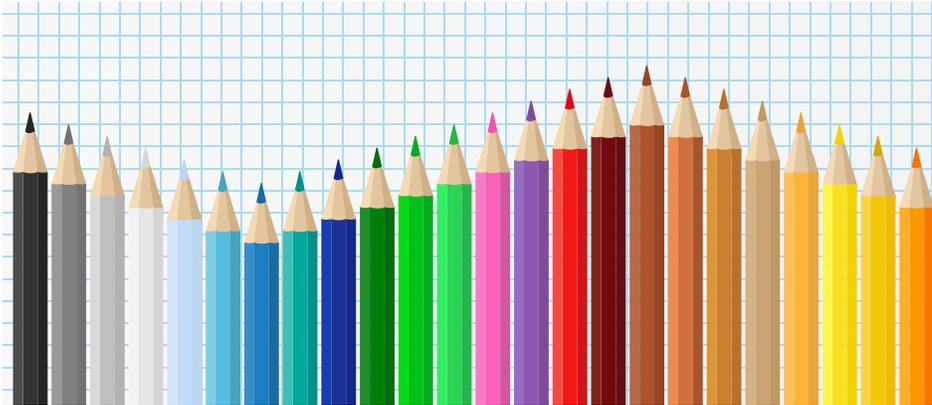


The Chronicle

ISSUE 04 / JANUARY 2020



From the Director's Desk:

Ms. Ghonouie

Welcome back and Happy New Year to all our Carden families! Can you believe that we are already half way through the school year? It seems like only yesterday that the children were excited about the commencement of the new school year. It makes me happy to see how confident the students have become as they take on the challenges of new subject matter and an enhanced curriculum. I also enjoy watching the performances, as the children's creative self-assurance builds on stage with each assembly, play, etc.

I would like to thank our teachers and parent volunteers for their tireless work in making our fundraisers and school events so successful! It is always a pleasure to see our community come together for our school and children. I am so proud of our school and look forward to seeing more great enhancements in the near future!

I would like to remind everyone that our Open House is fast approaching and I encourage you to invite your families and friends to see all of the amazing projects that will be on display and also to get a sneak peek at what will be in store for your children when they progress to the next grade. We have so many exciting new programs coming to our school and I am looking forward to sharing them with you at Open House. We look forward to seeing all of you and your guests on that day!

STUDENT *of the* MONTH

Carden recognizes these students for exhibiting fine citizenship!

JANUARY

JK	Hannah Krueger
K	Harvey Levine
1st	Sophia Chalk
2nd	Gideon Sowards
3rd	Carlos Miranda
4th	Adeline Taylor
5th	Jana Saade
6th	Ben Thatcher
7th	Dean Smith
8th	Shaadi Morakkabi

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR!

MONDAY, FEB. 3rd
through
FRIDAY, FEB. 7th



Upcoming EVENTS

Feb. 3-7

Scholastic Book Fair

Feb. 7

All-School Open House
6pm

Feb. 13

3rd Grade's Presidents' Day Assembly
8:45am

Feb. 17

Presidents' Day Observed
No School

Preschool

We enjoyed all the festivities around the Holidays and participating in our school's Holiday program. Ms. Murga did a wonderful job getting all the children ready for the performance! The junior kindergarten class started art appreciation and really enjoys looking and talking about the different paintings. The children in the pre-primary class and the two and three year old class were busy with holiday arts and crafts, while learning new skills, like hand-eye coordination, holding crayons and paint brushes the correct way, and strengthening their small muscles through these projects.



Kindergarten: Mrs. Metz

January has been a busy month after getting back from our winter break. The highlight of this month was a field trip to the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach. We had a wonderful time learning about the ocean and all the amazing creatures that live in the oceans on planet Earth. Our science theme has been the winter season, along with learning about the North and South Poles. For literature, I read a variety of books about the Gingerbread Boy/Man and Gingerbread Girl. The class discussed what was the same and what was different in each book. To finish off this literature unit, the first grade joined our class to decorate and eat gingerbread cookies. We had a fun time together! In Social Studies, we finished our study of the Native Americans and famous Americans, like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rosa Parks. I am pleased with the progress my students have made learning to read. They increase their reading skills each day at the morning Teaching Table during our reading lesson time. I wish all the Carden families a great year ahead!



2nd Grade: Mrs. Lambert

After enjoying a restful winter vacation, 2nd grade came back to school and got right to work. Throughout the month, we have focused on mastering our multiplication facts 0-6, worked on more challenging subtraction concepts, like borrowing, and introduced place value to the 100s. We have also been completing all our work in cursive!!!! In reading, the students have enjoyed learning about all the new activities and skills the Bluebird family has acquired. We will begin our new reading book *Old Mother West Wind* in February. The complex vocabulary and plots will continue to challenge the students and increase their sustained concentration. Please look for the scripts for our new play to come home in February.

3rd Grade: Mr. Henderson

Third Grade is starting 2020 with tremendous momentum as we continue learning! The students continue to learn at a fast pace and expectations are extremely high now that routines have been firmly established. The students have been learning about elements of time, multi-step multiplication, division, and word problems. We've also continued our study of the parts of speech, grammar, and punctuation mechanics. New spelling and vocabulary are consistently introduced on a weekly basis. The more words, the better. Third grade is an amazing journey and we remain excited about the challenges ahead!



1st Grade: Ms. Vardeman

Students have had many projects this winter season, like winter folklore, snowmen, polar bears and penguins, while discovering how animals survive the winter. Winter is the perfect time to experience weather and to observe what's taking place in our garden. This month, students were introduced to adding double digit numbers, graphing, and multiplication facts of the 2's. Reading has been enjoyed by all. Boys and girls have been discovering new vocabulary words from *The Green and Blue Book* reader. First grade will begin studying *The U.S. Symbols, Presidents* and our United States in February.



4th Grade: Mrs. Hashin

The fourth graders are learning a lot! The students are refining their multiplication and division skills in math. Students are also learning to add and subtract fractions. The class just finished the unit on Greek and Roman myths. The students have finished reading the stories and doing the projects associated with the stories, and are creating a book of myths. They are very excited to have their parents see all of their hard work displayed for Open House. In social studies, we are learning about California's Spanish era. The students are working on their mission report and project. They will be out for Open House. Science is all about rocks and the rock cycle. The day is very full!

English & Literature: Ms. DeLoa

The Junior High performed so well for the Civil Liberties Assembly honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks, and other Civil Rights leaders. Thank you Junior High for doing such an awesome job honoring those true American heroes. The pizza boxes for the pizza box book reports were amazing! I have such amazingly talented students. They were so creative and decorated so beautifully. I can tell each student took a lot of time and effort to put their pizza boxes together. In January, the Junior High has begun practicing for their spring play, The Enchanted Bookshop. Every student has a part and every student is integral to the play being a success. Rehearsals have begun and will continue for the rest of the school year. Each student needs to be here for the rehearsals every Tuesday and Thursday. The performances are less than 5 months away and we have a lot of work to do to pull this play together and transform our stage into an enchanted bookshop. The play is a huge endeavor the junior high is undertaking, but I know they will be successful at it. I look forward to seeing you all at the performance on Friday, May 29th.



Music: Ms. Murga

Happy New Year to all! Open House is fast approaching and all of my students are very busy finishing their tests and seatwork in music theory, and the instruments of the orchestra projects and composer papers. The Kindergarten through Fourth grade students are learning about the different families of the orchestra. Each grade had a particular family of the orchestra to study, and are enjoying crafting their own musical instruments based on the family they learned in class. The Junior Kindergarten excitedly finished their rhythm instruments in class. The Junior Kindergarten through Fifth grades enjoyed doing their music arts, by listening to classical music and then drawing inspiration from the music, as well as learning the names of the composer and the title of the classical music they listened to in class. The First grade through Fifth grade students were challenged to draw a picture of the composer they learned in class. The Kindergarten and Preschool students were encouraged to color the picture of the composer they learned in class. According to University of Irvine studies, The Classical Music Effect on children is positive and evident: *“Exposure to music at an early age can enhance childhood development of the brain.”*

Spanish: Ms. Garza

Hola Carden Familia! This New Year is coming with a lot of new adventures and challenges for all. One of the great advantages of teaching Spanish is that all students and teachers can learn and explore any subject that is of interest to them. Also acquiring a second language improves your memory and increases your attention span. Moreover, the process of becoming bilingual exercises your brain, challenges you to concentrate and boosts your problem solving skills. This January we started eating the “Rosca de Reyes”, it is a Latin pastry traditionally eaten on January 6th during the celebration of the Día de Reyes (“Kings’ Day”), which commemorates the arrival of the three Magic or Wise Men. The students are improving their vocabulary using the dictionary Español-Ingles every day, doing crossword puzzles and word searches. The little ones are singing and coloring and playing games like “La lotería Mexicana”. 8th grade is working with a project that involves knowledge of anatomy and biology. 7th grade are working on the construction of a ship that has the ability to float. This is teaching us about the principle of Archimedes and the qualities of the different materials that can be used for the project. Students will present their final project in Spanish. We are driving between common phrases, numbers, letters and colors. In addition to this, we begin this month with the practice of meditating a minute before starting our lesson. In this way, the students can learn how to be present and focus. (Research shows that mindfulness skills improve memory, organizational skills, reading and math scores, all while giving kids the tools they need to handle stress). Thank you all, heartfelt wishes for a better and brighter 2020!!



Math & Science: Mrs. Sowards

Happy New Year Carden Families! We may be halfway through the year, but we are in no way slowing down. Fifth grade finished up the semester by wrapping up our work with multiplying and dividing decimals. They learned how to work with decimals in an algebraic sense and within the metric system. Now when decimals show up in other aspects of math, the students are comfortable enough to work through the problem. Sixth grade closed the first semester working on several operations with factors. We began the second semester with fraction work. Pre-Algebra closed the first semester with Rational numbers and they got a small peek into what Algebra will include. We have just begun understanding how to work with fractions in positive and negative forms. Algebra One has been working hard on understanding how to solve and graph linear functions (one of my favorite topics!). Soon we head into solving a series of equations (another favorite!). In Science, all grades have started the groundwork for their Science Fair Projects. Soon it will be time to start those experiments and record all the data. I'm very excited to see how all these projects turn out!



Happy Birthday!

JANUARY

- 2 Logan Kersch
- 3 RJ Tajanlangit
- 5 Ms. Vardeman
- 7 Harvey Levine
- 18 Braeden Smith
- 24 Jessica Ha
- 26 Michael Ginnett

FEBRUARY

- 4 Arrow Pa
- 6 Olivia Burnham
- 7 Jorge Mendoza
- 12 Shaadi Morakkabi
- 12 Shaheen Morakkabi
- 15 Jax Taylor
- 16 Lilianna Sowards
- 21 Kacie Dillon
- 22 Saylor Holloway
- 22 Ruby Holloway
- 24 Rylee Hill
- 28 Kallen Smith

Junior High: Mr. Wilkinson

Happy new year Garden families. 2019 came and went very quickly and I expect 2020 to be the same. I think this is a good opportunity for us all to reflect on the last year, and focus on the positive changes we can make in 2020. In a world where technology is leading our lives in more ways than we realize, it's important to put down our smart phones for a time and rediscover communication. I am reminding myself of this as well. The 5th grade students have been studying elements, properties of elements and now chemical reactions. We recently completed a chemical reaction lab using antacid tablets and water. In this lab, the goal was for students to be able to recognize the difference of independent vs. dependent variables in a science experiment. Students should remember this and be able to identify them for their upcoming science fair projects. In social studies, we have been studying the foundations of our original colonies and learning about how slavery shaped our country. Students understand the humans were traded in the triangular trade as property, and that many did not survive the horrible conditions on the ship routes across the Atlantic Ocean. Students also understand this free labor made our country very prosperous, but while this prosperity was happening, so were the atrocities associated with owning human beings.

The 6th grade students have been studying ancient Chinese culture, philosophy and religion. During this time, students have learned about Confucianism and how this thought shaped early and present day Chinese culture. Students have also learned that the geography of China played a huge role in the development of their culture. In addition to our Earth science curriculum, we are preparing for the science fair. I also had the sixth grade students perform the antacid lab (they had not performed it before). The goal for them was not only to be able to perform a science experiment by following a written procedure, but also be able to identify the independent variable (the variable you can change or control). Students should also be able to identify the dependent variable (the variable) that changes as a result of the independent variable.

The 7th grade students continue to read the Aeneid and discuss the contents and complex themes. We should be finishing up in the next couple of weeks and moving on to our new novel, The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. In addition to comprehending what we've read, each week the seventh grade students are learning new vocabulary words and various forms of these words.

Our 8th grade students continue every week to learn the spelling of 50 spelling words. By the end of January, they will have mastered the spelling of 1,000 words. As I stated in my previous newsletter, they continue helping each other master words as nouns, verbs and adjectives, and they are able to use these words appropriately in sentences.



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