RIVIERA PTA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2025

INSIDE THE ISSUE

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- Principal's Corner
- Day In The Life
- PTA Event Details



EASY LINKS & DATES

Join The PTA!

Giving Tree
12/08-12/11

Father Daughter Dance 01/23



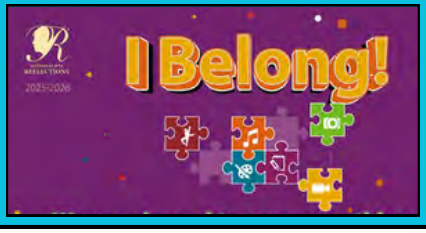
Handbag Bingo 01/31



Little Legends
2/27/26

2026 Riviera Gala
4/18/26

I Belong WINNERS!!!



DECEMBER 2025

Megan Your PTA President

MEGAN CHANDLER



December is here, and with it comes a season of joy, reflection, and community. As we look back on the first half of the school year, I am incredibly proud of the kindness, enthusiasm, and teamwork that continues to shine throughout Riviera. From classroom celebrations to campus-wide events, it's clear that **Riviera is "One Community, One Heart".**

Looking back on November:

A huge thank you to **Megan Turner** for her incredible leadership in organizing our International Fair! Her creativity, coordination, and countless hours of behind-the-scenes work helped bring this vibrant event to life. We also extend our deepest appreciation to the **20+ families and community groups** who hosted cultural booths—each one filled with delicious food, beautiful displays, and meaningful traditions. Because of your passion and generosity, our students and families were able to experience cultures from around the world in a truly memorable way. Thank you for helping make this celebration of diversity such a success!

Thank you to **Vanessa Hyttenberg** for leading this year's **Reflections Art Contest**! Her time, organization, and encouragement helped our students express themselves through art, music, dance, writing, photography, and film showcasing "I Belong". Because of her dedication, our Roadrunners had a wonderful opportunity to share their creativity and shine in a meaningful way. We are so grateful for all she did to make Reflections a success!

This month, our campus is full of excitement—students are learning, creating, and engaging in the spirit of giving and of course having some fun with class celebrations, performances and more! Our PTA committees and volunteers have once again gone above and beyond, helping bring enrichment programs, cultural experiences, and memorable moments to our children. Thank you to every parent, teacher, and staff member who has stepped in, helped out, or simply shown up with a smile. Your support truly makes a difference.
As we head into winter break, my hope is that each of you finds time to rest, recharge, and enjoy special moments with the people you love. We look forward to returning in January with fresh energy and even more opportunities to learn and grow together.
Wishing you a warm, joyful, and peaceful holiday season.

With gratitude,
Megan Chandler

Principal's Corner

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Dear Riviera Families,

I hope you all enjoyed a restful and joyful Thanksgiving Break with your loved ones. As we return to campus, we enter an exciting stretch of just three more weeks of learning, community, and celebration before Winter Break. I'm grateful for the energy our students have brought back and the dedication our staff continues to show each and every day.

November was a wonderful month at Riviera. Our International Fair was a highlight, filled with vibrant cultural displays, delicious foods, and the shared pride of our diverse school community. Thank you to our families, volunteers, and PTA for helping create such a meaningful experience for our students. International Fair!







We also had several grade-level field trips that brought learning to life outside the classroom. These hands-on adventures not only deepen curriculum connections but also allow students to explore the world with curiosity and confidence. Thank you to our teachers and chaperones for supporting these memorable moments.

RPM Training at South High School!





As we look ahead to December, I'm excited to share two traditions that reflect the heart of Riviera:

The Giving Tree

Our Giving Tree is now officially open. This annual tradition offers families the chance to support children in need within our community by selecting a tag and donating a holiday gift. Your generosity truly makes a difference each year.

Rivie's Holiday Mail – Celebrating National Letter Writing Day

Beginning this week, students can create or purchase a holiday card and write a meaningful note to a friend, teacher, staff member, or family member. Rivie's Holiday Mail is a simple but powerful way to spread gratitude, joy, and kindness across campus. We can't wait to see our students participate in this heartfelt tradition.

As we move through this final stretch of 2025, I want to express my appreciation to our families, students, and staff for your continued partnership and support. Riviera is a special place because of the people who make up our community, and I'm so grateful for each of you. Wishing you a warm, joyful, and festive December.

With gratitude,

Gregor Trpin

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A Day In The Life of a Roadrunner











DECEMBER 2025

A Day In The Life of a Roadrunner

















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A Day In The Life of a Roadrunner





















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RIVIERA ELEMENTARY

Giving Tree



Your generous toy donations will go to local children in need from the 1736 Crisis Center in Torrance. Please CLICK HERE to sign up or use the QR code.

UNWRAPPED and LABELED gifts will be collected in the Riviera office Mon, Dec. 8th – Thurs, Dec. 12th

Questions? - Contact Jenny Peters 626-422-7171

DECEMBER 2025

SAVE THE DATE

FATHER DAUGHTER DANCE



JANUARY 23

6-8 PM

RIVIERA CAFETERIA

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Mark your calendars for the most anticipated event of the year — Handbag Bingo 2026! 🎉
Join us on Saturday, January 31, 2026, for an unforgettable evening of fun, laughter, and friendly competition, where lucky winners will walk away with stunning designer handbags. This is one event you won't want to miss — tickets will go on sale in January and always sell out fast!

Please contact Lindsey Finegan for sponsorship opportunities or to get involved — we'd love to have you on the team!

Lindsey Finegan at luludeierling@gmail.com

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Rivera Elementary School Presents:

Little Legends



Feburary 27, 2026

6:30 PM South High school
Performing Arts Center
4801 Pacific Coast Highway,
Torrance 90505

Please have one lead parent email this info to sachamendivil@gmail.com

1. Type of act
2. Song if applicable
3. First name, Last name, and grade of all performers

Submissions due by February 2, 2026

Quick Links For Ease:

sachamendivil@gmail.com

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NATIONAL PTA REFLECTIONS
2025-2026

I Belong!

We are pleased to announce this year's Riviera PTA Reflections Award Winners

Congratulations to our Award of Excellence winners,

who will be advancing to the district-level competition!

Photography
Primary (Grades K-Grade 2)
Award Of Excellence: Everett Holcomb
Title: Rainbow Tree



Photography
Intermediate (Grades 3-5)
Award Of Excellence: Clara Forister
Title: The Joy of Play



Photography
Primary (Grades K-Grade 2)
Award Of Merit: Scarlett Holcomb
Title: I belong with the Horses



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Visual Arts
Primary (Grades K-Grade 2)
Award Of Excellence Winner: Roslyn Smith
Title: I Belong



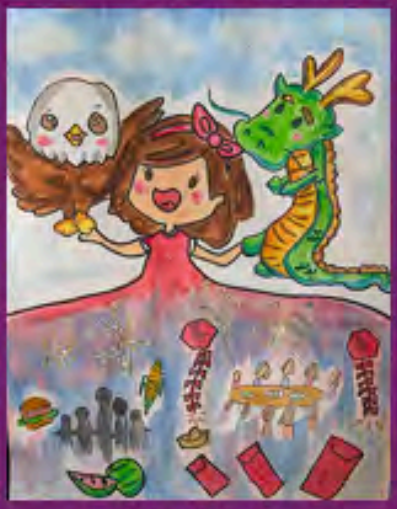
Visual Arts
Intermediate (Grades 3-5)
Award Of Excellence Winner: Hugo Karg
Title: I'm Searching



Visual Arts
Primary (Grades K-Grade 2)
Award Of Merit Winner: Stella Mao
Title: Walking on Dreams



Visual Arts
Intermediate (Grades 3-5)
Award Of Merit Winner: Clara Forister
Title: Belonging in Both Worlds



Visual Arts
Primary (Grades K-Grade 2)
Honorable Mention Winner: Hailey Chung



Visual Arts
Intermediate (Grades 3-5)
Honorable Mention Winner: Kyle Chandler
Title: I Belong As I Am



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Click on the titles for links to the music , film and dance entries

Music Composition
Intermediate (Grades 3-5)
Award Of Excellence Winner: Cassius Volpone
Title: I Belong



Click 4 Link

Music Composition
Intermediate (Grades 3-5)
Award of Merit Winner: Clara Forister
Title: Confession of a Fifth Grader



Click 4 Link

Film Production
Intermediate (Grades 3-5)
Award of Excellence: Clara Forister
Title: We Belong Outdoors



Click 4 Link

Film Production
Intermediate (Grades 3-5)
Award of Merit: Lauren Dela Rosa
Title: Army Soup



Click 4 Link

Literature
Intermediate (Grades 3-5)
Award of Excellence: Clara Forister
Title: Belonging On The Swim Team

Marching towards the diving block,
I can feel my opponents watching like a hawk.
My heart begins to pound,
all of a sudden my nerves are the only sound.

Still wet from the last race,
I am ready to dive into the water's icy embrace.
Swimmers! Take your marks! BEEP!
I didn't even realize I already took a leap.

Bubbles streaming past my face,
I thought I was in first place.
But my rival is in my peripheral vision,
means going faster is my final decision.

Touched the wall, looked left and right.
Other swimmers were nowhere in sight.
I saw the score board and to my surprise,
next to my name was first prize.

My winning rubber duckie in hands
I wave to my parents sitting in the stands.
The pool is my happy place.
There I can swim with both speed and grace.
This is where I belong.

Dance Choreography
Intermediate (Grades 3-5)
Award of Excellence: Clara Forister
Title: Belonging in Motion



Click 4 Link