



CORAL CANYON ELEMENTARY

Monthly Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2017

VOL. 6

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

When I became principal 4 1/2 years ago, we named ourselves a STEAM school. Then two years ago, we added the R for reading, making this a STREAM school. These were never official or formal titles given from the state or the district, but the basic understanding was that we would focus on Reading being at the heart of all learning, with school-wide activities dealing with Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Music/Math. Our students have been thoroughly enjoying these activities that take place on the second Friday of every month. It is something that we have made a school focus and have budgeted in for each year through our Community Council School Land Trust funds.

I have been fortunate to be able to attend some STEM training with principals around the state this year. I have been learning some fascinating research, as well as more in-depth understanding of what STEM actually means and what it looks like. I would like to focus on something I have been learning and thinking about: fixed mindset vs. growth mindset.

A person with a fixed mindset is afraid to fail and will usually take the easy road. Sometimes this type of person will have a hard time trying new things or looking at new ways to problem-solve because they do not want to be wrong. A person with a growth mindset is not afraid to take a new challenge, a new adventure. This person is not afraid of failure and sees purpose in failure. We at Coral Canyon Elementary are trying to encourage students to have a growth mindset, to allow their minds to be open to problem-solving and deeper understanding. We want our students to feel safe to take a risk, try a new way to solve a problem, allow others to help them understand what happened if they fail.

Parents, I have a challenge for you. Many times, when our children do something good or get their homework right, we automatically respond with, "You're so smart. Good job." While this is not a bad response, it does encourage more of a fixed mindset. A child will believe they are smart and when something gets hard, they will sometimes shut down because they are supposed to be smart, right? There is a way to say the same thing, only being more specific. Try responding with something very specific such as, "You worked extremely hard on your times tables. Good job." or "You stayed on that problem until you figured it out. Way to go." These kinds of responses encourage the growth mindset because it is reinforcing to your child that whatever they just completed was not necessarily easy, but they kept with it until they figured it out. I love the statement of a 10 year old student that said, "Mistakes are our friend." It is OKAY to make a mistake. It is OKAY to let your child fail. Students will learn from their mistakes, growing their brains through hard work, good practice, and help from others.

So go ahead and try it! Find something specific to tell your child they did, rather than just saying, "You're so smart." Challenge your child. I promise you it is okay to do that.

Happy Valentine's Day and SEP week this month! Hope to see you all at the school.

Mrs. Eggleston

Dates to Remember:

{PE is every Wednesday}

02 Feb ----- **STEM Parent Night** 6-8:00p.m.

03 Feb ----- **PTA Meeting** 9:00a.m.

13-17 Feb ----- **SEP Week***

13, 14 Feb ----- **No Kindergarten**

14 Feb ----- *Valentine's Day*

20 Feb ----- **President's Day, No School**

27 Feb – 2 Mar ----- **Dr. Seuss Week**

**Friday Schedule all week*

**From the Reading Teachers:
THERE'S MORE TO READING THAN
JUST SAYING THE WORDS!**

What is reading? Some might answer that it is sounding out words, reading high frequency words, and reading the print with accuracy. While that is important, reading involves a lot more! All readers, at every level, must be thinking about the message on the page.

As a parent, you have the power to develop this important reading skill simply by having conversations and asking questions when reading to or with your child. This talk will help develop memory for details, understanding of events, vocabulary, and how to make connections to our own lives. You will be supporting reading comprehension skills that will last a lifetime!



Dr. Seuss week is coming!

Are you ready to dress the part?

Monday, February 27th - Thursday, March 2nd

- ❖ **MONDAY** - Fox in Socks Day
Wear your silliest or mismatched socks
- ❖ **TUESDAY** - Green Eggs and Ham Day
Dress in green
- ❖ **WEDNESDAY** - Wacky Wednesday
Wacky/crazy hair day
- ❖ **THURSDAY** - Cat in the Hat Day
Wear your favorite hat

Dr. Seuss hats will be for sale outside of the office for \$3 from 8:40am till school starts Monday thru Thursday!



Title I Notes:

Dear Parents:

As you may know, we have been working to implement Positive Behavior Interventions and Support Systems (PBIS) throughout our school. This is a framework which guides **discipline and decision-making** for students at every grade level. Because we are committed to making Coral Canyon a positive and safe environment for every student, we have been working together to create clear and concise rules for students to follow as well as a **well-defined list of consequences that will be consistent throughout the school if and when rules are broken.**

These rules are:

- 1) Be Really Safe.
- 2) Be Respectful.
- 3) Be Responsible.
- 4) Be Ready to Learn.

Students will be taught what each of these rules means in various areas of the school and throughout the school day. **Colorful banners have been posted throughout the school** to remind students of expected behaviors. Students who master and exhibit these behaviors will be recognized through our **Principal's 200 Club.**

It is our hope that by teaching explicit behavior expectations and consequences to our students that we will be successful in **decreasing bullying, classroom disruptions, office referrals, and other disciplinary actions and increase the chances for successful learning opportunities.**

Mr. Nelson Title I Site Coordinator