Excelsior Charter Schools
Volume 1, Issue 8: Pg. 1 April 2026

Student Services News for Excelsior Families

EXCELSIOR TALON TIMES Newsletter

Excelsior Wins Unanimous Renewal from County Board

The San Bernardino County Board of Education has unanimously approved a five-year renewal for Excelsior Charter Schools, recognizing the school's strong academic performance. The 5–0 vote reflects the board's confidence in Excelsior's success in English, mathematics, and college and career readiness.

With this renewal, Excelsior Charter Schools will continue serving students through the 2030–31 school year and beyond, ensuring stability and ongoing support for its educational programs.

The approval is based on the school meeting key academic benchmarks, particularly in core subjects and college/career preparation indicators. The renewal covers the 2025–26 school year and extends beyond, allowing the school to maintain and build upon its current programs.

This milestone would not have been possible without the collective support of the entire Excelsior community. The school extends its gratitude to its dedicated staff, supportive parents, hardworking students, and committed administration for their continued efforts and commitment to excellence.







EXCELSIOR ANNOUNCES TOP SCHOLARS FOR CLASS OF 2026

Excelsior is proud to announce the outstanding academic achievements of the Class of 2026, recognizing three exceptional students who have earned the highest honors for their dedication and excellence.

Valedictorian: *Alan Cisneros from the Ontario campus with a 4.47 GPA*
Salutatorian: *SB County: Loralei Heldreth from the Barstow campus with a 4.45 GPA*
Salutatorian: *Riverside County: Jubilee Perez with a 4.38 GPA*

These three scholars exemplify hard work, determination, and a passion for learning here at Excelsior. Their accomplishments serve as an inspiration to the entire student body. The Excelsior community extends its heartfelt congratulations to Alan, Loralei, and Jubilee. Students and staff are encouraged to recognize and celebrate their achievements when they see them on campus.

We look forward to honoring these remarkable individuals and the entire Class of 2026 at the upcoming graduation ceremony, where we will celebrate their journeys and hear about their exciting plans for the future.

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WELLNESS NEST



APRIL IS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

Every April, schools and communities across the country recognize Autism Awareness Month, a time dedicated to learning about autism and supporting people on the autism spectrum. Autism, also known as Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), affects how individuals communicate, interact with others, and experience the world around them. Because it is a spectrum, people with autism have a wide range of strengths, challenges, and unique perspectives.

Autism Awareness Month encourages everyone to build understanding, acceptance, and inclusion. Many schools participate by wearing blue, hosting educational activities, and sharing information about autism. These efforts help reduce misconceptions and remind us that differences make our communities stronger. Students can support Autism Awareness Month by practicing kindness, learning more about neurodiversity, and including everyone in conversations and activities. Small actions—like being patient, respectful, and open-minded—can make a big difference in creating a welcoming environment for all. By taking time this April to learn and show support, our school community can help promote acceptance and celebrate the diversity that makes each person unique. For more information and support, visit Autism Speaks at www.autismspeaks.org

autism speaks



Autism Society Inland Empire

APRIL 25, 2026 ✳ 12PM - 3PM

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAILWAY MUSEUM PERRIS, CA

2026 AUTISM ACCEPTANCE WALK

- **TRAIN RIDES**
- **FUN ZONE**
- **RESOURCES**
- **VENDORS**
- **FOOD TRUCKS**
- **AND MUCH MORE!**

[Autism Society Inland Empire](#) invites you to **Step into Connection** as they celebrate their **17th Annual Autism Acceptance Walk** - the **largest Autism Walk in Southern California!** Join them at the beautiful **Southern California Railway Museum in Perris** for a meaningful day filled with *community, resources, and fun for the whole family*. Enjoy the **Expanded Family Safety Fair**, tons of local Autism resources, and an uplifting atmosphere ***where every step strengthens the bond within our community.***

REGISTER AND CREATE A FUNDRAISING TEAM TODAY!

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE $5 EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT THRU 4/10!

IEAutism.org

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WELLNESS NEST



April Is STRESS AWARENESS MONTH

April is also Stress Awareness Month, a time to recognize how stress affects our daily lives and learn healthy ways to manage it. Many students at Excelsior balance classes, activities, and personal responsibilities, which can sometimes feel overwhelming.

Common signs of stress include trouble concentrating, headaches, or difficulty sleeping. Taking small steps like staying organized, getting enough sleep, exercising, and talking with friends, teachers, or counselors can help manage stress. Stress Awareness Month reminds us that taking care of our mental health is just as important as our academic success. For resources and support to help manage stress visit the **US Center for Disease Control - Mental Health @ www.cdc.gov/mental-health**

Spring into Success

Spring brings many opportunities, but balancing schoolwork, activities, and responsibilities can sometimes feel stressful for students. Building healthy habits can help students stay focused and maintain a positive mindset.

Simple routines like staying organized, getting enough sleep, and taking short breaks while studying can make a big difference. Time for physical activity, hobbies, and friends can also help students recharge.

Families can support students by checking in regularly, encouraging balance, and reminding them that it's always okay to ask for help. Working together to manage stress helps create a more positive school experience for everyone.



Free Parenting Workshops - Offered by Oak Grove Center

Parenting in 2026 - Oak Grove Center is offering a series of free parenting workshops to help families strengthen communication at home. Therapists will lead presentations that provide practical skills for navigating difficult behaviors, followed by open discussions with other parents facing similar challenges.

All workshops are free and will be held from 5:30–7:00 PM, available in person or via video conferencing for convenience. RSVP is required for both options. After registering, participants joining remotely will receive the video link by email.

The following topics will be covered:

- **April 1 - Anger Management for Parents**
- **April 8 - Utilizing the Internet and Social Media Safety**
- **April 15 - Tantrums vs. Meltdowns: Helping Your Child Manage Distress**
- **April 22 - Setting Healthy Limits and Boundaries / Co-Parenting**

Oak Grove Center

To register or for more information visit **OakGroveCenter.org** or call 951.677.5599 Ext 2255

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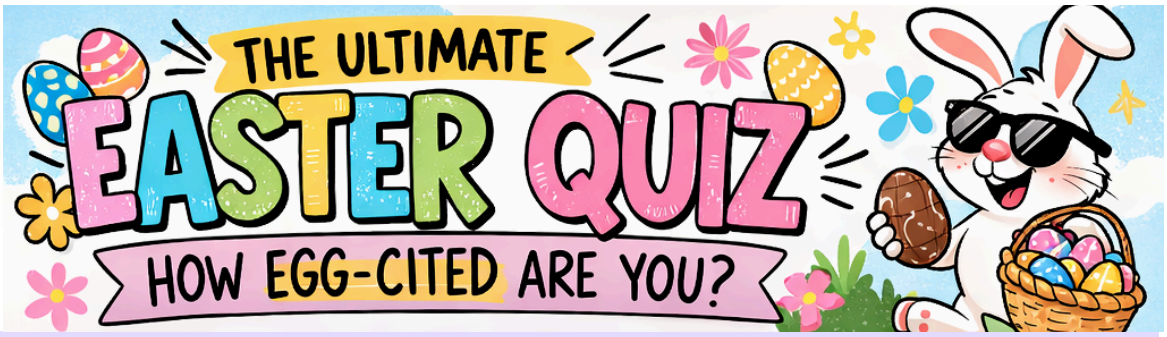

1. **Egg Trivia: Which country is credited with starting the modern chocolate Easter egg tradition?**
   A) France B) Germany C) Italy D) United States
2. **Spring Animals: Which of these animals is NOT commonly associated with Easter?**
   A) Bunny B) Lamb C) Chick D) Kangaroo
3. **Candy Time: Which candy is famously shaped like little marshmallow chicks?**
   A) Peeps B) Cadbury Eggs C) Reese's Eggs D) Jellybeans
4. **Pop Culture: In the movie Hop, what kind of animal is the main character?**
   A) Bunny B) Chicken C) Duck D) Hamster
5. **Fun Fact: Approximately how many chocolate Easter eggs are sold in the U.S. each year?**
   A) 100 million B) 500 million C) 1 billion D) 90 million

Answer Key: 1.) B, 2.) D, 3.) A, 4.) B, 5.) C

Easter THIS OR THAT

CHOCOLATE BUNNY OR PEEPS MARSHMALLOWS
EASTER EGG HUNT OR EASTER BASKETS
EASTER BUNNY OR EASTER CHICK
DYEING EGGS OR PAINTING EGGS
CARROT CAKE OR ANGEL FOOD CAKE
EASTER PARADE OR FAMILY BRUNCH
PASTEL COLORS OR BRIGHT COLORS

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Earth Day: Protecting Our Planet, One Step at a Time

Every year on April 22, people around the world celebrate Earth Day, a day to raise awareness about the environment and the actions we can take to protect it. Since its beginnings in the 1970s, Earth Day has grown into a global movement, inspiring billions of people to care for the planet.

Earth Day started as a youth-led effort in the U.S. and helped spark important environmental laws like the Clean Air Act. Today, it reminds us that small actions can create big change, from reducing waste to conserving energy. Locally, this day is a chance to appreciate our surroundings—from plants and trees to local wildlife—and think about how we can take care of our community and environment. Simple steps, like joining clean-up projects, planting trees, or supporting conservation efforts, make a real difference.

By celebrating Earth Day and acting responsibly every day, we can help ensure a healthier, greener future for everyone. Visit the US Enviromental Protection Agency at https://www.epa.gov/earthday for more infomation.



Join us for a fun and educational Earth Day Celebration as we honor our planet and promote sustainability! Bring the whole family to celebrate, learn, and get inspired to make a positive impact on our environment visit: https://riversideca.gov/calendar/event/earth-day-1 for more information.

A DAY OF CLIMATE ACTION IN REDLANDS

On Earth Day, Redlands turns concern into action to help prepare our community for a hotter, more uncertain future. Join neighbors across town for hands-on projects and learning experiences that help slow the warming, build resilience, and strengthen community—then gather in Smiley Park to celebrate with live music, food, family fun, and information tables on local resources.

Sat, April 18th, 2026!

Smiley Park 101 Parkwood Dr, Redlands, CA 92373

visit: https://www.redlandsearthday.org/ for more infomation

