

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation



Covering the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District

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SUPERINTENDENT

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MAY 2018



Dr. Gregory S. Plutko

Frequently in conversations with others, we find ourselves discussing our families and we are all too proud to do so. Most of us share that our families are more important to us than work and in fact, report that families are our first priority. I actually have never had anyone tell me that work was his or her first priority in life. And yet, I think that for many – including me – we would have to admit that we spend an inordinate amount of time at work, or thinking about work or work related things. When we look a little deeper at our families, we sometimes find that we have less time with them and that life at home can be reactive, frantic, and unfocused. The digital pace of today's world excites us on one hand, and can exhaust us on the other... all the while challenging our value of "family-first."

Successful organizations, such as schools, are both smart and healthy. They are smart because they are focused, organized, financially prudent, and have a defined mission and core values. They are healthy because they have a minimal amount of confusion and politics, are productive and have high morale.

Successful families are also smart and healthy. They are smart because they focus on education and engage in well-rounded activities. They are healthy because they spend time together, and there is laughter and positive interaction that builds memories that last a lifetime. Home is a welcoming and safe place.

Most of our pain centers on the healthy side in both organizations and in families. In the movie "Parenthood," Steve Martin reminds us "life is messy." And in fact, this is true.

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From the District

Two Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District elementary sites named 2018 California Distinguished Schools

The Placentia-Yorba

Linda Unified School District (PYLUSD) is proud to announce that two elementary schools were recently named 2018 California Distinguished Schools, the state's top honor for campuses. This includes Glenknoll Elementary School in Yorba Linda and Golden Elementary School in Placentia.

"We are extremely proud of this outstanding accomplishment," shared PYLUSD Superintendent, Dr. Greg Plutko. "This recognition truly reflects our schools' commitment to being a dynamic learning community that prepares each and every student for success now and in the future. The academic growth of our students exists by virtue of the dedicated work done by PYL teachers, administrators, classified staff, and community members."

The California Department of Education's (CDE) Distinguished Schools program recognizes schools that have made exceptional gains in implementing academic content and performance standards adopted by the State Board of Education. A school's eligibility to apply is based on their performance and progress on state indicators as outlined on the California School Dashboard. The award rotates each year between elementary schools and secondary schools.

According to the Orange County Department of Education, the Distinguished Schools program has been on hiatus for the past three years as the state worked



to implement the California School Dashboard, a new accountability system that offers a more comprehensive look at how K-12 schools and districts are education and support students. When asked about some of the successful strategies utilized on campus, Glenknoll principal, David Cammarato, shared about the school's commitment to developing and maintaining a constructive learning environment.

"We have continued to enhance our Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS) program over the past few years," he said. "Through our

program, we have committed to cultivate the emotional health, safety, and well-being of students through a safe and respectful environment."

Golden's principal, Roann Turk, also shared about her school's signature practices and goals. This includes the engagement of all learners through targeted clear standard based objectives with measurable outcomes.

"At Golden, we expect that all students will demonstrate continued and improved academic achievement," she shared. "The philosophy of our model has evolved organically over the years as we implement best practices and innovative ideas that benefit all student groups."

The title "California Distinguished School" is one that both PYLUSD schools are familiar with, having earned the distinction several times in previous years, including most recently in 2014. For 2018, Glenknoll and Golden stand as two of only 43 schools in Orange County and 287 schools in California to receive this matching honor.

The PYLUSD schools will be officially honored for their efforts during a ceremony at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim towards the end of the school year.

Board of Education



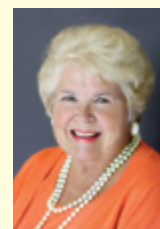
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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



We are at the end of another school year. Thank you for continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices.

Our next issue is November 9 when a new school year will be well underway. Until then have a wonderful summer. Don't forget to include the library among your summer activities. On pages 14-19 we have student book reviews and on page 18 is our Word Search Contest.



R.E.A.C.H. Foundation

21520 Yora Linda Blvd., Suite G503, Yorba Linda, CA 92887 • 714/323-9706 • www.reach4pylud.org

Spelling Bee



Julie Nibali
President

The REACH Foundation, in partnership with Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District, held it's 4th annual Spelling Bee on April 14th. Eligible students from the 4th, 5th, and 6th grades gathered to display their spelling skills with confidence! Congratulations to the winners of the 2018 REACH Foundation's PYLUSD Spelling Bee!!

4th Grade: 1st Place - Zoe Zubia, Brookhaven; 2nd Place - Sophia Raja, Golden; 3rd Place - Harish Iyer, Golden

5th Grade: 1st Place - Matthew Hoang, Woodsboro; 2nd Place - Rizwaan Bana, Linda Vista; 3rd Place - Lucy Ann Enomoto, Golden

6th Grade: 1st Place - Nitya Iyer, Golden Elementary; 2nd Place - Cody Nguyen, Golden Elementary; 3rd Place - Ethan Peng, Golden Elementary.

REACH is proud to have had our event T-shirts made by the our own students in Ms. Kelly Fritz's Commercial Art class under the direction of at Yorba Linda High School. REACH Foundation thanks all our sponsors and supporters for making this another successful event!



Counselors Unlock True Potential

Tony Morrow has one goal for the students of Fallbrook High School—graduate ready for what comes next. With his guidance, young scholars and families put their plans for the future into action.



Fallbrook High School, College and Career Counselor: Tony Morrow '11, M.A.Ed. '12

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Bernardo Yorba *Middle School (7-8)*

5350 Fairmont Blvd., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7400 • www.byms.org



Ken Valburg
Principal

AVID's March Madness Week

Bernardo Yorba Middle School's (BYMS) AVID students recently hosted March Madness College Week, a fun-filled activity week to promote college awareness for the student body, as well as help develop leadership skills for 7th and 8th grade AVID students. Activities included presentation of "College Fun Facts" during the morning announcements, a College-Mascot Sidewalk Chalk art contest at lunch, and a College Color cornhole game at break. Some of the school's awesome teachers and administrators even got in on the action by using the Flipgrid application to film memories about their college experience.

The Matadors even made some predictions on which college might win the March Madness Tournament. Everyone enjoyed the week and learned a whole lot about colleges and universities!



Brookhaven *Elementary (K-6)*

1851 N. Brookhaven Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7110 • www.brookhavenelementary.com



Julie Lucas
Principal

Building Memories and Relationships

There are many advantages to being a Brookhaven Elementary School Bear—from the Fairy Tale Ball in kindergarten to our third-grade garden, which will sprout vegetables for Market Day in June to the many other wonderful opportunities and experiences that make Brookhaven the warm, memory-making and inclusive school that it is. However, what may be the greatest and most-often-mentioned advantage is our staff!

Parents speak about just how much and how well our teachers wrap their arms around our students and families to make them a part of the Brookhaven community. Parents share that the teachers go beyond the grade-level state standards to teach to the "whole child," making school a place our children want to be. In doing this, they are not only creating an elementary experience that the students will always remember, but they are also encouraging also families to return as second- and third-generation families!

Next year, Brookhaven will turn 50, and it's an anniversary already well into the planning stages because we know there will be much to celebrate and many who will return to help us do just that!

The picture below demonstrates yet another example of how our teachers go beyond the curriculum to create engaging, enriching, and memorable activities for our students! Pictured are some of our third-grade students visiting our Makerspace creative lab that third-grade teacher Mrs. Torres and kindergarten teacher Mrs. Vitelli have organized for students to enjoy during lunch each Monday, allowing them to be creative and engaged while practicing their collaboration and social skills.

I echo our community when I say, "Thank you, Brookhaven teachers, for making our school a great place for students to learn and grow!"

Bryant Ranch *Elementary (K-5)*

24695 Paseo de Toronto, Yorba Linda, CA 92887 • 714/986-7120 • www.bryantranchschool.com



Dominique Polchow
Principal

Off to the Gold Rush!

Bryant Ranch 4th graders are making their trek to California for the Gold Rush. Research was done by students in Google Classroom for the pros and cons of the routes and tickets bought to travel by clipper ship or covered wagon. As they travel, classroom simulations add to the realism and enhance the experience as they approach San Francisco Bay or Sutter's Fort. A novel study, By the Great Horn Spoon!, Gold Rush reports, and Primary Source Investigation of gold's discovery enhance the whole experience of the California Gold Rush. The culminating activity is Miner's Day, where students dress as miners, participate in activity centers and experience life in 1849.



El Camino Real *High School (9-12)*

1351 E. Orangethorpe Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7060 • www.ecrhs-pylusd-ca.schoolloop.com



Gordon Chamberlin
Principal

Service in Action

Although El Camino High School may be a small school, students show up in a big way to help others. This last month, students have been involved in a variety of service projects. Homerooms collected over \$750 to donate to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. ECRHS provided the site and student support to help with the R.E.A.C.H. Foundation's

ShamRock n Run. Our school was the hub for packet pick-up and goodie bag stuffing. Students helped with a variety of jobs to make the ShamRock n Run a successful event. Finally, students enjoyed helping local elementary kids have fun on a Saturday. El Camino students joined Leadership Teacher, Jen Di Carlo, to help young kids decorate hundreds of cookies for Easter. All supplies were donated by teachers and students from El Camino. Young kids came from the local communities and were given the chance to frost and decorate their cookies in a fun environment at the Friendly Center.



Esperanza *High School (9-12)*

1830 N. Kellogg Dr., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/986-7540 • www.esperanzahs.com



Gina Aguilar
Principal

Generating the Spirit

Our goal at Esperanza High School is to create a community of belonging where everyone has an opportunity to be connected to our school. In that spirit, we recently held a Student Recognition Assembly. This was where hundreds of our students were honored for their contributions to Esperanza.

Some highlights of the event included our Academic Decathlon being honored for their first-place county finish in Division 2, and the recognition that women's lacrosse was the team that brought Esperanza to its 10,000th varsity athletic win since the school first opened in 1973.

In addition, a video was shown that revealed how each teacher had chosen a student and told them why they were the reason they come to work each day. Next, the five students who have completed the most community service hours to date also received recognition for their dedication to making our community a better place.

In total, these five young men and women completed over 5,000 hours of community service. They are Jessica Parker, Austin Patel, Christopher Thornburg, Paul Jordan Rihani, and James Sharpe.

The Assembly finale included the announcement of the top 10 students at each grade level by GPA. Kevin Nguyen and Cassidy Gibson tied for the top tenth-grader, with GPAs of 4.87. The top eleventh-grade student was Andrew Dorado, with a GPA of 4.85.



The most anticipated event of the Assembly was the announcement of the 2018 co-salutatorians, Alyssa Laske and Andrew Sun, along with this year's valedictorian, Abby Cuellar. It was definitely an Assembly full of school spirit and Aztec pride.

Glenknoll *Elementary (K-6)*

6361 Glenknoll Dr., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7140 • www.glenknoll.org



David Cammarato
Principal

California Distinguished School Award

Glenknoll Elementary School was pleased to receive the state's highest educational honor: the California Distinguished School Award. Glenknoll began the application process in March, and the state superintendent announced Distinguished School recipients on April 2 in a press release.

Schools were eligible based on their performance and progress on the state indicators as described on the California School Dashboard. Indicators include test scores, suspension rates, and English learner progress.

This award showcases Glenknoll's success in providing a supportive and positive learning environment for our students and reflects the dedication, commitment, and talent of the Glenknoll staff as well as the supportive community that we serve. In addition to our academic strengths, Glenknoll showcased the continuous improvements to the schools Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) program. Our PBIS program focuses on four statements: Practice your personal best; Act responsibly; Work and play safely; and Show respect (PAWS).

We thank you for your continued support of Glenknoll and for helping to make it the special place it is.

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El Dorado *High School (9-12)*

1651 N. Valencia Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7580 • www.edhs.org



Joey Davis
Principal

Career Day

This spring, El Dorado High School took a step toward trying to ensure that all students are college and career ready. Career Day provided students three opportunities to hear from over 65 professionals. We had a wide range of experts on campus—military, law enforcement, business owners, lawyers, television hosts, entertainers, software designers, publicists, and on and on. Each speaker prepared a 30-minute presentation that included how to get into the specific field, salary opportunities, drawbacks and benefits. Students actually rushed to get to the three presentations of most interest.

We are appreciative of all the speakers who came and to the staff and PTSA members who helped to organize and plan the event. We are especially excited about the PTSA leadership students who spent time doing the prep work to make it all happen. EDHS looks forward to hosting the event again in two years.



Fairmont *Elementary (K-6)*

5241 Fairmont Blvd., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7130 • www.fairmontelementary.com



Cynthia Rex
Principal

A Time to Celebrate!

The sun shined brightly on seven wonders of our world here at Fairmont Elementary! They were recognized recently in our outdoor amphitheater. Students and families cheered as each honoree was presented with a personal and unique tribute for their special contribution to our school community. The Very Special Person Awards went to Anat Cirt and Cyndi Green. Misty Janssen and Judy Furman received the Honorary Service Awards, and Outstanding Teacher Awards went to Kandice Ames, Pat Shea, and Nate Babcock. Each of these people bring their talents, energy, love and devotion to the students of our school every day. Working so positively in their various capacities, these parents, staff members, and teachers bring out the best in everyone they encounter and definitely share their Falcon Pride!



Fairmont honors: Cyndi Green, Misty Janssen, Anat Cirt, Nate Babcock, Kandice Ames, Pat Shea, and Judy Furman.

George Key School *(K-12)*

710 E. Golden Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7170 • www.georgekey.org



Kim Smith
Principal

Simple Moments

Dr. Seuss wrote many stories, most of which are best told through his pictures. At George Key, our learning and experiences are also best told

through pictures. The success of our students cannot be seen through test scores and statistics, but it can be seen in the eyes and smiles of every student and staff member on campus. The smiles and tears that followed as a formerly wheelchair-bound student walked down the hall cannot be expressed properly in words. The squeals that ensued as students made and tasted green eggs are not heard in any assessment. At Key, we measure success in the simple moments we treasure with each student every day. We are grateful each day for the special abilities which make us unique.



Glenview *Elementary (K-6)*

1775 Glenview Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/986-7150 • www.glenviewbulldogs.org



Alondra Ramos
Principal

Hero Day

Our Glenview Scholars demonstrated their oral presentation, research, and writing skills by presenting a special talk on a renowned and celebrated person during our school's "Hero Day" celebration. The students presented key details and facts on timelines, and answered a series of questions about a selected hero of their choice.

As part of a special class project, the second-graders developed research reports and presentation charts that highlighted the most notable accomplishments of a wide range of the heroes that they had read and studied about in language arts. The students also integrated technology by conducting research on their Chromebooks, and were able to embed photos of selected heroes into their research reports. They also learned about important text features like captions.



On Hero Day, the students dressed in character costumes to represent heroes such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, the Wright Brothers, Amelia Earhart, and Neil Armstrong, to name just a few. Glenview parents, families, and staff members also interviewed the students about their special heroes on a meet-and-greet Hero Day event organized by second-grade teacher Kate Paniagua.

Golden *Elementary (K-6)*

740 E. Golden Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7160 • www.golden.pylusd.org



Roann Turk
Principal

A New Tradition!

This year, Golden Elementary started what will become an annual tradition: a yearbook cover contest. Mrs. Thuy Luong, the yearbook coordinator, judged over 200 yearbook entries with a team of PTA judges. The competition was fierce!

Ruth Qiao, a fifth-grade student in Mrs. Rasic's class, will have her winning entry displayed on the front cover. "We've been taking classes at the Dutch Masters Art Academy for one-and-a-half years, and decided to enter the contest with my dad's encouragement. I was happy and excited to win!" she shared.

Kaitlyn Ho from Mrs. Fraser's third-grade classroom will have her picture displayed on the back cover. Kaitlyn explained, "I like to draw, so I decided to enter the contest. Golden is a great place to go for school, so I drew a Golden Eagle and activities."



Kaitlyn's – respectful, responsible, and safe; Ruth's – Eagle head.

All of the students who entered the contest will have their artwork proudly displayed throughout the yearbook.

Kraemer *Middle School (7-8)*

645 N. Angelina Dr., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/996-1551 • www.kraemerms.org



Keith Carmona
Principal

Student Leaders

Kraemer Middle School values the development of student leaders on campus. We believe that all seventh and eighth graders have the capacity to develop leadership traits and that doing so will build a more positive school climate and a more connected student body.

To support these goals, the Kraemer ASB (associated student body) leaders sacrificed a portion of their Spring Break to attend the California Association of Student Leaders Conference in Ontario, California. During this conference, students attended various workshops, listened to motivational speakers, and even presented to other middle school leaders. They are looking forward to bringing back more activities and events to our school.

This was one of several leadership conferences that various groups on campus have had the opportunity to attend this year. We are proud of our developing leaders!



La Entrada *High School (9-12)*

4999 Casa Loma Ave., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7026 • www.laentradahighschool.org



Carey Cecil
Principal

Focusing on Wellness

Focusing on student wellness is certainly not a new priority; however, it seems there is growing local and national concern about students' mental health. Last spring when Superintendent Plutko addressed his high school student advisory council about cyberbullying, they respectfully revealed that the mental well-being of their peers was a more pressing concern than almost anything.

On March 29, La Entrada High School families, along with families of high school students throughout the district, were invited to learn from Dr. Craig Mortensen about functional medicine and ways to address anxiety and depression. Dr. Mortensen is a Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District alumnus, graduating from Valencia High School in 1997. He attended Southern California University of Health Sciences (SCUHS). While at SCUHS, he became especially interested in alternative medicine and natural healing. He graduated as the class valedictorian and received three scholarships from the California Chiropractic Board of Examiners. After 10 years of practice in both alternative and chiropractic medicine, Dr. Mortensen began studying functional medicine, a systems biology-based approach that focuses on identifying and addressing the root cause of disease.

Dr. Mortensen addressed some 50 families, beginning with statistics of people most commonly impacted by depressive episodes. He discussed both physical and emotional symptoms and then explained what he referred to as the gut-brain axis, emphasizing how the gut microbiota is essential to human health and the bidirectional communication between the gut and the brain. Dr. Mortensen asserted that "75 to 90 percent of all serotonin is made in the gut," further illustrating the importance of gut health in treating depressive disorders. Guests were provided with evidence-based techniques for addressing anxiety and depression as well as a list of herbs and vitamins people can try before prescription medication.

We are grateful for community partners like Dr. Mortensen who provide insight on this important, albeit sensitive, issue.

Lakeview *Elementary (K-5)*

17510 Lakeview Ave., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7190 • www.lak-pylusd-ca.schoolloop.com



Tamie Beeuwaert
Principal

The Glory of Gardening

The garden at Lakeview Elementary has made some significant improvements this year. By partnering with Life's Toolbox and their OT interns, we were able to establish a collection of ideas, thoughts, hopes, and a mutually shared vision for turning our landscape into an educational environment.

The students played a critical role in transforming the garden. Their physical strength, mental abilities, and imagination breathed new life into our outdoor space.

Under the outstanding leadership and direction of our OT intern Lauren Acosta, our Lakeview Garden is now home to over 30 different



plants, including fruits and vegetables. We also collaborated on many garden activities such as planting for pollinators, creating vegetable and flower gardens, painting, and weaving with plants and seed balls.

This year, Life's Toolbox even hosted a booth at our Open House to showcase the many skills and learning opportunities that gardening can present. It's amazing to see the level of interest that our students have in their school garden, and how much they look forward to their lunch-time garden adventures.

Linda Vista *Elementary (K-5)*

5600 S. Ohio St., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7200 • www.lve-pylusd-ca.schoolloop.com



Kristen Petrovacki
Principal

Cultivating Student Leadership

Our young Lions have benefited from a variety of leadership opportunities made available on campus over the course of the school year. Our most experienced leaders are our fifth-grade students who all serve as news anchors on our live video-broadcast airing daily for students and staff. Each morning, they share relevant news, reinforce school-behavior expectations, and set the tone for a positive and productive school day. This gives all students an opportunity to fine-tune their speaking and listening skills.

We also have a strong Student Council body that plans activities, organizes collections for charities, and leads by example with their everyday words and actions. Candidates who run for Student Council prepare speeches and deliver them to the entire school, which votes in an electronic election. The courage and confidence demonstrated by these aspiring leaders is commendable.

Additionally, we also have a wonderful group of peer mentors that consistently go above and beyond to ensure that all our students feel a sense of belonging at school. They seek out opportunities to help students connect and engage in recess play. We are grateful for their leadership and their caring hearts.

Among the youngest leaders on campus are a group of second- and third-grade students that serve as big buddies to our preschool students. Meaningful relationships are formed, and leadership skills are cultivated beginning at a very young age. We are confident that our students will take these skills and apply them to future leadership endeavors.

English writer Antony Jay said it best: “The only real training for leadership is leadership.” We continue to be very proud of all our leading Lions as they work together to grow in new ways.

Mabel Paine *Elementary (K-5)*

4444 Plumosa Ave., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7210 • www.mabelpaine.org



Melanie Carmona
Principal

Special Day Classes

Mabel Paine Elementary School students are awesome! The school’s general education students have been working extra hard in their classrooms for opportunities to visit Special Day Classes each week! This practice allows students with special needs to interact with typical peers while learning social skills, playing games, and enjoying new faces.

Most recently, 13 students from Mrs. Thurston’s 5th grade class devoted their genius hour project to learning about autism and throwing an “Emoji Party” for Mrs. Davila’s 1st and 2nd grade class. They assigned one-to-one buddies for each student in her class, created activities and games, and raised money for their supplies. They showcased all of Mabel Paine’s values including Compassion, Collaboration, Diversity, and Respect.



Melrose *Elementary (K-5)*

974 S. Melrose St., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7220 • www.me-pylusd-ca.schoolloop.com



Cynthia Alvarez
Principal

Parent Greeters

The award-winning Orange County Gang Reduction and Intervention Partnership (OC GRIP) is a law enforcement partnership that identifies at-risk youth and aims to increase school attendance and decrease gang activity. The Orange County District Attorney’s Office has formed OC GRIP committees and partnerships with police departments from various cities.

In order to increase the success of the OC GRIP program, it is important that parents become involved. The Parents Supporting Parents program provides educational support. Meetings are three times a year and are facilitated by Anaheim GRIP. All parents are invited to attend these meetings to learn about local gang trends, how to identify if your child is at-risk, drug trends, and understanding social media.

We kicked off our partnership with the OC GRIP at the end of March and recently held our parent greeter training to prepare parents to greet and welcome students. Our parent greeters arrived on campus and enthusiastically welcomed students to school. What a great way to start our morning!



Morse *Elementary (K-6)*

431 E. Morse Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/524-6300 • www.morseschool.net



Tonya Gordillo
Principal

Creative Family Nights

At Morse Elementary, we celebrate having a growth mindset. Throughout the school year, students practice the “I can…” attitude. During our AVID/STEM Family Nights, parents learn what it means to be an AVID school, using a growth mindset while working on a design challenge. Throughout the evening, students and parents work together to design and create, using the idea that through failures, we achieve success.

Our AVID/STEM Family Night in the spring was a student-led evening where students performed a WICOR (writing, inquiry, collaboration and reading) song. Next, students explained WICOR and how writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization and reading help them to be future ready. After the presentation, families were given the challenge to create a pedestal using newspaper and masking tape. Families collaborated, using WICOR strategies and a growth mindset to create and adjust their designs.

All in all, it was a wonderful evening full of laughter as families created together!



Parkview *Home Schooling (K-12)*

2189 N. Kraemer Blvd., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7050 • www.parkviewpylusd.org



Kathie DiRocco
Principal

Double-Bill!

This year, Parkview's Performing Arts Program decided to attempt two shows simultaneously! With mentorship and community still being the main priorities, each musical had the same rehearsal times. The older actors were each assigned a few younger students to mentor and assist backstage for performances. Students rose to the challenge and couldn't wait to perform what they'd been working on these past few months.

Annually, Parkview students stun audiences with handmade costume pieces, professional-level choreography, and talent that emanates from them. Both shows were appropriate for all audiences. They played weekend performances at the PAC in April.

High school students along with two eighth-grade students embodied the fairytale characters in *Into the Woods Jr.* The show incorporates all the fairytale figures in one fun story! As a result of the curse of a once-beautiful witch, a baker and his wife are childless. Three days before the rise of a blue moon, they venture into the forest to find ingredients that will reverse the spell and restore the witch's beauty: a milk-white cow, hair as yellow as corn, a blood-red cape and a slipper of gold. During their journey, they meet Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Rapunzel and Jack, each one on a quest.

Our younger stars were able to exhibit their talents in more leading roles in *Aladdin Jr.* The story centers on Aladdin, a street urchin who spends time stealing food from the marketplace in Agrabah. His adventures begin when he meets a young girl, Princess Jasmine. Aladdin's luck suddenly changes when he retrieves a magical lamp from the Cave of Wonders. What he unwittingly receives is a fun-loving genie who only wishes for his freedom. Little do they know that Sultan's sinister advisor, Jafar, has his own plans for both Aladdin and the lamp.

Let the adventure begin! Both plays were directed by Summer Frey. Her efforts and those of her committee of talented parents made Parkview's Performing Arts Program a success!

Rose Drive *Elementary (K-5)*

4700 Rose Dr., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7250 • www.rosedrive.pylusd.org



Katherine Dailey
Principal

Working as a Team

Building developmental assets is good for everyone! The Search Institute has identified the basic building blocks of healthy development that can help our young people grow up to be healthy, caring, and responsible adults.

Children who possess these assets cope with and adapt better when difficult things happen. A focus on healthy assets is also a good way to build families, friendships, and relationships. When a child has strong developmental assets they are more likely to become involved in their community, be better prepared for the workforce, and show a commitment to our world.

The assets are grouped into eight categories: support, empowerment, boundaries, and expectations, constructive use of time, commitment to learning, positive values, social competencies, and positive identity.

At Rose Drive Elementary, we work as a team with our parents to ensure that students have specific developmental assets. This means a commitment to learning; motivation to do well in school; attentiveness and engagement in learning; and performing assigned homework. They also care about his or her school; read alone and with adults; maintain positive values; are concerned about others; value equality and social justice; value honesty and accept responsibility; have good health habits and social competencies; and possess a sense of purpose.

Students also attempt to solve conflicts nonviolently; are comfortable with people from different cultures; develop simple planning and decision-making skills; possess positive identity and high self-esteem; feel like they have some control over things that happen; and are optimistic about their own futures.

Research shows that stressing these essential building blocks can have a very positive impact on the lives of our young people. Thank you to all the outstanding teachers, staff, volunteers, and parents who contribute to supporting these developmental assets in our students. Go, Roadrunners!

Rio Vista *Elementary (K-5)*

310 N. Rio Vista St., Anaheim, CA 92806 • 714/986-7240 • www.riovistaschool.org



Jose Cabrera
Principal

Realizing School Culture

As we welcomed the new year, our focus has been on sustaining our dynamic school culture. Our schoolwide efforts have included 176 first-through-third-grade students who have faithfully committed to fitness by participating in our 100 Mile Club. Soon, students will receive their commemorative T-shirts.

We also look to recognize students who are making a difference by choosing kindness. On Fridays, our principals read student-submitted notes titled "Random Acts of Kindness."

Principals visit classrooms and provide students with a Rio Vista PBIS decal. To actively engage our students and parents in our school culture, a weekly Word of the Week is posted on our website and social media with an image that captures our focus for the week.



Whether it's a preschooler or a fifth-grader, we feel it is necessary to prepare our students to be kind. To experience our school culture, follow us on Twitter @riovistaschool1 and on Instagram at riovista310.

Ruby Drive *Elementary (K-6)*

601 Ruby Dr., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/996-1921 • www.rub-pylusd-ca.schoolloop.com



Diana McKibben
Principal

Interpersonal Skills

Ruby Drive students have been busy this past year learning language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies, all with an emphasis on technology! However, there has been a focus on interpersonal skills, too. Several upper grade classes have been working with their buddies in the first grade, Kindergarten, and Preppy K classes. While the big buddies and little buddies look forward to their time together, there's a whole lot of learning going on! As the primary teachers will confirm, their effective teaching is supported by these cross-age tutors. Fifth and sixth

grade students are improving their communication skills and taking on more responsibility. This partner learning and mentoring has been very effective at Ruby Drive!



Sierra Vista *Elementary (K-6)*

1811 N. Placentia Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7270 • www.sierravistapta.com



Shirley Fargo
Principal

A Creative Day

Who would want to attend school on Saturday! Fifty-six students recently said “yes”!

On March 24, students from both Topaz and Sierra Vista Elementary Schools joined together to attend Art Studio Saturday School. Students in grades one through six were invited to come by from 8 to 12 p.m. where they learned the art skills and techniques they needed to create some original artwork. When visiting each classroom we noticed that the students were totally engaged. There

was complete silence as they worked on their creations.

There is rarely a time that students can actually create art for four hours. But here they learned to observe carefully, decide on complimentary colors, and observe plants they could turn into images of their own.

Ginger Geftakys from California State University, Fullerton was the artist who created lessons on video that the students could watch to learn how to create their own designs. Three Sierra Vista teachers (Mrs. Guy, Mrs. Gurley, and Ms. Griffin) helped facilitate these creative lessons and provided a fun day!



Tuffree *Middle School (7-8)*

2151 N. Kraemer Blvd., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7480 • www.tuffree.org



Cindy Freeman
Principal

History Students Compete

Tuffree Middle School Honors World and U.S. History students spent six months conducting in-depth research projects that centered around the 2018 National History Day theme of “Conflict and Compromise.” Their task was to choose a topic related to the theme, gather resources, conduct research, and then identify and articulate a connection to the theme, as well as the historical context and significance of the event. Once their research and findings were complete, their next objective was to organize and present this information through a physical display, Web site, or documentary that included an interactive component.

On March 27, several hundred parents, family members, teachers, and community members attended the annual History Night event at Tuffree and spent time viewing the projects and interacting with the students as they demonstrated their knowledge. Awards were presented for outstanding visual impact, quality and originality, and historical investigation. It was a great night for attendees and participants!



Topaz *Elementary (K-6)*

3232 Topaz Ln., Fullerton, CA 92831 • 714/993-9977 • www.topazschool.org



Christa Borgese
Principal

Enrichment Opportunities

Topaz Elementary is proud to partner with the Fullerton Police Department and the Orange County District Attorney’s office in a program called Gang Reduction and Intervention Partnership (GRIP). The partnership through GRIP offers a chance for at-risk students to be provided mentorships, enrichment opportunities, and incentives for improvement.

With their police mentors, students set goals in the areas of academics, attendance, and attitude. They also have the ability to earn incentives such as Taekwondo lessons, attendance at an Angels baseball game, a turkey dinner for their family, and more.

Topaz currently has 10 students participating in the Blizzard program. These selected students meet monthly with employees from a gaming company to learn about setting goals, working hard, and how to create their own video game characters. The program culminates with a trip to the company’s headquarters for a behind-the-scenes, top-secret tour of the facility. During this tour the students will get to see their own video game creations come to life!



Tynes *Elementary (K-6)*

735 Stanford Dr., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/996-5550 • www.johnnotynes.org



Dr. Debra E. Silverman
Principal

Wonderful Open House!

Congratulations to the students and staff of Tynes for an incredible Open House in March! It was a fabulous time to celebrate our 40th year as a school and celebrate learning as well!

Several staff members and PTA members received their PTA Honorary Service Awards for their tremendous service to Tynes. Congratulations to Esmeralda Zafra, Sara Nguyen, Kimberly Tweedt, Arlene Fox, Amy Ortlieb, Dave Friedrichs and Mary Larson.

Parents, families and the community came to see what children have been learning at Tynes. It was a packed house, and students were able to talk to their parents about their reading programs, mathematics, and projects in social science and science. Students loved showing parents how they manage their Chromebooks and demonstrating their learning through Google Docs and Google Classroom.

It was a wonderful event for all! We are thrilled to have such a supportive community that celebrates learning every day with us!

Travis Ranch School *(K-8)*

5200 Via de la Escuela, Yorba Linda, CA 92887 • 714/986-7460 • www.travisranchschool.org



Susan Metcalf
Principal

Outstanding Opportunities

At Travis Ranch School, we know learning also takes place beyond the walls of the classroom. Thanks to the generosity of our parent through our PTA and booster organizations, students in every grade, pre-kindergarten through eighth grade, participated in educational field trips and assemblies. Outdoor Science Education, Citrus State Historic Park, Riley's Farm, and the California Science Center are just a few of the places our elementary students visited to connect in-class lessons to real life.

Hands-on learning also took place in numerous assemblies.

Kindergarten through second-grade students learned about language arts through a Who, What, Where assembly. Third-graders heard from a Native American storyteller, and upper-graders portrayed historical figures from California state history and the American Revolution.



Our middle schoolers enjoyed visits to California State University, Fullerton, performances at Disneyland, and pig heart dissection. We also offered anti-bullying assemblies and a Career Day, which allowed students to learn from professionals in social media, emergency services, surf merchandise, and more!

Valadez *Middle School Academy (6-8)*

161 E. La Jolla St., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7440 • www.valadezacademy.org



James Hardin
Principal

Pathways to a Culinary Experience

Valadez Middle School Academy was honored to have Pathways teacher Drew Putman and seven of his students receive the rare opportunity of visiting the Anaheim Convention Center to participate in the real life job experience of chef.

In addition to getting a full tour of the facility by Deputy Director Joaquin Quesada, the students were also awarded an exceptional culinary experience. Trained chefs taught them about food preparation, exposure to a fully operational industrial kitchen, and even guided them through the making of the perfect omelet.

It was a wonderful experience for our Valadez Middle School Academy students to see the day-to-day operations of such a large facility, and it inspired them to think about their own future pathways to success. A special thanks goes to the Anaheim Convention Center staff for being so kind and welcoming to our students.



Valencia *High School (9-12)*

500 N. Bradford, Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/996-4970 • www.vhstigers.org



Olivia Young
Principal

Strong Competitors

Valencia High School has had a banner year in academic competition. Our Academic Decathlon team competed in Division 1 and won fifth place in Super Quiz and fourth place overall in the county, which advanced them to the state competition. There our team competed in Division 2 and won eighth place in the state.

Our Science Olympiad team captured sixth place in Orange County, and our Chemistry Olympiad team earned first place in Orange County. We are also proud to have two Chemistry

Olympiad students advance to the national competition. Our CyberPatriot team competed and captured fifth place in the nation. Our robotics team, TiGears, hosted a local scrimmage and is headed to a First Robotics competition this month.

Our Future Business Leaders of America team hosted sectionals and has plans to compete in the state competition this month. Our Speech and Debate team has had resounding success and will be sending two students to the state championships this month.

We are proud of our students and their coaches for their dedication to excellence. Go, Tigers!



Academic Decathlon team.

Van Buren *Elementary (K-6)*

1245 N. Van Buren St., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7100 • www.vanburenelementary.org



Connie Roe
Principal

Contagious Kindness

This year's theme at Van Buren School has been "Let's Root for Each Other and Help Each Other to Grow." To reinforce this theme, students and staff have filled out Root for You cards as a way to acknowledge fellow students and staff members who have shown compassion and kindness across our campus.

When kindness is demonstrated, students and staff members complete Root for You cards and submit them to the school office. Each morning the Root for You cards are read during morning announcements to publicly recognize others for their kind words and actions! Then, each card is displayed in the multipurpose room for all to see!



The effort here is twofold. First, we are striving to show kindness and compassion to others. Second, we are always on the lookout for kindness and compassion shown by others.

Thank you to our Van Buren staff and students for creating a more positive school for all as you Root for Each Other and Help Each Other to Grow!

Venture Academy *Adult Transition (18-22)*

701 East Golden Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7178



Kim Smith
Principal

Learning Success

When it comes to student dedication the Venture Academy staff is second to none! One of the main goals at our adult transition program is to teach students the skills they need to obtain and maintain a job in the community.

When one of our students recently took the initiative to apply for a job, he reached out to his support team at school for help. Our teachers teamed together to help him fill out the application and set an interview time. The staff then went above and beyond by taking this adult student to Savers, one of our community work experience partners, and helped him find appropriate interview attire.



Teamwork... to make the Dream work!

As all good stories do, this one ends with the student successfully obtaining a job at a local department store outlet, another community partner. What a true example of how our program and staff provide the support our students need to be successful.

Wagner *Elementary (K-6)*

717 E. Yorba Linda Blvd., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7180 • www.wagnerwildcats.org



Janice Weber
Principal

Using Their Talents

Wagner is proud to provide enriching opportunities for its Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) students!

This year, GATE students in grades four to six had the opportunity to visit all four PYLUSD High School Career Link Academies. Each high school generously hosted tours of their impressive education, business, and industry programs. Our Wagner students met with and interviewed some very enthusiastic Aztecs, Hawks, Mustangs, and Tigers! Our students returned to Wagner on fire about the possibilities that their futures hold.

In addition, the GATE students are creating and producing a monthly video broadcast called P.A.W.S. Press (Positively Announcing With Smiles). Under the leadership of teacher and GATE Coordinator Ms. Carrie Pipkin, these GATE students are writing scripts, anchoring, starring, filming, and editing an informative monthly broadcast for the Wagner community. Topics include upcoming events, fundraisers, reminders, and more.

Our students are using their talents, stretching their thinking, and learning 21st-century skills.



Woodsboro *Elementary (K-6)*

7575 E. Woodsboro Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/986-7040 • www.woodsboro.pylusd.org



Doug Slonkosky
Principal

Recycling Is Rewarding!

For a second year, Woodsboro sixth-grade students are participating in a community-service project sponsored by a major entertainment complex for all sixth-grade students in the city of Anaheim. The 10-year “Happiest Class on Earth” project requires students to participate together in a project that gives back to the community.

Sixth-grade students at Woodsboro worked hard all year recycling aluminum cans and plastic bottles, saving the money they earned to purchase materials to create individual hygiene

kits for displaced families living in emergency housing. They collected over \$1,500 and used the money to purchase materials to create over 250 kits. The students wrote personal notes of encouragement that they placed in each kit as they assembled them. The kits will be delivered to the Orange County Social Services Department where they will be used as emergency stock to help whenever needed.



In recognition of their service, the entertainment complex will provide these students and their teachers with an end-of-year field trip to their theme park.

Yorba Linda *High School (9-12)*

19900 Bastanchury, Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7500 • www.ylhs.org



Dave Flynn
Principal

Celebrating Student Achievement

The spring of 2018 begins Yorba Linda High School's recognition of its students' hard work during the school year, as well as their dedication to co-curricular activities and community service.

In March, the YLHS National Honor Society inducted 65 new students for their scholarships, leadership, and service. In April, the Yorba Linda High School PTSA recognized 158 freshmen, 145 sophomores, 81 juniors, and 124 seniors with their Academic Mustang Award for maintaining a weighted 4.0 or higher GPA in all of their classes.

Our 2018 school-wide Renaissance Assembly also recognized 90 outstanding students in areas like academic excellence, the fine and performing arts, community service, and scholar athletics.

On May 21, 2018, the Yorba Linda High School staff will be honoring the Class of 2018 at the school's annual Senior Awards Night. Over 200 seniors will receive awards and certificates for college scholarships, departmental recognition, and academic achievement. Valedictorian Melody Tang, along with Salutatorians Shawyun Foroushani and Minh-Khoi Tran, will all receive special recognition for these top honors in the Class of 2018.

This has been another outstanding year for student achievement and co-curricular participation. Go, Mustangs!

Yorba Linda *Middle School (6-8)*

4777 Casa Loma Ave., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7080 • www.ylms.org



Dr. Tamar Kataroyan
Principal

Integrating All Students

Spring has officially begun, and the celebrations and achievements of our students at Yorba Linda Middle School continue to blossom! Teachers and students have been working extremely hard in the classrooms to prepare for the upcoming Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium testing. As we have begun to embrace the Common Core State Standards, our staff continues to demonstrate extreme dedication in providing high-quality instruction to our students.

We are so excited to have launched the Every Buddy Club, which is aimed at integrating all students. Over 100 students came to the first meeting, and it was a huge success! They played bingo and had snacks and prizes. Our Associated Student Body (ASB) student leaders were incredibly inspired and decided to host a dance for all moderate to severe Special Education students for the entire district. We were fortunate to receive a \$1,000 donation to help with this event. We will have wheelchair-accessible games, a photo booth, a face painter, a sensory corner, and much more. We are excited to meet new friends from across the district!

As we approach the end of a successful school year, we thank our staff, parents, and fabulous PTSA for their time, dedication and love for our school.

SUPERINTENDENT • From Page

I recently read a book by Patrick Lencioni titled *The 3 Big Questions for a Frantic Family*. In his book, Patrick outlines three questions every family should ask themselves as they go through life together.

- #1 What makes our family unique? He reminds us that when we try to compare ourselves to others we usually fall short in our own mind's eye. He reminds us that every family is unique, and we will gain both perspective and peace when we know who we are as a family and what our core values are. As a strategy, he suggests that we identify what is true about our lives, the decisions we make and the way we live. As we do this, when decisions come up, families will begin to make the decision based on their values and uniqueness instead of other criteria.
- #2 What is our top priority – rallying cry – right now? Patrick reminds us that we worry about too many things. We are easily distracted and sidetracked. When we identify our top priority, the area that is the most important, we are less likely to commit to activities that may be overwhelming or result in a crisis. Instead, we can be crystal clear about the decisions we make and remain committed to our goals. Again, the family fabric grows stronger.
- #3 How will we talk about and use the answers to these questions? In question three, it is critical that a family keep the first two questions alive by using them in daily decision making. When do we discuss and decide things? Where and how often will we put our choices into action?

Sadly, it's often not until people actually face the possibility of challenges, or even loss, in their families that they finally come to realize the importance of being purposeful, strategic and proactive. This is obviously not a cure-all, but if we can achieve a little more sanity in the midst of our adventure in life, it's worth our efforts.

Thank you for your continued family and community efforts on behalf of our students. Our year has been overwhelmingly positive and productive so far. You do make a difference, and our students appreciate your investment in their future!

Adopted with permission from *The 3 Big Questions for a Frantic Family* by Patrick Lencioni



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Isabella's Book Review

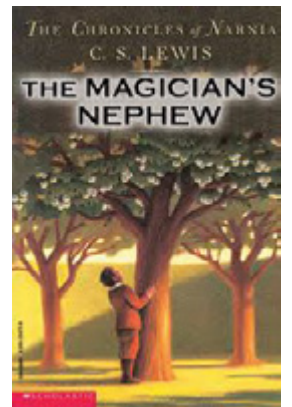
Tests Your Imagination



Isabella A.

The Magician's Nephew by C.S. Lewis is about Polly, Digory, and Andrew. Andrew makes gold rings that take you to other worlds, and green ones that bring you back. Polly touches the gold one and Digory follows. On their way back, they encounter a witch who destroys her world and hitch-hikes back with them. In London, Andrew becomes her slave and the witch causes chaos. They get the witch into what they thought was her world, only to find the world is becoming Narnia. Narnia has talking animals and the witch flees north. The lion in charge gives the cabbie man and his wife a special job, while Digory and Polly search for a cure for Digory's mother.

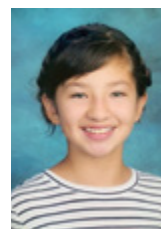
What will become of Narnia and the outsiders?
I rate this book 5 stars a because of the excitement and how it makes the reader (no matter how old) use their imagination.



Isabella is a 6th grader who loves to read, write, volleyball and plans on becoming an author of children's books. She rates books 1-5 stars with 5 being the best.

B is for Book

The Grass isn't Always Greener



Bailey

If I Were You by Leslie Margolis is a book that has magic in its own way. I can totally relate to the characters and their feelings.

Katie and Melody have been best friends ever since they were little. But the truth is, Katie is very jealous of Melody. Her house is huge and she's so pretty! But also, it turns out that Melody is equally jealous of Katie. She has fun little brothers and family dinners every night. On the last summer of vacation, at the same time, they wish the same wish: that they were each other. Their wish comes true! Will they realize the grass is not always greener on the other side?

I enjoyed this book because I feel like the reader can relate to the emotions of the characters: being jealous of others, knowing or not knowing the pros and cons of their ups and downs. I give this 4 1/2 stars out of 5.





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Jenna's Review

Dear Girl,



Jenna C.

I want you to read this book because it will tell you how wonderful, how smart, how beautiful and how loved you are. Let me tell you little bit about this book. You can turn any page to feel like you. You can raise your arms to answer, you can feel like being pretty, but of course you may feel the opposite. Sometimes you need to cry, or ask a lot of questions, or decorate your room like you. Find people like you or unlike you. Say no if you think you need to say no. This book also guides you to show that there are no rules about what to wear or how to cut your hair. This book can tell you about the amazing girl inside you. I hope you will enjoy it as I did.



Jenna is a second grader. She likes reading books and her parents reading books to her. Besides reading, she also likes art, dance and soccer.

Alana's Book Review

A Whole New World



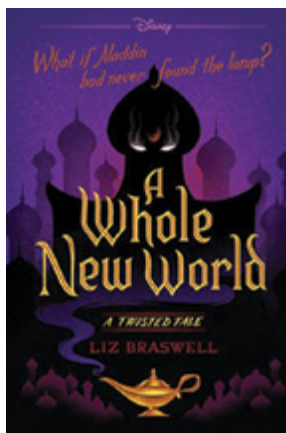
Alana F.

We all know the classic story of Aladdin. The street rat in love with a princess, finding his happy ending with faith and a magic lamp.

But what if Aladdin never found the lamp?

Witness Aladdin, Jasmine, and unexpected allies fight for all they've ever known. With no magic wishes for aid, they must forge their own path to victory. Will they save Agrabah, or will Jafar bring it to ruin?

I'd give this book seven out of eight trifold shards for being deep, thoughtful, and educational. I could hardly believe it was published by Disney. From what I've seen, Disney's tales are almost always missing just a bit of something- except for this one. Poverty, economics, social divides- these are things that Disney needs to be acknowledging more often- things that teach us valuable lessons. I honestly can't wait to see how other kids enjoy this book.



Alana is a student columnist and a self-proclaimed "huge nerd." When she doesn't have a book in her hands, she loves to play video games and write fiction. She rates books on a scale of 1-8 trifold shards with 8 being the highest



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A Book with A Twist



Katie C.

The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle

Imagine being a normal girl going through a normal life. Suddenly, when you go onboard a ship, your whole life changes. Instead of being a passenger, you are now a part of the crew planning mutiny against the cruel captain. Well, this is exactly what happened in this book. Charlotte knows that her family would be horrified to know that she was actually part of the crew. But she found that she loved it. After the captain is kicked overseas, Charlotte thought that she would be glad to go home. However, when she goes home, Charlotte wants to return to the sea.

I give this book a five out of five stars. This book takes a twist on some stories onboard a ship, and I was intrigued to read Charlotte’s journal. Read this book to find the chill up your spine, but also to realize how home doesn’t have to stay in one place.



Katie is a 8th grader that loves to read and write. Fictional books are her favorite. Besides writing and reading, she loves soccer, acting, dancing, and playing the violin. She hopes to publish her own book someday.

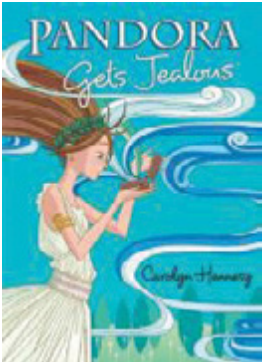
Greek Mythology



Christina J.

This is the first book of Pandora series, which are based on ancient Greek mythology. Pandora, a 13-year-old demi-god (because her dad is a god and her mother is a mortal) is sent on a quest to retrieve the seven deadly sins that were in her dad’s safekeeping that she’s accidentally released. The sins are jealousy, vanity, laziness, greed, anger, lust and fear. This book is about Pandora having to catch jealousy. She and her family are summoned before Zeus, the main god in Greek mythology, who threatens to destroy all of human kind and her family if she doesn’t catch the sins and evils within a certain time. Along with the hardships of tackling the task, Zeus’s wife, the most powerful goddess Hera goes out of her way to foil Pandora whenever she can.

I enjoyed reading this book and the entire Pandora series. I give this book 5 out of 5 stars, with 5 being the best.



Christina J. is an 8th grader. Christina is a hard-working student who did a community service project “Quilts for the cold” last school year. 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).

Spin on Old Classic



Katrina D.

Romeo and/or Juliet by Ryan North is nothing short of a fabulous, hilarious adventure beginning in Verona, Italy. Choose your character, either sweet, loving Romeo or buff, adventurous Juliet and set off on one of various adventures; meeting other characters, enjoying wacky situations, making unusual choices and suffering strange fates. Taking Shakespeare’s most famous work North

turns it on its head and makes it into a comedy you won’t stop laughing at. And at every end, good or bad, there is a unique piece of art to depict your chosen ending, varying from romantic to outright bizarre. The most fun part of the book? Trying to explore every ending! You could spend hours trying to maneuver your way through each and every ending for *Romeo and/or Juliet*. From robots to pirates to body building to time travel, this spin on an old classic won’t be easily forgotten! I rate this book 5 crescent moons.



Katrina is a tenth 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 book reviews from 1 to 5 crescent moons with 5 being the best.

A Major Motion Picture Novel



Keira

Prim, is chosen to enter The Hunger Games as a tribute for District 12. However, her sister, Katniss Everdeen, volunteers in tribute. Peeta is chosen as the boy tribute. Peeta and Katniss become friends, but keep in mind they may have to kill each other due to the tyranny of the Capitol. When it is announced both tributes from the same district can team up and be announced winner, Katniss immediately looks for Peeta to partner up. Near the end of The Games, Claudius proclaims there may only be one winner. Katniss and Peeta are about to eat poisonous berries when they are stopped. Katniss is actuated, but I wonder if she could be less impulsive towards Peeta. This book leaves you with a hunger to read more! I recommend this to young teens who like action and a little ghore. I rate this book five out of five apples.



Keira F. is a sixth grader. In addition to her love of books, she enjoys art, crafts, traveling and playing with her cats. She rates books from 1 to 5 apples with 5 being the highest.



An Enjoyable Read



Lucy Davis

Brooding YA Hero: How to Become a Main Character (Almost) as Awesome as Me

Author: Carrie DiRisio

Broody McHottiepants had always been the protagonist — it was who he was.

So when an Author tells Broody that he can't be in anymore novels, something in him changes. That couldn't be right. He was Broody McHottiepants, the par excellence. Then, an idea hits: what if

he could write his own book, telling the world how to become main characters like him? Yes. That was what he would do. And nobody — not even his evil ex girlfriend — could stop him.

Reading this book was definitely an experience for me. At first, I disliked Broody's personality, because he was shallow and conceited. However, as the story progressed, his character arc was interesting to observe. Through his experiences, he realized that change can be good. Overall, it turned out to be a enjoyable read that left me with a new look on the young adult genre. Four out of five bookworms.

Lucy is a 6th grade student. When she isn't immersed in a book, she loves musical theater, ballet, and singing. She enjoys stretching her imagination by writing short stories of her own. Lucy will rate the books 1 to 5 bookworms with 5 being the best.



Rabina's Review

Humor and Suspense



Rabina K.

No Talking

By: Andrew Clements

This book could be considered a realistic fiction because kids who are currently reading it or kids who have already read it, could relate to how things are in a school. The book is about a middle school boy named Dave Packer who is a part of a pack of middle school boys, and a middle school girl

named Linsey who represent a group of girls in the same middle school. Both of these groups started a competition against each other to stay quiet. They went through a lot of challenges to lead a 'no talking' day in school or at home. For example, the teacher called on Dave to present his project to the class but, since he could not talk, he had to sacrifice his grades for the victory of his team.

I recommend this book to other kids because not just that this book is full of humor but, it also creates enough suspense at times to sure keep you at the edge of your chair. I give this book 10 out of 10 stars.

Rabina is a 5th grader, who enjoys reading historical fiction and biographies. Writing is her passion. Besides, reading books and writing, she also enjoys playing soccer and piano.



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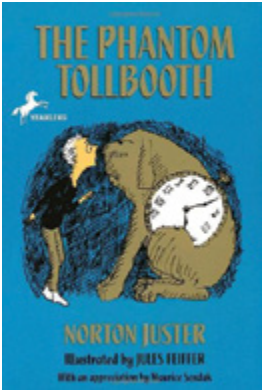
The Phantom Toll Booth



Richard J. This books starts with a boy named Milo being incredibly board. One day after coming home Milo finds a toll booth in his room. He decides to go through to see what would happen. Suddenly he finds himself in the land beyond, in a town full of creatures, which wouldn't go anywhere or do anything until the time keeper - a dog named Tock- scares them into getting on with their lives. Milo befriends Tock the dog. Together they go through a great adventure. They meet King Azaz, who rules over letters and words, and other magical creatures.

I liked this book because it is strange, but fun. Milo learns great lessons that make him appreciate different things in life. I recommend reading this book to understand the great story where so many magical things happen. I give this book 5 out 5, with 5 being the best.

Richard J. is a third grader. Richard likes math, playing sports, physical activities like bike-riding and running, reading and spending time with his family.



The Baby-Sitters Club



Sofia Atoofi Author: Gale Galligan Dawn Schafer is moving from sunny California to freezing Connecticut. She is eager to accept her first big job as a babysitter in the Baby-Sitters Club. But things don't go exactly as expected. Taking care of three kids whose mom seems too busy to even care about is a hard task. And getting along with the leader of the club, Kristy, isn't as easy as it looks, either. But Dawn finds a way to steer through all these obstacles and makes joining the Baby-Sitters Club a success.

I really liked this novel because it teaches you about responsibility yet in a fun and interesting way. I rate this comic book 4 out of 5 stars, because the drawings were very detailed and funny.



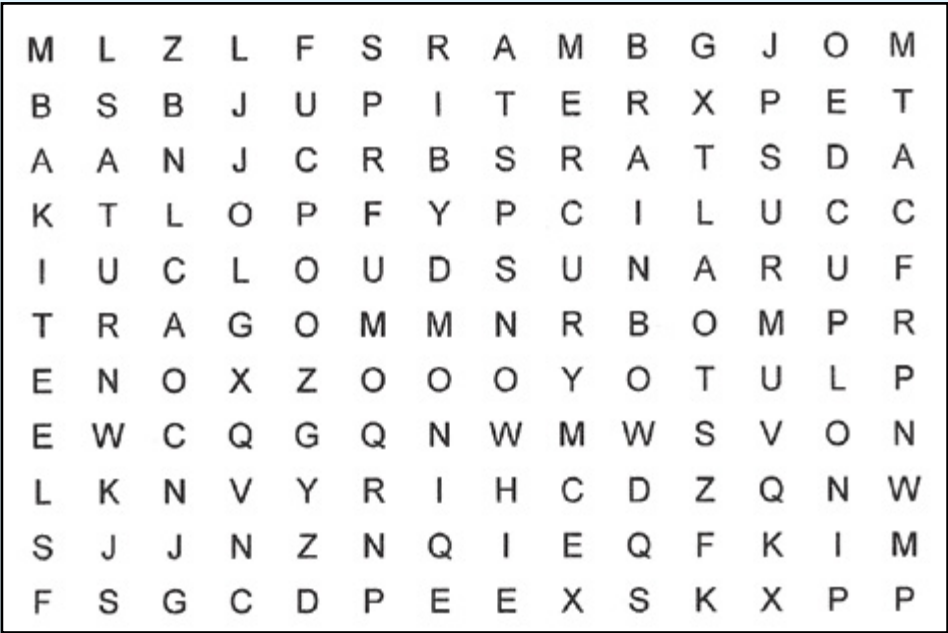
Sofia is a fifth grader who loves writing. When she isn't submerged into a book, she enjoys doing gymnastics, acting, and singing. Her favorite kind of books are informational books, as she loves learning about new topics. She wants to become a writer or designer when she grows up, and hopes to someday publish a book, called *Painting a Path*, which she wrote for a school competition.

Things in the Sky 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 PYLUSD in the subject line)

Entries must be received by July 15, 2018 From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a GAZUMP card/dice game - fun for all ages!

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CLOUDS
SMOG
FOG
RAINBOW
ROCKET



Common Sense Media



What should I do if my kid is bullied online?

Finding out that your kid has been cyberbullied is emotional for parents. You or your kid might want to retaliate, but it's best to help your kid defuse the situation, protect himself, and make rational efforts to put a stop to the bullying. Here are the immediate steps we recommend for parents:

- Reassure your child that you love and support him or her.
- Help your child step away from the computer or device and take a break.
- If you can identify the bully, consider talking with the parents.
- Consider contacting your kid's school. If bullying is happening online, it might be happening offline, too.
- Empower your kid with specific steps he or she can take.

Common Sense Media is an independent nonprofit organization offering unbiased ratings and trusted advice to help families make smart media and technology choices. Check out our ratings and recommendations at www.commonssensemedia.org

Safety in the Car Do safety seats expire?

By Catharine Marroquin, CPSTI

Many parents and caregivers are surprised to learn that safety seats do in fact have an expiration date. Most manufacturers suggest replacing a seat 6 to 10 years after the date of manufacture, because the plastic of the shell degrades over time and current safety seats may have better safety features than older seats. To determine how long a particular safety seat is good for, check the seat's instruction manual, where the manufacturer will state how many years after the date of manufacture the seat expires. To find out when a seat was manufactured, locate the sticker on the seat that shows the model name as well as the date of manufacture (see picture). In some cases, the expiration date will be printed on the sticker or it may be stamped into the plastic shell of the seat. In all other cases, you will have to calculate the expiration date from the date of manufacture.

Catharine Marroquin, CPSTI is a Program Consultant with SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. She can be reached at Cathmarro@gmail.com.

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