



Muir Elementary News

March 5, 2018

Principal News from Jeff DeGallier

Welcome to March at JME! We enjoyed celebrating reading with so many families last Thursday at our annual Family Literacy Night. Thank you for continuing to support literacy development at home by reading with your children every day!

The safety of our students, staff, and families is our highest priority. We are constantly reviewing with district and local experts our plans and preparation for any type of emergency situation. I want to share with you actions we take to keep our students safe.

1. We do a variety of safety drills with students during the year, including listening alert drills, modified lock down drills, and full lock down drills. These drills are executed with developmentally appropriate content in mind. We have also worked to be mindful of the emotional needs of students; we do not want students to feel overly anxious or live in fear. I am very proud of how our staff have approached these sensitive topics.
2. All staff are trained yearly in the ALICE method of threat response. This method has been vetted by police and security experts and recommended to schools. ALICE is an acronym for Alert, Lock down, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate.
3. All exterior doors except the front door remain locked during the school day, so that all visitors must enter through one door.
4. All visitors must sign in at the office and wear a visitor's sticker. Staff have been reminded to watch for this visitor's sticker and ask anyone without one to return to the office to sign in.
5. All rooms are equipped with locks, and window shades in the event of a lock down.
6. We have an Eprep team, and the District has Safety teams, that review emergency response protocols yearly as well as plan for new Safety measures and evaluating our response preparedness. This website has more information: <https://www.lwsd.org/programs-and-services/safety>. Every year, we review and make new safety and security updates.

We are also lucky that we have great staff and many trusted parent volunteers in the building daily who have eyes out for any dangers. As staff, we all recognize that student safety is a critical role we play, and we know that we are all part of the team responsible for student safety.

Sincerely,

Jeff DeGallier

Future Chef Finalist



Congratulations to Hau Le, 5th grader in Ms. Plese's class. She is a finalist in the Sodexo "Future Chef" Cooking Contest.

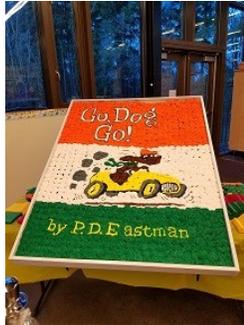
The theme this year was to create a dish with an Asian Flair. Hau created an original recipe she called "Norito" – an Asian chicken teriyaki burrito! Sounds yummy!

She will be in the final cook-off on March 14th at Rose Hill Elementary. Hau is pictured in her chef coat with the Sodexo's Executive Chef, Michael Rosenow on the right, and Sodexo Operations Manager Michael Piekarski.

Family Literacy Night - Huge Success!

John Muir Elementary celebrated their 15th annual Family Literacy Night event on Thursday, March 1st, 2018 from 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm.

The evening was a combination of fun literacy activities based on the Common Core state standards, school library Book Fair, a free book giveaway, and a pizza dinner with your family.



As a salute to Dr. Seuss's birthday an incredible 1064 mini cupcake mosaic of the book cover "Go Dog Go", was enjoyed by all. The cupcake mosaic is engineered by Buzz Anderson, husband of Gail Anderson, Secretary at John Muir. John Muir has a long history of encouraging families to be actively involved in the learning of their children. As a Title 1 school, we have federal requirements to involve and educate our parent community. Back in 2003, we decided to find a fun way to educate parents in the ways of literacy education.

Battle of the Books

Today, in a tremendously exciting final battle, the fifth grade team won the school championship by narrowly defeating the fourth grade team. The battle was decided on the last question and both teams did a fantastic job, giving the correct answer 17 times in 20 chances. To compete in the battle, students in 4th and 5th grades must read 12 novels that have been selected by the district's elementary librarians. These students started reading the novels in late September.

Congratulations to the fifth grade and John Muir Elementary champions, C. Crum, M. Akho-Obeidi, A. Dinkelo and H. Le. The fifth graders will now compete against other schools from around the district starting in the next week or so. Good luck team, let's show the world what great readers we have here at John Muir!

Kudos to our fourth grade champions, C. Apley, C. Perez, S. Herrick, and A. Jones. Thanks to all the teams that read the books and participated in the battles! Well done!

Calendar

Teacher LEAP Day, No School, Friday, March 9th

Class/Activity Photos, Thursday, March 29th

Spring Break, No School, April 2-6th

More events can be found on the [Muir Tandem Online Calendar](#)

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