

Marion Earl Elementary School News

January 2015

A Message from Administration

Dear parents/guardians,

Happy New Year! We hope you had a safe and fun winter vacation. It has been nice to hear all of the fun activities our students participated in over the break.

Parents, please remember that it is cold outside. Ensure your child is wearing the appropriate attire to keep warm. Keep in mind that when in the building, any outer wear garment must be in school colors or it must be taken off per CCSD dress code and SSA requirements.

In the next few months we will be preparing our students for the Smarter Balanced Assessment. This assessment is given to students in grades 3-5 and replaces the CRT. The Smarter Balanced is an assessment that is taken online. This is a new way of assessing our students. In order to ensure success, we encourage our students to go online and to take the practice tests. You can access the practice tests online at <http://sbac.portal.airast.org/practice-test/>

I urge all parents to take the Smarter Balanced Assessment so you can see what is expected of your child. We want to ensure our students have had many exposures to this format of testing. It is our hope that the more time they practice, the more comfortable they will be when it is time to test.

As always, we wish you a wonderful January!

Belinda Schauer, Principal

Constantine Christopulos, Assistant Principal

Important Reminders

- Please note that school promptly starts at 8:55. Students are seated by 9:00 a.m. To avoid classroom interruptions and missing instructional time, please make sure to get to school on time.
- Please avoid parking in the parking lot, as we have limited parking for our staff members. If you are parked in the front lot at the end of the day, you may not leave until the buses have cleared the area.

Marion B. Earl Elementary

6650 West Reno Ave.

Las Vegas, Nevada 89118

Phone: 702-799-8181

Fax: 702-799-8188

News From Our Specialists

The Art Room- Mrs. Devine

Art in December was intertwined with learning about different cultural traditions for the winter holidays. Students took a short trip around the world and witnessed examples of Christmas, Hanukah, or Kwanzaa celebrations throughout Europe and the Americas. While learning about bilateral and radial symmetry, children created sparkling origami snowflakes. They also reviewed their knowledge about the water cycle. Art history lessons were related to major themes starting from the 5-6th century and continuing through the 20th, like nativity, through different techniques:

mosaics, murals, reliefs, sculpture, stain glass, etc... Students also learned compared functional arts like architecture, decorative arts, and the fine arts like painting and sculpture. 2015 awaits them with lots of discoveries!



Physical Education- Mr. Pfeil & Mr. Lopez

Happy New Year! As we enter 2015, we wanted to let everyone know what an amazing job the students are doing with our Jogging and Walking Superstars (JAWS) program. Edmond from Ms. Boyadzhyan's class has run over 40 miles so far this year! Wow! Congratulations, Edmond! Also from Ms. Boyadzhyan's class is Elisabeth, who has run over 26.2 miles! Way to go Elisabeth!

We also wanted to remind everyone that even though the temperatures may be a little lower, we still plan on being outside for physical education. So, please help make sure our students are prepared to be outside and are wearing the right kind of shoes on their P.E. days. Thank you and have an amazing 2015!

Music- Dr. Stein

Marion Earl's third grade students have voted and decided to perform the Disney Youth Musical "Alice In Wonderland". The entire third grade will be the Choir and we will have school-wide auditions to fill the cast when school resumes in January.

This Walt Disney version of "Alice In Wonderland" provides a relevant experience with the performing arts in the form of a Youth Musical. The music is all unison and two-part voicing, to be sung by the entire cast, choir or used as optional solos. The accompaniment is provided by a professional orchestra recording.

"Alice in Wonderland" is scheduled for performance both May 20 and May 21, 2015. Tickets will be available for sale after May 11, 2015.

Library- Mrs. Esposito and Mrs. Selleck

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! I would like to say a great big "Thanks" for visiting our Book Fair during conference week. It was a huge success, and I am going to be able to do some really fun things with our profits. I especially loved seeing parents using the information that they acquired from their child's conference to steer their children in the direction of books that were at their reading level. What a great way to model how to choose books that are appropriate for each individual!

As most of you were aware of, I had a drawing to win extra prizes after the Book Fair was over. The names of those students were read on morning announcements, and they were able to come to the Library to receive their prizes. The winners were:

Kinder—Liam in Ms. Reed's Class, 1st—Valerie in Ms. Varrato's Class, 2nd—Salynna in Ms. Barrios' Class, 3rd—Sophia in Ms. Sorensen's Class, 4th—Mery in Mr. Nguyen's Class, and 5th Kayla in Ms. Szczubiala's Class. Congratulations to our winners! We will be doing another drawing in our next Book Fair, so stay tuned! Happy New Year to Everyone!

G.A.T.E. / T.A.G.S Update

Hadassa Lefkowitz, G.A.T.E. / T.A.G.S Specialist

HAPPY 2015! Welcome back! I am so excited to see all of the President Trading Card Projects from all our G.A.T.E. students! It will be great fun to see who they think is the **M.V.P** (Most Valuable President), and on what basis was this determination made.

Over the next month or so our G.A.T.E. and T.A.G.S. students are going to be discussing the economy and budgets! By now you should have seen the Personal Budget Project outline with the objectives, requirements, and assessment rubric. This project is designed to provide an awareness of how to create a balanced budget, and why it is important to live within one's own budget. Through our class discussions and activities, we will also spend time discussing our national economy, comparing and contrasting the national budget with our own, and how one impacts the other. Sounds pretty exciting! Talk with your G.A.T.E student about what is going on in our economy today; discuss the family budget and how decisions are made. I am pretty sure they will have some interesting perceptions as to how and why budgets are important.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me here at school, 702-799-8181 ext. 4140. Remember... G8ISGR8!



National Elementary Honor Society

Lisa Ajemian, Rochelle Graves, and Hadassa Lefkowitz, Co-Advisors

Happy 2015 to our Marion Earl Eagles! This year has really flown by! We would like to thank our students who participated in the Garden of Earl Farmer's Market; the first of many! With their expert salesmanship and quick math skills, they were able to sell out of our inventory and raise over \$50.00 to reinvest into our garden, which also serves as a school-wide outdoor learning classroom. Our safety patrols continue to do a marvelous job greeting parents and students each morning; helping the traffic run more smoothly through the drop off line. Thank you for your time and dedication.



It is that time of year again, when we begin to look at prospective candidates for NEHS membership. Students in the third and fourth grade, make sure your grades are the best they can be! We look for academic excellence, citizenship, and leadership skills! Applications will be sent home at the beginning of next month! It would be spectacular to welcome you to NEHS! Keep up the great work!

Bites of Technology with Ms. Kunkee

Have you checked out the Khan Academy? The Khan Academy is a great website that can provide your child with enriching activities and lessons.

www.khanacademy.org

December Students of the Month

Bryan Aguiar- Ms. Barrios
Betel Biruk- Ms. Crooks
Trevoss Hughes- Ms. Pfeil
Isaac Rivera-Hidalgo- Ms. Borreggine
Marissa York- Ms. Logan
Eliany Aguilar- Ms. Daniel
Jordan Reed- Ms. Hardesty
Tatiana Calicich- Ms. Szczubiala
Nejat Mohamed- Ms. Flores
Xander Corral- Ms. King
Valery Hernandez- Ms. Yacubovich
Bruin Polier- Ms. DeBenedittis
Ayen Maneclang- Ms. Reed
Natalie Cunningham- Ms. Ringer
Shariah Marshal- Dr. Fuller
Denise Guerrero- Ms. Johns
Presleigh Corral- Ms. Boyadzhyan
Karen Hernandez- Ms. Sorensen
Hayden Polier- Ms. Strano
Breana Tabana- Ms. Velarde
Julius Ames- Ms. Rom
Nala Dalton- Ms. Barrow
Angel Cruz- Ms. Sullivan
Jenny Nia- Ms. Varrato
Liya Hayle- Ms. Hein
Terimiah Sears- Ms. Brock
Brody Begala- Ms. Williams
Jarren Blake Dela Cruz- Dr. Singson
Darren Kapugama- Ms. Lynn
James Phan- Mr. Nguyen
Luka Vladic- Ms. Keltz
Jazmine Alvarez- Mr. Marhenke
Jonathan Flores- Ms. Johnson

News From the Health Office

5 RULES FOR KIDS SAFETY

1. I never talk to strangers, and I will never be tricked into going anywhere with someone I don't know.
2. I can say NO, even to an adult, if they try to touch me in a way I don't like.
3. I WILL quickly get away from someone who tries to touch me or take me away. I WILL YELL, "This is NOT my Mommy or Daddy" and "HELP."
4. I don't have to keep a secret from my parents or teacher; I WILL tell them about things or people that scare me.
5. If someone tries to touch me or threatens me, I tell a parent or trusted adult.

MY RULES ARE: SAY NO! GET AWAY! TELL SOMEONE!

JANUARY 2015

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1	2
5	6	7 PTA Meeting 3:30 p.m.	8 FREE DRESS Crazy Hair Day 8:20 NEHS Meeting	9
12	13	14 F-Troop Meeting at 9:30 a.m. @ Canarelli MS	15	16 Pre-K Family Engagement Day UNSATS sent home
19 NO SCHOOL Martin L. King Jr. Day	20	21	22	23 Report Cards Sent Home
26	27	28	29	30



Kindergarten News

Mrs. DeBenedittis, Dr. Fuller, Mrs. King, Mrs. Reed,
Ms. Ringer, and Mrs. Yacubovich

“The best way to predict your future is to create it.”

– Abraham Lincoln

A Message from Kindergarten Teachers:

Happy New Year!

In December, we finished the introduction of all of the letters and sounds. If it was discussed at conferences that your child has not yet mastered their letters and sounds, it is strongly recommended that you purchase or check out from the library The Leap Frog Letter Factory video. Watching this video every day will help your child learn the letters and sounds quickly so they do not continue to fall further behind. We are now applying sounds to blend into words. Your child will be learning to read and write short “i” word families in January. Though knowing our sounds to read words phonetically is essential, we all know that there are many words in the English language that just don’t look like they sound! This is why it is so important that your child is practicing their sight word list nightly! By this point of the school year, your child should be able to read 25 sight words fluently.

In Kindergarten, we are busy counting, counting, counting! Your child is continuing to learn to count to 100 by 1’s and 10’s. By January, kindergarteners should be able to write and identify numbers up to 20 without assistance. Addition is our main focus in math in the month of January. Please practice addition facts up to 10 at home!

Writing is wonderful! All kindergarteners should be able to write their first and last name by this time of the school year on their own. We are continuing to write sentences using correct capitalization and punctuation at the end. The only way to become a good writer is with practice! Children at 5 and 6 years old should be writing daily at home, as they will be expected to write stories consisting of four sentences by the end of the school year.

Remember to access the Marion Earl website at www.schools.ccsd.net/marionearl. It is here that your child has so many opportunities to practice what they have learned at school right in your own home! Thank you for working with your child at home to help them have a successful kindergarten year and a smooth transition into first grade!

Three family routines help you get your child to school on time

Students are late for school for all kinds of reasons--missing the bus, oversleeping and being unable to find something important. Some tardies are unavoidable, of course. But others are easily prevented with daily habits, such as:

1. Homework routines. Your child should do her homework at the same time, and in the same place, each day. Have her check her school bag for anything she needs you to read or sign. When study time is over, she should pack her bag and put it by the door.
2. Nighttime routines. Stick to a regular bedtime each night. Your child might brush her teeth, select the next day’s outfit, put on her pajamas, pack her lunch and set her alarm clock. Any late-evening activities should be relaxing, such as listening to music or reading.
3. Morning routines. Post a checklist of your child’s responsibilities, such as getting dressed, having breakfast and brushing teeth.

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<http://nevadaready.gov/>



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<http://www.doe.nv.gov/>



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<http://www.ccsd.net/parents/>



First Grade News

Ms. Barrow, Mrs. Brock, Mrs. Rom, Ms. Sullivan,
Mrs. Varrato, and Ms. Williams

“The best way to predict your future is to create it.”

– Abraham Lincoln

A Message from First Grade Teachers:

Language Arts

The new year brings our second AIMSweb Benchmarking Assessment. By the end of January, your first grader should be reading a minimum of 36 words per minute on a first grade level passage to meet the standard.

It is important that your child is practicing their spelling words nightly at home. Try having your child write their spelling words in sand or shaving cream on a cookie sheet to make learning fun! Always give your child a practice test. Go through any mistakes they have made in order to prepare them for their test in class on Friday.

Math

Place value will be a main focus in math. First graders will understand that the two digits of a two-digit number represent the amount of tens and ones. They will also be practicing adding and subtracting two-digit numbers. We will be comparing two digit numbers using the $>$, $<$, and $=$ symbols. Don't forget to practice your addition and subtraction facts using "Math Facts in a Flash" and "IXL," which can be accessed on our school web-site.

Social Studies

First grade will be learning about the Polar Regions in January. They will become familiar with both the people and animals of the Arctic and Antarctic.

Presidents Day is on February 17th. We will be learning about the lives of important presidents that have impacted our country's history.

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Second Grade News

Mrs. Borreggine, Mrs. Crooks, Mrs. Hein,
Mrs. Garner-Barrios, and Mrs. Pfeil

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– Abraham Lincoln

A Message from Second Grade Teachers:

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a wonderful break and enjoyed the extra time you had to spend with friends and family.

Reading: Our second graders are still working hard to become proficient readers. Some things that they are doing to help with fluency and comprehension are using context clues, chunking and/or sounding out the word, timed readings, rereading, summarizing and/or retelling, and asking before, during, and after questions. Please continue to encourage your child to use the reading skills they've learned so that they will continue to grow as readers! They have been putting these strategies to good use as they read and did several activities for *The Polar Express*.

Writing, Science, and Social Studies: Second graders are continuing to learn how to research! They are learning so much as they research information about the Polar Regions and penguins. They will put what they've learned to good use as they do some research on their own. They will do research on an animal that lives in the Polar Regions. As they read, they will take notes on their animal's behavior/ survival characteristics, diet, habitat, and physical appearance.

We are starting to see great effort from our student to start all sentences with a capital letter and end them with a period, question mark, or exclamation point and want to encourage them to keep up the good work!

Math: Second graders have been busy how to count money and how to make different combinations of coins that add up to the same amount. They are continuing to solve problems that deal with money and most of them are even remembering to use the \$ or ¢ symbols. Please help your child master what they've learned in class by allowing them to count money at home and/or pay for items at the store.

In addition to money, your child has been busy trying to master automaticity of the basic addition and subtraction facts. You can help them by having them practice these basic math facts 5-10 minutes daily.

In closing, we want to thank all of you for your continued support, both here at school and at home. Together we are helping our second graders have a successful year!

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Third Grade News

Ms. Boyadzhyan, Mrs. Daniel, Ms. Johns, Mrs. Sorensen,
and Mrs. Strano

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– Abraham Lincoln

A Message from Third Grade Teachers:

Third grade will be starting off the New Year with a bang! We are jumping right into fractions. Students will be identifying and naming fractions, comparing fractions, and putting them on a number line. Students will begin multiplication mastery in their classrooms. Please encourage your child to practice their multiplication facts nightly. By the end of the year they should know 0-12!

Language Arts will keep the kids interested. As we will begin a unit on myths, folk tales, and fables. We will be comparing and contrasting each type of story and closely reading the stories to identify the theme or moral present in the story. In writing, we will be creating fictional narratives. Your child will be using a story map to write a story that has a problem, solution, and several important events.

We will be investigating life sciences this month also! We will be learning about plant and animal life cycles, structures, and caring for different types of life. Third grade will be busy and we are looking forward to learning a lot!

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Fourth Grade News

Ms. Keltz, Ms. Lynn, Mr. Nguyen, and Dr. Singson

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– Abraham Lincoln

A Message from Fourth Grade Teachers:

This month 4th Grade will be doing a variety of exciting and fun activities. In Reading, we will be focusing on determining the theme of stories, dramas, and poems. In Math, we will be moving in to geometry. We will also be creating expository compositions in Writing. In Social Studies, our primary focus will be Nevada's regions and early pioneers. In Science, we will be exploring the human body systems and inherited behavior vs learned behavior. These are some of the riveting highlights of this month. Please remember to read and review multiplication facts with your child daily.

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Fifth Grade News

Mrs. Flores, Mrs. Hardesty, Ms. Logan, and Mrs. Szczubiala

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– Abraham Lincoln

News from Ms. Szczubiala, Ms. Flores, and Ms. Hardesty:

This month in math, Mrs. Hardesty's classes will be learning strategies on how to multiply and divide decimals. We will also continue to work with Mrs. Lefkowitz on our performance task where a variety of skills will be utilized to design a dog house.

In Ms. Flores' class students will continue reading novels and students will begin writing a research paper.

Throughout the month of January and into February we will be working on completing the FOSS Mixtures and Solutions science kit which focuses on chemistry ideas. Chemistry is the study of the structure of matter and the changes or transformations that take place within those structures. Learning about the properties and behaviors of substances gives us knowledge about how things go together and how they can be taken apart. You can find out more on the web! Rotation group students now have access to the FOSS website. Encourage your child to log in and review science concepts using the fun interactives!

News from Ms. Logan:

Ms. Logan's Class is working on persuasive writing, reading strategies, identifying theme, as well as tone and mood. We continue to add new vocabulary each week. Any way you can help your child understand the meaning of words will be a big help. In math, we are focusing on fluency with fractions, and we will soon be using fraction knowledge to learn how to read and interpret data. We are also currently investigating mixtures and solutions in science. Please encourage your child to read every day for 20-30 minutes, and spend some time on Moby Max, one of our web-based programs for practicing standards.

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Garden of Earl ~ Blooming News!

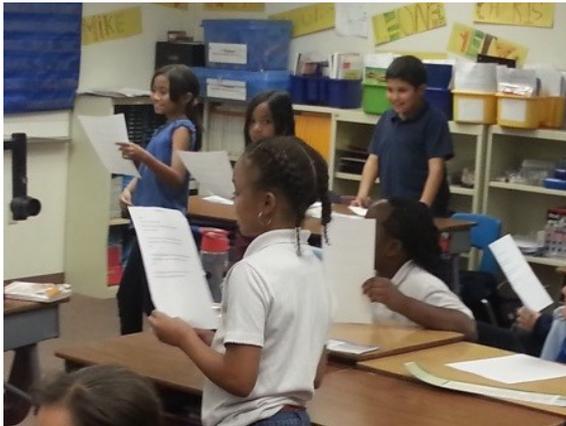
Garden of Earl ~ Blooming News!

Hadassa Lefkowitz, Garden Committee, Chairperson

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I hope everyone had a happy and HEALTHY new year! Our garden might look a little sparse at the moment, but that is because, on December 9th, we held our first ever Garden of Earl Farmers Market! What a great experience for our National Elementary Honor Society students! Using their math skills and oral communication skills, they sold out of our inventory in 30 minutes! It was wonderful to see our parents support this endeavor; but it was even more rewarding to see our students use their own money to purchase our organically grown vegetables! I hope everyone who bought our amazing vegetables really enjoyed them.

Our third grade classes have each had the opportunity to spend time with Farmer Dana, learning how **dirt makes their lunch...** through song and group discussion! They also tasted the bok choy and snow peas... right from the garden! YUMMY!

So our pumpkins have been plucked, our lettuce has been lessened, our cilantro has been thinned, the bok choy has been chopped, our spinach has been snipped, and our snow peas have been snapped! The good news is that we have planted some fresh cabbage, which should be ready to harvest by February. Hopefully, our lettuce, cilantro and spinach will continue to grow. From what Farmer Dana has told me, our snow peas should continue to grow as well, so long as our weather stays mild! Here's hoping! Stay tuned for the date of the next Farmer's Market.



Students having fun learning!

PTA News



School Fundraiser!

Noble Roman's pizza is going to give our school 20% of their proceeds! All you have to do is go to Noble Romans, create your take-n-bake pizza, and when you pay for your pizza tell them you are from Marion Earl Elementary School!

4190 South Rainbow Boulevard (Near Rainbow and Flamingo)
(702) 879-4792