

Monthly Matador - January 2018



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January 2018 Events

JAN. 8: Welcome Back!
JAN. 8: NED Show Assembly
JAN. 12: Student of the Month Assembly
JAN. 15: Martin Luther King Holiday - NO School
JAN. 17: Coffee with the Principal: 8:30-9:30am- P2
JAN. 22-26: Great Kindness Week
JAN. 26: Kinder Family Learning Day: 8:15-8:45am-MPR
JAN. 26: TK: Let's Play Activity Day: 10:40-11:30am-Rm#4
JAN. 31: CHIK-FIL-A Fundraiser

Principals Message

Happy New Year parents. I hope you had wonderful winter break.

We start 2018 with some exciting programs. Thanks to CJMCC, we will be starting our schoolwide Art Program with "Meet the Masters." Our third graders will begin their dance instruction for 10 weeks this month. The CJM Track team will also begin practicing for the WVUSD Elementary Track Meet this month. Below are a few education related resolutions that can be adopted for 2018.

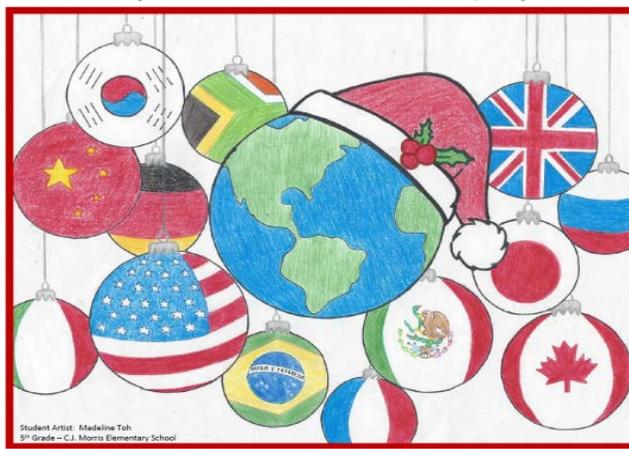
- Establish a consistent routine for your child every day that allocates time for snacks, homework, daily practice, reading, exercise and entertainment.
- Check your child's binder reminder or HW Packet daily at the same time so that it becomes a habit for both you and your child.
- Create a daily family reading time (15-20 minutes) where the entire family silences all technology and reads.

Looking forward to a great 2018. Mr. Bhojani

Mrs. Howard: IB/PYP

Thank you all for your great showing of support for our Night of Giving! It truly was a special time for our community to come together to share and give to others! Happy New Year! It is amazing to think we are already almost half way through the school year! As we head into February, we will be focusing on the attitude of enthusiasm. Enthusiasm is important to help our students maintain a high interest in what they are learning. One of the ways teachers at our IB school do this is through inquiry-based lessons. Inquiry is just the process of allowing students to question, research and investigate concepts to gain knowledge about a subject. 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!

CONGRATULATIONS TO MADELINE TOH FOR
HER ARTWORK BELOW BEING SELECTED
FOR THE SUPT'S HOLIDAY CARD!



Transitional Kindergarten: A new year has begun, and TK kids will start focusing on the letter *Jj*. Throughout the month, we will continue to focus on phonemic awareness and expand our knowledge on rhyming words. Almost all of the class is writing their name now, so please continue to practice this at home. In math, we will review how to label patterns, and begin to emphasize more on counting and comparing (more and less) objects. We will also begin our next IB unit, which will focus on "matter," such as solids, liquids and gases. This will call more experiments, which our TK kids all enjoy ☺ Thank you all for your support and Happy New Year!

Kindergarten: Happy New Year! In January, kindergarten will be wrapping up our IB unit on holidays and celebrations. We had an amazing time learning about holidays around the world, doing art projects, and learning new songs. Our upcoming IB unit will be on plants and animals. As scientists, we will look at weather patterns and animals in their habitat. We will make observations and see how the weather and animals change their environment. We will read a lot of non-fiction texts. Then we will include our new findings and create informational writing pieces about what we learn during this unit. It will be awesome. Math, we will continue to practice our addition and subtraction facts to 10 and teen numbers.

First Grade: This month our fabulous firsties will be inquiring about self-expression in their PYP unit "How We Express Ourselves." We will be looking into how people use stories to express creativity, mediums of art and artists, drama, music, dance and the concepts of sound. We will also be learning about Martin Luther King Jr. and his contributions to our society. In math, students continue to work on problem solving and place value concepts. Students will continue to care for their green pets and will enjoy learning our IB Attitudes of Tolerance and Empathy. Happy New Year!

Second Grade: What makes someone a hero? In our "Where We Are in Time and Place" PYP social studies unit, second graders will explore the attributes and accomplishments of iconic world leaders, scientists, humanitarians, and other heroic individuals. Our language arts introduces us to risk-taking inventors and their revolutionary inventions. We continue to practice the subtraction of triple digit numbers.

Third Grade: Happy New Year! In 3rd grade we are starting many new and exciting lessons. In math we are working in Unit 4 which contains the concepts of place value, rounding and adding and subtracting 3-digit numbers. Our Language unit is "What is the Value of Innovation?" This unit discusses many famous inventors and their contributions to technology. Our PYP unit is about how people, places and symbols create a pride in our country. We will study national parks, national monuments and memorials and their impact on the citizens of our country. This month the 3rd graders will be starting a weekly dance instruction class taught by professional dance instructors. This will help our children appreciate the value of the arts using the discipline of dance. We look forward to a tremendous 2018!

Fourth Grade: Fourth grade is excited to start out the year exploring a study of exploration. We will be looking at explorers who were Risk Takers and discovered new worlds and the implications of their exploration. Explorers can be from our past, such as those who discovered the coast of California, or current day explorers, those who are traveling through space in the International Space Station. Sometimes when explorers go to new lands, they effect the area and its' people in many different ways. We are also working on expressions and equations in math. We are looking at the different types of equations including situation and solution equations. We will also study Graphs and Comparison Problems. As you can see, we start the New Year off hitting the ground running, and ready to work. Welcome back and Happy 2018!!

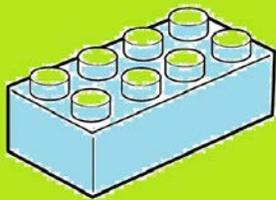
Fifth Grade: We hope you had a restful winter break and are ready to take on the New Year. January is going to be an exciting month. We are continuing our opinion writing and focusing on giving strong reasons to support our opinions. Students had a fun introduction to opinion writing by judging their personal collections and learning how to judge fairly. We are ready to take on positions on bigger issues. In math, we are learning about whole number and decimal division. Students are learning to use strategies based on place value, properties of operations, and relationships between multiplication and division to solve problems. Our IB Planner, "How the World Works" goes right along with our science unit as we learn about how people use science to interact and learn about the natural world. In language arts, students are learning how to identify main idea and key details from non-fiction texts. In this unit, students are reading about cultivating natural resources and comparing multiple texts to gather a deeper understanding. Students are continuing to research current events on different topics and impressing us with their News Cast presentations. Great job, fifth graders!

Mrs. Veneracion (TITLE 1): Imagine Learning Contest

All those that receive an Imagine Learning license are invited to participate in the Imagine Learning Contest that will begin January 8th, 2018 until May 4th, 2018. Those that complete 100 minutes per week for at least 15 of the 17 weeks will get invited to a special pizza party at the end of the year. I can't wait to celebrate with your children! Having trouble accessing Imagine learning at home? Please don't hesitate to email me at jveneracion@wwusd.k12.ca.us.

We're looking for your old Legos and Toys
January 8th - February 5th

We need your old, unwanted Legos and battery powered, mechanical or wind-up toys for our computer science/ STEAM class. They don't even need to work! There is a bin in the office for your donations.



Thank you!
-Mr. Simmons

Rochelle Mortensen: Teaching the Value of Work

New Years is a great time to implement new ideas. As a teacher, I have had many conversations with students about work ethics and social skills. I have been surprised with how many children have shared with me that they do not do chores at home. They do not make their own beds or clean their own rooms. Many have never cleared a table or unloaded a dishwasher. Unfortunately, we are seeing more young adults enter the job force unprepared to put in an eight-hour shift, five days a week. What can we, as parents, do to help our children realize the value of work? Here are some suggestions from the website *All Pro Dad* (<http://www.allprodad.com/10-ways-to-teach-your-children-a-great-work-ethic/>).

1. **Teach by example:** Teach by using "do as I do" to support "do as I say". Be their guide – willing to work alongside them, showing them **how** to do a good job.
2. **Keep family priorities in order:** "Fun after work is done" associates relaxation with completion rather than relaxation as escape.
3. **Take your children with you when you volunteer:** Work associated with service is a key building block to teaching the value and joy of work.
4. **Expose them to stories about heroes who learned the value of work:** Watch movies or read books and articles together that celebrate these men and women's hard work and accomplishments. Then try to emulate their attitudes and values.
5. **Make chores at home a shared responsibility:** Every member of the family should have assigned chores on a routine basis. Change them around, help each other out and take turns with the ones that no one really enjoys. (My children were making their beds, cleaning their rooms, and setting the table when they were three – with help of course.)
6. **Do not pay your children for routine chores:** Children need to learn that there are things you do because you are a member of the family. Be sure to compliment, encourage, and even throw in the occasional treat. Teach them the intrinsic value of working together as a family to have a clean environment in which to live and grow in. (It is okay to pay children for jobs that go above and beyond their normal responsibilities.)

Happy New Year!