



# Playa Vista Elementary's OSPREY NEWS



## High Achievement For All Through Stem

<b>Mon, June 5th</b> <b>Last All School Assembly of the year!</b> ELAC 8:30 PVES Library	<b>Tues., June 6th</b> 8:30 4th/5th Grade Plays Performance	<b>Wednesday, June 7th</b> ❖ 4th grade Field Day ❖ Kindergarten Celebration ❖ 6:30 4th/5th Grade Play Performance	<b>Thursday, June 8th</b> 8:15 Perfect Attendance Certificates for May Assembly in Classroom <b>Early Dismissal School lets out at 12:45</b>	<b>Friday, June 9th</b> ❖ 5th Grade Culmination 9:00 MPR ❖ Perfect Attendance Assemblies in MPR K-2 - 11:00-11:30 3rd & 4th 11:00-11:20 <b>Early Dismissal School lets out at 12:45</b>	<b>Upcoming Events</b> * <b>Summer Break June 12th through August 14th</b> * <b>School Resumes. August 15th</b>
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Dear Playa Vista Family,

News Flash! PVES staff remain undefeated! **Friday was the annual kickball game** where the staff play the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. The children played a great game and had the lead for a while but the staff rallied! A good time was had by all.

The annual kickball game signals the beginning of the end of the school year festivities. It is always bitter sweet as we begin to say our farewells to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students, learn about the adventures that await them, and begin to close down the year. There are many celebrations, including perfect attendance assemblies this week. **Take a close look at the calendar**, mark the date and time for your child's class, and let me know if you have questions.

**Here's the bell schedule for the last week of school:**

Monday 8:15-2:36

Tuesday 8:15-1:36

Wednesday 8:15–2:36

Thursday 8:15-12:45

Friday 8:15-12:45

During the month of May, we celebrated Asian/Pacific Islander Heritage Month. To commemorate the historical event of the Japanese internment camps, Mr. Weisbart's fourth grade class folded **1,000 origami cranes**. Then Ms. Yamaguchi took the cranes on her trip to Manzanar, an internment camp in Owens Valley. The cranes now hang in the visitor's center and we're told they'll be there for the foreseeable future. Pause for a moment and let that news settle in. PVES is a very special place!

Two very important end of the year parent meetings take place this week, both on Monday! First is the **English Language Advisory Committee, ELAC**, is meeting at 8:30 in the PVES library. We will recap the year, look at the upcoming school year, and decide on next steps. All parents of English Learners are invited to attend.

On Monday, the **Safety Committee** will meet at 3:00 in the PVES library to do the same. All parents who are interested in being part of the Safety Committee are invited to attend.

Now for some fun news! Jackie Krutz from Brookfield let me know that there are **two Pop-Up events planned for the Playa Vista community!** The first is from 2:00p.m. – 5:00p.m. on June 9<sup>th</sup>, the last day of school, at the Sports Park and the second on July 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:00a.m. – 2:00p.m. An Otis Art student will be designing a banner that the community will be invited to paint. The banner will then be donated to the school after the July 15<sup>th</sup> event and the plan is to hang it on the kindergarten fence. These events sound like a good time and I hope you'll be able to participate!

The last Kelly's Corner for the school year is included in the newsletter, enjoy!

With the warmest regards,

Rebecca Johnson  
Principal

### Monday Morning Assembly Schedule

**Monday, June 5th**  
All School Assembly on Basketball Courts

**Thursday, June 8th**  
Perfect Attendance for May  
8:20 in Classroom Assemblies

**Friday, June 9th**  
**Perfect Attendance for the School Year in MPR**  
K - 2nd 11:00 - 11:30  
3rd - 4th 12:00 - 12:30

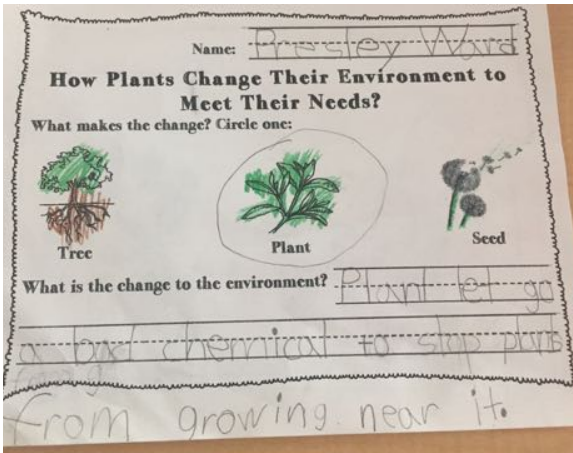


Hello Playa Vista Families,

June is upon us and so is the LAST WEEK OF SCHOOL! What a year it has been at Playa Vista Elementary School! I am very proud of our students' sense of curiosity and their improved critical thinking and problem solving skills. It is definitely a testament to the hard work that has been accomplished this year through our STEM integrated curriculum! Here is a look at what we have been up to these past few weeks.

**Kindergarten:**

Our Kindergarteners are finishing up their unit on plants, animals, and the environment. They went to the South Coast Botanical Garden on a field trip to explore the needs of plants. The scavenger hunt while there was definitely a highlight. To integrate ELA and Science, students learned about various plants that change their environment to meet their needs. They saw pictures, read a story about dandelion seeds and went on an adventure in Discovery Park to see if they could find plants like those in the pictures and story. To culminate this unit, students will learn about how animals and humans can change our environment to meet their needs.



**1st Grade:**

Our first graders are finishing up their unit on the patterns in the night sky by focusing on the stars. To integrate ELA, Science and Engineering, they read a book about a little boy's quest to count the stars in the sky. Then, they discovered that you could see the stars much better when it is darker and you are away from city/neighborhood lights. They read another story about a blackout that caused families to go to the roof of their apartment buildings to use the moonlight and starlight to see. This perfectly prompted an engineering design task! Students were given index cards and tape with the task of building the tallest star gazing tower.



**2nd Grade:**

Our second graders are finishing up their unit on biodiversity, plant needs, and pollination/seed dispersal with Engineering is Elementary activities. First, to integrate ELA into their Science lessons, they read about Mariana from the Dominican Republic who was having trouble getting her flower to produce her

favorite type of berries. This book set students up to be agricultural engineers where they had to consider the best materials that might help pick up and drop off pollen for Mariana's Ohelo plant. Then, students engineered their own hand pollinator to accomplish



the task. To culminate the unit, students are exploring the real life problem of the diminishing bee population to answer the question: Why should we help bees? This answer will circle them back to the importance of plants and how biodiversity is crucial to a thriving ecosystem.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:

Our third graders are wrapping up their weather and climate unit with an engineering design task of reducing the impact of weather related hazards. For this engineering design task, students learned about the most applicable weather-related hazard that affects Southern California: drought. To integrate ELA into their Science and



Engineering, students read about drought, watched videos of how drought has affected us, and answered questions. Then, to integrate math, students had to use fraction models to understand how much of California currently falls within which category of drought. Lastly, students will learn about aqueducts and aquifers in order to build their own aqueduct that takes water from the top of a steep mountain to a reservoir to ensure that a town has access to water during times of drought. They also went on a field trip to UCLA to visit Professor James Murakami, who specializes in meteorological and atmospheric sciences. Professor Murakami even showed students



different devices that collect weather data on the rooftop!

### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade:

For their final unit, our fourth graders have been learning about the different forms of energy and how energy can be transferred from one form to another. The main focus of their energy exploration was on heat transfer. Students



learned about good and poor conductors and insulators of heat. They explored with the heat from the sun to see which material would transfer heat more efficiently to melt an ice cube more quickly. By connecting ELA, Science and Engineering, students read about heat transfer and then built their own solar ovens that had components of insulation and conduction. To incorporate technology, students used their knowledge to explore an online interactive on heat transfer using their ChromeBooks. Overall, they loved this activity because inside their solar ovens, they were trying to melt s'mores!



### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade:

Our fifth graders having been learning about matter in their last unit of the year. In the past few weeks, the focus was on the properties that make matter different and/or identifiable. They already explored the different states of matter and which ones can be reversed and how matter can change and become something new. Recently, they looked at one property of matter specifically: electrical conductivity. Using various materials, a battery, and a light bulb, students had to explore which materials (types of matter) were able to conduct electricity and which ones were not. They placed these materials in the path of an electrical circuit to see if the light bulb would still light up. Then, to connect ELA to their Science discoveries, they read about



With warm regards,

Rebecca Johnson

Principal





conductors and insulators and had to figure out how one insulator/conductor was used in space travel, linking back to their Mars/Moon colony project.

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade:**

Our sixth graders are finishing up their weather unit learning about weather and climate by exploring how weather and climate are different. Then, they analyzed how and why there can be so many different climate types all in Southern California! Similar to the experience that the third graders had, the sixth graders also went on a field trip to UCLA to visit Professor James Murakami, who specializes in meteorological and atmospheric sciences. Professor Murakami showed students different devices that collect weather data on the rooftop and discussed weather and climate!



As you can see, our students have been very busy expanding their love of Science and Engineering through curiosity, creativity, problem solving, and critical thinking! As I said above, it has been a great year. Many, many thanks to our wonderful teachers, Mrs. Johnson, and our wonderful support staff for making this year what it was. Everyone has a role and we all work together to keep ensure our STEM learning experiences help our students thrive.

Have a wonderful summer! My third (and final) child is due on July 27<sup>th</sup>, so you know what I will be doing this summer ☺. Our family looks forward to welcoming Liam Elliot Keeler, whenever he chooses to arrive. I look forward to seeing you all in October 2017.

If you have any questions or need to reach me, please email me at [kelly.keeler@lmu.edu](mailto:kelly.keeler@lmu.edu).

Warmly,

Kelly



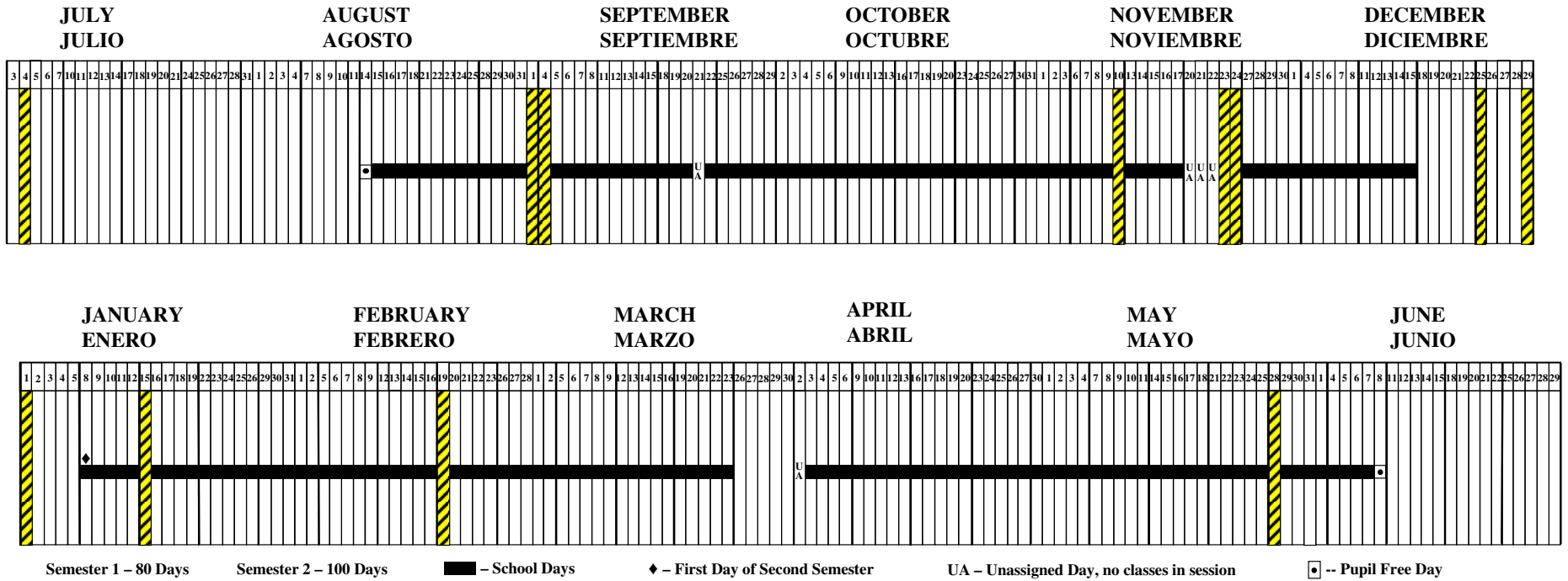
**LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DISTRITO ESCOLAR UNIFICADO DE LOS ANGELES**



**Board Approved  
1/10/2017**

□ Pupil Free Days  
Monday, August 14, 2017  
Friday, June 8, 2018  
\* If a school selects Monday,  
January 8, 2018 as a Pupil  
Free Day, then Friday,  
June 8, 2018 becomes an  
Instructional Day

**SINGLE TRACK INSTRUCTIONAL SCHOOL CALENDAR 2017-2018  
CICLO UNICO CALENDARIO ESCOLAR DE INSTRUCCIÓN**



Semester 1 – 80 Days      Semester 2 – 100 Days      ■ – School Days      ◆ – First Day of Second Semester      UA – Unassigned Day, no classes in session      □ -- Pupil Free Day

<b>IMPORTANT DATES:</b>			
07-04-2017	Independence Day	11-23 & 11-24-2017	Thanksgiving Holiday
08-15-2017	First Day of Instruction	12-18-2017 thru 01-05-2018	Winter Recess
09-01-2017	Admissions Day	◆ 01-08-2018	Second Semester Begins
09-04-2017	Labor Day	01-15-2018	Dr. Martin L. King, Jr.'s Birthday
11-10-2017	Veterans Day Observed	02-19-2018	Presidents' Day
		03-26 thru 03-30-2018	Spring Recess
		04-02-2018	Cesar E. Chavez Birthday Observed
		05-28-2018	Memorial Day
		* 06-07-2018	Last Day of Instruction