

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation



Covering the Torrance Unified School District

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 18

JUNE 2018

SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. George Mannon

Another Successful Year!

As the school year comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the many academic and enrichment achievements our students have

accomplished in the past year. First, I would like to start with recognizing our dedicated team of educators—teachers, support staff, and administrators—for the talent, energy, and care they contribute in serving our students and their families. It is because of their tireless efforts that Torrance Unified School District (TUSD) students continue to thrive!

It is our job to prepare our students for the future. Some of our students will choose to continue their educational journey by attending college, while others will enter the workforce. Wherever their post-secondary paths take them, we want to ensure they have the necessary skills to be successful.

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International Robotics World Competition

By Tammy Khan,
Public Information Officer
Torrance Unified School District

Wish you could have your own robot? Meet “Bantor II”! He picks up boxes and throws them high into the air to get them onto a seesaw called “the scale.”

Designed and built by the South High Torbots Team, “Bantor II” went head to head with other well engineered robots in a heated competition at the international FIRST Robotics World Competition in Houston! The Torbots had a stellar year, ranking 4th and 5th (out of 60) in the Los Angeles regional competition and advanced to the playoffs in their division for the World Competition.

The robotic and engineering club developed a new strategy this year in order to build an advanced and competitive robot. This strategy included a more up-to-date and organized method of using CAD (computer aided design) drawings to improve accuracy and quality control. The robot design blueprint created from the CAD program enabled students to build a more efficient and accurate bot.



South High School Torbot Robotics Club has stellar competition year!

“The team is constantly engaged. They are learning how to work collaboratively to better communicate, resolve conflicts, manage their time, and think critically to solve problems,” comments South High teacher, Michael Rosenberg. Mr. Rosenberg teaches Advanced Placement Physics and Freshman Engineering and just came on this year as the new faculty advisor.

The team plans to continue improving on their design by purchasing a large CNC (Computer Numeric Control) machine which will cut parts from metal that the students design in the CAD Program. With the machine they will be able to program the CNC cutting line to further customize their designs for the best outcomes.

“The greatest advantage for students in Torbots is that they are practicing the same skills of professional engineers. Whatever path they choose after high school, this experience will be invaluable for them in their careers.”

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Partnerships—Creating Positive Impact through Collaboration

I started down the path of public service, first as a member of the campaign to pass Measures Y and Z (2008). At the successful culmination of that endeavor, I needed something to occupy my free time, so I joined the Torrance Education Foundation. As part of that team, we spearheaded the creation of the South Bay Enrichment Academy. SBEA, an enrichment summer school program. Through these experiences, I learned that valuable change can occur when people work collaboratively towards a common goal. I believe part of our success as a District is that we

have built effective partnerships with community organizations, which have had positive impacts on the educational, social, and emotional lives of our students.

The Torrance Education Foundation and the TUSD PTSA's are our strongest allies. Our partnership with TEF benefits all our students. They have raised funds to provide the necessary equipment and tools to supply the new elementary science labs with materials needed by our science teachers. They also support a number of after-school extracurricular clubs and activities and offer summer school classes through

the South Bay Enrichment Academy. TEF plays a vital role in the youth development of our TUSD students and we are thankful for their ongoing investment.

The Torrance Council of PTAs and site PTAs are an invaluable resource of human capital. The countless investment of volunteer hours and donations made by our parents are priceless! The Torrance Council hosts the ever popular college fair, provides resources to our neediest students through Project BOSS, takes students on a Sacramento Safari to learn about State government, and provides merit and need based scholarships. At the school sites, events like carnivals and movie nights are hosted by unit PTAs which strengthen the school community where everyone knows they are cared for and can succeed. My wife has always been an active PTA member and taken on several leadership roles. She is the best role model for my girls on how to roll up your sleeves and improve your community in a way that is meaningful.

I am so proud of what we have been able to accomplish together, as a community. As everyone makes their summer plans and takes a much deserved break from the school year, I would like to thank all those who partner with TUSD to ensure the quality of education is always at its pinnacle and our students have opportunities to grow and thrive!

Torrance Education Foundation

P.O. Box 1397, Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/320-7232 • www.torranceeducationfoundation.org

STEM-Support Gala

By Susan Swinburne, Executive Director

In April, 450 guests and sponsors enjoyed an elegant evening of celebration and fund-raising at Eat, Drink and be Giving—A Black & White Affair, the 2018 Torrance Education Foundation benefit dinner and auction.

Donors and sponsors raised \$165,000 for Torrance Education Foundation programs supporting Torrance Unified Schools. The event was hosted by a Torrance hotel in a tented venue in the parking lot and chaired by Dr. Chad Mabery and Maggie Mabery. Guests enjoyed signature “TEFtinis” and a delicious steak-and-lobster dinner.

Kurt Robinson, president of a Torrance-based helicopter-production company, was presented with the James R. Armstrong Community Leadership Award in recognition of his dedication to students in Torrance and to the

Torrance community. Mylee Tynen, who teaches second grade at Hickory Elementary School, was the winner of the raffle for a new car!

This evening of fund-raising brought together the donors and sponsors whose financial support directly benefits students in Torrance schools. Thank you from TEF to all who attended!



Kurt Robinson receives the Armstrong Award from Dr. Chad and Maggie Mabery.



Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



We are at the end of another school year. On the front page Superintendent Mannon reflected on the highlights of the year and there were many. There has never been a more exciting time to be a student.

Thank you for continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices. Our next issue is October 31. In the meantime, have a wonderful summer.



School News

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Covering the
TORRANCE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Torrance Council of PTAs

www.torrancecouncilofptas.org

Advocating for Children

By Nannette Nolan, President

Torrance Council of PTAs is extremely proud of the accomplishments of the council and unit PTAs for the 2017–2018 school year. Our 30 units and the council have served a total of 296,005 volunteer hours and have provided a multitude of programs for the schools.

Each of our 30 units will be awarding scholarships to graduating high school seniors who are PTA members. Torrance Council will be awarding 10 scholarships across all five high schools and a memorial scholarship to honor the memory of a longtime PTA leader and friend, Janie Butcher. Scholarship recipients will be honored at a brunch in June.

Several Board members from our units and council just returned from the annual California State PTA convention in Ontario, where they helped to pass a resolution to increase and stabilize funding and participate in a gubernatorial debate.

The Torrance Council of PTAs Board of Directors and Executive Board have voted to support Assembly Bill (AB) 2808 (Muratsuchi), which would increase the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) targets to provide public schools with education funding at the national average. The Torrance Council members will vote on the matter at the June association meeting.

Torrance Council of PTAs has also formed a committee charged with studying and drafting a resolution in support of a social host ordinance in the city of Torrance, similar to ordinances enacted all across the South Bay.

Our goal is to advocate for all children, and we are thankful for our members and partners in this mission.

Adams Elementary

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



Shayla Smith-Taranto
Principal

Volunteer Breakfast Celebration

Parent volunteers are an intricate part of the success of John Adams Elementary School. In partnership with our PTA, we are constantly creating opportunities for parents to stay involved with their children's education. Family engagement in schools improves student achievement and reduces absenteeism, as well as enriching the school community.

Recently, the staff of John Adams hosted a breakfast to celebrate and thank all of our wonderful parent volunteers for all that they do. From hosting Adventures in Art, being a designated classroom parent, helping with our Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM) and Math Family Nights to helping in our carnival booths and encouraging our students during Fitness-for-Funds, our Jog-a-Thon, and our bike rodeo, there are many opportunities for John Adams' parents to volunteer.

Our parent volunteers are a valuable asset to John Adams Elementary! On behalf of our students and staff, we would like to say thank you again for your unwavering support and generosity.



Arnold Elementary

4100 W. 227th St., Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/533-4524 • arnold.tusd.org

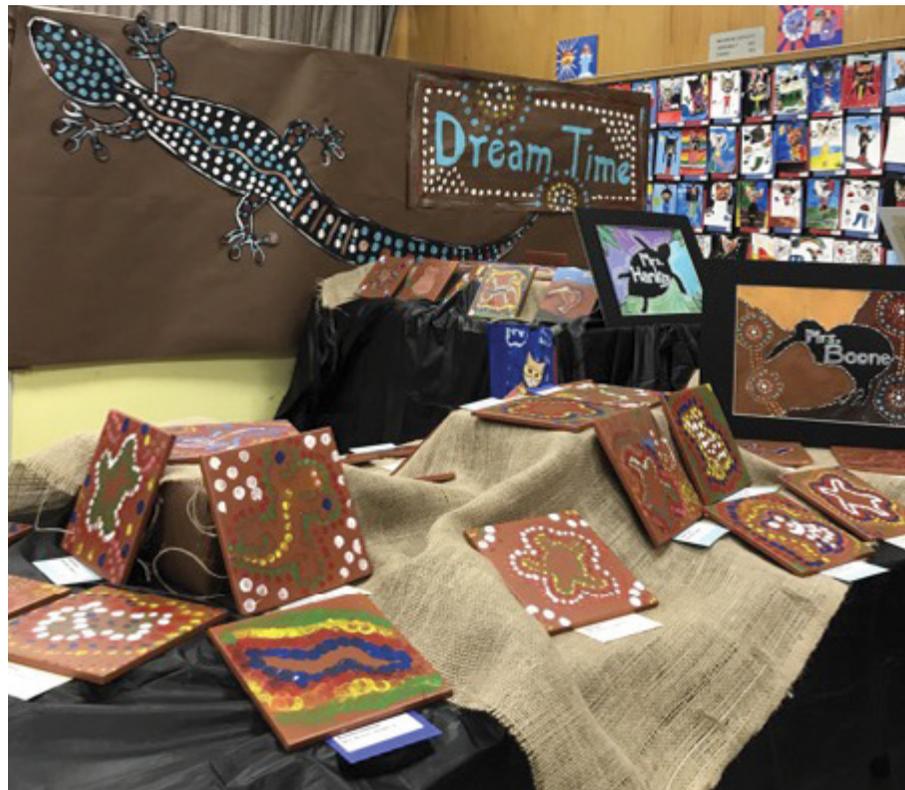


Justine Lang
Principal

Portfolio Day

As the year winds down at Arnold Elementary School, students and teachers had the opportunity to share their work during our annual Portfolio Day. It was clear that our students experienced fun and engaging lessons they will remember for a lifetime.

Students read about adventures, historical times, and realistic events. They wrote stories, summaries, persuasive arguments, and letters. They solved challenging math problems that connected to real-world experiences. They designed structures, programmed robots, and conducted experiments to help explain their wonderings. And history has been brought to life through re-enactments and study trips.



Thanks to our amazing PTA, our cafeteria was transformed into an art gallery to display the beautiful Adventures in Art. Our art show is always extra special because the PTA creates teacher signs in the same style as the projects. Teachers love to keep these mementos to display in their classrooms for years to come.

Portfolio Day was definitely a day of pride for students, teachers, staff, and families.



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Anza Elementary

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



Barbara Marks
Principal

History Comes Alive

American and California history comes alive! Anza students actively participated in an engaging

retelling of our nation's and our state's beginnings. Students explore famous events, historical figures and relevant vocabulary of these pivotal points of history. Through dramatic activities, students become famous men and women of the California Gold Rush and the American Revolution. The students enjoyed and participated in storytelling, role playing, and even dancing to make history come alive.



Arlington Elementary

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



Dr. Vicki Hath
Principal

May the Force...!

Arlington students and families were treated to a Star Wars STEM Night, putting the engineering design process to work! To inspire children to pursue their curiosity and encourage them to investigate careers in

science, students were given engineering-design challenges to learn how the engineering-design process works.

Some of the evening's design challenges included building the bridge that will save Luke Skywalker from giving in to the dark side, designing and building a zip line to carry Luke and Princess Leia safely away from the storm troopers, and build a rescue device that will help C-3PO and R2-D2 to rescue the rebel team from the garbage compactor!

The biggest lesson of the night was helping students understand that mistakes and failure aren't bad. They're learning opportunities that can help us figure out ways to improve the next time we're in a similar situation.





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Calle Mayor *Middle School*

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



Dave Mosley
Principal

Big Changes in Store

The hum of construction is in the air! With the passage of Bond Measures “T” and “U,” Calle Mayor is extremely excited this summer to begin construction of its new gymnasium.

This great addition to our campus will give students another area in which to showcase their many talents. We are also adding a video camera buzz-in gate system to allow our school to establish a one-way safety control point to get on and off the grounds. This addition will greatly enhance our ability to provide a safer campus for our students to learn and grow.

We are also excited to announce that we will continue to have an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) on campus. This is due to the continued support of the Torrance Memorial Medical Center. Have a wonderful summer, and we look forward to seeing you in the fall!



Casimir *Middle School*

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



Susie Holmes
Principal

Tutorial-Period Arts Classes

It often seems as though the arts are continually getting cut for more academic courses in the middle school curriculum. While we understand the need to ensure that our students are college and career ready, we also believe that creating opportunities for students to participate in a variety of activities that include some form of art is critical to a well-rounded education.

The Casimir PTSA has an art program that provides students the opportunity to learn about different artists and then create their own piece of art, emulating the artists' styles. All students participate in this three times a year. Our band and chorus allow students with an interest in music to learn new material and improve their skills. Students perform for parents as well as their peers. Every spring, we have the Casimir Bowl, an outdoor concert showcasing our three bands. During our tutorial period, students can elect to attend a class that is creative as well. The guitar class was so popular that a donor provided us with 20 guitars for students to learn on!

This year, our Drama Tutorial produced a 40-minute Peter Pan play that included both acting and singing. Also during tutorial, students can attend an art class with a wide variety of projects, an art and poetry class, and a digital-art class for those who love technology. If crocheting is something a student would like learn, we have an opportunity to learn that as well. This particular tutorial is taught by a student who loves to crochet and teach others. Two additional tutorial classes that students love are creative writing and origami/paper crafting.

All of these tutorials and the teachers and students who make them possible add a creative adventure for the students at Casimir.

Carr *Elementary*

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



Katie Schenkelberg
Principal

Service Learning at Carr

At Carr, we know how volunteering is an essential part of preparing our students to take responsibility as open-minded citizens in a global community.

When performing community service, our children have the opportunity to see first-hand just how much their work can have an impact on the world. Many of our students at Carr volunteer in our Grades of Green lunch program, where they can help their fellow classmates be mindful of the amount of waste they are generating.

Carr was also recently recognized by the Grades of Green Organization and the Torrance City Council for having the Best Grades of Green Team, as 81 of our 362 students participate in this school-wide effort to be a Trash-Free School!

Additionally, our students and families recently partnered with two local churches, the Jesus Center Youth Journey South Bay, for a ShareFest event in making our campus more beautiful. Projects included painting handball wall murals, a large blacktop map of the United States, gardening, and several other campus beautification efforts. It was wonderful to see our students and the community come together to work hard and make a big impact on the look of our campus.

Way to go, Carr Cubs!

Edison *Elementary*

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



Jayne Okazaki
Principal

Portfolio Day and Family Picnic

Edison Elementary School had an action-packed day that involved students, parents, teachers, and our community.

The day began with our school-wide Jog-a-Thon. Disc jockey Ozzie was here encouraging the students with music and entertainment. Next, we had our Portfolio Day. Students had the opportunity to show off their work to their parents and family members. Not only did students showcase their work, they showed parents other projects and work around the room.

We were honored to have community volunteers and resource teachers visit with students whose parent could not attend. The students were able to share their portfolios with these volunteers.

Soon after, we began our family picnic on the grass field. You can see a sea of umbrellas, blankets, and tents. Family and friends enjoyed each other's company while eating lunch and listening to music. We hope the families had as much fun as the students!



Fern *Elementary*

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



Debbie Mabry
Principal

Kindergarten Teaching Garden

Fern Elementary School's new garden is a wonderful way to use the outside as a classroom and to reconnect students with the natural world. Gardening is valuable for students, providing hands-on learning and life experiences which promote healthy eating habits. Along with these healthy habits, kindergarteners will engage in the Next Generation Science Standards with a focus on ecosystem relationships, including animals, plants, and the environment.



Our dream became a reality due to a generous partnership with Sharefest and some dedicated Girl Scouts. The Girl Scouts hoped to earn the prestigious Silver Award for their community service. They planned, built, and delivered four raised gardening beds, including soil, drought-tolerant plants, and caterpillars! The Fern Falcons will soon be planting a variety of vegetables, fruits, and herbs. Although our kindergarten teachers are new to gardening, they are excited to learn alongside their students.

Fern is grateful for the support of many dedicated volunteers!

Jefferson *Middle School*

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



Yvonne Marin
Principal

Awesome Gymnasium

The Jefferson Middle School gymnasium is ready for use! Our beautiful gym was completed recently and our staff, students, and families couldn't be more excited. The incoming sixth grade students visited campus recently and were treated with performances by our tall flags and baton clubs inside the gym. The gym is equipped with boys and girls changing rooms, storage space for equipment, retractable basketball hoops, volleyball poles and netting, and state of the art digital

scoreboards and shot clocks. We will be using the gymnasium daily through our physical education program, for school-wide assemblies, and for many more events. We are grateful to be part of a community that invests in its schools and supports us in all ways. Special thanks to the residents of Torrance for our awesome new Jaguar gymnasium!



Hickory *Elementary*

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



Edna Schumacher
Principal

Our All-Stars

The end of the school year is very busy, but we like to take time to recognize and thank the many individuals and groups who have helped to make this year special.

First of all, we truly want to thank our Hickory Elementary School families, who consistently support our teachers and students. Our parent community supports learning at all levels. They support their students at home, they participate in enrichment programs at school, and they support the school with their donations.

Our teachers are to be commended for the amazing job they do every day. They are a dedicated and professional group of individuals who put children first. And our wonderful classified support staff deserves our appreciation for working tirelessly in the background to make sure Hickory runs smoothly each and every day for all children.

We cannot even scratch the surface on how thankful we are for our Hickory PTA. Under the guidance of Mrs. Katie Kaneshiro, PTA provides funding to support many of our valuable programs. Our students enjoy study trips, assemblies, art, music, and a wonderful take-home science program thanks to PTA's support. The PTA also supports our students by providing intervention and enrichment programs.

Mrs. Mabery and I feel very fortunate to be at Hickory and part of the Torrance Unified School District family. It takes a team to succeed, and Hickory is loaded with All-Stars.

J.H. Hull *Middle School*

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



Patty Girgis
Principal

Students and Government Day

JH Hull Middle School had three participants in the City of Torrance's 12th annual Students and Government Day in May. The students wrote an essay to the prompt "Citizen participation and communication are critical in effective government. Create a plan for the City of Torrance to utilize social media and other traditional methods of communication to engage citizens and increase participation within the City's local government."

Over 1,100 essays were submitted, and three students from Hull were chosen: Joseph Bobich, Lily Chou and Jaylynn Young. These students, along with 18 other students from schools in Torrance, spent a day in their respective "jobs" shadowing civic leaders and what the job responsibilities are of these adults. The students had a firsthand opportunity to see the impact of civic government in their daily lives that they may not have realized.

We are so proud of all of our students, but these students especially at this time were representing the Hull Hawks at their best! Congratulations to these three students!



Joseph Bobich, Torrance Mayor Pat Furey, Jaylynn Young, and Lily Chou during the 12th Annual City of Torrance Student and Government Day.

LAUNCH *Preschool Programs*

4100 W. 227th St., Torrance, CA 90505 • 310/972-6500x2550 • launch.tusd.org



Teresa Lanphere
Principal

Literacy Starts Early at LAUNCH

This month at LAUNCH we held a Scholastic Bookfair for parents and students. Students came into our makeshift “Library” to hear stories read aloud to them by parent volunteers. They then had an opportunity to browse the shelves and select books for purchase. This is a great way to get new books into young children’s hands. The proceeds benefit the LAUNCH PTA. We also had a literacy night parent training called: Let’s Read: Reading to Young Children with Special Needs presented by Melina von Stietz, Youth Services Librarian from the City of Torrance. This event provided great suggestions for parents about how to select the right books for the child’s age and developmental level as well as ways to help the child develop pre-literacy skills.



Lynn *Middle School*

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



LeRoy Jackson Jr.
Principal

First Lego League Spring Robotics Showdown

We are very pleased to announce two of our school’s FLL Robotics Teams competed against 42 other schools from all over the state. Teams compete in tabletop matches using Lego Mindstorms robots they built and programmed. The day’s competition

ended with HydronXT winning second place in “Core Values” and Splashotics7 with third place for Robotic Missions. Splashotics7 took home some bragging rights and the

top award “Spring Showdown Championship Award!” This award combines all three completion scores and acknowledges robot design, technical-abilities and exceptional demonstration of the program’s “Core Values.”



Lincoln *Elementary*

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



Katherine Castleberry
Principal

A Roaring Year

How quickly the 2017–2018 school year has flown by—and what an incredible year it’s been! As always, not only are we committed to providing a quality education for our students, but we also offer countless opportunities for them to discover their strengths, nurture their individuality, and create lifelong memories—all while getting ready and prepared for college, career, and beyond!

As I take a moment to reflect on the wonderful school year we’ve had, I recall the many great activities and events that took place throughout this school year. We not only enjoyed our traditional enrichment programs, including vocal and instrumental music and Paws on Art, but we also benefited from extracurricular activities, including Chorus, Chess Club, Science Club, Garden Club, the afterschool Gifted And Talented Education (GATE) program, internet enrichment, and others. Phew! We were busy! We also got to show our fashion sense and school spirit through theme days, which were held to spread the important messages of Red Ribbon Week, Read Across America, Buddies Week, and Heroes Week.

With all that we’ve accomplished this year, I immediately think about how grateful I am for the dedicated teachers, staff, and parents who work so hard to ensure that Lincoln Elementary School remains a positive, productive place for children. Your time, effort, and energy do not go unnoticed. Your contributions to our school are truly appreciated!

As for my Lincoln Lions...you’re the best! Thank you for your commitment to learning and growing with each passing year. Thank you for taking care of each other and being safe, respectful, and responsible in the process. I wish you the best in all you do—and remember to always...ROAR!

Madrona *Middle School*

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



Chris Lipsey
Principal

College Week

Madrona Middle School recently held its annual College Week to raise awareness and educate our students on the many pathways that are available to them for higher education after high school. Events and activities were arranged so that the whole campus could be involved.

Teachers and faculty members dusted off their college photos and gear in order to create a college-going culture. Staff members also had opportunities to earn raffle tickets for some cool prizes for their participation. Staff activities included: completing a college biography; sprucing up classroom doors with college colors, photos, and décor; participating in the daily college trivia questions; and wearing college colors or logo wear during the week.

Events for students included a variety of workshops designed to inform them about their options and stimulate their thinking in a variety of ways. Topics included the culture of campus life and how choices can lead to career opportunities they are passionate about. Students also had the opportunity to win prizes in a many different events, such as the Teacher Scavenger Hunt, which challenged students to figure out which staff member belonged to which college biography. Students also participated in lunchtime trivia contests and tried to name the colleges whose fight songs were played during daily announcements.

The culminating event was a panel discussion followed by a question-and-answer session. Speakers shared their experiences with college and athletics, and swimming, water polo, basketball, and volleyball were all represented.

We are always excited to provide these types of opportunities for our students. College Week is one of the most fun and information events of the year!
Go, Wildcats!

Magruder *Middle School*

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



Lisa Nunes
Principal

Community Building

Magruder was given the gift of time on April 28 with nearly 100 volunteers participating in the Annual Sharefest Program. Lead by Ambassador High, in cooperation with The River Church, Magruder was selected to help tend to various jobs around campus. Volunteers, with a variety of skills dedicated their time and talents from 7:30 am to 2:00 pm.

Artists helped revamp the mural in our quad area, gardeners tended to the plants and put in fences to protect the greenery. Additionally the monkey bars were revitalized and benches were installed around the quad to increase seating for students and adults. After a full sanding and priming over 15 cubbies were painted a beautiful bright “Magruder Blue,” lastly here was a full trash sweep of the entire campus. Thank you to everyone for their time, efforts and donations to make the community building event a success.



Richardson *Middle School*

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



Ian Drummond
Principal

Long Live Exercise!

Richardson’s brand-new gym opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony in April. Superintendent George Mannon, Board President Mike Wermers, Mayor Patrick Furey and many other dignitaries were present—even Edward J. Richardson himself came along!

We also have a completely revamped playground area with six new basketball courts and five new volleyball courts. The entire surface has been given a fresh coat. Our ball walls are finally accessible, which makes students happy and staff even happier, as any available upright surface seemed to serve as a ball wall before this!

The new playground opened after spring break, and it was as if a giant cloud had lifted from the campus. Our schoolyard is now bustling with activity before school and during breaks. PE classes are also making great use of the newly available space.

This physical activity keeps our children healthy and helps them release energy, resulting in a greater ability to focus during classroom time.



North *High School*

3620 W. 182nd St., Torrance, CA 90504 • 310/533-4412 • northhighschool.org



Chris Sheck
Principal

A Huge Success

The second annual North High Special Olympics took place in April, with athletes from North, Peninsula, and Locke High in Los Angeles participating.

Athletes from each school competed in the following events: 50 meters, 100 meters, and a 100 meter unified relay. Representing North High were roughly 80 athletes, a number tripled from last year.

The event was attended by members of the TUSD School Board, the TUSD superintendent, cabinet members, the mayor of Torrance, members of the city council, the Torrance police and fire departments, and cheerleaders from the Rams, Clippers, and Lakers.

Supporting, volunteering, and sponsoring this event was a huge group from a local refining company, as well as the Special Olympics. Our North High JROTC, ASB, band, and cheerleaders were also there to support the efforts of



these incredible athletes, as were the students who came to fill the stands.

A huge thank-you goes to NHS teacher Krissy Duperron for organizing this event and demonstrating what it means to be Saxon Strong!

Riviera *Elementary*

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



Christie Forshey
Principal

Earth Week

Throughout Earth Week- April 16-22nd, Riviera students participated in the following events: Trash Free Challenge at lunch time, Torrance Beach Clean Up- 75 people picked up trash at Torrance and Rat Beach, Recyclable Art Contest- Students voted on their favorite projects at lunch time, Walk to School Day, Super Sunday- Students, staff and family members beautified the Riviera campus. The big projects included creating a rock pathway with student painted rocks representing the story book- Only One You by Linda Kranz and painting a giant Candy Land board onto the blacktop.



Maddy's cactus made with water bottles, bottle caps, sand from her shoes!



Gavin's recycled robot



The Budney Family looking at Riviera's Only One You Rock Pathway

Shery *High School*

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



Jamie Jimenez
Principal

Making Good Things Happen

We got a new student at the beginning of this year who has not only excelled in making up credits to be able to graduate in the Class of 2019 but also goes above and beyond in other areas. Jerica Hatcher is part of our Leadership program. She goes to the elementary school to work in a classroom, wrote a poem, and helped organize and lead the March 14 Walk-In at our school to help end school violence.

She also finds new opportunities for herself to get involved in outside school and follow her passion. She is part of a nonprofit

group that works with girls ages 8-17 to help them further their careers as music producers, DJs and audio engineers. She was recently interviewed by the Today Show to discuss what this program has done for her and other girls. She also recently applied to a television-talent program for a rap song she wrote and was called in to audition.



Jerica learning the music industry with a professional from a Los Angeles non-profit organization for girls.

Seaside *Elementary*

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



Michele Bauer-Bean
Principal

The Fun Run

At Seaside, we work with our parents and other family and community members to create a strong and fruitful relationship to support our children's growth and development as a whole. This means socially, emotionally, physically, and academically.

Every year our Seaside PTA hosts a Family Picnic and Fun Run. Parents and family members come to the school with blankets to lay on our grassy hill and relax and socialize. Each grade level runs laps around one of our two fields in a grand display of health and fitness. This also gives them a chance to raise funds to support additional learning activities like field trips and assembly presentations.



Seaside's business partners also provide ice cream and moral support. The students are cheered on, and some parents and teachers join in on the Fun Run. Then, everyone eats lunch together! It is a well-loved day, and a good example of the kind of relationships that make Seaside special.

This year the Fun Run also took on the added feature of bubbles. These all-organic, made-from-water-only suds delighted everyone!

South *High School*

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



Dr. Scott McDowell
Principal

Academic Teams

The South High School (SHS) Academic Decathlon team placed seventh in Los Angeles County, qualifying for the state competition in Sacramento, where they placed 18th and brought home 10 medals. Congratulations to the whole team and head coach Jenna Akin.

After qualifying a record 13 competitors for the state finals in Tracy, California, the SHS Speech and Debate team and head coach Jay Lockwood placed in six different speech events and one debate event.

For the third year in a row, SHS Medicine won the Western Region Sports Medicine competition at California State University, Northridge, taking the first four individual spots. SHS student Deegan Roecker was named the overall champion in the advanced division. Good luck to the Sports Medicine team and head coach Mike Taylor as they advance to the National Sports Medicine Competition, where they placed second in the nation last year.

With a second-place finish in the FIRST Robotics regional completion in Fresno, SHS Robotics qualified for the world championships in Houston, where they made it to the semi-finals before being beaten by the eventual world champions. Congratulations to all the robotics participants, engineering mentors, and head coach Michael Rosenberg.

Returning to the Science Olympiad after several years away, the SHS team fared well, placing in the top tier in every category. Special recognition goes to Kanon Mori for her second-place finish in chemistry. In the regional finals of the California Math League, SHS took second place, finishing behind Peninsula High School by a single point. In addition, four students qualified for the American International Math Exam, a rare achievement in any school year. Congratulations to Paula Woodward for her work with the science and math teams!

Torrance High School

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



Karim Girgis
Principal

Champions!

If the picture looks familiar it is because our Drill Team has done it again! They are three time Sharp National Champions. Congratulations to Coach Gasset and her team for their continued to

success.

Thank you Mrs. Duvall and her cast and crew for an outstanding production of the Shrek the Musical. Our talented students did not disappoint! Speaking of talented Tartars our own Maddy Watson finished fifth in the South Bay Surf League Women's Shortboard division. This is second year in a row that Maddy has placed in Top 5 and she was also given award for by the Surfrider Foundation for her dedication.

As the school year winds down I would like to take this opportunity to thank our faculty, staff and students for making THS a great place to come every day.



Torrance Elementary

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



Dr. Kelly Joseph
Principal

Traveling Back in Time to 1880

The news spread quickly when over 100 of our "youngins" disembarked from a yellow, trackless train. These fourth-graders from Torrance Elementary recently found themselves tiptoeing to see the "lantern" of the Banning House!

Suddenly they woke with the sun, milked the cows, separated the cream, and churned the butter, as well as washed and hung their clothes to dry! Then off to school it was in stiff collars and pinafores and with slates for lessons in arithmetic, cursive, reading, and elocution. Tink Tink the Blacksmith also demonstrated the skills and brawn necessary for life on the ranch.

As they toured the Phineas Banning home, the students were reminded that Victorian children should be seen and not heard. With eyes big and round, the opinions abounded when they learned that boys' and girls' activities were clearly delineated. It was inside and proper for the girls, and a free-wheeling, gun-toting, horse-riding outside life for the boys.



Etiquette continued as our lads and lasses curtsied, bowed, and spun around with spirited "ya-hoos" while dancing to *Oh, Susanna*. As the day came to a close they waved to their guides and entered the train. With the crack of a whip they disappeared back to the future, reflecting on the life and experiences of Old California.

Torrance Adult School

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



Dr. Wayne Diulio
Director

Connection to Careers

We hosted a Career Exploration Day in April, highlighting many local businesses. An international hotel corporation and a software company were corporate participants, and speakers represented careers in accounting and finance, office management, allied health, business management and hospitality, caregiving, construction and early-childhood education. Adult-school alumni in these careers presented information about their field and how to best prepare for it.

The keynote speaker was Mauro Gomez, a proud Torrance Adult School alumnus who was an ESL student. He learned English in three years and then completing his high school diploma in two additional years. After graduating, Mr. Gomez received a full scholarship at



Featured speaker Mauro Gomez (R) with Torrance Adult School staff: Director Dr. Wayne Diulio, Career Technician Liliana Ortiz & Counselor Paula Takamine

Loyola Marymount University, earning his degree in political science and theology. Mr. Gomez also started a nonprofit organization, Faithful Creations, and is currently applying to law schools.

This event epitomized our school's purpose of helping students meet their personal, academic and professional goals.

Towers *Elementary*

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



Sandy Skora
Principal

Visit from the Mayor

We're fortunate to have a leadership program designed specifically for fifth-graders! STARS (Students Together Achieving Results) helps students prepare for middle school and beyond through service projects, character building, and knowing that together, we can do great things.

One way of teaching these traits is to invite various speakers to explain their roles in our community. Past speakers have included our school counselor, city employees, comedians and professional life coaches.

This month, students were treated to a very special guest: Mayor Pat Furey. He gave an informative talk explaining his role as mayor, detailed benefits of living in our city, and gave students an inside look into his life as a community volunteer. He discussed how civic involvement will keep Torrance a desirable place to live and that community members, no matter the age, can make an impact.

Mayor Furey also said how fortunate students are to have dedicated teachers, staff employees and parent volunteers!



Victor *Elementary*

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



Bill Baker
Principal

Celebrating Diversity Through Food

The International Potluck is one of the most energetic events at Victor Elementary School. Families are excited to participate and celebrate the school's diversity of culture through food, attire, and sharing of experiences from around the world. It's also one of those unique events that allows an opportunity to get to know the many families who make up the Victor community.

The event is entirely put on by our families and sponsored by our PTA. Each participating family brings in a dish (appetizer, entrée or dessert) to feed 12 and has the opportunity to decorate an area with items representing their home country. This year's event included 71 families representing 15 countries around the world, with about 300 people in attendance.



It was such a pleasure to see the burst of colors, taste the various flavors, and engage in the energy of Victor families coming together from different backgrounds using food to build connections.

Walteria *Elementary*

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



Efren Ponce
Principal

Brushing Up on CPR

When members of the community and teachers start asking for the same thing, you know it's time to take action. Due in part to the recent tragedies on the news and overall concern, people started asking about Walteria Elementary School's cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) readiness.

Being certified in CPR is a requirement for most school employees; however, the training needs to be retaken from time to time. As a result of the inquiries, Walteria staff members were invited to a CPR training course to update their CPR requirements. The course, generously paid for by our PTA and initiated and organized by a parent, took place in late April. This the first of a couple of such events.



Staff members learned the appropriate techniques for administering CPR to both adults and children. Now, these staff members are better prepared and ready to be assets if ever a tragedy takes place at our school.

West *High School*

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



Kara Heinrich
Principal

A Special Visit

West was proud to be selected as host to Astronaut R. Shane Kimbrough this spring. Our West engineering and science students had

the opportunity to learn from Kimbrough as he shared a video from the International Space Station (ISS), and also spoke with our students about science, space, and life on board the ISS.

Shane Kimbrough's inspiring life journey has ranged from graduating West Point, earning a Master of Science degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology, and joining the U.S. Army. Kimbrough also served in the Army as an aviator, and was deployed to serve in Operation Desert Storm.

In 2000 he joined NASA, and in 2008 he completed his first spaceflight. In 2016 Kimbrough became Commander of the ISS during Mission Expedition 49/50. While on the ISS he performed four spacewalks. To date he has logged 189 total days in space.

Hosting Astronaut Kimbrough was an enriching educational opportunity, and a college and career real-world experience for our students!



Wood *Elementary*

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



Dr. Shawn Johnson
Principal

"Fur" the Love of Reading

Who doesn't enjoy reading a good book with a friend? Here at Wood Elementary we are fortunate to be able to support our second grade students with a unique reading buddy experience. Each week, select students can be found reading to, and enjoying the calming company of, a certified therapy dog. Through this experience our students are not only growing their literacy skills, but their confidence and self-esteem improves as well as they practice their reading to these non-judgemental canine companions. The two dog teams that we have visit regularly through the week have become mini "celebrities" to all of our

students on campus, and our participants very much look forward to reading in this way. This special program is another way that we are helping to spark and nurture the love of reading in our wonderful Woodchucks!



Yukon *Elementary*

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



Elaine Wassil
Principal

Beating the Summer Slide

We all know that summer reading loss happens. But what to do about it?

A recognized summer research project has produced strong reading growth and the elimination of summer reading loss by providing children with books at their reading level. And this exciting program is now at Yukon!

It all begins with a very special book fair in the spring. Here our second- and third-graders can choose what books they'd like to read over the summer. Excited calls like, "I want to read that one!" can be heard throughout the event.

The students' selections will then be mailed to them throughout the vacation season. Having your own favorite books that you can keep and treasure is a



sure-fire way to instill a love for both books and reading.

This convenient access to books during a time period when the children can't get them from their classrooms is a great way to increase reading proficiency. This helps to improve our children's reading achievements, which makes the summer both fun and valuable! Yukon is proud and happy to be participating in this wonderful program for our children.

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SUPERINTENDENT • From Page



Dr. George Mannon

As the workplace evolves, so does curriculum. In classrooms throughout the district, students are constantly being challenged and provided with opportunities to be creative and collaborative. Our classrooms are spaces filled with dynamic learning, as teachers engage students in lessons that are both relevant and interesting. For instance, rather than reading about the inner workings of a human heart, students in the biomedical course actually have the opportunity to pick up scalpels and dissect sheep hearts. Studying the anatomy of a sheep's heart teaches students how our own hearts pump blood to keep us alive!



In another project, female students are tasked with designing and building cardboard water vessels with just cardboard and duct tape (A LOT of duct tape)! Though the number of women engineers has increased in the past several years, engineering continues to be a male-dominated career. We want to encourage more of our female students to think

about engineering as a potential career choice and provide them with early introductions to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) focused courses and projects.

As we look back at the year, there are a few highlights that we are especially proud of. The West High School Academic Decathlon Team ranked in the top 10 schools in the state competition. The South High Robotics Club, the TORbots, placed fourth and fifth in Los Angeles County and went on to compete in the international robotics competition. Torrance High School was recognized as a Project Lead the Way Distinguished School for their high-caliber career technical education program. Carr and Victor Elementary Schools won the Grades of Green Trash Challenge and reduced their carbon footprints. West High School's cross-county team won a historical first-ever California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) state title (followed by a victory parade down Victor Street)!

In another first-ever, we celebrated the grand opening of the TUSD Aquatic Center! The Olympic-sized pool serves as the new home of our aquatics programs and provides our students with a competition facility in which they can strengthen their skills. West and Torrance High Schools both had a strong season, with individual and relay qualifiers for CIF.

Like any school year, we have our hurdles and challenges. And like any other school year, we face them together as a school community and overcome them. As students are on vacation, we focus our efforts on preparing for the upcoming year. I hope everyone has time this summer to have fun with their family and friends!



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Alana's Book Review

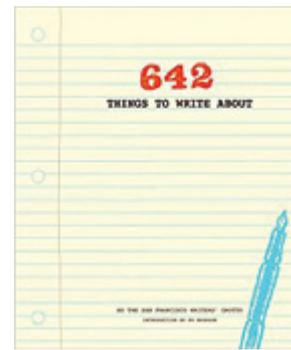
Helpful Writing Book



Alana F.

Do you ever feel the pains of writer's block? Chances are, you have, if you've ever written before. Well, here's the funny and extremely useful solution! Insightful and hilarious, *642 Things to Write About* is endlessly helpful. Containing prompts like "A houseplant is dying. Tell it why it needs to live," to "A day in the life of the person sitting next to you," this book will give you the best ideas to spark your creativity.

This book is amazing for beginning and experienced writers alike. I'd give it seven out of eight triforce shards for being inspirational and creative, seemingly never running out of things to give you. 642 is a lot of prompts, after all. And even if you're not a 'writer,' per se, this book is great for passing the time. So pull up some cushions, make yourself a cup of tea, and release your inner writer!



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 triforce shards with 8 being the highest

Sophie's Choice

Lightning Queen



Sophie O.

This book is filled with hope and determination made by the characters. One of my favorite things is that the author based the book off of something that does happen between the Rom people and other cultures. Among the best of friends, you'll see that even after death you shouldn't give up happiness. The author's presence is felt through the presence of the description of the

characters and the scenes. You'll notice that people you thought you hated in the book change their characteristics with the help of Teo. Although I love all the characters I'm pretty sure my favorite person is Esma Queen of Lightning. She is strong spirited, happy, and strong-willed. This book will take you on an adventure of your own as you follow along with the main character's many adventures.



Sophie Olko is a 5th grader who loves to read and write her own stories. She enjoys soccer, loves to bake, act, draw and sew. One day she would like to have her own baking show.





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B is for Book

Stirs Your Emotions



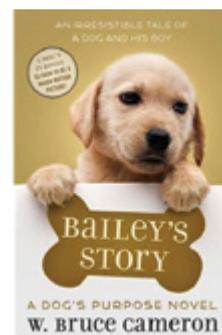
Bailey

Bailey's Story by W. Bruce Cameron is one of my favorite books so far. It definitely warmed my heart.

The moment Bailey is born, he is looking for a purpose. He falls into the hands of many people. But the moment Bailey leaps into Ethan's arms, he knows he's in the right place. Going to the farm and playing with the flip is just the first part of Bailey's purpose. Will Bailey realize that, even with the bad things that happen, he must stay true to the

boy he loves?

I had not read a book like this one! The point of view surprised me and there are many funny quotes. I can relate to the characters' actions and thoughts to my life. My favorite component of this book is that it is well written and stirs your emotions. I rate this book 5 out of 5 stars.



Bailey is a 6th grader that likes to read fantasy and daydream about adventure when she isn't dancing ballet or playing with her friends and siblings.

Keira's Book Nook

Scorch Trials

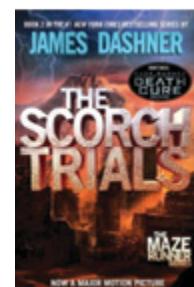


Keira

The author of *Scorch Trials*, James Dashner, wrote the Mortality Doctrine series along with the *New York Times* bestselling book, *Maze Runner*.

Thomas and his friends escape the maze only to find out that there are more Variables yet to come. The group is caught in a deadly lightning storm and find refuge in a city, but what Thomas and his friends do not yet know is that the city is Crank infested. *Scorch Trials* tells about the ordeals that Thomas faces. Even throughout all these hardships the Gladers meet new allies. Although Thomas would risk anything for his friends he can be very arrogant and oblivious at times.

I can't wait to read the next book in the Maze Runner series! I rate this book 5 out of 5 apples. However, while I love the book I am still working up the nerve to watch the movie.



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.

Richard's Book Review

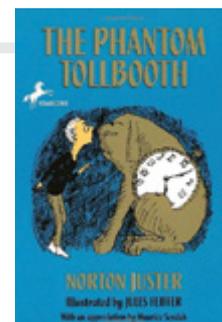
The Phantom Toll Booth



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.



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41st Annual Peninsula Soccer Camp
July 16 - 20, July 30 - August 3

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July 30 - August 3

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Ages: Boys and Girls 5 - 12
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Isabella's Book Review

Entertaining and Informative



Isabella A.

Anastasia, The Last Grand Duchess, Russia, 1914, by Carolyn Meyer is the diary of a 13-year-old Russian Duchess.

Anastasia the youngest of the 4 daughters of the Russian Tsar, Nicholas II and Alexandra Feodora.

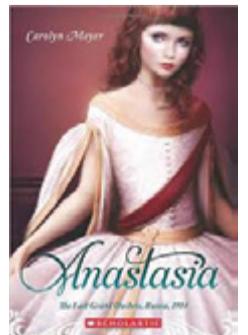
Life was perfect. The sisters wore expensive jewelry and they lived in many palaces. The only downside for Anastasia was her school work and her brother's hemophilia.

In the winters, they got to play in the snow and had dances. Then, WW1 breaks out. Under pressure, the Tsar abdicated the throne and the family was arrested. While imprisoned in the palace they attempted to stay happy and even continue their studies.

However, the family is executed. It is commonly believed that Anastasia escaped. Scientist have been able to prove Alexie and either Marie or Anastasia might have escaped.

I rate this book 4 stars because it is entertaining and informative, yet it can be rude.

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.



Victoria's Review

Amazing Adventures



Victoria Lowe

The Land of Stories by Chris Colfer is a fantasy/fiction novel about twins named Alex and Conner who get trapped in the *Land of Stories*, a book that their grandmother gave to them. They go through many adventures all trying to get back to earth to their mom. In between these adventures, the twins go through different realms: The Elf Empire, The Northern Kingdom, The Eastern Kingdom, The Dwarf Forests, The Red Riding Hood Kingdom, The Corner Kingdom and much more.

They also meet Disney Princes and Princesses who become their best friends. In the end, Alex and Conner realize they are stronger than they once thought.

How did they get trapped? How do they escape? What do they experience in each realm? All of these questions will be answered once you read this amazing adventure! I give this book a "5 out of 5 Smiles."

Victoria Lowe is a 7th grade student. She loves school and enjoys spending time with her friends. Victoria's favorite kinds of books have mystery and fantasy plots and will rate them with "Smiles." Victoria has an affinity for singing, loves musical theatre and is a member of the South Bay Children's Choir.



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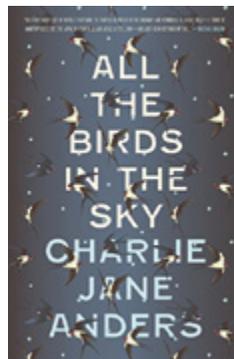
*Photo Courtesy of Happy Mess
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Unique Read



All the Birds in the Sky is an unusual cross between fantasy and science fiction that follows two children named Laurence and Patricia with unusual talents. Patricia is a witch struggling to understand what she's supposed to do with her powers and Laurence is a computer geek with a longing to leave this planet behind.



Katrina D. Though close friends as children, age and ambitions pull them apart as adults. But as the world falls apart around them and the technology geeks and witches go to war over what is to become of Earth, the two of them must decide what side they will have to take, what risks they are willing to take and if they'll be able to live with hurting the other. This book is quite a unique read as Anders blends scientific theory with magical abilities, creating a strangely powerful and intriguing story.

I give this book a four out of five crescent moons.

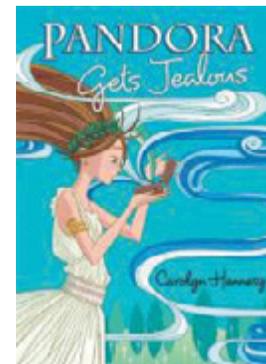
Katrina is a tenth grader who loves reading books as much as writing her own stories and enjoys watching Anime. Katrina hopes to be an author one day very soon. Katrina will rate her book reviews from 1 to 5 crescent moons with 5 being the best.

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).

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 (Please put Torrance 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!

- | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|
| FINCH | PIGEON | FALCON |
| ROBIN | TURKEY | TERN |
| COWBIRD | DUCK | SEA GULL |
| PHEASANT | BLUE JAY | PELICAN |
| CHICKEN | CARDINAL | WREN |
| QUAIL | EAGLE | SWAN |
| DOVE | HAWK | BUZZARD |



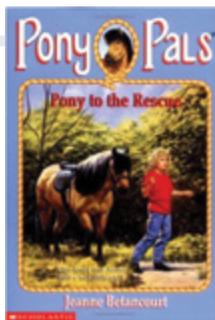
Congratulations to **Aksheta Mangipudi and Hayley Chan** — Winners of the April Word Search Contests!

Interesting Read



Jenna C.

Pony to the Rescue is a book in the Pony Pals book series. There were three girls and three horses that met a little girl named Rosalie. Rosalie loved one of the horses named Acorn. Rosalie visited Acorn almost everyday. When the three pony pals decided to go for trail camping, Rosalie got so sad since she couldn't go. In the middle of the trail, they found out Rosalie got lost! The pony pals thought about how scared Rosalie would be lost in the forest. Finally, the horse, Acorn found Rosalie! However Rosalie's mom misunderstood and blamed the pony pals and horses for getting Rosalie lost and didn't let Rosalie be close to them. Would Rosalie ever be able to ride on Acorn again? if you like horses, this is the book you can find interesting. It is also a good chapter book for 2nd or 3rd graders with simple but fun sentences.



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.

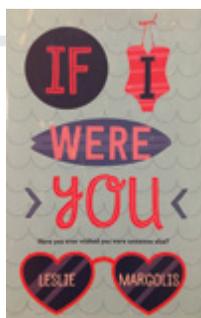
Katie's Review

Never Take for Granted



Katie C.

If I Were You is a book that relates to everyone, because we envy each other oftentimes. In the book, a girl named Katie wants to live the life of her supermodel best friend, Melody. Secretly, Melody wants to get away from the life of her mom whose only focused on the intake of her carbs. Both girls wish this on a bus and suddenly, they've switched bodies. At first, they're excited. They can't wait to live the life that they've craved! But, as time progresses, both of them learn that each other's lives are not as easy as it looks. Melody's parents never talk to each other, and Katie's twin stepbrothers are a handful. They realize that their lives were meant to be their own.



I rate this book a five out of five stars, because it showed me how you should never take your life for granted.

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.

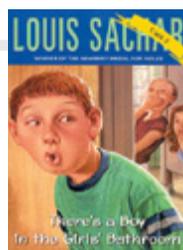
Unforgettable Books

Boy in The Girls' Bathroom



Sofia Atoofi

Bradley Chalkers is the most hated kid in his school. He is a bully, tells lies, doesn't respect his teachers, and refuses to do homework. You wouldn't think anybody would like him, but you are wrong. Carla, the new school counselor, thinks that even though he might not show it, Bradley is a kind, generous boy. She helps him with difficulties in both school and at home, but along the way he encounters some very not expected problems. By the title of the book, you can tell that he accidentally goes into the girls' bathroom. He is also invited to a girls' party, and has no idea how to act, what to wear, or even what present to buy. I rate this book 5 out of 5 stars, because it was exciting to see what would happen next after I read each chapter.



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.



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Reading

By D.H. Coop

Reading is an elementary key to success in the educational system. Take, for example, a teacher assigning a reading exercise that will take an hour of reading. That assignment was based on a certain amount of time that it would take to do the reading, say, 500 to 800 words per minute. If one reads at a rate of 250 words per minute, then that reading time has just become a minimum of twice as long for that individual. I was one of those individuals and therefore identified as a slow learner.

I was not a slow learner. I process information differently, and the method of teaching reading did not allow for that difference. When I was taught to read, they started by telling me to use my finger to point at each word as I said it out loud. When I mastered that, they told me to stop using my finger. Later, I was told to stop saying the words out loud. Finally, I was told to stop moving my lips, and that ended the lessons on how to read.

The problem was, I was still saying each word mentally, and that slow my ability to read fast. My mind would jump ahead of my reading and try to finish the sentences before I read them completely, and I would have to start all over and reread a number of times, slowing the process of reading even more. Therefore, I learned the tricks of not reading to pass assignments that most students use to get their work done on time. Plus, I developed a method of listening and memorizing material in class to compensate for the poor reading skills. I can honestly say that I did not read a book until I was around 20 years old.

One Solution!

So, how did I learn to become a reader? The solution for me was to break the habit of saying each word mentally as I read. The problem was not that I could not read. I could read, but just slower than my mind was willing to wait. The key was to go back to the finger and move it faster, allowing my eyes to move across the words without giving them time to pronounce the words. When one enters a room, he or she does not pronounce everything they see mentally in the brain. The brain registers every item without having to pronounce it mentally. The same principle can be done with reading.

A simple method to increase one's reading speed is to first find out what your reading speed is. Read for one minute and then count the words, and that will give you an idea of your speed. Then for practice, use your finger or a guide to move across the page fast enough so that you do not pronounce the words mentally. Do this for five minutes each day, and within 30 days, your reading rate should double. This will be frustrating at first because you're retraining your mind to work more efficiently without the conflict of trying to pronounce each word as you read it.

This will develop your reading skills and is not shortcut as scanning or skimming skills they are different from reading skills. Reading skills allow you to comprehend at a faster rate of speed when reading and makes reading more enjoyable. However, this is not a solution for all reading problems. It is a method that one can try—it did work for me. I am never without a book now.

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

Fun Things and Places Word Search Contest

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

CARNIVAL	PARTY	ZOO
HOME	MOVIE	HIKE
SCHOOL	POOL	BIKE RIDE
PARK	FOREST	REUNION
SLIDES	CAMP	CRUISE
SWINGS	SEASHORE	SKATING
ROAD TRIP	FARM	VIDEOS

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

Savvy about Sun Safety



Aileen Imai
Injury Prevention
Coordinator,
Injury Prevention
Program,
Miller Children's &
Women's Hospital
Long Beach

Summer is all about spending time outdoors in the sun. During childhood and adolescence, protection from ultraviolet (UV) exposure reduces the risk for skin cancer in adulthood. Here are some tips to help your family enjoy outdoor activities safely this summer:

- For kids six months and older (as well as adults), sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 30 or greater reduces the intensity of UV exposure that cause sunburns.
 - Apply sunscreen liberally 15 to 30 minutes before sun exposure to ensure the skin absorbs the sunscreen and will reduce the likelihood that it will be washed off.
 - Reapply every two hours and after kids swim, sweat or dry off with a towel.
- Dress kids in high ultraviolet protection factor (high-UPF) swim shirts or rash guards and choose bathing suits that cover more skin, like one-piece suits and long trunks.
- Have your kids wear a hat with a brim all the way around that shades their face, ears, and the back of the neck.
- Sun exposure damages the eyes as well as the skin. The best way to protect eyes is to wear sunglasses that provide 100% UV protection.
- Infants under six-months-old should be kept out of direct sunlight.
- Remind teens that tanning can increase skin cancer risk, and leads to wrinkles, blemishes and age spots later in life.

Make sun safety a part of your family's everyday lifestyle to reduce the risk of skin cancer, sun damage and skin aging.



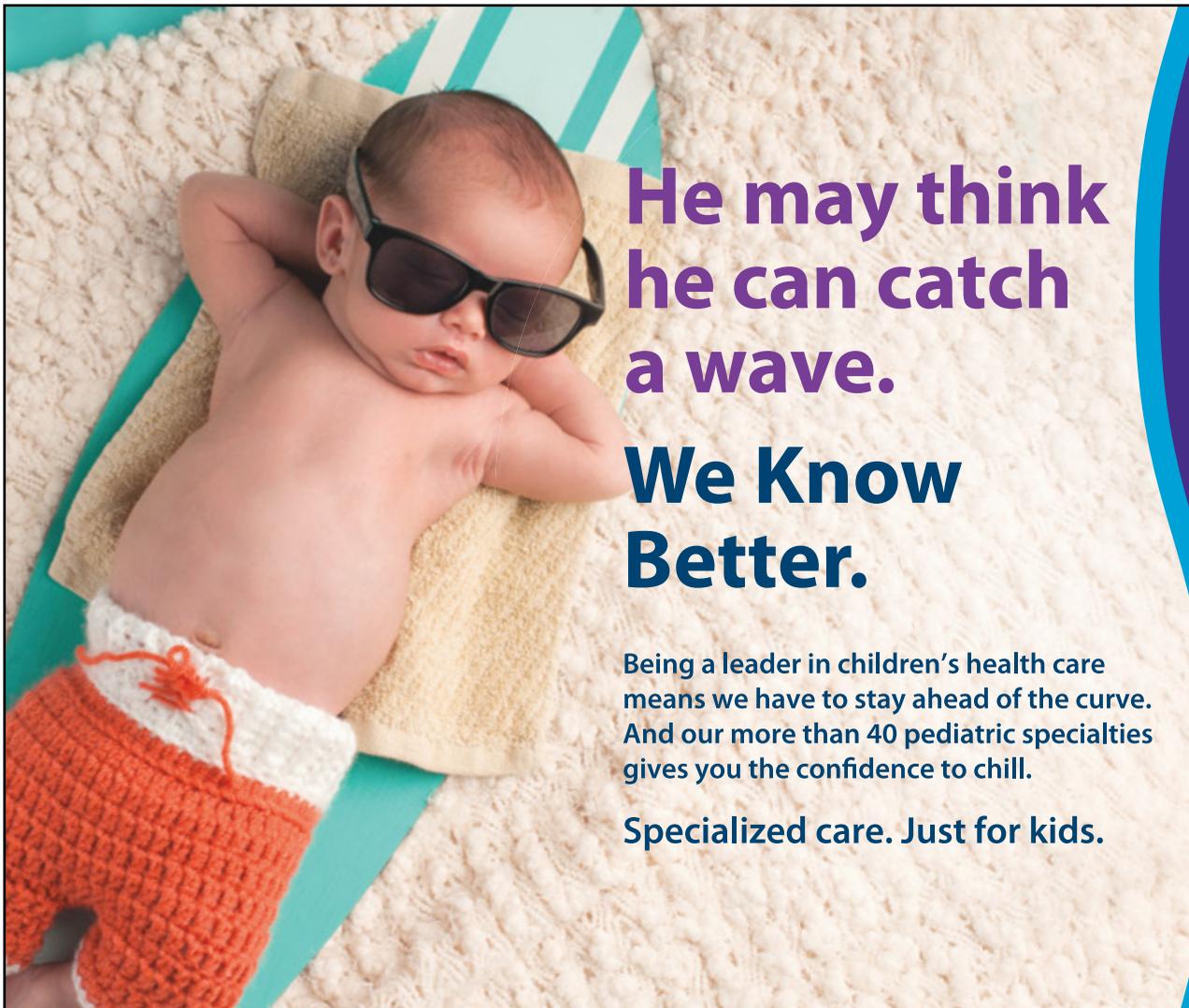
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- **Zone Out? Or daydream?**
- **Seem easily distracted or unfocused?**
- **Make careless mistakes or have trouble following instructions?**

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