



Pinecrest School Lancaster
February 2012 Pinecone



Dear Parents,

February is a time for love and on our campus, an abundance of activities. We have a lot planned and we are looking forward to an exciting month.

Our eighth graders will be busy selling stuffed Teddy Bears, chocolates, and treats every day after school for Valentines Day. You can purchase the stuffed Teddy Bears for \$5.00-\$7.00 and we will deliver them to your child with a special note.

We would like to thank professional football player Davon House, who plays for the Green Bay Packers, for visiting our middle school students. Davon gave them a great pep talk about doing well in school, challenging yourself, and always following your dreams. He also signed autographs and took pictures with our students and staff!

100 Days of Learning will be celebrated on February 9th. Help us celebrate the 100th day of school by having your child participate in all of our fun activities. Have your child make a 100th day hat and wear it to school on the 9th and bring in 100 pennies (or more). We will use the pennies for a 100th day activity and then they will be donated to the charity Pennies for Patients to help find a cure for Leukemia.

Please remember on Feb.17th we will provide child care only as our teachers will be attending a Teacher Development Day. Students must be picked up by **3:00pm**.

International Stand Up to Bullying Day is on the 24th- We highly encourage all of our students to purchase the Stand Up shirt to wear that day. The entire school will be participating in bully awareness activities and lessons. We will also continue to give our anti-bullying workshops to our upper grades each month. Our next Mean Girls workshop for our middle school girls will be held on Thursday, February 9th from 5:00pm-9:00pm.

Parents Night Out!!! Pencil in Friday, February 10th to have a special date night and we will do the babysitting. From 6:30-10:30pm our 8th graders (and staff) will do fun projects to entertain your children while you are out having fun. The cost is \$20.00 per child and this includes dinner and dessert. You can sign your child up in the office. Please note that spaces are limited.

Each year our campus celebrates Founders Day to commemorate the birthday of our Founder Edna Mae Dye. We will have special dress-up days the week of Feb 27th-Mar 2. On March 2nd we will have a fun birthday celebration, spirit assembly, and enjoyable activities including a staff vs. 8th grade dodge ball game.

We hope all of you can join us for our annual Family Dinner. This year we are doing an All American BBQ including some Tommy's chili! Our Canaries, Mockingbirds, and Adrenaline singing groups will provide our entertainment. The BBQ will take place on Thursday, February 23rd.

Remember, we are currently enrolling for the 2012-2013 school year. We encourage you to take advantage of the early enrollment as we open it up to the public on March 1st. In addition, if you sign up prior to March 1st, you will be eligible to be entered into a drawing for some great discounts. If you have any questions, please call.

Sincerely,

Lisa Latimer

Campus Director



From the Desk of Mrs. Pedraza...

What a busy month January was! February will also be full of fun and activities! This month marks our 100th day of school. We will celebrate the 100th day by making a nut free trail mix with 100 items. Please sign up to bring in a item for our trail mix in your child's classroom.

This month we will also focus on Dental Health Awareness. On February 13th a Dental Health Professional will visit the classrooms and speak to the children about proper ways to take care of their teeth.

On February 14th we will have our Valentine's Day Festivities. Room 3 will pass out Valentine cards and enjoy strawberry shortcakes. Room's 2 and 4 will also pass out Valentine cards and enjoy red friendship smoothies. Please check your child's classroom for a sign up sheet on items to bring in.

On February 16th our pre-kindergartners and junior kindergartners will visit Kindergarten! They will sort sweetheart candies and practice graphing! These monthly activities have been exciting and educational!

Please note we will be closed on February 20th for President's Day. On February 22nd we will have our Spring Picture Day. We also hope you will be able to join us on February 23rd for our All American BBQ night at 6:30pm.

February 27th-March 2nd is Founder's Week! Here is the list of activities:

2/27-Rock Star Day

2/28-Fashion Disaster Day

2/29-Super Hero Day

3/1-Out of this World (Space Alien Day)

3/2-Fairy Tale Day

As always if you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask me and I will happily assist you!

Mrs. Monique J. Pedraza

Preschool Director



Spanish

In the month of February the **Preschool** children will count up to nineteen- diecinueve. The color of the month is purple- morado, and the shape of the month is the heart- corazon. The children will also learn some of the food in Spanish.

The **Pre Kindergarten and Junior Kindergarten** children will count up to twenty- veinte. The shape of the month is the heart- corazon and the color is purple-morado. The children will also learn some of the food in Spanish.

The **Elementary** students are working hard on their Viva el Espanol! books and the **Middle School** students are doing wonderful with their Hola!, Que Tall!, and Adelante!, books.

Have a wonderful month.

Senora. Laura Curiel

From the Health Office:

Students MAY NOT carry medication of any kind on school grounds.

Medication (including over-the-counter medications) may be administered in the **Health Office Only** with a written Parent Permission Form and OTC medication will only be given for three consecutive days without physician's note.

Prescription medication must be in the prescription container with the student's name, date, name of medication, and how often it is to be given.

Please remember to have a weather appropriate change of clothes in your child's cubby.

Pinecrest School Lancaster

Music

We are rocking in Music class and will continue to prep for the Spring program!

In preschool-first grade we will build upon the foundational music with familiar songs along with fun games. Grades 2nd-5th will continue to earn their recorder karate belts, students are continuing to respond well to this program and are motivated to do their best. Middle School will learn about different genres of music. In the month of February they will focus on music from South America.

Mr. R

Music Teacher



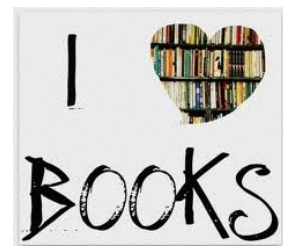
Art/ Library

In Art class the students will be finishing their winter igloo's, polar bears, snowflakes, and birch trees and will be creating some fun Valentine's Day art projects. The 5th Graders will be working on winning a free trip to Washington DC. They are participating in the Department of Justice's Missing Children's Day Poster Contest. The National winner will receive a trip to Washington DC for the Ceremony.

In Library Class the students are checking out their books for reports and research projects. They know to check the school library first before buying the book. There are several titles and genres to choose from. Please visit the library and check out the Art Gallery Wall where the students amazing art work is displayed.

Mrs. Holly Vasconez

Art/Library Teacher



Computer Lab

During the month of February 8th, 7th and 6th grade classes will be introduced to Excel. This program will teach them how to create pie charts, diagrams and scales. They will also be practicing their typing skills using various typing programs on the keyboard. The fourth and fifth grade classes are being introduced to the top and bottom row keys and touch typing while creating essays and letters. The third grade will be investing more time in vocabulary and working on grammar for their stories. The second graders are strengthening their skills in recognizing the letters on the keyboard, opening and saving documents.

All of the students from 2nd grade on up will be working in PowerPoint to create flyers to commemorate President's Day. For first grade and kindergarteners they are playing games using addition while using the number keypad, as well as letter and word search games.

Computer Club continues to be a popular place after school with students taking turns to come in and play their favorite games. Have a wonderful President's Day off and enjoy Valentine's Day!

Mr. Vasconez



Physical Education

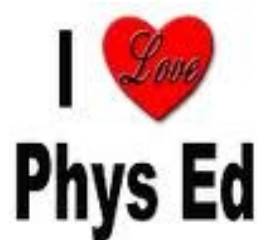
February is National Heart month we will be moving our heart to the rhythm of jump rope. Pre-school through fifth grade will learn the fundamentals of single rope and long rope skills. Along with jump rope this month we will be working on cooperative games such as 'steal the bacon' and a favorite 'football dodge ball' and 'kick basketball'. What a great way to get our hearts pumping. Our boys and girls football teams did an awesome job. The boys team made it all the way to the playoffs and the girls team won second place.

With February comes boys and girls basketball for middle school. Game schedule will be posted at a later date. Good luck to both teams.

It's a hop, skip and a jump to a fit body and a fit mind!

Coach Mike

Coach Dolores



Pre-K and Jr. K

February already! This month we will be creative while celebrating the 100th day of school on February 9th .

In **Pre-K** our letters for the month are Qq, Rr and Ss, the numbers are 17, 18, and 19. We will also count aloud to 60.

In **Jr. K** we will review Nn, Mm, and Pp and numbers 26-30. We will also count aloud to 70.

The shapes are heart and cone and the color is magenta.

The children will be learning about rooms of the house and about mail carriers that deliver letters and packages to our friends and families everyday. We will also discuss Dental Health and the importance of taking care of our teeth. On February 13th a professional from Valleywide Dental will talk to the children about dental health.

Our virtues for this month are about “Feeling Good About Me” and “Love.”

On Tuesday, February 14th, Room 2 and Room 4 will have a Valentine’s Day party! Please bring in signed Valentine cards and be sure to sign up for red friendship smoothies in the classroom.

Happy Valentine’s Day!

Miss Rose

Miss Denise

Room 2

Miss Yeni

Room 4



Preschool

The love bug is here in Room 3!

The letters we will learn this month are M, N and O, the number is 6, and we are oral counting to 10!

We will learn all about Dental Health and our friend the mail carrier. On February 13th a professional from Valleywide Dental will talk to the children about dental health.

The shape for this month is the heart.

We will also learn the colors red and pink.

Our virtues for this month are “Feeling Good About Me” and “Love.”

On Tuesday, February 14th we will have a Valentine’s Day Party. We will also exchange Valentine cards on this day. Please bring in 20 cards with your child’s name signed on the back. There will also be a sign up sheet in the classroom to have a strawberry shortcake treat.

Happy Valentine’s Day

Miss Diana

Miss Josephine

Miss Tammy

Room 3



Kindergarten

Happy Valentine's Day!

February brings many fun and exciting concepts for the children to learn.

In Math we will continue with addition and introduce subtraction.

In Science we will have a lot of fun talking about Night and Day and Weather as well as Dental Health.

In Social Studies we will celebrate Black History Month and Presidents Day.

In Phonics we will be continuing long vowels.

On Thursday, February 9th, we will be celebrating 100 days of school. The children will need to make a poster showing 100 items on it, buttons, cheerios or M&Ms are a few ideas.

Mrs. Ray

Mrs. Sahagun

Miss Jessica

Miss Liz

Room 1

Room 5



First Grade

What a wonderful year 2012 is turning out to be! We have been very busy since we came back from break and the fun is going to keep coming! Here are some things we will be doing during February!

In Math we will be learning about Place Value.

In Science in **Mrs. Lucero's** class we will be learning about Living Things. In **Mrs. Alcantar's** class we will be learning about Matter.

In Social Studies we will be learning about America.

In Grammer we will begin working with verbs.

In Spelling we will work on nd, ng, nk, s, and es endings.

We will be having our class Valentine's parties on February 14th. We are also taking a field trip to Kidspace Museum in Pasadena on February 15th.

We are excited for this fun-filled month! Please let us know if you have any questions!

Miss Alcantar and Miss Sophie

Room 6

Miss Alcantar and Miss Rachel

Room 7



Second Grade

February will be full of exciting activities! Book reports are chosen about a President this month. They will be due on 2/29/12. Empty cereal boxes are needed to construct Valentine mail boxes.

Language Arts- learning about pronouns and adjectives.

Science- we will be studying the food nutrition plate and healthy meals.

Social Studies- Government and Presidents.

Math- adding and subtracting 3-digit numbers with and without a decimal point.

Reading- "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" and "Swimmy"

Mrs. Hodges
Miss Carol
Room 8

Third Grade

February is shaping up to be a busy month with a lot of fun activities. On February 9th we will be taking a field trip to the Lancaster Performing Arts Center to see "Cuentos del Arbol", a bilingual play. We'll putting the Spanish we've learned to work! We'll take time to show our family and friends how special they are by exchanging notes/ cards on February 14th. Also, throughout the month we'll engage in activities that teach us about important events in African American history. On top of all of this, we'll be tackling our normal:

Math: We'll finish up our chapters on multiplication and division. We're busy earning our "scoops" by reciting our multiplication facts to 12.

Reading: We've begun our unit on "Community Spirit" in our Literature books and will focus our reading comprehension skills on analyzing character, plot and setting. We'll also continue to discuss cause and effect to help understand the story.

Language Arts: We are beginning our unit on action verbs, correct use of commas and begin our "informative" writing unit.

Science: We'll be studying where plants and animals live. We'll look at the relationship among living things- ecosystems, food chains and survival.

Social Studies: After studying a Native American community and an English colony, we'll now study a Spanish Mission in San Francisco. We'll also begin learning about our country's government.

Mrs. Romero

Miss Jackie

Room 12



Fourth Grade

First of all, I would like to give everyone a “high five” for your amazing mission projects and reports! We are half way through the year and Ms. Hernandez and I have seen growth, both academically and socially in the classroom. Keep up the good work!

Math – Our focus will be on fractions.

Language – As we strengthen our writing skills, we are going to write newspaper articles. You can look for these articles at Open House.

Social Studies – California moves from Spanish control to being a part of Mexico. Discover how life changed and how new settlers moved in.

Science – Let’s explore the history of the Earth.

Thank you for your wonderful support and cooperation.

Mrs. Warwick and Ms. Hernandez
Room 11



Fifth Grade

2012 has jumped into high gear and we are ready!

In **Math** we move onto probability and statistics. Students will learn how to find averages and graph. The study of probability and statistics helps students make the connection between mathematics and other content areas as well as between mathematics and the world around them. Students will learn how to organize and analyze data from experiments and graphs.

In **Science** we will learn about the atmosphere and the factors that affect weather and climate.

In **Language Arts**, students will focus on adjectives and learning how to write descriptive paragraphs. Descriptive writing creates a clear and vivid picture of a person, place, or thing.

In **Social Studies** we will learn why the colonists broke ties with Great Britain. Students will learn about the American Revolution and the Constitution of the United States.

February is Black History Month. Students will choose a Famous African American person to read and write about. Reports are due on February 29th.

Remember, I am available to help before school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and after school on Mondays and Thursdays. Keep up the good work!

Thank you for your continued support!

Mrs. Christman

Room 9



Science

I am looking forward to starting a new quarter! Lot's of science fun to come!

6th Grade- We continue in our weather unit and learn more about climate and storms.

7th Grade- This month we will be going over the scientific process of evolution.

8th Grade- Carbon compounds are awesome! This month we explore carbon with some fun labs!

Have a great month and Happy Valentines!

Mrs. Marzocchetti

Room 10



Math

Middle School Math requires a lot more study time. If we are diligent in getting our nightly homework completed, we win half the battle.

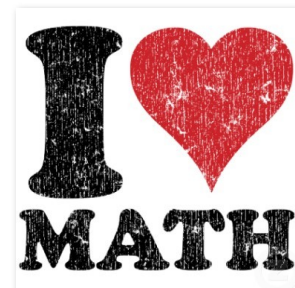
6th Grade: Is beginning Chapter 7 with zeal. We are diving into organizing and displaying data before we begin geometry basics in chapter 8.

7th Grade: Is finishing up our chapter on multi step equations. We are becoming very competent at writing equations and applying our pre-algebra skills to everything we know as we navigate through these next two chapters..

8th Grade: We just finished our last chapter on polynomials. We pushed through factoring, and now we have an opportunity to dive back into the familiar territory of plotting coordinates and graphing. We have also been busy preparing for our Paraclete entrance exam. It has been a busy season for us!

Mrs. Greenleaf-Perez

Room 14



Middle School English

February marks the half-way point of the school year. In literature this month will be dedicated to non-fiction.

The **6th graders** will learn how to research and write a non-fiction essay; **7th grade** will be studying various tactics and techniques for persuasion, and the **8th graders** will tackle controversial topics.

In language arts, all grades will be learning about prepositions, conjunctions, and interjections.

Mr. Pintarelli

Room 15



Middle School Geography and History

2nd semester is well under way and looks to be just as busy as the last!

Here's what's going on this month:

6th Grade: In **History** we will finish studying Ancient India and move on to Ancient China. In **Geography** we will study Canada then move on to South America.

7th Grade: In **History** we hearken back to days of knights errant and ladies fair as we begin our study of Europe in the Middle Ages. In **Geography** Asia will be the focus; we then move on to Europe.

8th Grade: **History** finds us studying the inevitable slide toward civil war as we examine the rise of the reform movements and the struggle over the western territories. In **Civics** we will examine the Judicial branch.

Next month is Open House, and we are preparing to transform our classroom into the home of the 2012 Summer Olympics—London! More to follow!

It's Black History Month so we will also spend time in all classes examining the contributions of African-Americans to American society.

Thank you,

Mrs. Robin

Room 16



February Dates to Remember

1st-9th-Collecting Pennies

1st-14th-Valentine Grams Sale

3rd- Second Quarter Ends

6th- Report Cards Sent Home

7th-PPN Meeting 5:30pm

9th-100th Day of School

-3rd Grade Visits LPAC

-Middle School Girls Night Out 5:00pm-9:00pm

10th-Awards

-Parent's Night Out \$20.00, 6:30pm-10:30pm (space is limited)

13th-Dental Professional Visits Preschool

14th-Valentine's Day Festivities

15th-First Grade Visits Kidspace Museum

16th-Pre-K and Jr. K Visit Kindergarten

17th- Minimum Day Childcare Only available until 3:00pm (Teacher Development)

20th –Campus Closed President's Day

22nd –Spring Pictures

23rd – Family All American BBQ Night (6:30pm)

24th-International Stand Up to Bullying Day

Founder's Week (February 27th –March 2nd)

27th- Rock Star Day

28th- Fashion Disaster Day