

**FREE**

# School News

*Education + Communication = A Better Nation*

**Covering the Hawthorne School District**



Volume 12, Issue 64

March / April 2022

## Thank you Dr. Morgan for 40 Years Serving Hawthorne School District



**Dr. Morgan hosts a group of second grade students  
during her first year (2010) as Superintendent.**

**Every child deserves a chance to succeed!**  
**¡Cada niño merece la oportunidad de triunfar!**

### **Preschool Program**

HSD Preschools offer early childhood educational programs for children who are three and four-years old. Families must meet State income requirements.

### **Programa de Preescolar**

Las Escuelas Preescolares de HSD ofrecen programas educativos de primera infancia para niños de tres y cuatro años de edad. Las familias deben cumplir con los requisitos de ingresos del Estado.



# **Hawthorne School District Preschool**



### **The Benefits of Preschool**

The most important years of a child's development is in the first five years of life. Children who receive a high-quality educational experience, in their early years, develop the skills necessary to succeed in life.

Children who are involved in preschool:

- Develop pre-reading, early writing, and math skills
- Enhance critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Develop emotional behaviors and social skills

### **Los Beneficios de la Educación Preescolar**

Los primeros cinco años de vida son los más importantes en el desarrollo del niño. Los niños que reciben una experiencia educativa de alta calidad, en sus primeros años, desarrollan las habilidades necesarias para triunfar en la vida.

Los niños que participan en la educación preescolar:

- Desarrollan habilidades en matemáticas, escritura y lectura temprana.
- Mejoran el pensamiento crítico y habilidades en resolución de problemas.
- Desarrollan habilidades sociales y comportamiento emocional.



**HSD Preschool**

13928 Kornblum Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250  
(310) 970-7550 Phone | (310) 970-7555 Fax





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I came to the Hawthorne School District in 1982. I was fresh out of college and excited to begin my first teaching assignment. I taught sixth grade at Washington School then ventured into various grade levels throughout the school. I had the opportunity to fill many roles during my tenure in the Hawthorne School District. I was the Year-Round Education Specialist, the Counselor at Bud Carson Middle School (when it was still Yukon Intermediate School), the Special Projects Teacher at Jefferson School and active in our local teachers' association.

After serving as a teacher for fifteen years, I became the Assistant Principal, and then Principal at Jefferson School and Principal of Eucalyptus School. I then became the Professional Development Coordinator for the District, and the Director of Special Projects. After all of those wonderful experiences, I was selected as the Superintendent of our incredible district in 2010. I have served in that role for the last twelve years. At the end of this school year, I will be retiring after forty years of service to the students, families, and Hawthorne community. It has been the most rewarding career I could have ever imagined. I am grateful to have spent my entire career in the Hawthorne School District. There is nowhere I would rather be. This is a special place where everyone plays a critical role in educating our students.

As I begin the next chapter of my life, I am comforted knowing that the Hawthorne School District Board of Trustees has selected Dr. Brian Markarian as the new superintendent. I cannot imagine a more perfect candidate to carry on our important work. I know in the coming weeks you will get to know Dr. Markarian better and welcome him into his new role as you did me. I will remain in my current position until June 30th and will then confidently turn over the leadership to Dr. Markarian.

I cannot thank the staff, students, and entire Hawthorne School District community enough for the last forty years. My career has been everything I could have imagined and more. Hawthorne will always be in my thoughts and in my heart.



**Dr. Helen E.  
Morgan**  
*Superintendent*

Llegué al Distrito Escolar de Hawthorne en 1982. Acababa de salir de la universidad y estaba emocionada por comenzar mi primer trabajo como maestra. Enseñé sexto grado en la Escuela Washington y luego me aventuré en varios niveles de grado en toda la escuela. Tuve la oportunidad de desempeñar muchas funciones durante mi permanencia en el Distrito Escolar de Hawthorne. Fui la especialista en educación de todo el año, la consejera en la Escuela Secundaria Bud Carson (cuando todavía era la Escuela Secundaria Yukon), la maestra de proyectos especiales en la Escuela Jefferson y activa en nuestra asociación local de maestros.

Después de servir como maestra durante quince años, me convertí en la asistente del director, y luego directora en la escuela Jefferson y directora de la escuela Eucalyptus. Luego me convertí en la coordinadora de desarrollo profesional del distrito y en la directora de proyectos especiales. Después de todas esas maravillosas experiencias, fui seleccionada como superintendente de nuestro increíble distrito en 2010. He servido en ese papel durante los últimos doce años. Al final de este año escolar, me retiraré después de cuarenta años de servicio a los alumnos, las familias y la comunidad de Hawthorne. Ha sido la carrera más gratificante que podría haber imaginado. Estoy agradecida de haber pasado toda mi carrera en el Distrito Escolar de Hawthorne. No hay ningún lugar en el que preferiría estar. Este es un lugar especial donde todos juegan un papel crítico en la educación de nuestros alumnos.

Al comenzar el siguiente capítulo de mi vida, me reconforta saber que la Junta Directiva del Distrito Escolar de Hawthorne ha seleccionado al Dr. Brian Markarian como el nuevo superintendente. No puedo imaginar un candidato más perfecto para continuar nuestro importante trabajo. Sé que en las próximas semanas conocerán mejor al Dr. Markarian y le darán la bienvenida a su nuevo cargo como lo hicieron conmigo. Permaneceré en mi puesto actual hasta el 30 de junio y entonces entregaré con confianza el liderazgo al Dr. Markarian.

No puedo agradecer lo suficiente al personal, a los alumnos y a toda la comunidad del Distrito Escolar de Hawthorne por los últimos cuarenta años. Mi carrera ha sido todo lo que podría haber imaginado y más. Hawthorne siempre estará en mis pensamientos y en mi corazón.



**Kay Coop**  
Founder/Publisher



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Netragrednik

# School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation  
[www.schoolnewsrollcall.com](http://www.schoolnewsrollcall.com)  
Covering the  
**HAWTHORNE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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Congratulations to Dr. Morgan on her pending retirement. There is so much to celebrate about her years of serving the Hawthorne School District. The fact that she enjoyed working for the same district so many years is remarkable. The fact that the district appreciated and recognized Dr. Morgan's leadership ability is fortunate for the students and the community. I will always remember the day I met with Dr. Morgan 12 years ago to introduce *School News Roll Call*. I left with a feeling of excitement to collaborate promoting the excellence in the Hawthorne School District. Dr. Morgan's positive attitude is contagious.

As I wish Dr. Morgan well, I look forward to working with Dr. Markarian to continue publishing the Hawthorne School District excellence. The past two years have been a challenge in many ways, but the teachers, students and community have risen to the challenge.

This issue is full of beautiful pictures and positive articles. Thank you for continuing to include the digital issues of *School News* among your reading choices.

Have a fun Spring Break.  
Our next issue is May 11.



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**Mid-term classes begin April 16.**





# HAWTHORNE SCHOOL DISTRICT



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**to learn what's on the menu.**

## Vaccine Hesitancy & Newborn Infections from Mom



**Graham Tse, M.D.,**  
chief medical officer,  
COVID-19  
physician in charge,  
MemorialCare  
Miller Children's &  
Women's Hospital  
Long Beach

Vaccine hesitancy has become more polarized with the COVID-19 vaccine, mostly due to misinformation and misunderstanding.

One point of misinformation is that the COVID-19 vaccine can be harmful to an unborn baby. We're seeing expectant mothers delay getting the vaccine while pregnant, or not getting it at all if they're trying to conceive and waiting until after the baby is born. This puts both mom and baby at a higher risk for COVID-19.

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine support women in getting the COVID-19 vaccine while pregnant. Studies demonstrate that receiving a COVID-19 vaccine will help keep you and your baby safe from COVID-19.

As a pediatric critical care specialist at MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach, we're experiencing cases where newborns are catching COVID-19 from someone in their household.

Studies are showing that moms who receive their COVID-19 vaccination while pregnant are building antibodies that can protect their baby. These antibodies have been found in umbilical cord blood and in breast milk. This means that vaccination during pregnancy can help protect you and your baby from COVID-19.

I encourage family and friends who are expecting to get vaccinated. The benefits of the vaccine far outweigh any risk for mom and baby.

If you're still hesitant about receiving the vaccine, reach out to your doctor. The better your doctor understands your hesitancy, the better he or she can help answer your questions.

For more information visit [millerchildrens.org/covid](https://millerchildrens.org/covid).



2801 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806

800-MEMORIAL (636-6742) • [millerchildrens.org/covid](https://millerchildrens.org/covid)



Albert Antonio, D.O.,  
neonatologist, and  
Serenity, NICU patient born  
at 11.6 oz. – less than 1 lb.

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## Bud Carson *Middle School*

13838 S. Yukon Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/676-1908  
[www.budcarsonmiddle.org](http://www.budcarsonmiddle.org)



**LaTima Jones**  
*Principal*

### Supporting Students' Social-Emotional Wellness with Lunch Craftivities

Bud Carson Middle School has recently launched weekly Social-Emotional Wellness programs during lunch. On Tuesdays, the Counseling Staff facilitate “craftivities” (crafts + activities) that help benefit students’ social-emotional wellness. The additional new student support activities are co-facilitated by our School Counselor,

Ms. Hart, and the new school counselor, Ms. Gutierrez, who is at Bud Carson campus on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The Tuesday ‘Craftivities’ are art-oriented and offer the following benefits:

- facilitate student engagement
- allow students build rapport / trusting relationships with the school counselors
- provide the opportunity for self-expression in an appropriate and school-safe manner
- help foster a positive school climate

In February, students participated in a “Husky Hearts” activity in celebration of Valentine’s Day. Students were asked to write positive messages and affirmations on hearts. Messages like “Love yourself no matter what” and “You are loved” could be seen written across multiple hearts.

The students were excited to participate. Recently, one 7th grade student shared about telling their parents how much they enjoy the art activities offered each Tuesday. Bud Carson will continue to offer students more lunch craftivities like the “Husky Hearts”, which allows students a positive opportunity to express themselves and reduce stress.

## Hawthorne *Math & Science Academy*

4467 W. Broadway, Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/973-8184  
[www.hawthornemsa.org](http://www.hawthornemsa.org)



**Esau Berumen**  
*Principal*

### Sports Wellness at HMSA

*By Julian Gomez,  
HMSA Senior Scholar Athlete*

The COVID-19 Pandemic compromised student participation in sports. Covid stole a fraction of the time students had to create friendships and meet new teammates, but this fall aviators were able to rejoin sports to remind the HMSA family of the importance of being a student-athlete.

Sports provide an outlet for students to focus on a task that is outside of a classroom setting by joining a team and working together to achieve a common goal. The social atmosphere within the sports community also creates a sense of welcoming and validation that boosts their chemistry as individuals and as a team. As a student-athlete in the boys



Cross Country, Soccer, and Volleyball teams I was able to create bonds with my peers, develop new talents, and take leadership roles to motivate my teammates to hone our skills and stay academically focused. After all, it’s not always about becoming the best, but enjoying the memories and accomplishments you build with the team.

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# Eucalyptus *Elementary*

12044 S. Eucalyptus Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/675-3369 • [euc-hsd-ca.schoolloop.com](http://euc-hsd-ca.schoolloop.com)



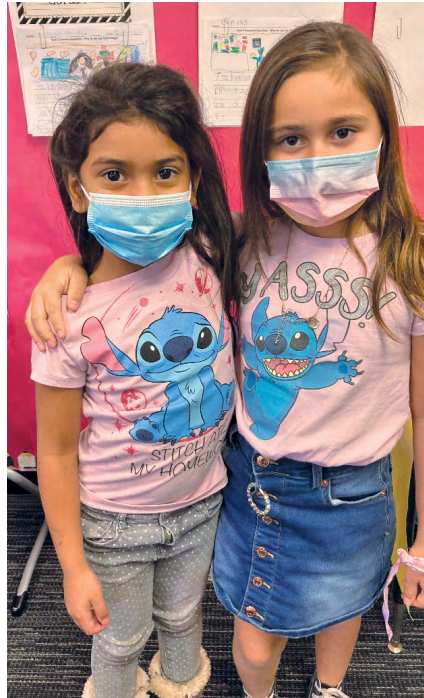
**Mike Goldstein**  
Principal

## Very Special "Twos" Day!

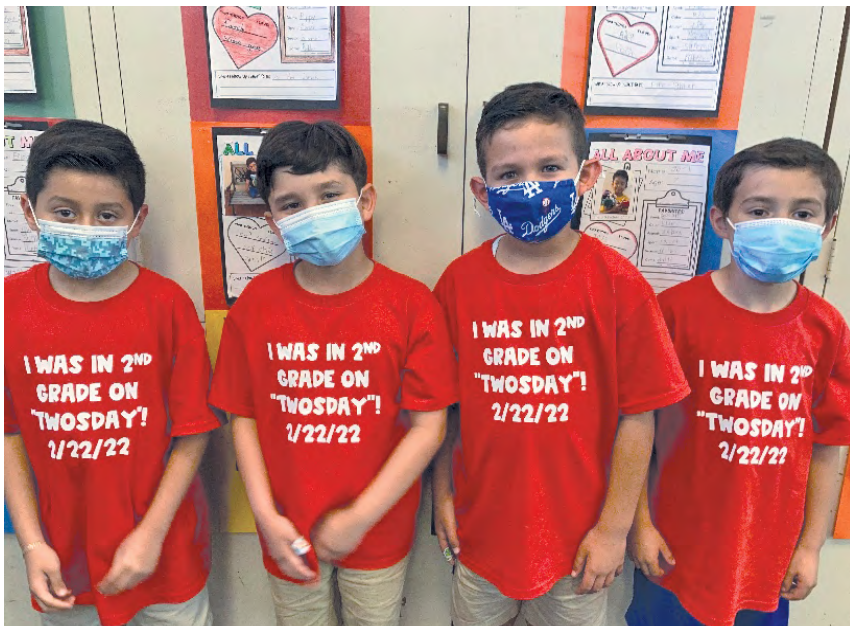
*By Barb Mensinger,  
Eucalyptus Special Projects Teacher*

Eucalyptus students and staff had fun celebrating "Twos" day on Tuesday, 2-22-22. As you walked around campus, you weren't seeing double, just staff and students dressed alike as part of our "Twos" day Twin Day Spirit Day. We even had 2 principals that day with one of our first grade

students dressed the same as Mr. Goldstein! 2-22-22 was celebrated throughout the various grade levels with lessons focusing on the number two. Classes had fun working on homophones, two syllable words, drawing with the number 2, practicing doubles, a math talk creating problems that equal 22, and listening to stories about pairs. Students in first grade made time capsules with pictures, an interest survey, work samples, and the instructions to open them on 3-3-33 when they are seniors in high school. Great fun was had by all as we celebrated this very special "Twos" day!



Students dress alike as part of "Twos" day Twin Day on Tuesday, 2/22/22.







**Akila Jones**  
Principal

## Excelling at Math

IXL is an online, skill-based math program we use at HMS to help our students fill in the educational gaps they might be experiencing in math. This program is being used school-wide to not only prepare

students for the CAASPP state-tests, but also as a scaffolding tool for high school and beyond.

Students can work at their own pace to improve their math skills. The program also lends itself to cooperative learning, as they can help each other be successful in a lesson with think-pair-share activities and group jams. Each lesson consists of a very definitive plan, one where the students will not be overwhelmed by endless assignments. It contains reachable goals which can be mastered at any time. Students also have the opportunity to raise their scores at any point during the trimester by simply re-entering the lesson and working towards excellence.



Our math coach, Ms. Turquand, along with one of our teachers, Ms. Mische, developed a system that utilizes the score sheet on IXL that easily shows how the students are progressing, and assigns new content with IXL codes that allow the students to easily revisit their lessons to attain higher scores and mastery of content.

The idea is to have reachable, measurable goals for our students, and which can be improved at any point, so that every student can finally say, "I excel at math!"

## Birds – 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](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com) Please put Hawthorne in the subject line.

Entries must be received by April 15, 2022

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

FINCH  
ROBIN  
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PHEASANT  
CHICKEN  
QUAIL  
DOVE  
PIGEON  
TURKEY  
DUCK  
BLUE JAY

CARDINAL  
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HAWK  
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TERN  
SEA GULL  
PELICAN  
WREN  
SWAN  
BUZZARD

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



# Jefferson *Elementary*

4091 W. 139th St., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/676-9423 • [www.hsdjefferson.org](http://www.hsdjefferson.org)



**Josh Godin**  
Principal

## Reading with a Friend

Reading can be so much fun for so many of us, but how can it be better? Reading with a friend of course! Read Across America Week was the week of February 28th-March 4th. This week is set to promote the love of reading. Jefferson had spirit week during this time and students focused on dressing up like characters from their favorite books.

The best part was when students were able to team up with other grade levels and read their favorite books. Some of our 3-5th grade classes teamed up with kindergarten or first grade classes and read to them outside in a grass area. It makes a world of difference when you have someone read to you when you are younger because it opens up your imagination. Einstein said it best, "Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world."





# Kornblum *Elementary*

3620 W. El Segundo Blvd., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/970-4294 • [www.hsdkornblum.org](http://www.hsdkornblum.org)



**Marisa Stewart**  
*Principal*

## Fun on Fridays!

Our Kornblum Cardinals love to have fun. This year, due to the COVID restrictions, we have had to cancel many of our fun family events. To make up for this, our team decided that we needed to incorporate some fun activities into the school day. So we added fun Friday activities as well as our virtual Student of the Month awards.

On Fridays, students get a break from uniform and are able to participate in a fun spirit day. We have had many fun Friday themes this year so far. Some of our favorites are Superbowl Friday, Crazy Socks, Twin Day, Flannel Day, Denim Day, Anime Day, College Day, Harry Potter Day, and of course, Star Wars Day in May!

One favorite Fun Friday was 80's Day, pictured here, our staff and students dressed like "Back in the 80's" to celebrate the 80 days of school so far.

We plan to continue our fun Fridays. We have also modified our Spirit Assemblies this year. At the monthly Spirit Assemblies we celebrate our Students of the Month. These students are our best examples of implementing the Four Cardinal Rules at school during that month. Students are reminded to Be Respectful, to Be Responsible, to Be Safe, and to Give their Best Effort in everything they do at Kornblum School.

Traditionally, our assemblies were held outdoors, and the families got to be a part of them. This year we knew we had to do it online so that our parents would be able to participate and cheer everyone on as we celebrated and acknowledged our "Students of the Month"!



## Prairie Vista *Middle School*

13600 Prairie Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/679-1003 • [www.prairievistamiddle.org](http://www.prairievistamiddle.org)



**Wendy Ostensen**  
*Principal*

### **Panthers Use Art to Speak Out Against Bullying**

At Prairie Vista Middle School, we believe that the arts have the power to engage, transform and contribute to the development of intellectual and creative students. Therefore, it was only fitting that our students were offered participation in the Anti-Bullying Art Contest hosted by the New Star Family Justice Center. Students from grades 6th through 12th were invited

to develop a visual image or poem that best represented the theme “How Do I Speak Out Against Bullying?” Several of our students submitted original artwork which included poems, paintings, and collages. Congratulations to one of our very own 6th grade panthers, Natalia Halleluyan, who was awarded a 1st place prize. A big shout out to all the other panthers who participated: Carolina Alas Valle (6th), Valery Gallardo De La Cruz (6th), Sinai Abarca (6th), Cora Williams (7th), Chinenye Ezemonye (7th), and Chidiebube Iwobi (7th). Keep up the great work!



**Natalia Halleluyan uses art to stand up against bullying**



# Ramona Elementary

4617 W. 136th St., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/675-7189 • [www.hsdramona.org](http://www.hsdramona.org)



**Dr. Patricia Ray**  
Principal

## Nok Hockey Tournament

*By Matt Hurwitz, Dean of students*

The Ramona School recess Nok Hockey tournament returned for the first time since 2019, and this year over 225 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th graders signed up to play. Ram students competed over the span of two weeks in a single elimination grade level tournament. Sportsmanship, skill, and some nerves of

steel were on display as the tournaments reached their championship games. In the end all players celebrated with participation popsicles, and the final four players from each grade enjoyed a champions' breakfast. 2nd grader Calvin Mendez, 3rd grader Reily Paul, 4th graders Ivan Romo and Mia Castellanos and 5th graders David Morales and Lucas Pacheco earned gold medals as grade level champions. Students are already practicing for next year's tournament! Congratulations to all of those who participated!



# Washington Elementary

4339 W. 129th St., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/676-3422 • [www.hsdwashington.org](http://www.hsdwashington.org)



**Maritza Cruz-Brown**  
Principal

## Literacy and Math Nights

By *Abi Morales, Literacy Coach, and Jennifer Gonzalez, Math Coach*

"Join us online for some math and literacy fun!" That was the invitation sent out to our Washington families in the first two months of 2022, and the Washington School Family—administration, staff, parents and students—answered the call.

Our first virtual Literacy Night was held in January, followed by our first virtual Math Night held in February. Over 160 families logged on to their computers and participated in Family Literacy and Family Math nights!

January brought us Literacy Night, during which students participated in word hunts and other literacy-based games, which included building words, categories for lower- and upper-elementary grades, guessing the idiom, guessing the character, unscrambling words, scavenger hunts and

writing. The goal was for students and their families to be engaged in literacy activities and have fun while doing so!

In February, families brought their math skills to the computer. In each room the students and their families joined, they tried to beat the teacher at their game. Students played games like Make 10 and Fraction Battle, showing off their math skills and having fun at the same time. In addition, students were given a super-secret letter in each room. The goal of the night was to collect all four super-secret letters and spell out the mystery word. Students wrote down the word, and the next day on campus, they were able to trade it in for a small prize. Overall, it was a great success!

In addition, families who attended our Literacy and Math nights were entered in raffles. Two baskets full of school supplies were raffled off after each family night. Our Washington School Family rose to the challenge once again to support student learning in the classroom as well as at home. Go Wildcats!

## Going Green! 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](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com) (Please put Hawthorne in the subject line)

**Entries must be received by April 15, 2022**

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

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| Compost      | Planet         |
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| Difference   | Protect        |
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| Emissions    | Renewable      |
| Energy       | Resources      |
| Environment  | Respect        |
| Future       | Responsibility |
| Garden       | Reuse          |
| Healthier    | Solar          |
| Impact       |                |





# York Elementary

11838 S. York Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/675-1189 • [www.hsdnyork.org](http://www.hsdnyork.org)



**John Paterson**  
Principal

## Friendship Club

York school would like to welcome the Friendship Foundation to our campus to celebrate our first Friendship Club meeting. Our kickoff event included bubble machines, sidewalk chalk, games, and art...and coincidentally also took place on pajama day – so it was a really fun day! Friendship Club is a school sanctioned inclusion program that promotes friendship and acceptance for students with special needs and their general education peers. Students participating in the club will get to meet during their lunch break to socialize and participate in teacher lead activities. Some upcoming club meetings activities that students will look forward to are, pizza parties, bubble shows, drum circle, dance class and much more! By having a safe and fun space to socialize, students can build genuine friendships and learn new social skills. York School is truly delighted to partner with the Friendship Foundation.





# Zela Davis *Elementary*

13435 S. Yukon Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250 • 310/679-1771 • [www.hsdzeladavis.org](http://www.hsdzeladavis.org)



**Matt Rohrer**  
*Principal*

## Build a Rocket

Zela Davis is proud to welcome the US Space Force and their STEM outreach program back to our campus. Members of the US Space Force and their support staff taught students in grades 3, 4, and 5 about the critical components of rockets. The session began with a classroom lesson that highlighted the components of a rocket and how they influence it in flight.

Students were then challenged to build a rocket. They worked in collaborative groups to complete the task. Students received assistance from a member of the US Space Force and a civilian mechanical engineer.

Once the rockets were complete, it was time for launch! Students moved to the launch area to power their rockets and send them skyward. Students used compressed air for propulsion. The students had a blast! We would like to thank the US Space Force and their STEM outreach team for arranging this exciting STEM experience for our students.

