

## LEOPARD PRINTS

### NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

February is the shortest month of the year, yet it is full of many events: Ground Hog Day, Valentine's Day, President's Day, and Black History Month. At Linda Vista, we strive to tie all of these National Events together with a focus on Kindness.

Kindness, a term we often use, but rarely think about. Defined as the quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate; showing goodwill, affection, warmth, gentleness, tenderness, concern and care for one another. Kindness is something we share.

We traditionally support our kids when they demonstrate kindness and love for one another on Valentine's Day. However, it is only one day; let's encourage our kids to spread that kindness every day of this month, and all months. Though the look of Valentine's Day has changed due to COVID, we do not have to stop telling each other how much we care for them.

Our kindness can go so far, it can bridge a gap between friends, it can bring warmth to the heart of a stranger, and it can heal a society that is struggling. Our country is great and we as a nation share kindness in many ways. Respecting each other's points of view, cultures, and traditions are just a few ways we can spread kindness across this great land.

As we step into this loving month, let us remember the words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., **"The time is always right to do what is right."** Let's let kindness be what is right at Linda Vista.

### NEWS FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

Happy February to all. This year is flying by and I do not want to sound like a broken record, however, I still need Tdap verification from many sixth graders. Proof of Tdap is required to enroll for 7th grade. Bring in your yellow card or immunization print out so your student will be first in line when electives for middle school are determined.

With the cooler weather, please remember to label all jackets and sweaters with your student's name. Our lost and found is beginning to pile up and we are more than happy to return lost items if we know whom they belong to.

Everyone is doing an awesome job keeping ill students home. We do appreciate all your efforts to keep Linda Vista a safe place.

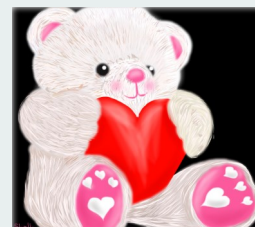


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#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Before you know it, we'll be on our 100th day of school.





## 3RD GRADE NEWS

Happy New Year! We hope you had a wonderful holiday and relaxing break. It's amazing how quickly 3 weeks can go! We've been back for a few weeks, and we have hit the ground running.

Before the break, third grade enjoyed learning about the different holiday traditions, activities, and foods from different countries around the world. We were amazed at how similar some foods and activities are to our country! Our classes are learning about Native Americans, too. We're enjoying learning about their way of life and various customs, and how each region is different.

We will begin a new science unit on inheritance and traits. Students become wildlife biologists as they study various traits from a pack of wolves and how they are similar and different to each other.

In math, we are continuing to learn about multiplication and

division, and how they are related. Students are doing a great job memorizing their facts! We have begun the challenging concept of fractions. Students will use manipulatives to further their understanding.

Students are excited to be finishing up learning lowercase letters in cursive, and will be moving on to uppercase letters. Before long, we will be writing in cursive for most paper assignments.

We continue to explore the three types of writing; narrative, expository/informational, and opinion. Third graders are expected to write multiple paragraphs, so we will focus on proper format and composing a Thinking Map to help organize ideas.

The learning continues, whether we are on campus or at home. Our 3rd grade students are working hard, wherever they are!

## TK NEWS

Welcoming the New Year...2021!

As we began the New Year of 2021, TK has been filled with many fun learning activities. We read *The Gingerbread Man* followed by retelling, sequencing using ordinal numbers, and designing our very own Gingerbread Man. Students were able to use their creativity to assemble their gingerbread man to the liking. Then during the week of January 19th, we've learned about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and completed a directed art activity. I was very impressed on how Dr. King's portraits turned out drawn by the students.

In February, we will be learning about growing up healthy by taking care of ourselves, eating well, and staying safe. The students will be able to make connections to what we're going through currently with the pandemic and how important it is to stay healthy.

In addition, we will be learning about President's Day focusing on George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. There will also be fun lessons on the 100th day of school, Chinese New Year, and Valentine's Day. As you can see, it's going to be a very fun and productive month!

In short, my students continue to amaze me daily with their ability to log into Google Meet, following along with the lessons, interacting with peers on Meet, and working independently on assignments. I am very proud of each and every one of my TK students for grasping onto technology so fluently and exhibiting these skills daily through the usage of their laptops. TK Rocks!



## KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Our kindergarteners are 90 days smarter!

We have been learning about shapes, both two dimensional and three dimensional. Now, we are throwing in positions, such as, in front of, behind, and beside. Amazingly enough, this is math in kindergarten. This is a very challenging and fun concept we are practicing while lining up each day. Try this at home!

Our kindergarteners are looking forward to the 100th day of school, and so are we. It will look a little different from years past but will continue to be a fun celebration with lots of activities.

Coming up next in Social Studies is our American symbols unit. Along with learning the symbols that represent America, our kinders will be showing their artistic flair by drawing many of our country's most important symbols.

Even though Valentine's Day will be celebrated at home this year, we will be sharing love and kindness all month long!



## 2ND GRADE NEWS

Second grade has been doing a lot of writing since we came back from the holiday break! We were away for three weeks and so we wrote our "Mitten Memories" where both classes had the opportunity to share the fun times they had during the holidays. We enjoyed hearing about all the time shared with family and the many wonderful memories that were made.



Of course, after ringing in the new year we had to write about our New Year's resolutions! We made a circle map and brainstormed all the goals and accomplishments we want to make in 2021. We made a "Flee map" or writing plan and then turned it into a writing piece for all to read! Some of the resolutions were to become better readers, to get all their Reading Counts points, become better listeners, to write neatly, work on math facts, and drink more water! We plan to work hard this trimester to reach these goals!

We also read about Martin Luther King and how he had big hopes and dreams for our world. We discussed our hopes and wishes that we had as well. Our dreams included wanting COVID to go away, for places to open again, that people would be kind to others and treat others the way that they want to be treated, take better care of planet Earth, pick up trash, and that people will not hurt animals! The second graders at Linda Vista are going to change the world with their big hearts and dreams!

## 1ST GRADE NEWS

We would like to wish all our Linda Vista Families a Happy New Year!

The First Graders have been hard at work. We have been learning about ***How Things Grow and Change***, which include ***How We Measure Time***, ***How Plants Change as They Grow***, ***How Life is Different Than it Was Long Ago*** and ***How Do We Get Our Food***.



The skills we have been focusing on are Main Topic and Key Details, long a, long i, and long o vowels, digraph /oo/, plurals, contractions and sequencing. We continue to work on building words and much more through our Wonders series.

We continue learning and practicing writing skills such as topic sentences, transition words, and conclusion sentences. We are reviewing using capital letters at the beginning of a sentence, punctuation at the end of a sentence, along with spacing and letter formation.

The students have just finished our unit on subtraction facts to 20. We will begin Topic 7: Counting and number patterns to 120.

The first graders visited Mrs. McCausland in person as well as virtually to check out "dot books". They are all excited to begin Reading Counts!

## 6TH GRADE NEWS

Hope everyone had a wonderful, safe, and relaxing winter break. As January comes to a close, we look back on all of our accomplishment thus far. The students were excited to witness the inauguration of President Joe Biden. We learned this historic inauguration had many 'firsts', including the first female Vice President.

The students also participated in the first ever virtual Walk Through the Ancient World; this was definitely a new experience. Despite this being a new challenge for all, the students showed that they were able to strive and exceed all expectations.



As we look toward February, students will be learning about ratios and rates in math. We will also be doing some fun activities for the 100th day of school and Valentine's Day. We will be wrapping up February with students conducting a research assignment about one President of their choosing. We look forward to the upcoming activities and hope the students do too.



## 4TH GRADE NEWS

The 4th graders had a wonderful time at our virtual "Walk Through California" assembly in January! Students came prepared and learned all about California history. Thank you to our PTA for paying for this assembly. If you have not joined our PTA, please do so. They are continuing to work for our kids behind the scenes!

In social studies the kids will be learning about the early explorers into California. This unit will take us into learning all about the California Mission system. We are hoping to arrange a virtual field trip to our closest mission, Mission San Juan Capistrano, in February. Keeping our fingers crossed that all works out. Students will be given a mission to research soon, so be on the lookout!

Students are continuing to work on multiplication in math as we have moved into two digit by two digit multiplication. Soon we will be preparing the kids for long division. Practicing their multiplication facts with the many games available to kids these days is crucial in building a good foundation in math. Also, students should be reaching their iReady goal each week.

As the end of the 2nd trimester comes to a close on March 5th, we encourage you to check your child's grades. This is a good habit to start early in your child's education to ensure they are on track, as well as completing their assignments in a timely manner.

Wishing you all a very happy Valentine's Day!



## 5TH GRADE NEWS

It has been a busy and exciting start to 2021! Our 5th graders in the VAPA Wheel are going to be starting their second rotation of either theater or choir, and are enjoying putting their new musical talents to use.

In social studies, we're currently exploring North America and getting ready to settle the colonies. We will begin preparations for our online Walk Through the Revolution program on March 18th.

Topic 8 in math has us evaluating algebraic expressions using the Order of Operations. Next, we will be putting steps together to understand and evaluate fractions.

In science, we've been studying the stars and their location in space and had a great time creating the astrolabe that early explorers used.


In language arts, we wrapped up our third novel study. Students have discussed plot, character changes, problem and solution, and theme.

Our 5th graders are continuing to practice necessary skills and strategies that will help them to be successful when taking the SBAC test in May. Some of these strategies are listening for a purpose and citing & explaining with evidence from multiple sources. We have also incorporated daily practice of multiple math skills using the online program, iReady.





# February 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Modified Wednesday	4	5 6th gr Material Pick up 7-3PM	6
7	8 100th Day of School	9	10 Modified Wednesday	11	12 NO SCHOOL	13
14	15 NO SCHOOL 	16	17 Modified Wednesday	18	19 6th gr Material Pick up 7-3PM	20
21	22	23	24 Modified Wednesday	25	26	27
28						

notes

## Modified Wednesday Schedule

TK & K—8:15am-12:10pm  
1st-3rd—8:00am-12:20pm  
4th-6th—8:00am-12:30pm

## Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday Schedule

TK & K— 8:15am-1:40pm  
1st-3rd— 8:00am-1:50pm  
4th-6th— 8:00am-2:00pm