

MLA Bulletin:

Week of October 21, 2019

October Highlight: Fit MLA

In the images below, see our friendly and fit 3rd graders learning a new friendly kickball game with Maestro Jose, and our flexible fourth and fifth graders in a group stretch, led by Casi and Armando. It has been wonderful watching our incredible staff and students challenge each other through friendly competition and teamwork. Please remember to send your students to school in safe shoes so that they can participate in all fitness activities.



Whole School Updates

Visit our website to see all events listed on our Family Calendar: <https://melroseleadershipacademy.org/>

School Culture Reminders

- **Cell Phones:** Students should not have cell phones out while at school or school events (this includes on transportation to fieldwork). This also includes during recess and before and afterschool. If students need to call home, they can use the phones in the main office.

Grading

- **Middle school:** Please continue to check Jumprope with your child. If you have questions or concerns, please contact your child's crew leader.

Attendance:

- It is critical that your child come to school every day, both to support their learning and to support their continued sense of belonging in our community.
- If you need to take your child out of school, please follow the procedures below:
 - **If your child is sick or has a doctor's appointment,** please call the main office to excuse their absence. If they are sick for more than 2 days, you will need a doctor's note to excuse their absence.
 - **If you have a family emergency that is less than 5 days,** please call the main office to let Sheila, Maria, or Adriana know.
 - **If you have a family emergency that is 5 days or more,** your child will need to complete an independent study packet so that they can continue learning while they are out of school. To request a packet and contract, please contact Adriana in the front office at least 72 hours in advance of your child's scheduled absence. She will ask you to sign a contract and will request a work packet from your child's teachers. If the absence is unplanned and you anticipate it will last for more than 5 days, please contact Adriana and share the circumstances with her. If she is able to create a contract and packet for you, she will, but we can not guarantee that contracts and packets requested last-minute will be honored.
 - **Please submit your child's work to your child's teacher upon their day of return.**

New Recess Schedule

- **Note:** beginning Monday, October 22, the following grades will have altered recess schedules to support with behavior during recess, to provide a safe and predictable transition back to class with their teachers, and to give students optional additional time to eat their lunch outside:
 - **2nd Grade and 3rd Grade:** Instead of recess then lunch, students will go to lunch, then recess. Should they choose to take their lunch outside with them to get extra eating time, they may do so. This block of time will still run from 11:25-11:55, with class resuming at 12. Their teachers will meet them on the yard to pick them up.
 - **Middle School:** Instead of recess then lunch, students will go to lunch, then recess. Should they choose to take their lunch outside with them to get extra eating time, they may do so. This block of time will still run from 11:08-11:38, with class resuming at 11:40. They will continue to walk themselves to class.

Error in MLA Calendar!

- **NOTE: WE DO HAVE SCHOOL ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1!**



- An error was made in the online calendar and some families were led to believe that we do not have school on November 1. **We DO have school on November 1.** There will be **no after school program** on November 1 (hence the confusion). If your child is absent on Friday, November 1, this absence will not be excused.

MLA School Site Council

- We met last Thursday, October 10 from 5:30-7pm in Maestro's Jose's room for our 2nd SSC meeting of the year. In this meeting, we voted in our new SSC, including our first ever student representative! **Congrats Taino Mesa!**
 - Student SSC Members: Taino Mesa (6th grade)
 - Family SSC Members: Elena Perez, JT Taylor, Andrea Lowe, Luis Ceja
 - Teacher SSC Members: Anabel West, Andy Acosta Acevedo, Caroline Miazgowicz
 - Staff SSC Members: Holly Welch
 - Principal SSC Member: Bri Zika
 - [SSC Agenda: October 10, 2019](#)
- **Our next SSC meeting will take place on Thursday, November 14, from 5:3--7pm.**

MLA SELLS Committee

- Last Friday, our SELLS Committee was established.
- Please find the notes [here](#) from the SELLS Establishment Meeting.
- The next SELLS meeting will take place on Friday, November 1 at 8:30am.

Blueprint School Design Team

- We are one day away from officially announcing the MLA design team. Thank you to all of you who cast your vote for your family representative. Due to the multiple staff absences last week, we are waiting until all votes are in on Monday to count and tally the final family votes.
- We will announce the final team tomorrow via email. The MLA Expansion Design Team will hold its first meeting on Tuesday, October 29, and we will share our notes publicly so that families can follow along.

Upcoming Events

- **Monday, October 21:** Picture Day -- Free dress!
- **Wednesday, October 23:** Power Hour
- **Sunday, October, 27:** Walking Club
- **Wednesday, October 30:** Dia de los Muertos Celebration (6:30-8pm)
- **Thursday, October 31:** Free Dress Day (No costumes, please)
- **Saturday, November 2:** Green Team Meeting and POSSIBLE Parent Volunteer Day (note -- we may need support moving some curriculum around on this Saturday)

Section 2: PTSA News

Celebrations

- Thanks to the families who helped lead another successful MLA Clothing Swap this weekend!



Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

- October 21st - **Picture Day**, contact Sheila in the front office to volunteer
- October 30th - **Día de los Muertos**, [click here for the volunteer sign-up sheet](#), more info below
- **Saturday, November 2:** Green Team Meeting and POSSIBLE Parent Volunteer Day (note -- we may need support moving some curriculum around on this Saturday)

FOR MORE VOLUNTEER INFORMATION EMAIL drtarastoop@gmail.com

MLA Family Group Updates

Saludos! Note -- please leave the cones outside next to the sidewalk in the morning after drop-off, so that folks aren't encouraged to park in our drop-off zone during the day

- **Week of October 21:** Families of **Maestra Amara's** class are scheduled to help with Saludos this week. Please contact your Room Parent if you're available to help.
- **Week of October 28:** Families of **Maestra Bean's** class are scheduled to help with Saludos this week. Please contact your Room Parent if you're available to help.
- Please read the [Saludos Tip Sheet](#) to learn about your class' Saludos week and to learn how to be a helpful Saludos volunteer.

Padres Unidos

- Padres Unidos is organizing **Día de los Muertos** celebration on October 30th, and will set up the "Altar" over the next weeks, please feel free to send any pictures, offerings, Literary Calaveritas, letters, etc. (no fresh food or bread please), and leave it at Maxwell office so we can add it to our Altar de Día de Muertos.
- Next Meeting is Friday morning, November 1.

Families of the African Diaspora

- **Annual OUSD Martin Luther King Oratorical Competition**
OUSD is hosting the 41st MLK speech competition. Students from K-12 can recite original poetry or speeches or groups can perform poetry, speeches or scenes. For the past few years MLA students have participated and we would love to continue to showcase our student's talent with the Oakland community. Stay tuned for more information and visit the competition website (<https://www.ousd.org/mlkoratorical>) or if you have questions reach out to:

Kira Greer
zuleka@gmail.com

Walking Club

- Join other MLA families for fresh air, nature and exercise with the MLA Walking Club. We'll meet next on Sunday October 27 from 10-12 at Lake Temescal. Bring water and snacks or your lunch and meet in the parking lot on the Broadway Terrace side. Questions? Text Jen García (English/Spanish) 510-610-7626 or Katie McLane (English) (925)324-2168



Section 3: Sherman campus

Dia de los muertos

- Please contact Beatriz beatriz.ferrer@ousd.org if you are able to help with decorations for this celebration at Sherman.

Before Care at Sherman

- If you need before care for your child, please contact beatriz.ferrer@ousd.org to sign up. Before care takes place in Maestra Caroline's classroom (portable A). We ask for a \$60 monthly donation. Please pay by cash or check payable to MLA PTSA at the Sherman main office.
- **Important: If you are not on the before care list, please drop your children off between 8:10 to 8:40 am and use the MLA drop off gate.**

Sherman campus Questions? Please email beatriz.ferrer@ousd.org

