

FREE

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Garvey School District



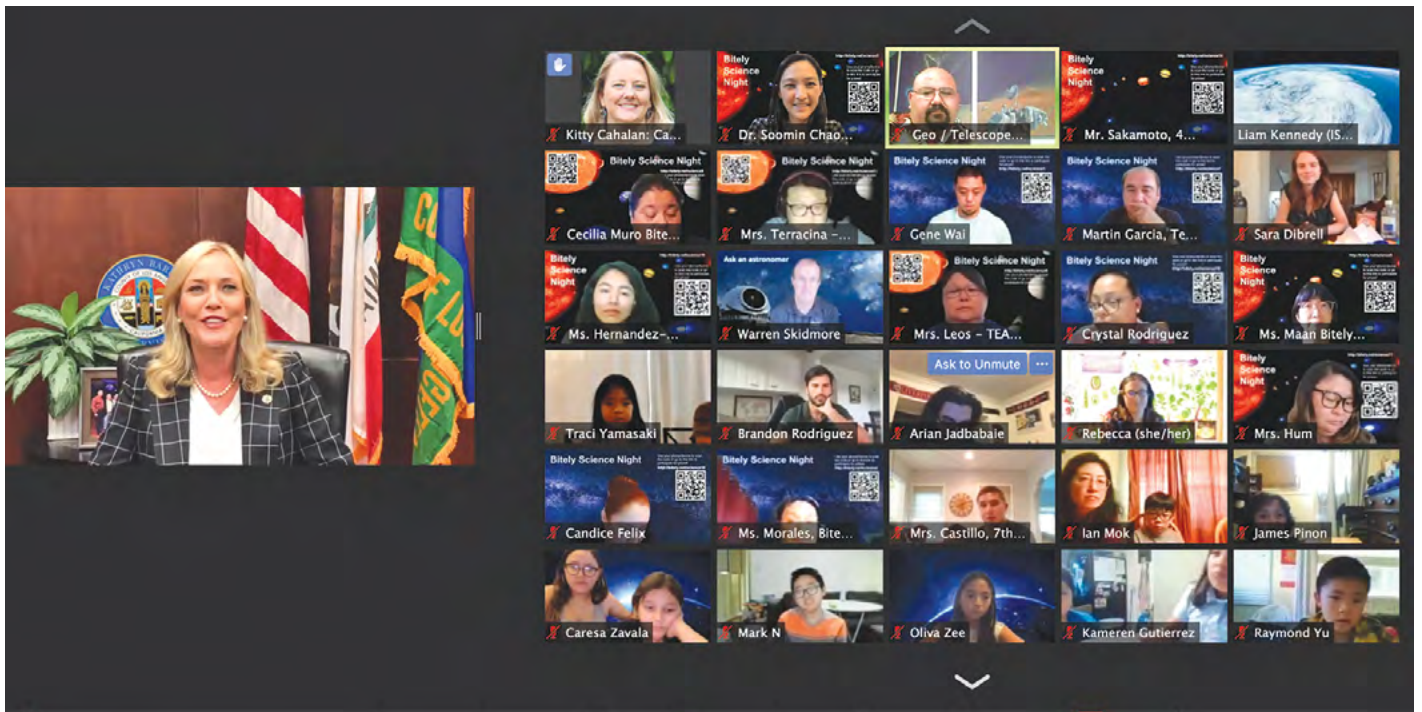
Volume 2, Issue 3

February–April 2021

Garvey Welcomes 2021!



Committed to Meeting the Unprecedented Challenge!



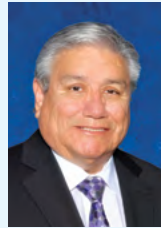
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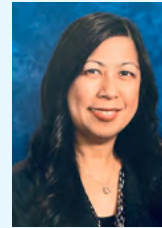
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SUPERINTENDENT

Garvey Welcomes 2021!

Committed to Meeting the Unprecedented Challenge!



Anita Chu

Happy 2021!

The Garvey Team welcomes the new year 2021 with a relentless commitment to create unprecedented opportunities for our students and community during these unprecedented times.

Raising Rigor in Distance Learning

The change from classroom-based in-person instruction to remote learning has presented a unique set of challenges for all stakeholder groups, including teachers. Nevertheless, with extensive training and continuous technological support, teachers work studiously to develop new sets of skills in designing innovative strategies and facilitating quality online learning experiences. Despite the limitations of the virtual platform, the instructional team continues to engage the young mind and raise the rigor of the learning experiences for all learners.

Caring for the Whole Child

Promoting the mental health and social-emotional well-being of all students is a significant focus of the Garvey team during this extended period of school closures. Principals and school staff offer a variety of exciting and creative student engagement activities, such as lunch clubhouse, dance parties, arts and crafts club, and talent shows, to provide opportunities for social interaction and relationship building. Teachers integrate strategies and resources to nurture the whole child in their daily lessons. Counselors provide weekly lessons to help students build social-emotional skills to thrive in these trying times. In addition, counseling and integrated services are provided for students needing additional support.

Supporting Parents & Families

The success of distance learning is built upon our partnership with parents who assume a new role as home instructors. Since the school closures, district-level parent training and support has been provided on the use of Google Classroom and other educational tools through virtual training sessions, tutorial videos and written manuals posted on the District website, as well as one-on-one technical assistance via the parent hotline services. In addition, school principals and their school teams provide parents with updated information and continuous support on technology use, academic standards, curricular resources, and assessments through Back to School events, Class Dojo and emails, weekly parent newsletters, as well as monthly “coffee with Principal.” All resources and assistance are provided in four different languages.



See **SUPERINTENDENT** • Page 3

Serving the Most Vulnerable

The pandemic has intensified the divide between the haves and have-nots in the Garvey community and widened the learning and achievement gaps for the most vulnerable student populations. To ensure equal access to distance learning, computers and hotspot devices are provided to all students and families in need. Our school meals program continues to serve over 2,500 free meals every school day. The on-campus student supervision program is offered to students whose home environments are not conducive to positive learning experiences. Additionally, for families facing economic hardships, Garvey has been providing them with food and PPE supplies in an ongoing manner, through generous donations from community agencies. Most excitingly, to address the health and safety needs of our high-need community, Garvey has secured a partnership with the Children's Hospital Los Angeles to provide onsite COVID-19 testing for our students, parents and staff.



Despite the unprecedented challenges, Garvey is committed to exploring all possibilities to create unprecedented opportunities to give our students and families the best during these unprecedented times.

Please visit our schools' and the District's websites at www.gesd.us to learn more about our programs and services in supporting our students and community and partnership opportunities.

Head Start / State Preschool

7424 Newmark St., Rosemead, CA 91770 • 626/307-3396



Sandra Gonzalez
Director

Engaging our Community's Youngest with Distance Learning

The Garvey School District's Child Development Program has developed creative ways to engage enrolled children with virtual teaching and in supporting parents in their role as their child's first teacher. This

includes the development and implementation of meaningful interactive virtual lessons that are developmentally appropriate and touch on the various school readiness domains. Instruction includes fun activities that allow for cognitive, language/literacy, physical, and social-emotional development, establishment of routines, and group connections. All enrolled children receive weekly individual and group instruction. Parents receive guidance and support on how to maximize the home-school connection and a monthly Curriculum Enhancement Kit

distribution to further support distance virtual learning. The program remains committed to the school readiness success of its enrolled children and families and to ensure that distance learning provides an interactive, fun, and robust experience for its infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.





Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher

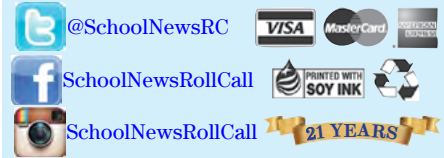


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Covering the
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FOUNDER/PUBLISHER: Kay Coop
562/493-3193 • kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com
ADVERTISING SALES: 562/493-3193
CONTENT COORDINATOR: Barbra Longiny
GRAPHIC DESIGNER/PRODUCTION:
Emily Ung
COPY EDITORS:
Kate Karp, Anna Zappia
SOCIAL MEDIA: Nancy Lueder
Netragrednik by Neta Madison



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P.O. Box 728, Seal Beach, CA 90740
562/493-3193

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Happy New Year!

There are times that it doesn't seem like a happy new year with this pandemic continuing to change our lives. However, you only need to read Superintendent Chu's message on page 2 to feel better. The focus is on not only academics, but the health and well-being of the students.

Throughout this issue the principal's share how their schools are continuing to educate through Distance Learning. Zoom has taken

on a whole new meaning. Personally, at home I still have a VCR blinking so I am amazed at the adaptability of educators, parents and students.

We have converted all 35 of our *School News* publications to digital and the response has been excellent. Thank you for joining our loyal readers including *School News* among your reading choices. We are all stakeholders in public education. Our mission statement is: Education + Communication = A Better Nation.

Our next issue is May 12, 2021.



Lacrosse—Word Search Contest

Word Search by Kai Coop

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 Garvey in the subject line)

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| ATTACK | MOUTH GUARD |
| CLEATS | NET |
| COACH | PLAYERS |
| CREASE | RULES |
| DEFENSE | SCORE |
| FIELD | SHAFT |
| GOAL KEEPER | SIDE LINES |
| HEAD | STICK |
| HELMETS | TEAMS |
| MIDDIES | UNIFORMS |

Entries must be received by April 15, 2021

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

G	M	W	E	U	S	D	C	Q	P	P	N	Z	G	S
K	O	K	H	S	R	E	Y	A	L	P	M	E	K	R
O	U	A	C	L	A	F	L	Z	T	A	Z	C	T	G
A	T	T	L	I	S	E	P	U	S	T	A	E	L	C
C	H	F	P	K	T	N	R	I	R	J	A	M	N	W
W	G	A	I	E	E	S	D	C	C	M	J	C	B	J
Z	U	H	V	E	M	E	J	Y	S	K	Q	S	K	G
O	A	S	R	C	L	I	P	I	Y	Y	S	F	H	H
V	R	E	T	I	E	D	A	E	H	M	S	I	C	T
V	D	L	N	W	H	D	W	Z	R	L	W	W	L	X
Q	E	E	S	U	K	I	H	O	F	O	G	Z	U	O
D	S	T	L	X	M	M	F	T	Y	M	C	M	G	O
H	I	W	G	D	J	I	Q	U	G	L	X	S	U	H
Z	H	R	D	R	N	Z	Y	M	K	L	F	B	W	I
H	N	L	R	U	O	J	V	K	B	J	D	Z	X	Z

Congratulations **Alvin Tran and Danika Martinez** winners of our last contest.

Arlene Bitely *Elementary School*

7501 E. Fern Ave., Rosemead, CA 91770 • 626/307-3318 • bitely.garvey.k12.ca.us



Soomin Chao
Principal

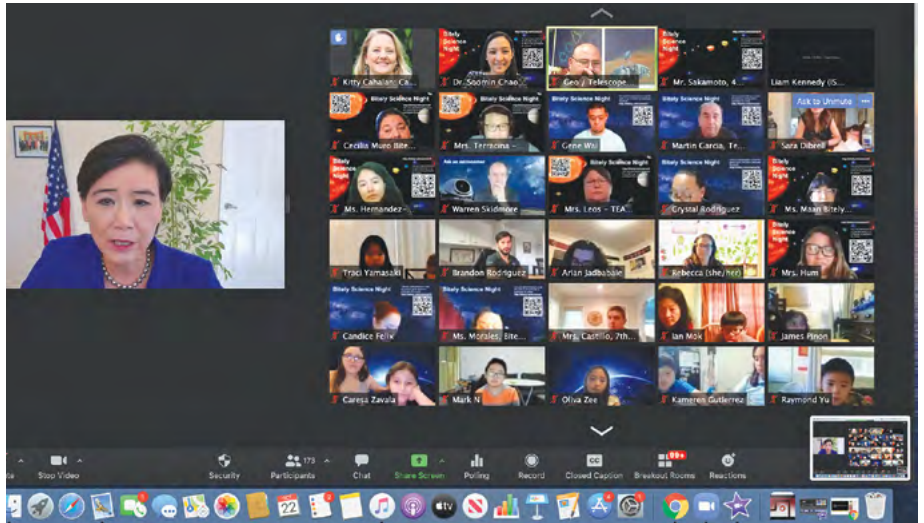
The First Science Night (In)

2020 may have introduced a pandemic, an economic crisis, and political unrest, but Arlene Bitely Elementary School (Bitely) still found silver linings of opportunity this fall. Capitalizing on the benefits of video conferencing, Bitely students engaged in many rich learning opportunities from home.

One such example was Bitely's Virtual Science Night (In) Event, which hosted 180 participants, and 14 scientists from world-renowned institutions like Caltech, NASA/JPL, the International Space Station, and Huntington Library. Students "zoomed" into research laboratories of elite scientists for laboratory tours, interview panels, and hands-on science experiments.

This event highlighted Garvey's vision to integrate innovative programs in the fields of science, technology,

engineering and math. The evening's unique lineup of presenters showcased women in science, people of color, and multilingual STEM researchers. The diversity of Bitely's population was mirrored by that of the volunteer scientists, further helping students envision their future in these roles.



Congresswoman Judy Chu's open remarks at Bitely's Science Night

Dewey Avenue *Elementary School*

525 E. Dewey Ave., San Gabriel, CA 91776 • 626/307-3341 • dewey.garvey.k12.ca.us



Denise Williams
Principal

Student and Parent Support

Dewey Avenue Elementary School prepares students for 21st century learning skills through Distance Learning. We are committed to providing the best virtual education for our students and continuing our partnership with parents.

Through Distance Learning we offer programs and services for students virtually.

1. Our dual-language program allows students the opportunity to develop simultaneous proficiency in both English and Spanish.
2. Reading Club for 5th/6th grades to develop reading goals and receive a reward when goal is met.
3. "Distance Learner of the Week" is designed to foster behavior expectations in an encouraging, leadership environment. Students that display these behaviors receive a certificate and reward.

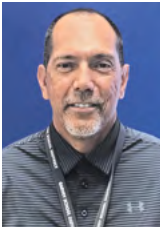
Dewey Avenue Elementary School provides continuous parent support.

1. Individualized technology assistance provided by our library technician is by appointment.
2. Monthly parent meetings called "Dewey Discussions" gather parent needs and concerns that the school can assist with.



Duff Language Magnet Academy

7830 Dorothy Ave., Rosemead, CA 91770 • 626/307-3344 • garvey.k12.ca.us



Rudolph Torres
Principal

A Place to Celebrate Cultural Diversity

As 2020 has come to pass, we take a moment to reflect on the accomplishments of distance learning. Our students, families, and staff approached distance learning with optimism and resilience. Our teachers and their families created an online partnership for the betterment of students.

Our educators were tasked to reimagine what teaching and engagement looked like. They focused on building relationships, knowing their students, families, and fostering social-emotional learning while acquiring Mandarin in a dual immersion setting. They designed an impactful instructional environment that is a combination of synchronous, asynchronous, and personalized small group instruction.

As we move into 2021 we envision Duff as a place to celebrate cultural diversity. Through the infusion of the visual arts, our teachers will make meaningful artistic connections to our multi-cultural student body. Our dual-immersion Mandarin program is characterized by a passion for the exploration of culture and takes pride in fostering a welcoming community.



Ralph Waldo Emerson Elementary School

7544 E. Emerson Pl., Rosemead, CA 91770 • 626/307-3333 • emerson.garvey.k12.ca.us



Ethan Stocks
Principal

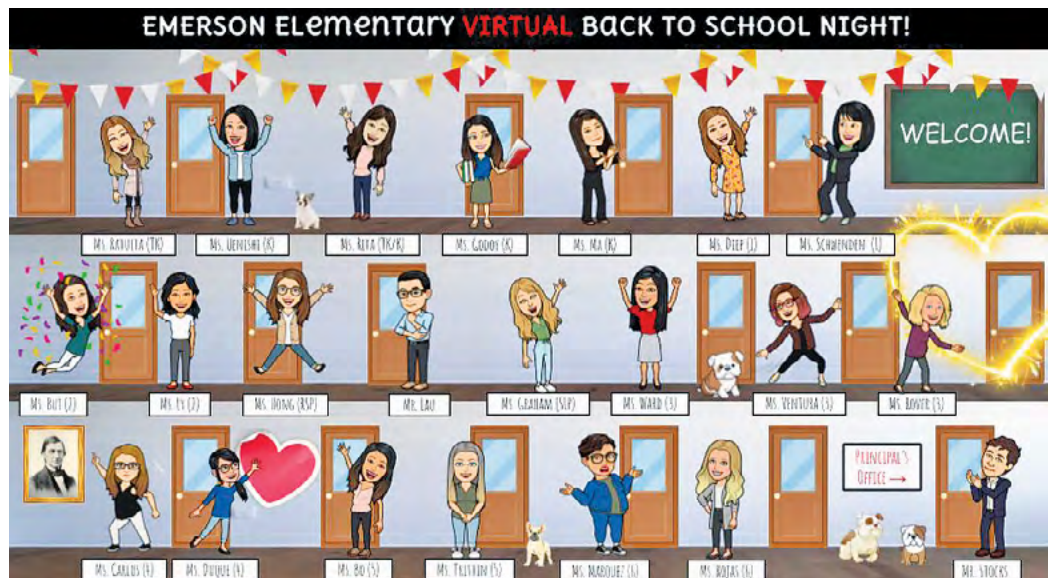
Improved Programs Available

In an effort to best serve our community, Emerson Elementary works continuously to broaden and improve the programs and services available to our students and their families. So far this year, we have held multiple laptop and curriculum distribution

events; given out school supplies; provided daily technology support in the main office; hosted several virtual parent meetings, including Back to School Night, Coffees with the Principal, and Counselor Talks with Mr. Lau; and even held a drive-thru Halloween parade, which handed out treats to over 150 cars!

In 2021, we have expanded our offerings

to better support students' academic, social-emotional, and physical development by providing afterschool intervention, enrichment, tutoring, and forums to socialize. In addition, we have plans to make library books available and to deliver student desks to households that need them.



Richard Garvey *Intermediate School*

2720 N. Jackson Ave., Rosemead, CA 91770 • 626/307-3385 • garveyint.garvey.k12.ca.us



David Alarcon
Principal

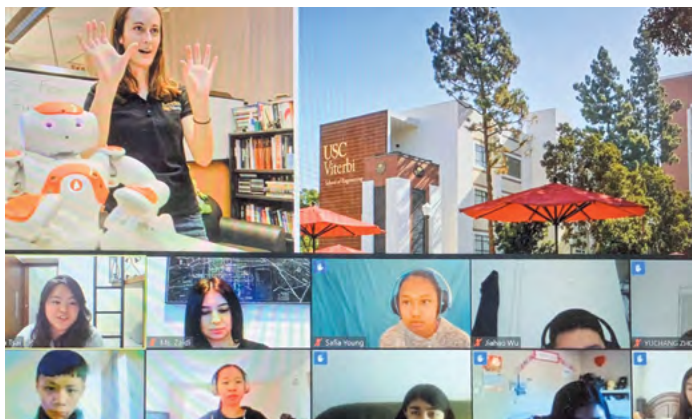
Adapted to Challenge

Like all schools, dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic has been a major challenge for all staff and students. However, we are proud how Garvey Intermediate School has adapted to this challenge. Garvey Intermediate continues to provide rigorous and engaging content through an online platform. Students are succeeding in spite of the technological obstacles and many are thriving with their online studies.



Garvey Intermediate currently offers six core classes including English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, PE, and an Elective. Teacher supported assistance, in small groups, is offered daily and Intervention classes are offered every Wednesday to support struggling students. Additional Elective classes are offered weekly for students that want to excel in specialized areas of instruction including Science, Technology, Journalism, Advanced Music, Advanced Drama, AVID, and others.

We also offer counseling services for all students in both academic and mental health support to assist students during these difficult times.



Hillcrest *Elementary School*

795 Pepper St., Monterey Park, CA 91755 • 626/307-3371 • hillcrest.garvey.k12.ca.us



Dr. Rosa Guerra
Principal

Hillcrest PTA is Virtually the Best!

Our Hillcrest PTA has been an invaluable support. They have engaged our students by providing regular virtual Science assemblies, zumba, yoga, arts and crafts opportunities

and hosted online dance parties, a costume contest and talent show. They purchased

jump ropes for all students so they can exercise at home and sent them home with sanitizing gel and plain white face masks so students can draw designs and enter a school-wide contest. They created one-minute Scavenger Hunt videos for teachers to use while they transition from one subject to the next to allow for student movement. They have scheduled parent forums to ensure parents have a place to ask questions,

and arranged for our school counselor to attend the forum to address questions about socio-emotional needs as our families navigate through the first trimester of distance learning. We are so grateful to have such a caring and hardworking PTA!



Monterey Vista *Elementary School*

901 E. Graves Ave., Monterey Park, CA 91755 • 626/307-3300 • mvista.garvey.k12.ca.us



Hing Chow
Principal

Committed to Quality Learning

I wish the Monterey Vista School community a Happy New Year as we welcome 2021. The past nine months have definitely been unprecedented times. However, Monterey Vista School teachers are not discouraged and they remain committed to providing the highest quality distance learning for all of our students. Teachers have taken

this opportunity to utilize different platforms such as Seesaw to make learning and planning easier for both students and lesson planning. As a result of their dedicated services, the school has over 95% students participating in Distance Learning daily. In addition to academics, teachers also provide opportunities to celebrate student success through the Student of the Month recognition.



Eldridge Rice *Elementary School*

2150 N. Angelus Ave., Rosemead, CA 91770 • 626/307-3348 • rice.garvey.k12.ca.us



Judy Gonzales
Principal

Adapting to Virtual Learning

Greetings from Rice Elementary! Our rockets BLASTED OFF into distance learning. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our teachers, staff, students, and families! Our fabulous teachers worked tirelessly to shift and adapt their instructional program

to a virtual environment built on a foundation of love, care, and high levels of engagement. Our students learned to Zoom and Google Meet; mute and unmute themselves, use the chat room;; submit their work through Google Classroom, and much more! They had a blast doing science experiments, VAPA Art, and going on virtual field trips to places such as UCLA and the Smithsonian Museum in Washington DC. Our counselor and behavior interventionist assistants continued our college-going culture by providing our students and parents with grade-level “College Chats.” Lastly, we enjoyed each other’s company during class breaks, our Lunch Clubhouse, Halloween Movie Night, Winter Bingo Party, and Santa Classroom visits! Thank you!



George I. Sanchez *Elementary School*

8470 E. Fern Ave., Rosemead, CA 91770 • 626/307-3368 • sanchez.garvey.k12.ca.us

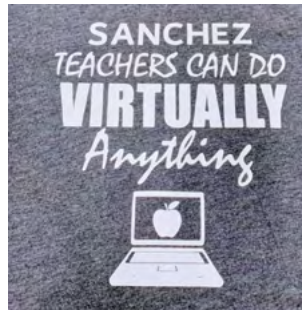


Gabriela Benitez
Principal

Meeting the Distance Learning Challenge

Similar to schools everywhere, Sanchez Elementary approached distance learning with trepidation and apprehension. However, after finding our footing and recalling what leads our charge, we have all successfully committed to meeting this challenge with heart.

As principal, I could not be more proud of our school community. Leadership is visible everywhere. Our teaching team remains committed to training and professional development using new online resources. Support staff continue to assist in ensuring the well-being of all students. Student Leadership continues to encourage a positive culture with Leader of the Month assemblies, engagement giveaways and spirit weeks. PTA continues their strong support of all initiatives and holiday celebrations. Community donations from local businesses continue to celebrate our students. And lastly, our parents have met the distance learning challenge with honorable courage and resilience. Sanchez Eagles are committed to succeed and SOAR!



Roger W. Temple *Intermediate School*

8510 E. Fern Ave., Rosemead, CA 91770 • 626/307-3360 • templeint.garvey.k12.ca.us

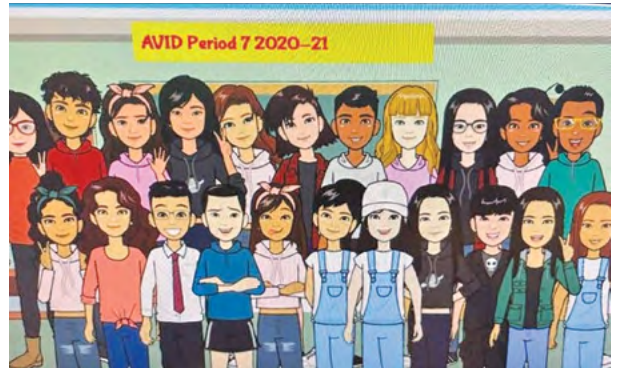


Going the Distance

Temple Intermediate has been faced with the challenge of a new learning platform for the 2020-2021 school year – Distance Learning.

Dr. Robert Boyd III
Principal

Due to the global pandemic, our students and teachers have to have class via live online sessions. Just as Temple Knights do in all situations, we faced this challenge with a positive “can-do” attitude. Teachers have utilized unique computer apps to make learning more fun and engaging.



Students have responded with over 150 students making the Trimester 1 Honor Roll. We have always said, “Knights RIDE”. Now we say, “When it comes to learning, we go the distance.”

Frances Willard *Elementary School*

3152 N. Willard Ave., Rosemead, CA 91770 • 626/307-3375 • willard.garvey.k12.ca.us



Lunch Bunch

“Unprecedented” is a word heard numerous times to describe this past year. However, in the midst of an unprecedented time and the need for Distance Learning, Willard Elementary has strived to keep some normalcy for students. With Distance Learning, one of the losses has been socialization among the students so we have created some fun opportunities for

Jeff Maljian
Principal

socialization. One event has been our monthly, schoolwide Leader in Me Assemblies to award students for their achievement academically and as leaders. Another regular event is our weekly “Lunch Bunch” gatherings. Students are invited to bring their lunches and we will share in fun conversations and do some games together (where the students can win prizes!). The “Lunch Bunch” has been a big hit for our students who attend. Although no one would have chosen Distance Learning, it has pushed us to be creative and resourceful in how to support our students.



Academic Leadership Recipients



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 kicked 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.

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.

Kailani's Review



Kailani T.

Positive Outlook

Ways to Make Sunshine is written by Renée Watson, a Coretta Scott King Award and Newbery Medal winner. The story is about a 10-year-old Ryan Hart who had to adjust to many changes in her life after her father had



lost his job. Her dad's new job did not pay as much as his old job, so her family had to move into a smaller house and must limit their spending. Ryan faced many challenges at this point of her life. With the help from her loving family and friends, she was able to see the positive sides of the changes. Ryan brought sunshine to her family and anyone around her by trying to be a good daughter, good sister, and a good friend.

Reading this book taught me to think positive. If we look at things positively, we can always find some good things even in the worst situation. I give this book 5 stars out of 5.

Kailani is a 3rd grader who loves to read. When not playing with her baby brother, Kailani likes to color and draw. She started taking Spanish lessons while sheltering-in-place. Horseback riding and skateboarding are the new activities she enjoys. Hope everyone stays well and healthy.

Katie's Review



Katie C.

Magical World

Title: *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*

Author: Roald Dahl

Have you ever wondered what it might be like to live in a world where waterfalls spewed chocolate, chairs were marshmallows, and mystical animals were at



every corner? If so, you should visit *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. Coming from a poor family, Charlie could only dream of chocolate once a year on his birthday. However, when he finds a dollar bill on a snowy, cold day, he's just in luck. He's transported from his small shabby room to a magical world: the Chocolate Factory. Willy Wonka and the Oompa Loompas show Charlie the inside of the wonderful land that the factory hid from the rest of the world. As he travels through the factory with other children, Willy Wonka teaches them the importance of generosity, kindness, and a humble attitude. If you want to read a heartwarming story of a young boy who finally sees his kind characteristics pay off, read *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

Katie is a junior in high school. She likes reading and writing. She loves to read to younger kids. She provides book reviews to kids who want to find more good books.

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