

# School News

*Education + Communication = A Better Nation*

**Covering the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District**



Volume 15, Issue 44

May 2023

## NATIONAL PTA® REFLECTIONS®



**Kaiden Surti**  
Kraemer  
Middle School



**Fernando Nunez**  
El Dorado  
High School



**Kendra Livergood**  
El Dorado  
High School



**Emma Schroeder**  
Woodsboro  
Elementary School



**Daisy Bagga**  
Tynes  
Elementary School



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## PYLUSD Offers Students College and Career Opportunities Galore



**Dr. Mike Matthews**  
Superintendent

The Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District (PYLUSD) is committed to offering an extensive list of college and career readiness opportunities to benefit students' success now and in the future.

The district's secondary career technical education (CTE) programs, known as CareerLink Academies and Pathways, allow PYLUSD high school students to see the real-world relevance and applicability of their curriculum, gain new industry-specific skills, network with professionals in their area of

interest, engage in internships and job training in their fields, and earn credits and certifications that facilitate their transition into collegiate programs of study or the workforce.

In total, the district boasts six CTE academies and a wide variety of CTE pathways for the 2022-2023 school year. CareerLink Academies include Digital Media Arts (DMAA) and ED LAW at El Dorado High School, Aztec Engineering and Manufacturing and Medical Sciences at Esperanza High School, Val Tech at Valencia High School, and Mustang Business at Yorba Linda High School. Across the district, CareerLink Pathways provide courses focused on an array of industry sectors such as patient care, food service and hospitality, construction, education, and more.

For instance, it is the mission of Esperanza's Aztec Engineering and Manufacturing Academy to teach students about applicable careers through industry software and technology, certification, field trips, internships, and job shadowing. Academy instructors equip students with the academic and technical skills, knowledge, and training to succeed in future careers. Whether students choose to pursue engineering or manufacturing courses, or both, they are trained in safety and introduced to basic concepts and skills before working on real-life projects around Esperanza's campus and the community.

Students in Aztec Engineering and Manufacturing Academy live their motto "from concept to product," which was recently put on full display as students shared a proposal for a gate improvement project on campus

with my Superintendent's Cabinet in April. With guidance from their teachers, students identified the need for the extended gate, conceptualized and designed a solution, and planned for its production complete with a parts list, cost breakdown, and timeline for the project. Their presentation left me and the others in attendance in awe of the knowledge and skills of our students, and with a deep sense of appreciation for our continued investment in career technical education across the district.

Esperanza's efforts in this area offer just one example of how PYLUSD prepares students for higher education and the high-demand jobs of the future through a multitude of college and career readiness opportunities.



**Mayra Zuleta**  
REALTOR®

Mayra Zuleta, Realtor, married and mom of 2 girls, born and raised in Northern California I decided to move and call North Orange County my new home in 2009. I am actively involved with the PYLUSD, served a 2 full terms as President of DELAC, served full 4 terms as the ELAC School Representative also part of the SCAC, SSC, had the honor to be invited to be part of the Return To School Steering Committee for the 2020-2021 school year, all within the school district. I have worked in sales and in the public eye for over 22 years. Let me be the one to help guide you with the selling and searching for that perfect property.

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**Kay Coop**  
Founder/Publisher



# School News

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Covering the  
**PLACENTIA-YORBA LINDA  
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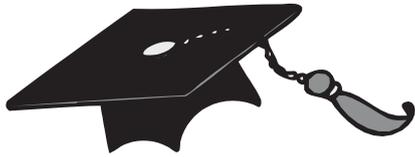
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This year is quickly coming to a close. Have a wonderful summer. Please remember to include the library among your activity choices. Our next issue is November 8.



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Class of 2023!**




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## Over 500 PYLUSD Students Participate in Reflections Art Program

*From the District*

The National Parent Teacher Association (PTA) has a longstanding commitment to arts education, similar to that of the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District (PYLUSD). The National PTA Reflections Program encourages students to explore their own thoughts, feelings, and ideas, develop artistic literacy, increase confidence, and find a love for learning that will help them become more successful in school and in life.

The theme for this year's Reflections Program was "Show Your Voice!" The contest encouraged students to produce works of art that showcased their individuality. This year, PYLUSD had 582 student artists from 22 schools participate in Reflections, which is organized by the Placentia Yorba Linda Unified Council.

Twenty-six entries advanced to the Fourth District, which represents Orange County PTA members and members in a small portion of Los Angeles County. Fifteen of the 26 entries received 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards, and five awardees then had their art forwarded to the state-level competition. Notably, three of five entries received recognition at the state level and two were forwarded to the national level of competition.

The district's five state/national participants include Kaiden Surti, a 7th grader at Kraemer Middle School, for his music composition piece titled "Hear Me;" Fernando Nunez, a 9th grader at El Dorado High School for his entry in film production titled "Venture Academy;" Kendra Livergood, a 10th grader at El Dorado High School, for her entry in film production titled "Last 3 Years;" Emma Schroeder, a 6th grader at Woodsboro Elementary School, for her photograph "I Heart Books;" and Daisy Bagga, 5th grader at John O. Tynes Elementary, for her acrylic painting titled, "Mixed Actions."

Kaiden's and Fernando's art entries were submitted to the national competition and will undergo two rounds of review by esteemed arts professionals across the country. The national awards are to be announced at the beginning of May and the virtual National PTA Convention will be held in June.

PYLUSD Superintendent Dr. Michael Matthews commented, "I'm so grateful to PYLUC for giving our students the opportunity to demonstrate their amazing artistic talents. Nearly 600 of our students responded to this opportunity. I am proud of all of them for their efforts, and I congratulate all who have received local, state, and national recognition."

The Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District is proud of these students, and we are grateful to all of our teachers who foster creativity and offer art instruction in classrooms. The district looks forward to participating in the 2023-2024 Reflections Program with the theme of "I Am Hopeful Because."

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# R.E.A.C.H. Foundation

21520 Yorba Linda Blvd., Suite G503, Yorba Linda, CA 92887 • 714/323-9706 • [www.reach4pylUSD.org](http://www.reach4pylUSD.org)



**Melina Michaels**  
*President*

## Enrich, Inspire & Engage

The REACH Foundation's mission is to support PYLUSD students through three enrichment pillars: Academics, Arts, and Athletics. Through the STEAM Academic Club, hundreds of students have engaged to develop hands-on, experiential, and real-world problem solving skills through our Communicating with Confidence Learning Labs, First Lego League Robotics, Girl

Up Experimental Design, and a Non-Profit Internship program for High School and Middle School Students. In the Arts, the Foundation sponsored a Principal Actress from the award-winning Broadway play "Hamilton" to host workshops for EHS & MS students, culminating in an inspirational concert at the Valencia Auditorium on March 23rd. The 11th Annual Shamrock 'n Run 5K & 2K showcased awesome athletes from three winning schools: Fairmont Elementary, Bernardo Yorba MS, and Esperanza HS. Many of those athletes will compete at the Middle School Track Meet on May 11th. We proudly provide programs that enrich, engage, and inspire students. Learn more at REACH4PYLUSD.org.



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Swimming: [coachashley@eastaquatics.com](mailto:coachashley@eastaquatics.com)

Water Polo: [jessdiaz@eastaquatics.com](mailto:jessdiaz@eastaquatics.com)



## Bernardo Yorba *Middle School (7-8)*

5350 Fairmont Blvd., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7400 • [www.byms.org](http://www.byms.org)



**Beth Fisher**  
*Principal*

### Preparing for the Launch of the BeYorba Dual Language Academy

This spring our current and the future Dual Language Academy Matadors had the opportunity to participate in three after school Latin-focused clinics featuring learning around art with professional artist Pablo Damas, musical theater with Mrs. Nina Crecia, and guitar with Mrs. Jocelyn

Crecia. These mini-clinics are previews to a line-up of full on Latin-focused workshops that will be featured in the 2023-2024 academic school year. In addition to this offerings, our students will be able to engage in cooking and folclórico. This summer we are also launching a soccer clinic. As we welcome the excitement of our new language academy, we are also proud to offer engaging co-curricular and extra-curricular opportunities.



## Brookhaven *Elementary School (TK-6)*

1851 N. Brookhaven Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7110 • [www.brookhavenelementary.com](http://www.brookhavenelementary.com)



**Laura Fisher**  
*Principal*

### Brookhaven Camp TK!

Brookhaven's Transitional Kindergarten is ending the year in an unusual way - by celebrating the alphabet backwards! Each day, students will review a letter of the alphabet with a fun activity or dress up day. For example, letter f is "Field Trip Day" to the

La Habra Children's Museum where students will experience transportation first hand! The countdown concludes with an "Aloha" ceremony on the last day of school.

Brookhaven's Transitional Kindergarten (TK) provides one year of developmental curriculum prior to a student's entrance into regular kindergarten. It provides the "gift of time" and allows for an extra year of social-emotional, intellectual, and physical growth prior to kindergarten. Parents may register their new student via the online portal Aeries (visit [www.BrookhavenElementary.com](http://www.BrookhavenElementary.com) and find the TK icon).



**TK students use blocks to build a community and role-play being community members.**

# Bryant Ranch School (TK-5)

24695 Paseo de Toronto, Yorba Linda, CA 92887 • 714/986-7120 • [www.bryantranchschool.com](http://www.bryantranchschool.com)



**Shannon Robles**  
Principal

## Explorers Keep a Focus on the Positive

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) is an approach we use at Bryant Ranch to promote school safety and good behavior. Our students are very familiar with our Explorer Expectations; Safe, Respectful, Responsible.

Good behavior is recognized with Brag Cards and Scholar Dollars. Every other Friday, parent volunteers work the “Brag Card Cart,” stocked with rewards the student can “purchase.” Each trimester, TK-3rd graders can save to attend “Bingo & Books,” and “Donuts & Fun” 4th/5th graders. Students also save up to attend a fun year-end assembly. In addition, we have “Motivational Mondays,” where students and staff wear shirts with motivational messages

and Kindness Weeks. Kindness is something we encourage every day and it is a big part of what it is to be an Explorer. It’s great to be part of a community that supports this positive culture and encourages our students to be good citizens with kind hearts. We are so proud of our Explorers!



# Buena Vista Virtual Academy (K-12)

4999 Casa Loma Ave., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7026 • [www.buenavistavirtual.org](http://www.buenavistavirtual.org)



**Jamie Jauch**  
Principal

## Early Graduates

In addition to all of the other exciting things happening at Buena Vista this time of year, we are seeing many early graduates! Students in 11th and 12th grades started graduating in December, and it is almost a weekly event now to see them come into the office to pick up their official transcripts and congratulations packages. We are super



proud of all of our graduates, and these weekly celebrations are a harbinger of the joyful graduation ceremony we are planning for June 13th. Keep up the great work, wolves!

# El Camino Real High School (Continuation High School 9-12)

1351 E. Orangethorpe Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7060 • [www.ecrhs.pylusd.org](http://www.ecrhs.pylusd.org)



**Scott Mazurier**  
Principal

## Exploring Opportunities

At ECRHS, our goal is to meet our students where they are by providing opportunities to be successful in every aspect of life. We understand to meet this goal we must show our students what they are capable of beyond the classroom. Recently, we participated in several events with Fullerton Community

College (FCC) that are aimed at providing unique opportunities for our students. FCC brought several support departments to our campus for an Annual Roadshow where students learned all about enrolling in college and the financial and academic supports offered at FCC. Students also had the chance to visit FCC to explore their academic and CTE programs learning and seeing firsthand about the opportunities that exist for them post-graduation. We believe that allowing our students to experience these opportunities pushes them beyond what they normally would participate in and benefits them greatly in both their mental and physical wellness.



**ECRHS students explore CTE programs at FCC.**

# El Dorado High School (9-12)

1651 N. Valencia Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7580 • [www.edhs.org](http://www.edhs.org)



**Joey Davis**  
Principal

## Awards Season

It is spring and in spring we have awards season! Recently the Orange County Finalists Mock Trial team for El Dorado picked up their awards. We are proud to report that the Orange County Constitutional Rights Foundation recognized the team and four competitors of the EDHS Mock Trial program were given individual awards.

In the area of Outstanding Pretrial Attorney, Sahiba Chowdhary (9th grade) and Nathan Lee (12th grade) were recognized as two of the outstanding students in all of Orange County.

In the area of Outstanding Attorney, Mia Demonte (10th grade) and Lucy Cavalluzzi (12th grade) were both recognized as outstanding competitors.

The headline news of the night was EDHS senior Lucy Cavalluzzi being awarded the Judge Henry Moore Outstanding Orator Award for all of Orange County. It was a great night and the final award was a big surprise. Congratulations to all of these students and their families.



## Esperanza High School (9-12)

1830 N. Kellogg Dr., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/986-7540 • [www.esperanzahs.com](http://www.esperanzahs.com)



**Jeff Giles**  
Principal

### Esperanza Stages Into the Woods

Esperanza High school celebrated the return of musical theater to our campus on April 26th and 27th. Vocal director, Mark Myers enlisted the talents of students from his choir program in addition to hosting open auditions, and the result was a fantastic display of talent in a

first-rate production of Into the Woods for two shows. Besides the phenomenal performances, Esperanza also got to show off its remodeled theater, which will include improvements to the stage, lighting and sound system. Into the Woods is the first full musical production hosted in our theater in over 10 years, and we look forward to many more performances by our talented Aztec students!



## Fairmont Elementary School (TK-6)

5241 Fairmont Blvd., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7130 • [www.fairmontelementary.com](http://www.fairmontelementary.com)



**Anne San Roman**  
Principal

### We Love Our Fairmont Community!

Fairmont Elementary School has a strong sense of community and it shows in the pride our students, staff, and families take in our school. Our staff and PTA work diligently to ensure students feel a sense of belonging and families are welcome. Every event we have is highly attended, and it is wonderful to see the connection between home and school. We welcomed families for Open House in March where

students had the opportunity to show their families all of the great things they have accomplished this school year. In addition we had a Book Fair so students and families could grab some new books and foster the love of reading in our community. Another highly attended event was Breakfast at Fairmont in April. Students and loved ones enjoyed a special time on campus with some tasty treats before the school day. We are so excited to create more opportunities to connect and build a strong Fairmont Community where we can all work together to support all of our Fairmont Falcons!



**Open House**



**Book Fair**



**Breakfast at Fairmont**

# George Key School (Special Education) / Venture Academy (Adult Transition Program)

710 E. Golden Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7170 • [www.georgekey.org/](http://www.georgekey.org/) 701 East Golden Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7178 • [ventureacademy.pylusd.org](http://ventureacademy.pylusd.org)

**Rebecca Allan, Principal**

George Key students were excited to participate in our annual Jog-a-Thon and school Carnival on Friday April 28, 2023. Everyone gets into the act, walking/jogging or rolling in our Jog-A-Thon as well as enjoying carnival games, face painting and pizza! We appreciate support from our community as well as the support of neighbors at Venture academy for their support in making this a fun day for all! George Key families are looking forward to our annual Memorial Day barbecue on Friday May 29th.



The Venture Academy Choir had the pleasure of performing for the first time at the Orange County Department of Education's Very Special Arts Festival on April 29, 2023 at the Main Place Mall in Santa Ana. Thirty of our adult transition students performed Count on Me by Bruno Mars, Together from High School Musical and This is Me from the Greatest Showman. Students train and perform under the guidance of our amazing choir director, Ms. Carmen Cointreau Gonzalez. Wonderful performance and and support from the community. Way to go Wildcats!



## Glenknoll Elementary School (TK-6)

6361 Glenknoll Dr., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7140 • [www.glenknoll.org](http://www.glenknoll.org)

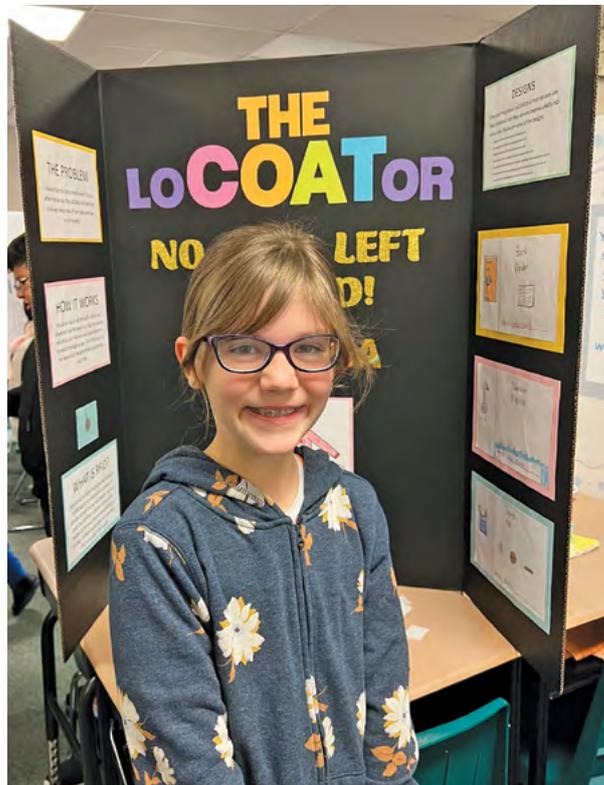


### Invention Convention

Innovation is one of the core values of Placentia Yorba Linda Unified School District, and here at Glenknoll, we teach our

students to be innovators, too! Third-grade teachers Randi Finney, Toby Foster and Marie Vu held an Invention Convention where students displayed their innovative problem-solving devices. These innovative teachers blended language arts with science and technology to create a real-life learning experience for their students.

**Terry Mulcahy**  
Principal



After reading about inventors Alexander Graham Bell and Thomas Edison, students learned about school-age inventors by watching episodes of Shark Tank and The Ellen DeGeneres Show. They learned that creative people identify a problem and devise a way to make their life easier with an innovative machine.

Scholars were then challenged to solve a real-world problem with an invention that would make someone's life easier. Oh, and they had to come up with a catch phrase, too! Some of the innovations included Pump-and-Go-Plant Waterer, The Always Sharp Pencil Sharpener, The Octopus Dream Pillow, "Lo COAT er—No Coat Left Behind and Vacuum Scraper for cleaning up your hamster's mess!

Someday, these students may be applying for patents!

## Glenview Elementary School (TK-6)

1775 Glenview Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/986-7150 • [www.glenviewbulldogs.org](http://www.glenviewbulldogs.org)



**Jane Roh**  
Principal

### Annual Open House

On March 30, we hosted our annual Open House. All classrooms were open and students proudly showed off their work to their families and loved ones. Students in our Dual Language Academy classes have two teachers and they toured both classrooms to

show off their work in English and Spanish. Some other highlights included 4th graders' California missions projects, a life-size tent in 5th grade, 4th graders' vegetable and herb garden, and 1st graders' informative writing on Ellen Ochoa in celebration of Women's History Month.

In addition to all of the classrooms, our PE coach hosted a low rope-walking course for students and parents on the blacktop. Our spring book fair was also open for families to enjoy and to top it off, families stopped by the Gratitude Table to write a thank-you note to teachers and staff.



**5th Graders' Life-Size Tent on Display at Open House.**

## Golden Elementary School (TK-6)

740 E. Golden Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7160 • [www.golden.pylusd.org](http://www.golden.pylusd.org)



**Kristin McDonald**  
Principal

### At Golden Partners Talk!

Peanut Butter and Jelly, Apple and Oranges, Spring and Summer, Cheese and Pepperoni, or A/B ... Classrooms at Golden Elementary use a variety of names for student partners to provide opportunities to talk, share, and collaborate with each other during daily instruction. At the beginning of the year we discussed different ways to engage all of our students,

and our outstanding staff of teachers determined that increasing Partner Interactions would be a focus this year. At Golden our teachers understand that partner interactions improve student performance, build confidence for all students, allow movement breaks, and help engage active listening strategies. Lastly, these

opportunities just simply make learning fun. Throughout the year teachers have collaborated and shared various partner interaction activities that support student learning. Golden Eagle Scholars are thriving with classroom environments where students have opportunities to have deep discussions and collaborate throughout their learning! Purposeful partner engagement is just one of the many ways our staff at Golden pour their hearts into our Golden Scholars and to ensure our Students are GOLDEN!



## Kraemer Middle School (7-8)

645 N. Angelina Dr., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/996-1551 • [www.kraemerms.org](http://www.kraemerms.org)



**Michael Young**  
Principal

### Kraemer Middle Serves Our Community

At Kraemer Middle School, we believe in teaching students to “serve before self” through community service. This past Spring Break, members of Kraemer’s National Junior Honor Society were provided the opportunity to engage in a service learning project with Goodwill of Orange County. Students were given a tour of the facility by Eric Smissen, the Director of Brand & Engagement, an alumni of both Kraemer Middle School and Valencia High School. Students learned about Goodwill’s mission and were partnered with employees to sort donated goods. Our students and teacher advisors represented our school with pride by contributing their time to this well established non-profit organization. Including this event, our ASB Leaders, Peer Leaders, NJHS

Members, and AVID Scholars impact our community by delivering a whopping 8.518 plus volunteer hours per year.



## Lakeview Elementary School (TK-5)

17510 Lakeview Ave., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7190 • [www.lakeview.pylusd.org](http://www.lakeview.pylusd.org)



**Stephanie Given**  
Principal

### Lakeview Lions Raise \$12,000 for the American Heart Association

In partnership with the American Heart Association, Lakeview students and staff participated in the Kids Heart Challenge focusing on heart health during the month of February. Students completed different challenges with their family while learning about healthy habits, mindfulness, warning signs of a stroke and even hands-only CPR. Thank you gifts were awarded throughout the campaign including fun keychains which students donned on their backpacks and an upcoming glow stick dance party. The Kids Heart Challenge seeks to spread heart health awareness to our communities through engaging activities for families and schools, knowing that many are already impacted by heart disease. Mario and Audra, representatives from KHC, presented Lakeview students and Mrs. Given with a Top School award in April for collecting over \$12,000 in donations that go directly to the American Heart Association to support doctors and researchers working together to find cures to heart diseases. Go Lions!



## Linda Vista Elementary (TK-5)

5600 S. Ohio St., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7200 • [www.lindavistaelementary.org](http://www.lindavistaelementary.org)



**Kristen Petrovacki**  
*Principal*

### A Place to Belong

For many students, recess is the highlight of their school day. They appreciate the opportunity to take a brain break, get some fresh air, connect with friends, and engage in physical activity. With that comes choices such as tetherball, kickball, swings, handball, basketball, and exploring our play structures. These activities help students to move their bodies while developing social skills. Although recess is a time of freedom and play, not every student enjoys engaging in physical activity on the playground. Some students need a safe place to decompress while others benefit from extra adult support and structured activities. In an effort to make recess a special time for each and every student, we have expanded options for students that include hands-on games, art activities, and opportunities to build and create. Students have responded positively to these efforts and are engaging in new and fun ways. This has helped them to forge connections and has fostered a sense of belonging at school.



## Mabel Paine Elementary School (TK-5)

4444 Plumosa Ave., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7210 • [www.mabelpaine.org](http://www.mabelpaine.org)



**Geoff Smith**  
*Principal*

### Three Positive Behaviors

The month of March was one full of positivity at Mabel Paine Elementary School! The Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) team at Mabel Paine wanted to organize a way to recognize students who were displaying positive behavior throughout the school. This team selected three specific positive behaviors that would be the focus each week of the month, and every week, students would be acknowledged for carrying out these behaviors.

The three behaviors chosen were following the rules at recess, using polite and kind words at recess, and inviting and including others at recess. Once March came around,

at least six students throughout the school were selected each week and were provided an award for displaying one of these positive behaviors. Students were acknowledged on the school's loudspeaker system and then were welcomed to the office, where they would receive an award along with having their picture taken.

At the beginning of each week, Mr. Smith would announce to the school what the positive-behavior focus of the week was, and at the end of the week, the staff-nominated students who exemplified that positive behavior. Students were eager to put their positive behavior on display, and many students were acknowledged throughout the month. It was such a joy to see students doing the right thing, in the right place, at the right time!



## Melrose Elementary School (TK-5)

974 S. Melrose St., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7220 • [www.melrose.pylusd.org](http://www.melrose.pylusd.org)



**Janie Yoo**  
Principal

### A Historical Adventure

Melrose Elementary School students were taken back in time to meet the 16th president of the United States, Abraham Lincoln. Students were taken through an exciting historical adventure through his life, deeds, and times through the first person point of view. Students learned that he had a humble beginning and lived a life of service to make a great impact on our country. Students

learned of Mr. Lincoln's love of reading and, in turn, developed an appreciation for reading themselves. It was an exciting time of learning and engaging our students!



## Morse Elementary School (TK-6)

431 E. Morse Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/524-6300 • [www.morseschool.net](http://www.morseschool.net)



**Kelly Farrell**  
Principal

### AVID Family Night Celebrates Student Success and Encourages a Growth Mindset

Recently students and their families gathered at Morse Elementary for AVID Family Night. The event was designed to showcase the success of the school's AVID program and encourage students and their families to focus on having a growth mindset.

Families were challenged to participate in a STEM activity; each group was given newspaper and tape and instructed to build the Eiffel Tower. No further instruction regarding size, shape, etc.



was given...the only stipulation was that their tower had to have four legs and meet at a point. Throughout the activity, families were encouraged to make a plan, design the arches, and build the tower, all while having a growth mindset. The success of the STEM project was evident in the many standing towers families had erected by the end of the night. Creativity and communication were abundant, as families worked together to become successful engineers.

Morse's AVID Family Night was a resounding success, as the event helped to build community spirit and pride, and showcased the positive impact of having a growth mindset!

## Parkview *Home School (TK-12)*

2189 N. Kraemer Blvd., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7050 • [www.pylusdparkview.org](http://www.pylusdparkview.org)



**Dominique Polchow**  
*Principal*

### **A Unique Educational Experience**

Parkview School is an alternative education model that provides a unique educational experience for each individual student, TK-12th grade. We have a long-standing tradition in the community of successfully supporting homeschool efforts to those new and experienced in this incredible learning journey. Recent happenings

at Parkview included a virtual visit from the Western Accreditation of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accreditation team. This ongoing process allows us to continually monitor student learning while setting forth school improvement goals based on student data. Additionally, we held our annual Open House showcasing student science inventions and artwork. Finally, the Parkview staff showed appreciation for our gracious and selfless volunteers who make our school community extra special.



**Volunteer Appreciation Tea.**

## Rio Vista *Elementary School (TK-5)*

310 N. Rio Vista St., Anaheim, CA 92806 • 714/986-7240 • [www.riovistaschool.org](http://www.riovistaschool.org)



**Brandon Frank**  
*Principal*

### **A Grassroots Event**

In April, Rio Vista students in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade performed our school musical, "Seussical Jr." at the Valencia High School Auditorium. This is a completely grassroots event, led by teachers Leonel Diaz and Tessa Ashton. All of the costuming, stagecraft, and makeup was sewn, built, and donated by staff and families. In addition, there was enormous support from our PTA and other parent volunteers, not only the night of the show but for many Saturdays and late afternoons as well. The performance was a culmination of hundreds of hours of practice and preparation, and it received rave reviews from all who attended. Our Leopards showed that through hard work, dedication, practice and repetition, anything is possible! It was so special for them to perform at their future home, and it's exciting to think about them performing on that same stage in a few years...Oh, the places they'll go!!



**Rio Vista students perform on stage at the Valencia High School Auditorium.**

## Rose Drive *Elementary School (TK-5)*

4700 Rose Dr., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7250 • [www.rosedrive.pylusd.org](http://www.rosedrive.pylusd.org)



**Kathleen Escaleras-Nappi**  
*Principal*

### Rose Drive's Matilda, Jr. Musical Shines on Stage

This trimester students in grades 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th performed Matilda, Jr. at the Performing Arts Center. In collaboration with our amazing PTA and Huston School of Music students were given the opportunity to experience an authentic musical through dance, song, teamwork, and grit. Sixty-eight students participated in this year's musical and this was also our eighth musical as a school.

As a school community we feel that a love of the arts is very important for our students as research shows that music stimulates the brain and allows students to be creative, work together, and even boost their confidence as learners. In addition, our play parents went above and beyond to support their children. From props, sets, concessions, to costumes, and more our families were our number one supporters and we are so grateful for them. Overall, Matilda, Jr. was an amazing performance filled with high energy dance numbers and catchy songs and our student scholars did an incredible job sharing this story of love and perseverance.



## Ruby Drive *Elementary School (TK-6)*

601 Ruby Dr., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/996-1921 • [www.rubydrive.org](http://www.rubydrive.org)



**Lisa Carmona**  
*Principal*

### Ruby Drive Scientists Study in the Snow

Ruby Drive recently sent its sixth grade scholars off to an outdoor educational experience for the first time in 15 years! Ruby Drive partnered with the ECOS Institute in the San Bernardino Mountains where "school" became a

natural science lab. Geology, forest ecology, and wildlife biology were embedded throughout the three-day adventure. Students were pleasantly immersed in snow, enjoyed night hikes, and interacted with animals in their natural habitat. Also of high importance were the many team-building activities they participated in. These activities focused on collaboration and problem solving. In one activity

students were challenged to use their life-preservation skills to build survival shelters! At a 6500 foot altitude, these experiences brought a rich perspective to the students as they grew in their independence, confidence, critical thinking, and leadership skills.



## Sierra Vista *Elementary School (TK-6)*

1811 N. Placentia Ave., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7270 • [www.sierravistaelementary.org](http://www.sierravistaelementary.org)



**Jacquie Bluemel**  
*Principal*

### **Ecolutions**

At Sierra Vista Elementary, students in the 6th grade have the opportunity to participate in a parent-led program called Ecolutions. The club meets once per month to maintain a small garden as well as to beautify the campus through litter clean up. The students

have worked hard this year to revitalize the school garden which had been neglected due to COVID and restricted student participation. We are thrilled to see the students planting and caring for the garden. This includes weeding and watering the garden and ensuring that the plants are protected from the hot sun. Ecolutions students also advertised and encouraged participation in Earth Week 2023 through spirit days each day of this special week. Posters were made and hung up around campus to remind all students to love and protect the earth!



**Ecolutions students work together to prepare Earth Week posters for the Sierra Vista campus.**

## Topaz *Elementary School (TK-6)*

3232 Topaz Ln., Fullerton, CA 92831 • 714/993-9977 • [www.topazschool.org](http://www.topazschool.org)



**Eva Matthews**  
*Principal*

### **Celebrating Literacy at Topaz**

In March Topaz Elementary celebrated literacy with many special guest readers. Amongst our guest we had the privilege of having Dr. Matthews, Superintendent of PYLUSD read to our TK and 1st grade classes. We also had many visitors from our Educational Services Department; Dr. Linda Adamson, Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Liz Leon, Director of Elementary and Jose

Cabrera, Administrator joined us in celebrating literacy and reading in multiple classrooms. Our students had a blast listening to our guest read and asking questions. We had many familiar faces like Mr. Cabrera, Mrs. Valdez-Schrader, and Mrs. Gibbons former Topaz staff joined in the fun and excitement of reading.



# Travis Ranch School (TK-8)

5200 Via de la Escuela, Yorba Linda, CA 92887 • 714/986-7460 • [www.travisranchschool.org](http://www.travisranchschool.org)



**Dr. Taylor Holloway**  
Principal

## Inspiring Future Professionals

Travis Ranch School held another highly successful Career Day for our Middle School students. Community presenters volunteered their time to provide a half-day program which introduced students to a variety of professions. Students were exposed to a number of interesting careers that ranged from law enforcement, retail industry professionals, dog trainers, food industry

professionals, engineers, lawyers, and more! The speakers were inspirational and our students were engaged and inquisitive. The program offered a glimpse of what life is like after our students' K-12 experience and is an important part of ensuring our students are college and career ready. As educators, an important part of our mission is to ensure we are developing students who will become productive and responsible citizens. They are our future and we are thrilled to work with such incredible young people! Keep up the great work Trailblazers!



# Tuffree Middle School (7-8)

2151 N. Kraemer Blvd., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7480 • [www.tuffree.org](http://www.tuffree.org)



**David Okamoto**  
Principal

## Reflections

As we move closer and closer to the end of this school year here as well as to my first year as principal at Tuffree Middle School, I am reminded of how fortunate I am to have this opportunity to help lead this school!

These last few months have been full of a lot of activities, celebrations and events. On top of that, day-to-day instruction continues to take place to prepare students for their next school year, either with us or at the high school level. One of the things that I have learned this year is the importance of trying to make each day count, knowing that we have these students on campus here for only two years.

That said, I always find myself reflective at this time of year and wanting to continue to bring my best effort to finish as strong as possible as well as to begin to look at ways to make next year even better than this year!

Again, I am proud to say that I am principal here at Tuffree Middle School. In my first message of this school year, I mentioned that I was a parent of a Tuffree child. With my daughter now getting ready to graduate from high school and my son already in college, this year has been a confirmation of the experience they had here. This is a very special place, and as I started this message, I consider myself fortunate to be a part of it!

Go Falcons!

## Tynes Elementary School (TK-6)

735 Stanford Dr., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/996-5550 • [www.johnotynes.org](http://www.johnotynes.org)



**Tonya Gordillo**  
Principal

### Making a Difference

Creating a sense of serving and making a difference in your community is a passion we hope to instill in our Tynes students. Each year, Love Placentia volunteers serve in beautifying our schools in Placentia. This year, Love Placentia partnered with our after-school CASA program to give our students an opportunity to make a difference in their school community. Love Placentia donated the materials to help add life to the planters leading to the school office. On Friday afternoon, our CASA students, guided by CASA lead Kaylee Bolin, filled our school planters with soil and succulents. The updated planters make the entrance to the office feel more welcoming. The support from our community partnerships continues to make a difference in our school. We hope this service model continues in future generations of Tynes students!



## Valadez Middle School Academy (6-8)

161 E. La Jolla St., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7440 • [www.valadezacademy.org](http://www.valadezacademy.org)



**Dr. Christa Borgese**  
Principal

### Career Day

On Wednesday, April 26th, the Valadez Eagles AVID team, in conjunction with our school counselor, Mrs. Plascencia, were excited to host a very special Career Day. A total of 28 speakers arrived eager to share their educational and career journeys with our middle schoolers. Speakers included law enforcement, medical professionals, morticians, a tax preparer, a chef, beautician, and so much more! Every speaker was able to engage students in learning about potential career opportunities for their future. We were especially excited to welcome back Mrs. Gandara,

the first VMSA principal when the school opened in 2008, who is now serving as a flight attendant after her retirement from public education. Our Eagles would like to thank all of our presenters for providing such valuable insight and discussion on their careers.



## Valencia High School (9-12)

500 N. Bradford, Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/996-4970 • [www.vhstigers.org](http://www.vhstigers.org)



**Chris Herzfeld**  
Principal

### Incredible Success in Academics and Beyond

Valencia High School has had another exceptional year in academic and athletic competition. Our Academic Decathlon team competed in Division 1 and took second place in Super Quiz and second place overall in Orange County!

The team then competed at the State level, placing 11th overall in Division 1. Our Chemistry Olympiad team captured third place in Orange County. Two of the VHS CyberPatriot teams reached the semifinals: one in the platinum division and one in gold. The Platinum team ended up sixth in the state! Our VHS E-Sports team also qualified for the XP League Championship Finals in Orlando, and are among the top teams in the nation.

The Valencia chapter of Future Business Leaders of America also scored their personal best in the Southern Section Leadership Conference held in February. Nine students won their events, and the chapter placed second in Sweepstakes. Over 40 FBLA students qualified for the State Conference.

Two of our students were also selected as semifinalists for the Orange County Register Artist of the Year, both in the category of media arts. Congratulations to junior Nathalia Ibeth Aguilar and senior Kevin Richey!

Let's not forget too that our Valencia Girls Water Polo won a CIF championship! And two of our wrestlers also won individual CIF championships: Dib Sawaya and Andrea Ramirez. We are proud of our students, coaches, and staff for their dedication to Pride, Tradition, and Excellence. Go, Tigers!

## Van Buren Elementary School (TK-6)

1245 N. Van Buren St., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7100 • [www.vanburenelementary.org](http://www.vanburenelementary.org)



**David Cammarato**  
Principal

### Giving Back to Our Community

Former Van Buren student, author, professor, and former Placentia Mayor, met with our current third grade students to present them with a book that he wrote about the history of the city of Placentia. Mr. Chris Lowe shared stories about his time at Van Buren and his career path that inspired him to write this book.

He encouraged the students to pursue their dreams and to never give up on themselves. The students were thrilled to receive a copy of his book, *Elephant Rides for Free, A children's History of Placentia*. Mr. Lowe's visit was a memorable and inspiring moment for our students and community.



## Wagner Elementary School (TK-6)

717 E. Yorba Linda Blvd., Placentia, CA 92870 • 714/986-7180 • [www.wagnerwildcats.org](http://www.wagnerwildcats.org)



**Janice Weber**  
Principal

### A Welcoming Place to Be

Every morning, our students who get dropped off in front of the school are greeted by our amazing Wildcat Valet Team. Mrs. Hope, our PTA president, and her daughter Vivienne, 6th grade, are out there every day leading a valet team of 4-6 grade students. Students wear bright-colored vests and have been trained to open doors, greet

students by name and wish them a wonderful day! Teams are assigned on and off for one week at a time and enjoy a doughnut treat from Mrs. Hope on Fridays. One of the most important things about this special service is the positive connections that our students make with kind and caring adults and peers before they even arrive at class each morning. Great Job, Wildcat Valet Team! Thank you for making Wagner such a welcoming place to be!



## Woodsboro Elementary School (TK-6)

7575 Woodsboro Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807 • 714/986-7040 • [www.woodsboro.pylusd.org](http://www.woodsboro.pylusd.org)



**Melanie Carmona**  
Principal

### Woodsboro is Full of Budding, Young Artists!

The Woodsboro Drawing Club started in fall of 2023 when fifth grader Londyn Preciado decided our school needed a creative outlet for students. Londyn, who has always loved drawing and art, was inspired to start a club on campus for other students that enjoy the same things. Teacher Maricel Zuniga agreed to be the adviser for the group during recess and worked with Principal Carmona to secure a budget to purchase supplies such as markers, paper, and oil pastels. The club meets each Thursday working in a variety of ways: independently, following drawing

lessons online, and even in lessons led by Londyn herself! Drawing Club was featured at Open House in March on a bulletin board showcasing their art on our Woodsboro “refrigerator.” This is a tradition we plan to continue at Woodsboro to foster students’ love of all things creative.



## Yorba Linda *Middle School (6-8)*

4777 Casa Loma Ave., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7080 • [www.ylms.org](http://www.ylms.org)



**Greg Kemp**  
*Principal*

### A Big Welcome

Yorba Linda Middle School welcomed its incoming fifth-graders on April 11th. These incoming students were part of an assembly group that met with the administrators and teachers who would support them during their transition from elementary school. The students were able to participate in games as well learn about YLMS and its many available extracurricular activities. After the assembly,

our WEB and ASB student leadership groups took the students on a tour of the school.

Later that evening, the parents of our incoming students were invited to an informational night where they learned about YLMS and the transition from elementary to middle school. Our teachers highlighted many of the school's programs, including AVID, our instrumental and vocal

music opportunities, as well as our dance team and color guard. Parents also learned how middle school differs from elementary school and how they can volunteer with our PTSA.

"We are excited to welcome our incoming fifth-graders to Yorba Linda Middle School," said Principal Greg Kemp. "We know that middle school can be an intimidating experience for some students, and so we want to make sure they feel comfortable and excited about the transition. This event begins our efforts to provide a supportive and inclusive environment for all students."

Yorba Linda Middle School is committed to providing a safe and supportive learning environment that fosters academic excellence, social and emotional growth, and cultural awareness. Our school proudly serves the Yorba Linda community, and we look forward to welcoming our newest members in the fall.

## Yorba Linda *High School (9-12)*

19900 Bastanchury Rd., Yorba Linda, CA 92886 • 714/986-7500 • [www.ylhs.org](http://www.ylhs.org)



**Dr. Richard Dinh**  
*Principal*

### High School and College Transition

This spring, Yorba Linda High School has been actively preparing next year's incoming students and families for high school. Our counseling team (pictured below) has met with each student, visited the local middle schools, and tirelessly provided guidance, advice, and support for all of our future Mustangs. During these one-on-one meetings, our amazing counseling staff also

helped students navigate their course schedules and discuss their plans during and post high school.

To usher in the class of 2027, YLHS recently hosted a Mustang Roundup event to welcome incoming ninth-graders and their families. Our future Mustangs and their families had the opportunity to explore our many academic, athletic, and art programs and learn more about what makes Yorba Linda High School so special.

Throughout the spring, Yorba Linda High School has also been actively celebrating the outgoing senior class of 2023. Over 90 percent of our senior class is planning to attend a two- or four-year college after high school. Some notable colleges that our students have been accepted to include Yale, Stanford, Duke, UCLA, and USC, among many others.

At our Mustang Achievement Awards ceremony, we also honored those senior Mustang Scholars who have maintained a high level of academic excellence (4.0 GPA and above) throughout their four years of high school, and announced their various plans for after high school.

With less than two months remaining until graduation, we will continue to celebrate our Mustangs as they embark on the next chapter of their lives. We look forward to their graduation ceremony at Shapell Stadium on June 14 at 6 pm. Go, Mustangs!



## Eric and Eva's Review



Eric and Eva

### We love to Read Bilingual Books

We enjoyed the book *Rene Has Two Last Names*.



The book was relatable to us. We have two last names. Just like Rene, our last names remind us of our grandparents.

The book made us happy.

There must be other kids like us with two last names. Our last names are long, but we love to have both mom and dad's last names to remind us of where we come from and our abuelos.

Eva and Eric are in a kindergarten Dual Language class. We are Twins! Which means we share a birthday together. We enjoy reading and learning. Eric likes math, playing baseball, dancing folkloricó, painting, and spending time with his family. Eva likes dancing folkloricó, crafts, fashion, shopping, and spending time with her family.

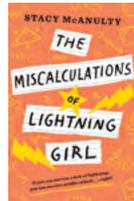
## Yoona's Review



Yoona C.

### The Math Girl

In *The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl* by Stacy McAnulty the main character's name is Lucy. Lucy was struck by lightning. She loves math, and is actually a genius with math! Lucy most of all loves pi. If she doesn't sit, stand 3 times pi appears and keeps



going in her head. Lucy is homeschooled and lives with her Grandmother. She is ready to go to college, but her grandmother insists and forces her to go to middle school for at least 1 year. Her grandmother says to make 1 friend, join one activity, and read one book. Later on, the school has a project where you have to help places, or people in need. Lucy and her friends plan to help a dog shelter. She later finds a dog named Cutie Pi and instantly falls in love. Lucy's Grandmother soon finds a school that is good for her intelligence, but she's not sure if she wants to go... Does Lucy decide to leave the school and friends? I like this book because there are a lot of changes in this book, which makes it more interesting.

Yoona is a 4th grader. She likes to read books and create stories. She also enjoys playing soccer.



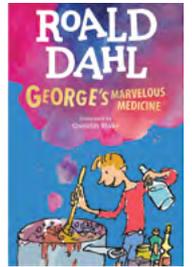
## Daniel's Review



Daniel H.

### Crazy Medicine

*George's Marvelous Medicine* by Roald Dahl is a really funny book about a boy, George, who has to give his mean grandmother her medicine one day. George decides that her medicine is not



strong enough because she takes it every day but she doesn't get any nicer. Then he swaps his grandmother's medicine with medicine he makes using crazy ingredients. Funny things start to happen! You'll have to read the book to see what they are. It will make you laugh!

Daniel is in third grade and he likes to spend time with his family playing board games, reading, and playing sports like tennis, basketball, and bowling.

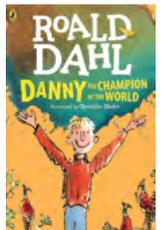
## David's Review



David H.

### Father and Son

*Danny the Champion of the World* by Roald Dahl is about Danny, who lives with his father, who runs a gas station. Danny's mom died when Danny was a baby. He loves his father and thinks he is the best father in the world. Danny's



father even taught him how to assemble a small car engine when he was 7! One night, Danny's father disappears and Danny goes out to find him. That's when Danny discovers his father's dark secret...

You'll have to read the book to find out more! I really liked this book because it has a lot of heartwarming moments, especially between Danny and his father. It also has many funny moments. I highly recommend this book!

David is in fifth grade and he loves to read and play piano. He likes math and activities such as tennis, basketball, and bowling.

## 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. This book series is 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.

Aubtin is a 1st Grader. When not playing, Aubtin does writing, reading, and drawing. He also likes sports, swimming, music, computers, and trains. He cares a lot about his family and friends.

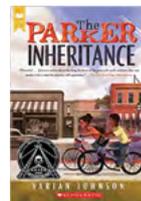
## Kailani's Review



Kailani T.

### Solve Clues for \$40 million!!!

*The Parker Inheritance* is a part historical and part realistic fiction written by Varian Johnson. The book is about a 12-year-old girl named Candice who spends a summer in her grandmother's house in Lambert, South Carolina after her parents'



divorce. Candice makes friends with Brandon, an 11-year-old neighbor. The children found an old mysterious letter in Candice's grandma's attic. The letter states that there is a multimillion-dollar fortune for whoever solves the clues. Is this letter real? What is the purpose of the person creating the clues? Will Candice and Brandon succeed in solving the mystery of the letter?

This is a complex book to read. I think readers can experience fun, mystery, and suspense all in this book. It is over 350 pages long, but I can hardly put the book down. There is also plenty of history readers can learn by reading this book. I give this book 5 out of 5 stars and would highly recommend it to anyone who likes mystery and suspense.

Kailani is a 5th grader who loves to read. When not reading, Kailani likes to play with her brother, jump on the trampoline, listen to music, and ride horses.

## Road Trip–Word Search Contest

**Rules!** One word in the list is NOT in the word search.  
When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: [Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com) (Please put PYLUSD in the subject line)

Entries must be received by July 15, 2023

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

MAPS	SUNGLASSES
BLANKET	WATER
GPS	SUNSCREEN
PILLOW	CLOTHING
MOTEL	CELL PHONE
HUMOR	RADIO
HOTEL	MONEY
CAMERA	FLASHLIGHT
CAR GAMES	CREDIT CAR
BOOTS	SPARE TIRE
SNACKS	



Congratulations to **Madeleine & Sullivan Jackson** Winners of our February Contests!

## Sourish's Review



**Sourish M.**

### The Activists of Justice!

The word Swindle has a meaning of deception or someone who is trying to get something valuable from others. This book exactly depicts Swindle in the story as Griffin Bing, the main character, and his friends Ben Slovak, Savannah Drysdale, Melissa Dukakis, Antonia "Pitch" Benson, and Logan Kellerman try to get something of extreme value back to them from a very devious man... They were forced to invite Darren Vader, a bully who makes fun of Griffin to later help the team. There is also the pawn shop owner, who is the main antagonist and trickster, Mr. Palomino. *Swindle* is packed full of suspense, action, and comedy! The relationship between these friends shows how when having a goal and working together as a team, anything is possible! The author, Gordon Korman describes how there are two types of people in the world, the greedy, and those that fight for justice.



Sourish M. is a seventh grader who is enthusiastic to learn more and experience new things. He likes Science and Reading, plays soccer, basketball, guitar, and has fun with friends and family. Sourish loves to spend long hours coding and expanding his experiences by traveling with his family.

## Taeyoung's Book Review



**Taeyoung K.**

### To "Click" In

Title: *Click*  
Author: Kayla Miller

Have you ever heard of a "clique"? It's a group that you "click" with. Finding one is sometimes difficult, especially for Olive. Olive and

her classmates are planning their acts for the 5th grade variety show, but Olive doesn't quite know what she wants to do. All her friends have their cliques and she's the only one who isn't "clicking" with anything.

"Click" is a book that honestly is relatable. Life's ups and downs, and everyday things. No matter who's reading it, the story is mostly very light and is suited for all types of readers. So, if you're looking for a book filled with staccato bursts of energy, choose Click.



Taeyoung K. is a 7th grader. She loves reading books and writing her own stories. Also, she likes to draw and play video games.

## Day at the Beach –Word Search Contest

**Rules!** One word in the list is NOT in the word search.

When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: [Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com) Please put PYLUSD in the subject line.

Entries must be received by July 15, 2023

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

- |            |               |
|------------|---------------|
| SUN BLOCK  | SURF BOARD    |
| TOWELS     | FLOAT         |
| SWIM SUIT  | SHIRT         |
| SUNGLASSES | SANDWICHES    |
| UMBRELLA   | SHORTS        |
| HAT        | CHAP STICK    |
| FLIP FLOPS | FIRST AID KIT |
| PAIL       | COOLER        |
| SHOVEL     | DRINKS        |
| BLANKET    | SNACKS        |
| BOOK       |               |



# RAISED ON ROCKVIEW

Rockview Family Farms proudly serves schools throughout Southern California. Choosing local means fresh, delicious, and nutritious milk for your family! Dairy and dairy-free options now at a store near you.



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