



LEOPARD SPOT

MARGARET LANDELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

January 2026

Principal's Message:

A Fresh Start for a Healthy, Safe, and Successful 2026

As we welcome 2026, January offers a meaningful opportunity to reset, refocus, and begin the year with purpose. At Landell Elementary, a fresh start means recommitting to habits, routines, and choices that help our students feel safe, supported, and ready to learn each day.

Returning to school after a long break can take time, and we appreciate the partnership of our families as students transition back into daily routines. Consistent arrival times, healthy sleep habits, and regular attendance all play an important role in helping students feel confident and prepared. When these foundations are in place, students are better able to focus, engage, and grow both academically, and socially.

Inside the classroom, learning is in full swing. Our teachers are guiding students through engaging lessons that encourage curiosity, collaboration, and critical thinking. We are excited to see students explore new ideas, ask thoughtful questions, and build confidence as learners throughout the year.

Student safety continues to be a top priority at Landell. From arrival and dismissal procedures to maintaining a healthy campus environment, we are grateful for the collective efforts of our families, staff, and community partners who help keep our school a safe place for children. Small actions, whether following campus guidelines or modeling healthy choices, make a meaningful difference for our students.

As we begin this new chapter, thank you for your continued support and partnership. Together, we look forward to making 2026 a year filled with growth, learning, and success for every Landell Leopard.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Freedman

Mark Your Calendar!

January 12

School Resumes

January 19

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 20

Tk/k Lunch with Leopard

January 21

Grade 1 Lunch with Leopard

January 26-30

Kindness Week

January 27

Grade 2 Lunch with Leopard

January 30

No School
Staff Development Day

Questions?

Principal

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Harvest of the Month



Our Child Nutrition Services Department has implemented a Harvest of the Month program, students had the opportunity to explore **rainbow beets!** Classrooms investigated the different colors, textures, and characteristics of this nutritious vegetable through hands-on observation and discussion.

Students were encouraged to ask questions, share their observations, and even try something new. Activities like these help students build curiosity, learn about healthy food choices, and make real-world connections to nutrition and science in an engaging way.

Lunch with a Leopard



We are excited to introduce **Lunch with the Leopard**, a new campus event designed to welcome parents and caregivers to share lunchtime with their child at school. This event offers families a special opportunity to connect with students during the school day while strengthening our home-school partnership.

Lunch with the Leopard is organized by grade level to ensure a positive and manageable experience for students and families. We have already hosted two grade-level lunches and look forward to continuing this tradition throughout the year.

Thank you to our families for joining us on campus and helping make these moments meaningful for our students.

Keeping School Areas Smoke Free

A message from the City of Cypress

As we begin the new year, the City of Cypress would like to remind our school community of the importance of keeping school campuses and surrounding areas smoke-free. School grounds are active spaces where students are constantly arriving and leaving — before school, after school, during extracurricular activities, and on weekends. What happens in and around campus directly impacts student health and safety.

Health experts agree that there is **no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke for children.** Even brief exposure can affect students, particularly those with asthma or sensitive airways. Smoke and vapor do not remain in one place and can easily drift through entrances, sidewalks, and gathering areas as children pass by.

To support a healthy learning environment, parents, caregivers, and visitors are reminded **not to smoke or vape on or near school campuses at any time.** This includes parking lots, sidewalks, and areas surrounding school grounds.

Thank you for helping create a safer and healthier environment for all students. Your cooperation supports the well-being of our children and strengthens our school community.

