the axle. The wheel became a weapon of war, overshadowing its other applications. The Celtic tribes introduce an iron-rim wheel with spokes around 1000 BC. This did not change for several hundred years.

The wheelbarrow first appeared in Greece and then moved to China. It was a labor-saving device. Irrigation was accomplished by a wheel turned by humans or animals to raise water for that purpose. Then, during the medieval period, the water wheel was turned upside down to harness the wind. The wheel also became a source of collecting confessions by torture.

R.W. Thompson was issued a patent for a pneumatic wheel in 1845. The timing was not right, and it failed to take hold in the marketplace. In 1844, B.F. Goodrich patented a process called vulcanizing, which involved adding carbon to rubber. This changed the wheel in time. John Dunlop took out a patent for a pneumatic, or air-filled, wheel in 1888.

It was at this time that the wheel was in completion with the new steel process. Gustave Elfie built his tower for the Paris World Fair in 1889 out of steel. Then George Washington Gale Ferris built his Wheel for the Chicago World's Fair in 1893. And the wheel has become more than transportation. It has entered our language with the term like fifth wheel.

Not all cultures saw the value of the wheel. Early American societies knew of the wheel they used then in rolling toys for children to play yet saw no value in the workload that wheels would replace.

D.H.Coop is a retired fire/paramedic and retired teacher having taught IB and AP World History 30 years. He continues to substitute, tutor and consult. www.HistoryDepot.com

## **Fun Things and Places—Word Search Contest**

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 BOUSD in the subject line.

#### Entries must be received by April 15, 2021

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift card to Barnes & Noble.

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