

School News

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Covering the Menifee Union School District

Volume 4, Issue 7

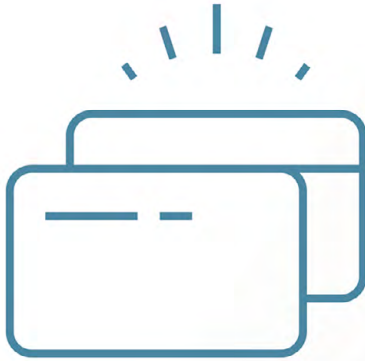
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Our Most Ambitious Goals

The Menifee Union School District carries a strategic vision for the years to come, and they are spelled out in our five district goals. First and foremost, Goal 1 reflects our unwavering commitment to cultural responsiveness, ensuring that our educational environment is a safe, supportive, and engaging space for every member of our diverse community. Goal 2 underscores our dedication to providing an exceptional and standards-aligned education for all students, aiming to elevate academic achievement across the district. In pursuit of equity and efficiency, Goal 3 emphasizes the alignment of our systems and structures. Safety is paramount, as articulated in Goal 4, where we pledge to continuously evaluate and enhance our safety protocols and procedures. Lastly, Goal 5 signals our proactive stance in evaluating the viability of unification, with a focus on shaping a unified and integrated educational experience with our local high schools. These goals are not mere aspirations; they represent our collective commitment to fostering an environment where every student can thrive academically and personally.

Your active participation in your child's education is invaluable. Together, let's make these goals a reality, creating an environment where every student thrives. I also invite you to read further and discover how our schools are excelling in these goals.



Dr. Jennifer Root
Superintendent

Nuestros Objetivos más Ambiciosos

El Distrito Escolar Unido de Menifee tiene una visión estratégica para los años venideros, y están detalladas en las cinco metas de nuestro distrito. En primer lugar, el Objetivo 1 refleja nuestro compromiso inquebrantable con la capacidad de respuesta cultural, garantizando que nuestro entorno educativo sea un espacio seguro, solidario y atractivo para cada miembro de nuestra diversa comunidad. La Meta 2 subraya nuestra dedicación a brindar una educación excepcional y alineada con los estándares para todos los estudiantes, con el objetivo de elevar el rendimiento académico en todo el distrito. En busca de la equidad y la eficiencia, el Objetivo 3 enfatiza la alineación de nuestros sistemas y estructuras. La seguridad es primordial, como se expresa en el Objetivo 4, donde nos comprometemos a evaluar y mejorar continuamente nuestros protocolos y procedimientos de seguridad. Por último, el Objetivo 5 señala nuestra postura proactiva en la evaluación de la viabilidad de la unificación, con un enfoque en dar forma a una experiencia educativa unificada e integrada con nuestras escuelas secundarias locales. Estos objetivos no son meras aspiraciones; representan nuestro compromiso colectivo de fomentar un entorno donde cada estudiante pueda prosperar académica y personalmente.

Su participación activa en la educación de su hijo es invaluable. Juntos, hagamos realidad estos objetivos, creando un entorno donde cada estudiante prospere. También los invito a seguir leyendo y descubrir cómo nuestras escuelas se destacan en estos objetivos.

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Governing Board



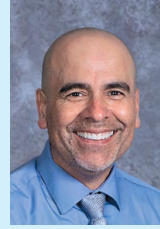
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Member
(Area #2)

Progressing Onward

On behalf of our Governing Board, I am delighted to share with you the tremendous progress our students and staff are making in achieving our most ambitious goals. As we reflect on our collective efforts, it is evident that our commitment to excellence and dedication to the well-being of our students are yielding positive outcomes.

We continue to work tirelessly to create an environment that is not only safe and supportive but also engaging for our diverse community. Our commitment to cultural responsiveness must be reflected in a strong sense of belonging that every member of our learning community experiences. Additionally, academic achievement is on the rise, and our students are learning in an environment that fosters curiosity, critical thinking, and a love for learning. Furthermore, by aligning district systems and structures, we are creating a more equitable playing field for every student, ensuring that each one has the opportunity to reach their full potential. It is also crucial that the safety of our students remain of paramount importance. We continue to diligently evaluate our safety protocols and procedures to create a secure learning environment. Finally, we maintain a steady and forward-thinking approach as we explore opportunities to provide an even better educational experience that goes into high school and beyond.

As president of this amazing district, I am immensely proud of the collective efforts of our educators, administrators, support staff, and, most importantly, our students and families. Together, we will see remarkable success, and I am confident that our district will continue to succeed as we pursue excellence in education.

Progresando Hacia Adelante

En nombre de nuestra Junta Directiva, estoy encantado de compartir con ustedes el tremendo progreso que nuestros estudiantes y personal están logrando para lograr nuestras metas más ambiciosas. Al reflexionar sobre nuestros esfuerzos colectivos, es evidente que nuestro compromiso con la excelencia y la dedicación al bienestar de nuestros estudiantes están dando resultados positivos.

Seguimos trabajando incansablemente para crear un entorno que no sólo sea seguro y solidario, sino también atractivo para nuestra diversa comunidad. Nuestro compromiso con la capacidad de respuesta cultural debe reflejarse en un fuerte sentido de pertenencia que experimente cada miembro de nuestra comunidad de aprendizaje. Además, el rendimiento académico va en aumento y nuestros estudiantes aprenden en un entorno que fomenta la curiosidad, el pensamiento crítico y el amor por aprender. Además, al alinear los sistemas y estructuras del distrito, estamos creando un campo de juego más equitativo para cada estudiante, asegurando que cada uno tenga la oportunidad de alcanzar su máximo potencial. También es crucial que la seguridad de nuestros estudiantes siga siendo de suma importancia. Continuamos evaluando diligentemente nuestros protocolos y procedimientos de seguridad para crear un ambiente de aprendizaje seguro. Finalmente, mantenemos un enfoque constante y con visión de futuro a medida que exploramos oportunidades para brindar una experiencia educativa aún mejor que llega hasta la escuela secundaria y más allá.

Como presidente de este increíble distrito, estoy inmensamente orgulloso de los esfuerzos colectivos de nuestros educadores, administradores, personal de apoyo y, lo más importante, de nuestros estudiantes y familias. Juntos veremos un éxito notable y estoy seguro de que nuestro distrito seguirá teniendo éxito mientras buscamos la excelencia en la educación.

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MENEFEE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT**


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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Happy New Year!
This is our 4th year publishing the excellence from the Menifee Union School District. There isn't any shortage of good news.

Dr. Jennifer Root begins this issue with her message on page 3 regarding the district's strategic vision and their five goals.

Throughout life success is best attained by setting a goal, which gives you motivation, focus and the ability to measure progress. The Governing Board article on page 4 highlights the progress students and staff are making achieving their goals.

Our next issue is July 19.



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Callie Kirkpatrick *Elementary*

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Our Watch D.O.G.S.

Callie Kirkpatrick Elementary School appreciates all our families and partners with them to provide a safe, supportive, learning environment! This year we launched the Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) program! This program is a parent involvement program which aims to get male role models on campus to volunteer for a day at our school! Watch D.O.G.S. helps reduce bullying and creates a safer campus! Watch D.O.G.S. spend a day supervising at arrival, dismissal, recess, and lunch, helping in their child's classroom, eating with their child at breakfast and lunch, and patrolling the campus! The program is supported by our school PTA who made the launch event possible! We had a full capacity crowd of dads, grandfathers, stepdads, and father figures with their children come to eat pizza and spend quality time together! Since the launch event, we've already had Watch D.O.G.S. on campus and are excited to continue to grow the program!



Julie B. Makapugay
Principal

Nuestros Watch D.O.G.S.

¡La Escuela Primaria Callie Kirkpatrick aprecia a todas nuestras familias y se asocia con ellas para brindar un ambiente de aprendizaje seguro y de apoyo! ¡Este año lanzamos el programa Watch DOGS (Papás de Grandes Estudiantes)! ¡Este programa es un programa de participación de padres que tiene como objetivo lograr que modelos masculinos a seguir en el campus se ofrezcan como voluntarios por un día en nuestra escuela! ¡Watch DOGS ayuda a reducir el acoso y crea un campus más seguro! ¡Watch DOGS pasa un día supervisando la llegada, la salida, el recreo y el almuerzo, ayudando en el salón de clases de sus hijos, comiendo con sus hijos durante el desayuno y el almuerzo y patrullando el campus! ¡El programa cuenta con el apoyo de la PTA de nuestra escuela, quien hizo posible el evento de lanzamiento! ¡Tuvimos una multitud llena de papás, abuelos, padrastros y figuras paternas con sus hijos que vinieron a comer pizza y pasar tiempo de calidad juntos! Desde el evento de lanzamiento, ya hemos tenido Watch DOGS en el campus y estamos entusiasmados de seguir haciendo crecer el programa.



A Team Effort

Our school is committed to pursuing academic excellence for all. This is evident through our diverse initiatives that prioritize student success. Our cornerstone practice involves daily personalized instruction and subsequent intervention and enrichment tailored to each student's needs, guided by meticulous analysis of student assessment data. Furthermore, educators leverage Professional Learning Community (PLC) time to analyze student work and collaboratively craft lessons, and refine instructional strategies to optimize student learning outcomes. The efforts of our attendance team ensure consistent student presence, which is foundational for academic progress. Our success isn't only due to these efforts; it's nurtured by our inclusive and supportive environment. Every teacher, staff member, and student contributes to fostering a culture where everyone feels valued and supported. This holistic approach not only aligns with the district's pursuit of academic excellence but also ensures that every individual thrives academically and emotionally.



Jonathan Mitchem
Principal

Un Esfuerzo de Equipo

Nuestra escuela está comprometida a buscar la excelencia académica para todos. Esto es evidente a través de nuestras diversas iniciativas que priorizan el éxito de los estudiantes. Nuestra práctica fundamental implica instrucción personalizada diaria y posterior intervención y enriquecimiento adaptado a las necesidades de cada estudiante, guiado por un análisis meticuloso de los datos de evaluación de los estudiantes. Además, los educadores aprovechan el tiempo de la Comunidad de Aprendizaje Profesional (PLC) para analizar el trabajo de los estudiantes y elaborar lecciones de manera colaborativa, y refinar las estrategias de instrucción para optimizar los resultados del aprendizaje de los estudiantes. Los esfuerzos de nuestro equipo de asistencia garantizan la presencia constante de los estudiantes, lo cual es fundamental para el progreso académico. Nuestro éxito no se debe sólo a estos esfuerzos; se nutre de nuestro entorno inclusivo y solidario. Cada maestro, miembro del personal y estudiante contribuye a fomentar una cultura donde todos se sienten valorados y apoyados. Este enfoque holístico no sólo se alinea con la búsqueda de excelencia académica del distrito sino que también garantiza que cada individuo prospere académica y emocionalmente.



Evans Ranch *Elementary*

30465 Evans Rd., Menifee, CA 92584 • 951/246-7690 • www.menifeeusd.org/ere

Thriving Community Hub

Evans Ranch Elementary is an exemplary school committed to fostering a culturally responsive environment where kindness and community service thrive. At the heart of our mission is a dedication to academic excellence, ensuring that every student receives a high-quality education. We continuously strive to enhance our school's climate, culture, and performance, promoting an atmosphere that is inclusive and supportive. Connections are paramount at Evans Ranch Elementary, and we unite as a community through engaging events like our Friday Rancher Roundup, PTO evening events, and various initiatives. These gatherings not only strengthen bonds among students, parents, and staff but also contribute to the overall positive atmosphere on our campus. Our students are known as the “kindest kids ever”, embodying the values instilled in them at home and at school. Evans Ranch Elementary is not just a school; it's a vibrant community where learning, compassion, and unity flourish.



Phil Suttner
Principal

Centro Comunitario Próspero

La escuela primaria Evans Ranch es una escuela ejemplar comprometida a fomentar un entorno culturalmente receptivo donde prosperan la amabilidad y el servicio comunitario. En el corazón de nuestra misión está la dedicación a la excelencia académica, asegurando que cada estudiante reciba una educación de alta calidad. Nos esforzamos continuamente por mejorar el clima, la cultura y el desempeño de nuestra escuela, promoviendo una atmósfera inclusiva y de apoyo. Las conexiones son primordiales en la Escuela Primaria Evans Ranch y nos unimos como comunidad a través de eventos atractivos como nuestro Friday Rancher Roundup, eventos nocturnos del PTO y varias iniciativas. Estas reuniones no sólo fortalecen los vínculos entre los estudiantes, los padres y el personal, sino que también contribuyen a la atmósfera positiva general en nuestro campus. Nuestros estudiantes son conocidos como los “niños más amables de todos los tiempos”, y encarnan los valores que se les inculcan en el hogar y en la escuela. La Primaria Evans Ranch no es sólo una escuela; es una comunidad vibrante donde florecen el aprendizaje, la compasión y la unidad.



Freedom Crest *Elementary*

29282 Menifee Rd., Menifee, CA 92584 • 951/679-5285 • www.menifeeusd.org/fce

Improvement through Teamwork

I am thrilled to share our commitment to continuous improvement in student achievement through the implementation of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). At Freedom Crest, we believe in fostering a collaborative environment among our dedicated educators to enhance the learning experience for our students. Our PLCs play a crucial role in this endeavor by focusing on selecting essential content standards that form the backbone of our curriculum. Through regular meetings, our teachers collaboratively analyze student data, share best practices, and develop targeted strategies to address individual student needs. This dynamic process allows us to respond effectively to challenges and celebrate successes, ensuring that each student receives the support they require for academic growth. By embracing the principles of PLCs, Freedom Crest Elementary School is not only creating a culture of collaboration but also fostering a commitment to continuous improvement, ultimately enriching the educational experience for every student in our care.



Eli Orr
Principal

Mejora a Través del Trabajo en Equipo

Estoy encantado de compartir nuestro compromiso con la mejora continua en el rendimiento estudiantil a través de la implementación de Comunidades de Aprendizaje Profesional (PLC). En Freedom Crest, creemos en fomentar un entorno de colaboración entre nuestros dedicados educadores para mejorar la experiencia de aprendizaje de nuestros estudiantes. Nuestros PLC desempeñan un papel crucial en este esfuerzo al centrarse en seleccionar estándares de contenido esenciales que forman la columna vertebral de nuestro plan de estudios. A través de reuniones periódicas, nuestros maestros analizan en colaboración los datos de los estudiantes, comparten las mejores prácticas y desarrollan estrategias específicas para abordar las necesidades individuales de los estudiantes. Este proceso dinámico nos permite responder eficazmente a los desafíos y celebrar los éxitos, asegurando que cada estudiante reciba el apoyo que necesita para su crecimiento académico. Al adoptar los principios de las PLC, la Escuela Primaria Freedom Crest no solo crea una cultura de colaboración, sino que también fomenta un compromiso con la mejora continua y, en última instancia, enriquece la experiencia educativa de cada estudiante a nuestro cargo.



Strategic Academic Improvement

At Herk Bouris Elementary School, our commitment to academic excellence is evident through our proactive approach to continuous improvement. We prioritize student achievement by implementing a structured system that allocates release time for educators throughout the school year. During these protected meetings, teachers diligently analyze a spectrum of informal and formal assessment data. This deep dive into student performance metrics allows them to discern patterns, strengths, and areas for growth across diverse learning styles. Subsequently, these dedicated sessions enable the faculty to collaboratively devise a comprehensive strategic plan tailored to meet the academic needs of each student. By aligning these initiatives with grade-level standards, the school ensures a comprehensive method to fostering progress. Herk Bouris Elementary School's holistic approach, emphasizing data-driven decision-making and strategic planning, manifests in a dynamic educational environment that consistently propels students towards academic success.



Stephanie Acosta
Principal

Mejora Académica Estratégica

En la Escuela Primaria Herk Bouris, nuestro compromiso con la excelencia académica es evidente a través de nuestro enfoque proactivo hacia la mejora continua. Priorizamos el rendimiento estudiantil mediante la implementación de un sistema estructurado que asigna tiempo libre para los educadores durante todo el año escolar. Durante estas reuniones protegidas, los maestros analizan diligentemente un espectro de datos de evaluación formales e informales. Esta inmersión profunda en las métricas de desempeño de los estudiantes les permite discernir patrones, fortalezas y áreas de crecimiento en diversos estilos de aprendizaje. Posteriormente, estas sesiones dedicadas permiten a los profesores diseñar en colaboración un plan estratégico integral diseñado para satisfacer las necesidades académicas de cada estudiante. Al alinear estas iniciativas con los estándares de nivel de grado, la escuela garantiza un método integral para fomentar el progreso. El enfoque holístico de la Escuela Primaria Herk Bouris, que enfatiza la toma de decisiones basada en datos y la planificación estratégica, se manifiesta en un entorno educativo dinámico que impulsa constantemente a los estudiantes hacia el éxito académico.



Oak Meadows *Elementary*

28600 Poinsettia St., Murrieta, CA 92563 • 951/246-4210 • www.menifeeusd.org/ome

Interact Club

Oak Meadows Interact club, led by Mrs. Cassaday and sponsored by the Rotary Club of Menifee since 2018, demonstrates a commitment to community service that addresses local and international needs. Locally, students documented areas of concern on a field trip to Alderwood Park, in Murrieta, to raise awareness and a sense of responsibility towards community spaces. Students began collecting donations through recycling bins at school to inspire the community to help others. The club's international project, in partnership with Hope Ndot Africa, focused on building sanitary restrooms and cement flooring for students at Grace Primary School in Uganda. This reflects a dedication to improving the educational and living conditions of students in less privileged areas. Through the collaboration of students and families, the Interact club aligns with the district's values. The activities not only contribute to local improvement, but also promote an international perspective and a sense of responsibility to its members.



Jill Hollon
Principal

Club Interactivo

El club Oak Meadows Interact, dirigido por la Sra. Cassaday y patrocinado por el Club Rotario de Menifee desde 2018, demuestra un compromiso con el servicio comunitario que aborda las necesidades locales e internacionales. A nivel local, los estudiantes documentaron áreas de preocupación en una excursión al Parque Alderwood, en Murrieta, para generar conciencia y sentido de responsabilidad hacia los espacios comunitarios. Los estudiantes comenzaron a recolectar donaciones a través de contenedores de reciclaje en la escuela para inspirar a la comunidad a ayudar a otros. El proyecto internacional del club, en asociación con Hope Ndot Africa, se centró en la construcción de baños sanitarios y pisos de cemento para los estudiantes de la escuela primaria Grace en Uganda. Esto refleja una dedicación a mejorar las condiciones educativas y de vida de los estudiantes en áreas menos privilegiadas. A través de la colaboración de estudiantes y familias, el club Interact se alinea con los valores del distrito. Las actividades no sólo contribuyen al mejoramiento local, sino que también promueven una perspectiva internacional y un sentido de responsabilidad hacia sus miembros.



Pursuing Academic Excellence

Our teachers have been immersed in enhancing the mathematics curriculum to ensure it aligns with standards and best practices to deliver high-quality mathematics instruction. In addition, our teachers have spent time incorporating real-world applications and problem-solving activities to make the learning experience more engaging and practical for the students. To cater to the diverse learning styles and abilities of students in mathematics instruction, teachers apply visuals, manipulatives, or hands-on activities for visual and kinesthetic learners. For auditory learners, teachers provide opportunities for discussions, explanations, and verbal problem-solving. Lastly, teachers have been encouraging collaboration and peer learning experiences in mathematics instruction with activities that involve group problem-solving activities, peer tutoring, or cooperative learning tasks. These collaborative learning tasks allow students to learn from each other, share ideas, and develop their mathematical thinking skills. We understand the importance of creating a supportive and inclusive classroom environment where students feel valued and empowered.

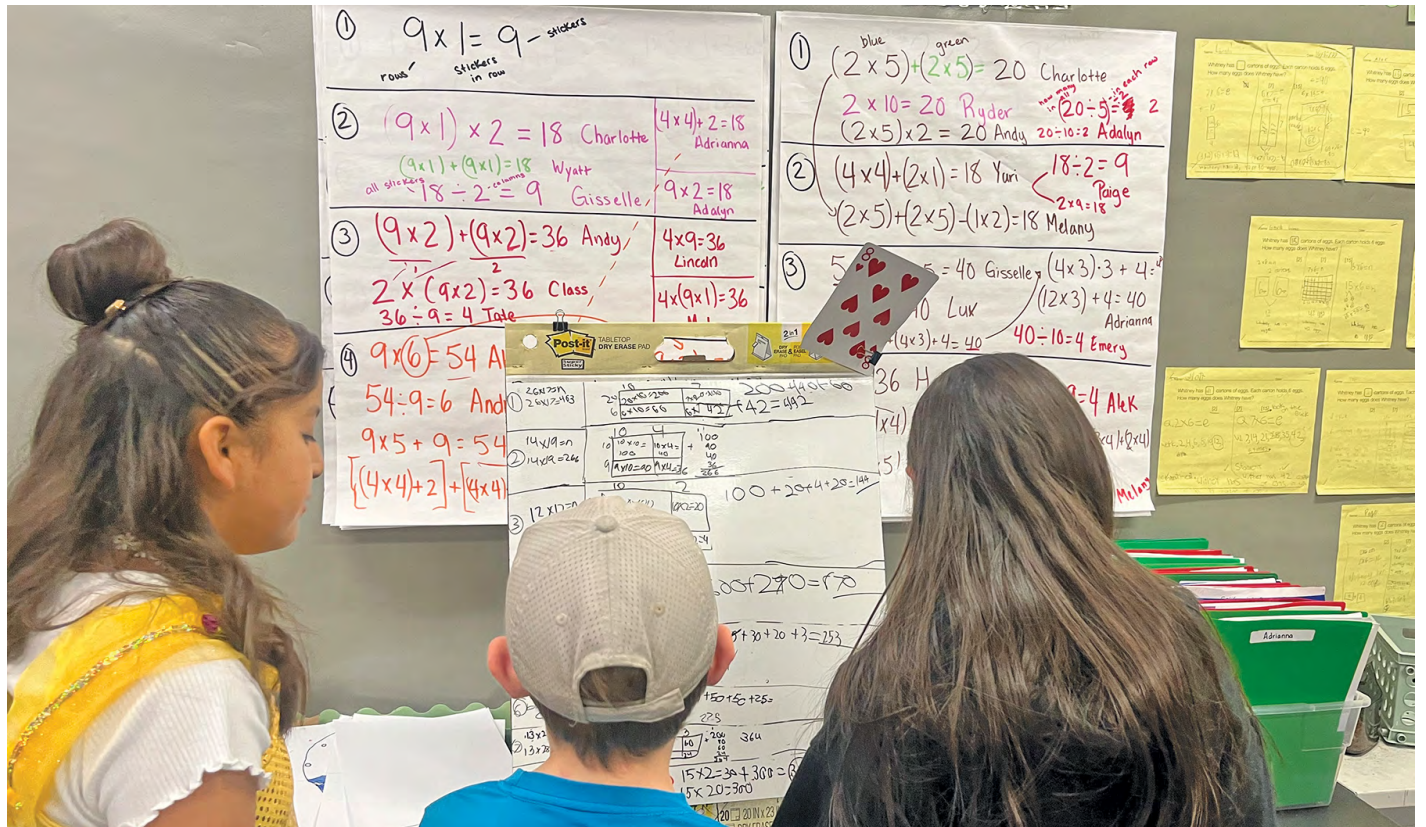


Lily Peña
Principal

Buscando la Excelencia Académica

Nuestros maestros han estado inmersos en mejorar el plan de estudios de matemáticas para garantizar que se alinee con los estándares y las mejores prácticas para brindar instrucción de matemáticas de alta calidad. Además, nuestros profesores han dedicado tiempo a incorporar aplicaciones del mundo real y actividades de resolución de problemas para hacer que la experiencia de aprendizaje sea más atractiva y práctica para los estudiantes. Para atender

los diversos estilos de aprendizaje y habilidades de los estudiantes en la enseñanza de matemáticas, los maestros aplican elementos visuales, manipulativos o actividades prácticas para estudiantes visuales y cinestésicos. Para los estudiantes auditivos, los maestros brindan oportunidades para discusiones, explicaciones y resolución de problemas verbales. Por último, los profesores han estado fomentando la colaboración y las experiencias de aprendizaje entre pares en la enseñanza de matemáticas con actividades que involucran actividades de resolución de problemas en grupo, tutoría entre pares o tareas de aprendizaje cooperativo. Estas tareas de aprendizaje colaborativo permiten a los estudiantes aprender unos de otros, compartir ideas y desarrollar sus habilidades de pensamiento matemático. Entendemos la importancia de crear un ambiente de aula inclusivo y de apoyo donde los estudiantes se sientan valorados y empoderados.



Ridgemoor *Elementary*

25455 Ridgemoor Rd., Menifee, CA 92586 • 951/672-6450 • www.menifeeusd.org/res

Student and Family Engagement

We strive to continuously engage our students and families to promote a sense of belonging with the whole family. We believe in instilling the love of learning within the entire family because we believe our students' futures are limitless when we partner with our families. We promote an inclusive school community which includes welcoming families to fun activities during the day and at night. Our family engagement activities range from fun night events, to inviting dads to participate in our Watch Dog's program during the day. This year we've had current and former students perform Hispanic themed dances, plays, and musical performances. We celebrate our Veterans by inviting them to a Veterans Day breakfast and patriotic performances throughout the year. We also provide fun activities for the entire family holding bingo nights, paint nights, and dance parties. We ensure our Roadrunners are successful by including all in our Ridgemoor Family.



Michael Walsh
Principal

Participación Estudiantil y Familiar

Nos esforzamos por involucrar continuamente a nuestros estudiantes y familias para promover un sentido de pertenencia con toda la familia. Creemos en inculcar el amor por el aprendizaje en toda la familia porque creemos que el futuro de nuestros estudiantes es ilimitado cuando nos asociamos con nuestras familias. Promovemos una comunidad escolar inclusiva que incluye dar la bienvenida a las familias a actividades divertidas durante el día y la noche. Nuestras actividades de participación familiar van desde divertidos eventos nocturnos hasta invitar a los papás a participar en nuestro programa Watch Dog durante el día. Este año, hemos tenido estudiantes actuales y anteriores que presentaron bailes, obras de teatro y presentaciones musicales de temática hispana. Celebramos a nuestros veteranos invitándolos a un desayuno del Día de los Veteranos y a actuaciones patrióticas durante todo el año. También ofrecemos actividades divertidas para toda la familia con noches de bingo, noches de pintura y fiestas de baile. Nos aseguramos de que nuestros Roadrunners tengan éxito al incluir a todos en nuestra familia Ridgemoor.



Southshore *Elementary*

30975 Southshore Dr., Menifee, CA 92584 • 951/672-0013 • www.menifeeusd.org/sse

The D.O.G.S. Return!

Once upon a time, pre-COVID, The Shore hosted Watch D.O.G.S. as a part of our volunteer safety and student connectivity partnership. This year, our site has revitalized the program again and we are ecstatic to host more than a dozen Dudes of Great Students return to campus since October. These awesome men come to support our S.A.I.L.S. by patrolling our school, helping with traffic flow, connecting with students, and volunteering in classrooms. Our D.O.G.S. have already built relationships with many of our students because of the time they spend outside during recess and lunch recess. This gives them opportunities to engage in games and sports with the children and allows them to coach and guide them to safe game playing. By the end of their shifts, many of our D.O.G.S. are exhausted, however, the fulfillment they experience is so well worth their time, they are coming back for additional days.



Bridget Heeren
Principal

¡Los D.O.G.S. Regresan!

Érase una vez, antes de COVID, The Shore organizó Watch DOGS como parte de nuestra asociación de seguridad voluntaria y conectividad estudiantil. Este año, nuestro sitio ha revitalizado el programa nuevamente y estamos encantados de recibir a más de una docena de Dudes of Great Students que regresan al campus desde octubre. Estos increíbles hombres vienen a apoyar a nuestros SAILS patrullando nuestra escuela, ayudando con el flujo del tráfico, conectándose con los estudiantes y siendo voluntarios en las aulas. Nuestros PERROS ya han establecido relaciones con muchos de nuestros estudiantes debido al tiempo que pasan afuera durante el recreo y el recreo del almuerzo. Esto les brinda oportunidades para participar en juegos y deportes con los niños y les permite entrenarlos y guiarlos para que jueguen de manera segura. Al final de sus turnos, muchos de nuestros PERROS están agotados; sin embargo, la satisfacción que experimentan vale tanto la pena que regresan por días adicionales.



Mathematics Lesson Study

Our teachers are actively seeking ways to enhance their teaching methods. They leverage research and our newly adopted math framework to develop a teaching rubric for word problems. During the first day of the lesson study, they dedicate time to crafting the rubric and designing a math lesson. Subsequently, they deliver the lesson in the morning, make revisions based on the feedback received, and then present the revised lesson to a different class in the afternoon. This process elicits positive engagement and feedback from students and fosters real-time collaboration among teachers. Witnessing diverse math strategies in various classrooms is a powerful experience. The created rubric serves as a daily guide for best practices in math instruction. Teachers are enthusiastic about experimenting with new strategies, and this collaborative approach allows for continuous improvement in their teaching methodologies.



Daphne Donoho
Principal

Estudio de Lección de Matemáticas

Nuestros profesores buscan activamente formas de mejorar sus métodos de enseñanza. Aprovechan la investigación y nuestro marco matemático recientemente adoptado para desarrollar una rúbrica de enseñanza para problemas planteados. Durante el primer día de estudio de la lección, dedican tiempo a elaborar la rúbrica y diseñar una lección de matemáticas. Posteriormente, imparten la lección por la mañana, hacen revisiones basadas en los comentarios recibidos y luego presentan la lección revisada a una clase diferente por la tarde. Este proceso genera participación y retroalimentación positiva de los estudiantes y fomenta la colaboración en tiempo real entre los maestros. Ser testigo de diversas estrategias matemáticas en varias aulas es una experiencia poderosa. La rúbrica creada sirve como guía diaria para las mejores prácticas en la enseñanza de matemáticas. Los profesores están entusiasmados por experimentar con nuevas estrategias y este enfoque colaborativo permite la mejora continua de sus metodologías de enseñanza.



Harvest Hill STEAM Academy

31600 Pat Rd., Winchester, CA 92596 • 951/325-6000 • www.menifeeusd.org/hhsa

Engineering & Animatronics

At Harvest Hill STEAM Academy, students are not just learners; they are innovators engaged in collaborative, problem-solving experiences within our cutting-edge engineering and animatronics labs. Recently, to foster creativity, students designed and constructed cardboard carnival games that bring joy to fellow students, staff, and the broader community. Introducing Sparky as the lead elf in our Toy Shop adds a touch of magic, where students actively participate in testing new toy innovations, further igniting their passion for discovery. Harvest Hill's commitment to academic excellence is evident in our emphasis on hands-on, inquiry-based projects. These projects provide students with the opportunity to apply theoretical knowledge in practical settings, nurturing a holistic approach to education. Through such initiatives, Harvest Hill STEAM Academy aims to cultivate a generation of critical thinkers and innovative problem-solvers.



Dr. Darlene Painter
Principal

Ingeniería y Animatrónica

En Harvest Hill STEAM Academy, los estudiantes no son sólo aprendices; son innovadores que participan en experiencias colaborativas y de resolución de problemas dentro de nuestros laboratorios de ingeniería y animatrónica de vanguardia. Recientemente, para fomentar la creatividad, los estudiantes diseñaron y construyeron juegos de carnaval de cartón que alegran a sus compañeros, al personal y a la comunidad en general. Presentar a Sparky como el elfo líder en nuestra juguetería agrega un toque de magia, donde los estudiantes participan activamente en la prueba de nuevas innovaciones en juguetes, lo que enciende aún más su pasión por el descubrimiento. El compromiso de Harvest Hill con la excelencia académica es evidente en nuestro énfasis en proyectos prácticos basados en la investigación. Estos proyectos brindan a los estudiantes la oportunidad de aplicar conocimientos teóricos en entornos prácticos, fomentando un enfoque holístico de la educación. A través de tales iniciativas, Harvest Hill STEAM Academy tiene como objetivo cultivar una generación de pensadores críticos y solucionadores de problemas innovadores.



MUSD Virtual School

27625 Sherman Rd. Menifee CA 92585 • 951/679-8356 • www.menifeeusd.org

Enhancing Virtual Connections

Menifee Virtual School (MVS) stands determined in its commitment to enhance the social and emotional well-being of its online learners. Recognizing the importance of fostering connections beyond virtual interactions, MVS orchestrates monthly in-person gatherings for students to participate in dynamic Makerspace events. These engaging and exciting activities not only provide hands-on learning experiences that extend academic knowledge but also serve as a platform for students to meet their peers face-to-face. By encouraging these personal encounters, MVS aims to bridge the gap between the digital and physical realms, fostering a sense of community among students who usually connect solely through screens. These events play a pivotal role in nurturing social bonds and emotional resilience, contributing to an overall positive learning environment. MVS believes that prioritizing social and emotional well-being ultimately paves the way for continuous improvement in the virtual classroom, creating a more enriching and fulfilling educational experience for every student.



Steve Melvin
Principal

Mejora de las Conexiones Virtuales

Menifee Virtual School (MVS) se mantiene inquebrantable en su compromiso de mejorar el bienestar social y emocional de sus estudiantes en línea. Al reconocer la importancia de fomentar conexiones más allá de las interacciones virtuales, MVS organiza reuniones mensuales en persona para que los estudiantes participen en eventos dinámicos de Makerspace. Estas actividades interesantes y emocionantes no solo brindan experiencias de aprendizaje prácticas que amplían el conocimiento académico, sino que también sirven como una plataforma para que los estudiantes se encuentren con sus compañeros cara a cara. Al fomentar estos encuentros personales, MVS pretende cerrar la brecha entre los ámbitos digital y físico, fomentando un sentido de comunidad entre los estudiantes que normalmente se conectan únicamente a través de pantallas. Estos eventos desempeñan un papel fundamental en el fomento de los vínculos sociales y la resiliencia emocional, contribuyendo a un entorno de aprendizaje positivo en general. MVS cree que priorizar el bienestar social y emocional allana el camino para una mejora continua en el aula virtual, creando una experiencia educativa más enriquecedora y satisfactoria para cada estudiante.



Bell Mountain *Middle School*

28525 La Piedra Rd., Menifee, CA 92584 • 951/301-8496 • www.menifeeusd.org/bmms

Everyone Is Welcome

Bell Mountain Middle School proudly fosters a vibrant community by actively involving parents in shaping their children's educational journey. We not only teach our students to grow academically but to grow to be good citizens. Our Parent-Teacher-Student Association (PTSA) warmly welcomes parents, encouraging their engagement to amplify student and family voices. Through events like honoring Veterans and active duty military families, career days, a mentor program, and events hosted by our DAAPAC (District African American Parent Advisory Council), we maintain a positive culture that prioritizes holistic development of all students. Parents are integral in chaperoning field trips and supporting various school activities, creating a collaborative environment that empowers our students. At Bell Mountain Middle School, we celebrate the strength of our community, recognizing that together, we nurture the potential of every student. We are grateful for a community that provides a supportive and enriching educational experience!



Dr. Patrice Harris
Principal

Todos son Bienvenidos

Bell Mountain Middle School se enorgullece de fomentar una comunidad vibrante al involucrar activamente a los padres en la configuración del viaje educativo de sus hijos. No sólo enseñamos a nuestros estudiantes a crecer académicamente sino también a ser buenos ciudadanos. Nuestra Asociación de Padres, Maestros y Estudiantes (PTSA) da una calurosa bienvenida a los padres y los alienta a participar para amplificar las voces de los estudiantes y las familias. A través de eventos como honrar a los veteranos y a las familias de militares en servicio activo, días de carrera, un programa de mentores y eventos organizados por nuestro DAAPAC (Consejo Asesor de Padres Afroamericanos del Distrito), mantenemos una cultura positiva que prioriza el desarrollo integral de todos los estudiantes. Los padres son parte integral del acompañamiento excursiones y apoyando diversas actividades escolares, creando un ambiente de colaboración que empodera a nuestros estudiantes. En Bell Mountain Middle School, celebramos la fortaleza de nuestra comunidad, reconociendo que juntos, nutrimos el potencial de cada estudiante. Estamos agradecidos por una comunidad que proporciona una experiencia educativa enriquecedora y de apoyo!



Hans Christensen *Middle School*

27625 Sherman Rd., Menifee, CA 92585 • 951/679-8356 • www.menifeeUSD.org/hcms

Unite Through Respect

HCMS looks for continual ways to unite all students through positive campus climate and culture. At our school, there is a consistent message of respecting others, self and environment. Through multi-tiered supports, positive reward systems and weekly social lessons, students understand and thrive in an environment in which respect is most important. HCMS encourages support and care for one another. At our school, we focus on creating a safe and welcoming environment in which all students are engaged in support of one another. All spirit days, campus rewards and acknowledgements revolve around the concept of respect. It is our belief that a safe and engaging campus creates connectedness, a strong desire to learn and a place that everyone wants to be. Our Positive campus climate ensures that all students are present, safe and proud to be a Knight!



Steve Melvin
Principal

Unirnos a Través del Respeto

HCMS busca formas continuas de unir a todos los estudiantes a través de un clima y una cultura positivos en el campus. En nuestra escuela, hay un mensaje constante de respeto a los demás, a uno mismo y al medio ambiente. A través de apoyos de varios niveles, sistemas de recompensas positivas y lecciones sociales semanales, los estudiantes comprenden y prosperan en un entorno en el que el respeto es lo más importante. HCMS fomenta el apoyo y el cuidado mutuo. En nuestra escuela, nos enfocamos en crear un ambiente seguro y acogedor en el que todos los estudiantes participen apoyándose unos a otros. Todos los días de espíritu, las recompensas y los reconocimientos del campus giran en torno al concepto de respeto. Creemos que un campus seguro y atractivo crea conexión, un fuerte deseo de aprender y un lugar en el que todos quieren estar. ¡Nuestro clima positivo en el campus garantiza que todos los estudiantes estén presentes, seguros y orgullosos de ser Caballeros!



Creativity and Culture

Menifee Valley Middle School aligns the importance of being culturally responsive to our community with our District's goal. We celebrate diversity through curriculum and instruction that amplifies the stories of our diverse student body. Through our Wellness Center, the mental health team hosts small groups to improve our students' sense of belonging. Lunch Bunch Clubs offer students a safe space to engage in activities that boost their confidence and self-esteem. Most recently students created Native American ornaments and learned more about the culture of Indigenous Peoples.

Additionally, our staff is committed to creating an inspiring learning environment through Makerspace activities that are designed by our library technician Mrs. Ebert. She makes it a point to provide a creative outlet for students that compliments our cultural focus for the month. Students express themselves artistically and learn to appreciate and value students of other cultures here on our school site.



Arronda Douglas
Principal

Creatividad y Cultura

La Escuela Intermedia Menifee Valley alinea la importancia de ser culturalmente receptivo a nuestra comunidad con la meta de nuestro Distrito. Celebramos la diversidad a través del plan de estudios y la instrucción que amplifica las historias de nuestro diverso alumnado. A través de nuestro Centro de Bienestar, el equipo de salud mental organiza grupos pequeños para mejorar el sentido de pertenencia de nuestros estudiantes. Los Lunch Bunch Clubs ofrecen a los estudiantes un espacio seguro para participar en actividades que aumentan su confianza y autoestima. Más recientemente, los estudiantes crearon adornos de nativos americanos y aprendieron más sobre la cultura de los pueblos indígenas.

Además, nuestro personal está comprometido a crear un ambiente de aprendizaje inspirador a través de actividades de Makerspace diseñadas por nuestra técnica de biblioteca, la Sra. Ebert. Ella se esfuerza por brindar una salida creativa para los estudiantes que complementen nuestro enfoque cultural para el mes. Los estudiantes se expresan artísticamente y aprenden a apreciar y valorar a los estudiantes de otras culturas aquí en nuestro sitio escolar.



Kathryn Newport *Middle School*

29792 Audie Murphy Rd., Menifee, CA 92584 • 951/672-1851 • www.menifeeusd.org/knms

Goal-Oriented Academic Success

Kathryn Newport Middle School is dedicated to achieving the Menifee Union School District's goals with the robust High School Readiness Program. The school focuses on academic excellence through goal-setting in grades, Lexile (reading) and Quantile (math) levels, behavior, attendance, and extracurriculars, allowing students to earn gold, silver, or bronze status.

This program recognizes both high achievers and those making progress despite initial challenges. At the end of each semester, students meeting their goals are acknowledged, motivating them further. Beyond high school readiness, the initiative ensures students are ready for college and careers, fostering a sense of responsibility and ambition. Kathryn Newport Middle School aligns well with the district's goals for pursuing academic excellence while continuously improving, preparing students for limitless futures.



Nick Stearns
Principal

Éxito Académico Orientado a Objetivos

La Escuela Intermedia Kathryn Newport está dedicada a lograr las metas del Distrito Escolar Unido de Menifee con el sólido Programa de Preparación para la Escuela Secundaria. La escuela se enfoca en la excelencia académica a través del establecimiento de metas en grados, niveles Lexile (lectura) y Quantile (matemáticas), comportamiento, asistencia y actividades extracurriculares, lo que permite a los estudiantes obtener estatus de oro, plata o bronce.

Este programa reconoce tanto a los grandes triunfadores como a aquellos que progresan a pesar de los desafíos iniciales. Al final de cada semestre, se reconoce a los estudiantes que cumplieron sus objetivos, lo que los motiva aún más. Más allá de la preparación para la escuela secundaria, la iniciativa garantiza que los estudiantes estén preparados para la universidad y sus carreras, fomentando un sentido de responsabilidad y ambición. La Escuela Intermedia Kathryn Newport se alinea bien con las metas del distrito de buscar la excelencia académica mientras mejora continuamente y prepara a los estudiantes para un futuro ilimitado.





Kate Karp

Magic Beans

“Once upon a time, there were magic beans thrown away onto the dusty ground” begins the poem in Magic Beans’ liner notes. That’s the spirit of this collection by songwriter/musician Eric Herman and his spunky backup band, the Puppy Dogs, aka Dave Pettey and Ben Macy.

The songs are a riotous take on being a young person or the parent of one, especially an opinionated, annoying, know-it-all and downright likeable youngster with a fertile imagination and a knack for getting into trouble. He puts “Google Eyes” on everything from European landmarks to dad’s laptop—“I mean, it said Google, right?” Did you unfailingly trust your older sibling no matter how much trouble it got you into? “My Brother” will hit a chord. “Stinker,” which this child certainly is, tosses out contradictory statements about behavior: he won’t be afraid of the dark if you put on the light, he’ll be patient if he doesn’t have to wait.



The songs aren’t all about shenanigans. “Merry-Go-Round” is a metaphor for life and the planet, both of which go round and round and up and down. “Remember” tells how the same child helps his beloved grandma go through dementia. “Go” tells where your imagination can take you if you’re in a bad mood or a rut, which is the point of the collection.

The melodies are catchy and as imaginative as are the lyrics, which you can find, along with videos and other goodies, [right here](#).

Remember, there’s no ground too dusty for planting and growing our Magic Beans!

Sing & Soar with Nanny Nikki

“Nanny Nikki” Rung, her ukulele and her two Dapper Dudes have cued up a musical outing for us! We’re going to dance at the playground, rock to the beat, and learn some valuable lessons while we’re having the best time ever!



“Sing & Soar” is a dream of a collection of songs. Some will choke you up. Some will make you move. Each of them will leave you with a trail of earworms, and you won’t mind a bit.

The infectious ska rhythm on the opener, “The Beat,” introduces a celebration of street musicians who pound buckets and pails on the streets of Nikki’s native Chicago and who sometimes get run off by the police! “Yuk Your Yum” talks about not raining on someone’s parade. “Almost Made It” begins with being too late to get to the bathroom, but that’s just the attention-getter—it’s really about supporting your friends and yourself in never giving up on anything. “Playground Day” welcomes all children to play, no matter what they look like, where they come from, or how dirty they get.

The collection closes on a soft, thoughtful note with “I Can’t Hear the Moon.” Of course, you can’t. You can’t hear a smile, a touch or love, either, but you know they’re there.

Children deserve a nanny like Nanny Nikki, and so did we when we were little. We can all have one now!

The Story Pirates

When you were little, did you write songs and stories with dreams of publication?

Too bad the Story Pirates weren’t around then. These artists and educators take silly stories that children make up and turn them into even sillier songs and videos. Piracy? Nah—they make a child’s dream real!



The Strawberry Band is the most recent of the Pirates’ compilations. The title song, based on a story written by a 5-year-old, introduces the band and teaches young listeners what a concept album is: a group of songs connected by a theme, “some more so than others;” but you’d be correct in saying that the whole idea is spending your childhood in the best possible way.

“Weird Sisters” celebrates being different yet fabulous enough for others to emulate and to brush off bullies. “Glowy and the Friend Adventure” tells of a whale, lonely in his sea mansion, who finds a friend who’s just right. “Fun Crazy Weird Hair Store” has a cautionary subtext: check the prices before pulling out your credit card and paying five thousand million dollars.

The music is wonderful and no mere afterthought. “Glowy,” enhanced by Marile Bildsten’s trombone, will be an earworm forever; the haunting melody of “Blue Night” would be perfect for a jazz concert.

Read the [original stories here](#). Ah, the innocent silliness of youth! If we only could have boarded that pirate ship back then . . .

Kate Karp is an editor for *School News Roll Call* and a freelance writer and editor.

Aubtin's Review



Aubtin M.

The Power of Magic

The Magic Tree House book series by Mary Pope Osborne is a #1 New York Times bestselling series about a brother and sister named Jack and Annie. The two go inside a Magic Tree House that takes them through time to finish a mission.

In the *Magic Tree House – Merlin Missions #22 Hurry Up, Houdini!* they will travel back in time to

1906 to the Coney Island boardwalk in New York. They must find one of the greatest magicians of all time, Harry Houdini. While they are there, they put on a magic show to replace two absent magicians. They also use some magic to help them find Houdini. Will they find him? If they do, what secrets will they learn from him? I recommend you read this book to find out.

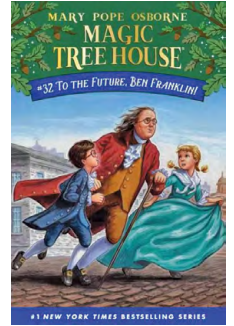


As much as this book is funny, it is also very educational. I hope that you will also learn about Houdini in this book and like it.

Back to The Future

Magic Tree House #32 To The Future. Ben Franklin!

In this book, they will travel back in time to 1787 to help Benjamin Franklin sign the United States Constitution. They find a way to get close to him, which is delivering his lunch. They want to know about Ben Franklin, but he has a different idea. He wants to learn all about them! They take him to the present day, but Ben gets scared by the machines. Can Jack and Annie get him to sign the Constitution? I recommend you read this book to find out.



This book is also educational and historical. I hope that you will like it and learn about Ben Franklin who was a scientist, inventor, businessman, diplomat and more.

Aubtin is a 2nd Grader. When not playing, Aubtin does writing, reading, and drawing. He also likes sports, swimming, trains, cars and computers. He cares a lot about his family and friends.

Good Dental Health 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: SchoolNewsKay@gmail.com
 (Please put Menifee in the subject line)
 Entries must be received by **March 15, 2024.**
 From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift card to Barnes & Noble.

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Breads | Eggs | Milk |
| Brushing | Examination | Nutrition |
| Cereals | Fish | Orthodontist |
| Checkup | Flossing | Pediatric |
| Daily | Fluoride | Sugar |
| Dairy | Fruits | Tooth |
| Dentist | Guidelines | Vegetables |
| Development | Healthy | Water |
| Diet | Meat | Whole grains |



The Yo-Yo

Some believe the yo-yo originated in China. However, the first mention of the yo-yo is in Greece around 500 B.C. It is also found in pictographs in Egyptian-temple wall art. Philippine hunters used a rock with a 20-foot string to hit their prey in trees in the 16th century. Wherever the yo-yo originated, it has become a global fascination.

The yo-yo is said to be the second-oldest toy in the world, next to the doll. It is a toy that has a calming effect on the user. The French court played with the yo-yo (*joujou de Normandie*). Marquis de Lafayette toyed with the yo-yo. Napoleon and his troops played with it before the battle of Waterloo as well, as it was a favorite of the Duke of Wellington. There is a National Yo-Yo Museum in Chico, and wooden parts can be found online.

This country saw its first patent in 1866 by an Ohio company, but the toy remained obscure until 1916 in an article in *Scientific American* titled "Filipino Toys." When Pedro Flores, an immigrant from the Philippines working at a hotel in Santa Monica as a bellhop, played with his yo-yo during his lunch break, a crowd would gather around and watch. He started making yo-yos and had two factories by 1929.

A businessman named Donald F. Duncan on a trip from Ohio to California saw the yo-yo and bought Pedro's

company in 1929. Then in 1932, Duncan was given the trade name yo-yo, forcing competitors to use other names for the toy. It was Duncan who introduced the slip-string that allowed the yo-yo to "sleep." He set out on an advertising campaign with the Hearst newspaper company that increased paper circulation and sales of yo-yos.

Then in the 1960, with television and mass advertising, the yo-yo had a resurgence in sales and interest. However, the Duncan family lost a trademark case in 1965 and sold the company. Yet between 1960 and the 1990s, the yo-yo saw many innovations with the new technology that saw another resurgence in the 1990s. On April 12, 1985, the yo-yo went to space on the Discovery Shuttle. The toy needs gravity to work—you can guess the result!

Today, the yo-yo is providing more than entertainment for young enthusiasts. It is also a way for our troops to relax and take their mind off the stress of the job they have been sent to do. In 2008, Senator John McCain asked for people to send yo-yos and stress balls to the troops. There are several organizations that send yo-yos to the troops. As we get older and can no longer do what we used to do, there is still something that we can do that will make a difference.

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

Toy Store Items—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: SchoolNewsKay@gmail.com Please put Menifee in the subject line.

Entries must be received by **March 15, 2024**

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win
a GAZUMP card/dice game - fun for all ages!

BIKE	MARBLES
DOLL	CRAYON
TRIKE	PENS
BOOK	COMPUTER
LEGOS	DOLLHOUSE
SOLDIERS	BUGGY
BALLS	KITCHEN
BUBBLES	TEA SET
CROQUET	BAT
BLOCKS	BALL GLOVE
KITES	

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