



Principal's Message

We all want “our” students to do well academically. As teachers and parents, we strive to find the best ways to help them succeed. One of the best ways to support student achievement is to get them to school.

According to a Research Brief from Attendance Works and Child & Family Policy Center, “A key ingredient for ensuring success in school is helping children get into the habit of attending school every day. While going to school regularly will not by itself ensure that children learn, missing extended periods of school certainly puts a child at risk.”

“All children, regardless of socio-economic background, do worse academically in 1st grade if they are chronically absent in kindergarten.” Chronically absent is defined as missing 10 percent or more days of school. So far this year at Linda Vista over 20 students missed more than

5 days out of the 57 we have been in school. That means those 20 students are considered chronically absent.

Also, there is not an excused or unexcused absence, when it comes to absences an absence is an absence. This may be surprising, but what can be more surprising is a “tardy”. Any tardy over 30 minutes in length is considered a truant, unless accompanied by a doctors note.

So why am I sharing this information?

Each day a student is absent means a loss in funding for schools. Every absence means a lost revenue of approximately \$65. With our 486 absences so far this year, we have lost revenue of \$31,362.

Though we know that illness happens and kids need to stay home, we encourage you to send your child to

school as much as possible. Our goal at Linda Vista is to provide your child with the tools they need for academic success. We want them to increase their Potential, develop their Aspirations, multiply their Wisdom, and enhance their Skills.

We are Leopards, We have PAWS!

If you would like to read the entire article stated above, use this link:

<https://www.attendanceworks.org/wp-content/2017/04/Chronic-Elementary-Absenteeism-A-Problem-Hidden-in-Plain-Sight.pdf>



Message from the Health Clerk

Thanksgiving break is upon us and the holiday break is approaching. This makes the perfect time to make doctor appointments for all 6th graders who still need their Tdap booster.

The state of California does not recognize waivers any longer and the Tdap booster is required for middle school enrollment. Once you have documentation of the booster,

please bring in proof to the office so we can update your students information.

Once this is completed, it will make registering for 7th grade almost glitch free.



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Special points of interest:

- 4th Annual Winter Dance—Dec. 6th
- Holiday Sing-a-long—Dec. 20th
- Christmas Break—Dec. 23rd—Jan. 10th

2nd Grade News

It's been a very successful First Trimester in second grade! We have been learning many important reading strategies using our Wonders program. We are learning how to pay attention and think closely about what we are reading. Second graders have learned to identify the story elements in our fiction texts. We have also been practicing to to ask and answer questions while we read and identify key details in the text. Reading is important! We read daily and some of the students were able to make their 20 point Reading Counts goal for the Trimester! Great job second graders!

Another focus has also been in the area of writing. We recently completed a descriptive piece detailing our Spooky Pumpkins we created in class. Those were fun to create and share! We Also practiced our more formal writing using the Write from

the Beginning program. This system of writing consists of brainstorming ideas, choosing our top three ideas to focus on and created a flow map to organize our thoughts. We are already seeing such growth in writing from our thinking maps. Our latest writing was about what we are thankful for during this holiday season. Our students had so many things on their list. Be looking out for these great writing pieces! Keep up the amazing work second grade!



Cell Phones and Electronics

If the student has an emergency, he/she should notify the teacher or main office for assistance. Cell Phones must be turned OFF AT ALL TIMES unless specifically directed by a teacher. They are not to be used at any time during school hours. Smart watches must ONLY be used as a watch during school hours (i.e.-no texting, calling, internet, recording, etc.) Cell phones/smart watches will be

confiscated if in use during school hours. They will only be returned to parents. iPods, portable game systems, and other electronic devices are not allowed at school. Please keep these items at home. The school is NOT responsible for any electronic device that is damaged, lost or stolen at school.



3rd Grade News

Third graders have been very busy these past few months. Students have been busy learning about Native Americans. In order to learn more, students have dove deep into their very first research project. Through the research, students are learning about the region where their tribe lived, homes they lived in, food they ate, clothes they wore, traditions and beliefs they held, and even learning about their government.

While also learning about the many different important facts about Native American tribes, students have created



their own tortilla teepees, clay pots, as

well as learning to weave.

In math, students have been learning multiplication facts and solving multi-step word problems.

We are helping prepare the students for the SBAC by doing more math online through daily quick checks and taking tests online.

Kindergarten News

After completing our science unit on the life cycle of pumpkins, our Kindergarten classes celebrated by going on a field trip to the pumpkin patch. It is safe to say that we enjoyed every minute of our trip. The short ride to Irvine Park was exciting, especially for those who had never been on a school bus!

Highlights of the day were getting lost in the maze, being spooked in the haunted house, and taking a nature walk to the playground. Lastly, everyone selected a pumpkin to take home. While on the bus back to school, one little boy expressed it beautifully for all of us "This was the best day ever! We love field trips!"



TK News

In TK, our children have been working hard not only on developing social skills but on our fine motor skills as well. We are enjoying learning centers in the afternoon where children get to do many activities to help develop the small muscles in their hands, fingers, and wrists.

Our centers include learning to button and zip clothing using baby dolls, hole punching the letter of the week, cutting and pasting the letter of the week, making objects with play dough, sorting objects using tongs, etc. Our learning center provide hands-on approach that promotes participation and learning at the same time.

We love playing with a purpose!



1st Grade News

First graders have been busy learning many new things.

In October, we studied bats, their habitats, what they eat and how they compare to birds.

Through our literature story, Stellaluna, we learned to retell a story by using events that occurred during the beginning, middle and end and transferred that in a writing piece.

During Red Ribbon week our focus was making healthy choices in what we eat and how we can spread kindness to others.



In November, we have been talking about things we are thankful for. We learned

about Veteran's Day and why we home and celebrate our Veteran's.

We will also begin our study of Holidays Around the World.

Free Public Education

.Section 5 of Article IX of the State of California Constitution guarantees students a "free public education."






The State Supreme Court concluded in the 1984 case of Hartzell v. Connell, "that all educational activities carried on by public school districts, extracurricular as well as curricula, must be without cost to the students who participate in such activities." This same ruling found that "mandatory fees for participating in such extra-curricular activities as drama, music, and athletic competition were illegal under the State Constitution." Further-

more,, they also rejected the argument that "fees could be charged so long as the district waived fees for students who were financially unable to pay." Recent proposed legislation includes reimbursement with interest for any illegally-collected fees as well as a district sanction. "Donations are accepted at a classroom, school site, and district level.





December 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Awards Assemblies	4 Big Buddies/ Lil Buddies VAPA	5	6 Winter Dance VAPA	7
8	9 5th gr Planetarium	10 6th Gr OSS Meeting	11 VAPA	12	13 VAPA	14
15	16 6th Gr Walk Thru Ancient World	17 6th gr Whale Watching	18 Big Buddies/ Lil Buddies VAPA	19 1st gr Class Parties	20 Holiday Sing Along	21
22	23 	24 	25 	26	27 Winter Break	28
29	30 	31 				

notes

The entire Linda Vista staff would like
To wish everyone, a very Happy, Safe, and
Family filled Winter Break



January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 	2 WINTER BREAK	3 WINTER BREAK	4
5	6 	7 WINTER BREAK	8 WINTER BREAK	9 	10 	11
12	13 Art Masters Lecture	14 4th gr Science on the Go	15 VAPA	16	17 VAPA	18
19	20 	21 PTA Meeting 8:15 AM	22 Big Buddies/ Lil Buddies VAPA	23	24 Theatre & Choir Showcase VAPA	25
26	27	28	29 VAPA	30	31 VAPA	

EVERY Wednesday is early dismissal

TK-3rd grade—12:10 PM Dismissal
4th-6th grade—12:30 PM Dismissal

notes