

# Monthly Matador - February 2018



Shehzad Bhojani, Principal  
Kay Hoard, ELS  
Jen Veneracion, Title I Coordinator  
Kelly Howard, IB Coordinator  
Phone: 909-594-0053  
Fax: 909-595-943



## February 2018 EVENTS

FEB. 7: School Site Council Meeting: 3-4pm  
FEB. 8: 5<sup>th</sup> Gr Panorama Pictures: 8:30am  
FEB. 8: Chinese New Year Performance-MPR  
FEB. 9: Student of the Month Assembly-MPR  
FEB. 12 - 16: BOOK FAIR WEEK-Library  
FEB. 15: Family Science Night: 6:30pm-MPR  
FEB. 16: Donut Day @Book Fair: 7:30am-Library  
FEB. 16: Jump Rope for Heart  
FEB. 17: CJM Family Movie Day @ Harkins Theatre  
**FEB. 19: Presidents Day Holiday-NO SCHOOL**  
FEB. 20: CJM Community Club Meeting: 9:30am  
FEB. 21&22: Student Visitors from China  
FEB. 22: M.A.C. Applications due  
**FEB. 23: Staff Development Day- NO SCHOOL**  
FEB. 28: TK Field Trip: Kids Space Museum  
FEB. 28: ASD/Outreach: Horse Day Field Trip

## Social Tip / Attitude for February

Mrs. Oshiro / Speech

Last week we talked about and practiced kindness all week long. We smiled at more people, we wrote kind notes, we invited students we didn't always play with to join our groups and play games with us. It was fun and it felt good to see the happiness on the faces of others.

Let's continue that trend focusing on the IB attitudes of Respect, being polite and kind to yourself and others, and Integrity, being honest and telling the truth. One of the best ways to make new friends is while we play games with them. It gives us an activity to do together, and we learn more about each other. When we play games we must remember to always be truthful. (Please don't be tempted to cheat or be dishonest, that leads to bad thoughts.) CJ Morris is in the business of creating good thoughts. Let's give others good thoughts, and continue the kindness we started last week.

*Have a great month by being Respectful Matadors of Integrity!*

## Principal's Message

The 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester is quickly coming to an end. Please be sure to talk with your child about putting forth their best effort, studying hard and completing all their assignments as they close out the trimester.

We have begun enrollment for **new students** for the 2018-2019 school year. Please visit our website under the "Bulletin Board" tab for information and to download the paperwork to start the enrollment process. Current CJM students are rolled over to the new school year automatically.

We celebrated "Kindness Week" last month, and are celebrating Black History Month in February by exploring the contributions of the many diverse individuals and groups in our country. We also have some Chinese students visiting CJM. We are looking forward to sharing our IB attitudes, and PYP program with them.

Mr. Bhojani



## CJM RECYCLING CHALLENGE

Bring in recyclables - plastic bottles and aluminum cans from home.

**FEB 1 - FEB 28**

## Mrs. Howard: IB/PYP

It is amazing to think we are already more than halfway through the school year! At C.J. Morris we are always striving to build global citizens through the Learner Profile Attributes. There are 10 attributes of the Learner Profile. One of these attributes is to be an inquirer. Inquiry helps our students maintain enthusiasm and a high interest in what they are learning. Teachers at our school do this is through inquiry-based lessons. Inquiry is the process of allowing students to question, research and investigate concepts to gain knowledge about a subject. Allowing our students to ask questions increases their motivation and involves them in planning the direction of their inquiries. We look forward to the exciting inquiries our students will be engaged in this month as many grade levels begin new Units of Inquiry. Check with your child(ren) to find out what they are inquiring about at C.J. Morris!

## SAFETY REMINDERS

- Guest Parking Spots are **NOT** to be used for pick-up & drop-off. Please use the drive-thru lane in the upper parking lot for drop-off & pick-up.
- Use the sidewalk to walk to and from school. Avoid any foot traffic in parking lots.
- The parking lots are for staff parking only.

**Transitional Kindergarten:** This school year is flying by! In this month, we will continue to focus on the initial letter sounds in words, and enhance our phonological awareness with nursery rhymes. We will also begin to break apart and put together compound words since this is an end of the year learning objective for our TK students. In math, we will review how groups can have *more* or *fewer* objects, and different ways to sort. Most of the class is counting fluently up to 20, so please continue to practice this at home. In our IB unit of "matter," we will continue to observe how matter can change. Our TK kids have truly enjoyed conducting our science experiments and have extended their curiosities to a new level. Throughout the month, we look forward to celebrating Valentine's Day and Chinese New Year. For our next cultural unit of study, we will begin to learn more about Chinese New Year and other unique aspects of the Chinese culture.

**Kindergarten:** We love Kindergarten! This month we will be starting our new IB unit: Sharing the Planet. We will study the connection between living and nonliving things in their environment. We will make observations about the weather and graph it. Students will be able to identify the four seasons. They will also be reading informational texts about animals and how they adapt to their environment. In reading, we will focus on re-telling a story by identifying characters, the setting, and the beginning, middle and end of the story. In writing, we will continue to write opinion pieces giving specific reasons why we like or don't like particular things. We will write a short paragraph on a given topic. In math, we will be learning about partners to 10, creating math equations, and introducing solid shapes. It will be a great month!

**First Grade:** We are so excited to announce we have our field trip booked to The Lewis Family Playhouse at Victoria Gardens in Rancho Cucamonga to see the play "Frederick". This play, based on a book by the author Leo Lionni, goes great with our PYP unit of How We Express Ourselves. We are looking forward to expressing ourselves in our writing and other forms of medium such as painting, drawing, dance/movement, and music. Look out you may see one of our first graders in the talent show later in the year! We also want to say a great big thank you to the Green Pets, Beauty of Sharing Program, for coming in and talking with each student group and their pet and about how to take special care when watering. We are also hoping to visit the Huntington Library again like last year for our other field trip. More info to come soon. We are going to have a great month preparing for amazing adventures to come.

**Second Grade:** Second graders are hard at work on their "people make a difference in the world" planner. They have chosen their heroes and are beginning to research and write about them in class. Students will work at home to prepare an action figure/doll, poster, or slide presentation about their heroes. In math, we are wrapping up our unit on subtraction and will begin our unit on time and graphing within the next week or so. Second grade's Edible Garden is flourishing. Students have been harvesting herbs and vegetables, with the invaluable assistance of the Beauty of Sharing Foundation volunteers.

**Third Grade:** 2018 continues to be a full and exciting year. In math, we will be going into unit 6 on polygons, perimeter, and area. This is a fun unit with lots of hands-on activities. In language, we will also be in unit 6 called Making Decisions. The essential question of this unit is "What Helps Us Solve Problems?" We look forward to reading about how characters use problem-solving strategies in the literature. Our next IB planner will be on How We Organize Ourselves or how the different governments help people stay organized. We continue to stress the need for typing skills and reading each week. Keep up the good work by completing all assignments and treating everyone with respect.

***"Intelligence plus character – that is the true goal of education"***

***- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.***

**Fourth Grade:** In fourth grade, we are beginning our study of fractions. We are going deeper into the different operations and how to use them with fractions. We want to be sure we get the biggest piece of the pie!!

Our students will be working on creating the 22<sup>nd</sup> mission in the chain of California missions. There were 21 missions that were built, so our students are creating the next mission on the Camino Real Highway. They are building the mission on Minecraft in the computer lab with the help of our District Tech Coach, Ms. Barry. The students really enjoy working on Minecraft and seeing what life would have been like if they lived at that time.

Fourth grade is also starting to prepare for testing in April. We are starting to practice test-taking skills and review some of the material that we have learned over the year so that the material is fresh in our toolkit to use during testing. We are anxious to show everyone how much we know and have learned.

**Fifth Grade:** Our 5<sup>th</sup>-grade students are beginning the final stretch of the final year at CJM. In math, the kids are investigating math operations and word problems. Our IB/PYP inquiry unit is Where We Are in Time and Place. We will use the Revolutionary War Era to discuss and learn that passion drives people to take action. In science, we are learning about the scientific method and the purpose of experimentation. CJM 5<sup>th</sup> graders are also learning about argumentative/opinion writing and gathering evidence to support their positions on various topics.

**Mrs. Veneracion (TITLE 1):** We are excited to announce Family Science Night here at CJ Morris on Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6:30 pm. Here we will work with Mt. Sac to bring fun science-based activities to all our students. Please make sure to come and enjoy a fun night with your family!

For Title 1, we have begun After School Math Intervention for grades 3-5. There they work on math fluency skills, test prep, and grade level math concepts. A special thanks to Mrs. Haideri, Mrs. Eyestone, Mrs. Sherman, Mrs. Harrington, Mrs. Noelte, and Mrs. Power for taking the time to teach our students after school!

**Rochelle Mortensen: Sometimes You Just Gotta Dance!**

Recent research has shown there is a correlation between **timing and rhythm** and school performance. Neuroscience has proven that music engages more parts of our brain than anything else does. Rhythm is the fundamental aspect of music. Improving **timing and rhythm** also improves attention, coordination, and overall mental alertness that is necessary for learning. It also helps reduce anxiety and improves behavior. Speech, language, and verbal flow and expression also improve. So if your child is struggling in school, get them dancing! Have your student try these activities:

- Stomp to the beat of their favorite song
- Step forward to the 1<sup>st</sup> beat, step to the side to the 2<sup>nd</sup> beat, and step back to the 3<sup>rd</sup> beat, etc.
- Stomp and Clap to the beat
- Try some, body percussions – Keep the beat of the song by slapping thighs, chest, or arms. Get a pattern going!

Repetitive, rhythmic movement is calming, regulating, and energizing. No wonder teens, in particular, love music! In our class, we use **GoNoodle** (<https://www.gonoodle.com>) which is a free website that encourages students to get up and move. Try it at home and **get dancing!**