



STEAM November Update



Principal's Corner

This past weekend, as I was sitting on the deck, looking out at the changing colors of the trees. I found myself watching a red headed woodpecker flit about—diligently drilling holes and storing away acorns for the winter months. I was struck at how the wild life around me was preparing for the impending rain and snow, just as we were chopping firewood, clearing pine needles and wrapping pipes.

Fall has always been a time of preparation and reflection- a time to take stock of what we have, where we have come from and where we want to go.

Fall always reminds me of my dad and his quest to cook the perfect turkey. Much like the mother in *A Christmas Story*, my father would wake up well before 4 AM and start his turkey preparations. From the selection and chopping of the vegetables to the selection of specific spices, making a turkey for my father was serious business.

I remember waking up on Turkey day, to the smell of butter, and onions, and the sweet smell of spices and turkey. Each year my father would sport a new apron for his marathon of cooking. All day long, mouths would water while my father basted and basted his turkey.

My father was a quiet man, who had a wicked sense of humor. So each year, he would name our Turkey. Usually the name came from a political character or from something that had been news worthy throughout the year. Sometimes the turkey would have small props attached to it, to add to its naming status! The carving became quite ceremonial, almost a eulogy to the bird!

My dad has been gone for a few years now, but each year we still hold the naming ceremony for the Turkey – and try to remember that each of us is a part of our past, and it is our job to pass our traditions– no matter how silly or crazy, onto our children. May your holiday be wonderful, spent with family and friends– and who knows, maybe you'll even name your turkey this year!

Mrs. Pearlman

My dad with his favorite apron and one of his turkeys!



Important Dates to Remember:

November

- 1– Sleepy Self Day– Wear your PJ's to school
- 1–End of the First Trimester
- 4– PFA Meeting 12:30
- 8 -Jog-a-thon
- 11-Veteran's Day Holiday- No School
- 15-Pride Assemblies

K-3 ,9:00 AM : 4-8, 10:15 AM

18-21- Parent Conferences (Min. Days)

21-Turkey Trot Grades 4-8

25-29- Fall Break

December

2– School Resumes

7 - Breakfast with Santa 7:30 AM– 10:00AM

9-13– Reindeer lane

9– Sami Circuit Assembly

10 Sami Circuit-small group circuits

17-Winter Program

TK/K (5PM)

18- Winter Program

1-4 (5PM) 5-8 (6 PM)

20- Jan 3 -Winter Break



Breakfast with Santa Saturday, December 7, 2019

7:30 AM– 10:00 AM

Please join us for
Breakfast with Santa!
Tickets are on sale NOW for our
Annual Pancake
Breakfast with Santa.

Join us for breakfast, Pictures with Santa Claus, student performances, a winter book fair and a fun family morning!

Please preorder tickets!

Tickets not Available at the Door!

Tickets are \$5.00 each—Order forms are available in the school office.

Last year we had a sold out crowd— Please order your tickets early!

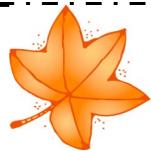


Lost and Found

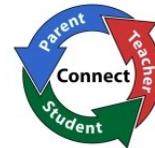
Please stop by and check the lost and found, as we will be sending all unclaimed items to Goodwill during Winter Break



Congratulations to our fantastic volleyball teams! We are so proud of your good character, fantastic sportsmanship, and on being outstanding team players! Way to go Panthers!



Parent Conference Schedule November 18-21st Early Dismissal All week!



K-3- Conferences will be scheduled by your teacher and will be held in your child's classroom. Please sign the confirmation sheet, and return it to you teacher ASAP, so that we can make sure that all parents are able to meet with their teachers.

4-8th Grade, PE, Robotics and electives- All conferences will be in the cafeteria. Please come to the cafeteria, sign in on your teacher's sign in sheet and please wait for your name to be called.

Times for conferences are:

Monday: 12:45-4:00 PM
Tuesday: 12:45-4:00 PM;
Wednesday: 12:45-4:00 PM;
Thursday: 12:45-4:00 PM

Remember that 4-8th grade conferences are on a first come, first-serve basis.

Why Get a Flu Shot?

INFLUENZA IS DANGEROUS FOR CHILDREN

Influenza ("the flu") is more dangerous than the common cold for children. Each year, many children get sick with seasonal influenza; some of those illnesses result in death.

- Children commonly need medical care because of influenza, especially before they turn 5 years old.
- Severe influenza complications are most common in children
- Children with chronic health problems like asthma, diabetes and disorders of the brain or nervous system are at especially high risk of developing serious flu complications.
- Each year an average of 20,000 children are hospitalized because of influenza complications.

CHILDREN SHOULD BE VACCINATED EVERY FLU SEASON

Children should be vaccinated every flu season for the best protection against flu. It is a good practice to get them vaccinated soon after flu vaccine becomes available. While seasonal influenza outbreaks can happen as early as October, most of the time influenza activity peaks in January or later. Since it takes about two weeks after vaccination for antibodies to develop in the body that protect against influenza virus infection, it is best that people get vaccinated so they are protected before influenza begins spreading in our community.

Character Counts

Pillar of the Month

Fairness



Play by the rules • Take turns and share • Be open-minded; listen to others • Don't take advantage of others • Don't blame others • Treat all people fairly



We're Here to Help!



If you have a baby who was very small or sick at birth or a young child whose development worries you, a telephone call may put you in touch with someone who can answer your questions and help you get service for your child.

Call the STEAM Academy's Office at (209)229-4650 and ask for Nel'Laine Kilgore, or call the San Joaquin County Office of Education at 209-468-4925 for more information.



K-3 Parent /Teacher Conferences - Notice

Our first trimester grading period will end Friday, November 1, 2019. Parent-teacher conferences for grades K-8 will be held November 18-21. Dismissal times will be as follows: **Monday-Friday (November 18-22) Dismissal :Grades TK/K– 12:00 and Grades 1-3 12:15 PM.**

The poster features a red circular logo with a white house icon in the top left. The background is white with colorful, abstract musical notes and swirls in shades of pink, blue, yellow, and green. The text is centered and reads: "San Joaquin County Office of Education", "2020 Middle School Honor Choir", "Auditions", "New this year!", "MS Honor Choir Auditions will be via Digital Recording", "Visit our website for more details", "sjhonors.org", "The deadline for audition application and uploads will be November 1, 2019", "Concert Date Saturday, March 7, 2020", "7 pm Delta College Atherton Auditorium", "Free Admission", and "209.468.4973".

San Joaquin County Office of Education

2020 Middle School Honor Choir Auditions

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Visit our website for more details
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Yearbooks on Sale !

\$25 soft cover and \$35 for hard cover

Prices Go up January 1st



Class Room Parties

Many classrooms will be hosting Holiday parties over the next few weeks. Please remember that all items brought into the classroom need to be store bought. Please coordinate with your child's teacher if you are thinking about bringing treats to share with the classroom.

Be sure to check in with your teachers during these holiday months, as they may have projects, arts and crafts or activities that they need your help with!

IT'S PARTY TIME



Do the Math!

K-12th grade = 13 years

Missing just 1.5 days a month of school

1.5 x 9 months of school = 13.5 days/year

13.5 days x 13 years = 175.5 days

Almost a whole year of school!

Every Day Counts!



Our Goal is
98%
Attendance
in all
Grade Levels!

UOP Attendance Challenge

This year we entered into a contest with 151 other schools in our county. Where we competed monthly on attendance. It was announced this week that The STEAM Academy had the best attendance out of all of the schools— by almost 9%! We will receive a



every day counts
ATTEND TODAY -
ACHIEVE TOMORROW!

Attendance

It's a fact that students who attend school regularly learn more and are more successful in school than students who do not. Attendance patterns are formed early in life. Children who develop good attendance habits in the early grades will be more likely to continue them throughout high school.

Regular attendance is critically important, because students who miss school miss out on carefully planned sequences of instruction. They miss out on active learning experiences and class participation. They miss out on the opportunity to ask questions. As a result, they are more likely to fall behind, and they are more likely to drop out.

Things you can do to help...

- Schedule doctor and dental appointments so that your child can attend at least part of each school day.
- Communicate the importance of regular school attendance to your child so they are hearing the same thing we are saying at school.
- Please have children to school on time, being tardy impacts a child's morning routine
- If your student does miss school, please contact the school office.
- If your student is running a fever of 100 degrees or more, vomiting, having diarrhea they need to be kept home.

When we all work together, as a team, we can make regular attendance at school a priority!

We Need to Improve our Attendance!

Every percentage that we increase our attendance equates to about \$100,000 in funding for our school!

Please help by having your child in school every day! If you need to attend appointments, please try to schedule them around school hours, or later in the morning.

Current Attendance Rates:

	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
TK/K	92%	93.37%
1	96%	97.45%
2	96%	95.17%
3	96%	95.38%
4	95%	95.17%
5	96%	97.29%
6	95%	96.79%
7	97%	97.24%
8	98%	98.02%

A Message from our Vice Principal

November's Character Counts Trait is **Fairness**. As a concept, fairness is especially challenging for young children to understand. With other traits, like kindness or responsibility, there are concrete actions to observe which may provide a basic understanding of the concept itself. However, fairness is found in the way we treat one another, the way in which we play a game, the way in which we live life, etc.

Fairness is:

- Treating people the way you want to be treated.
- Taking turns.
- Telling the truth.
- Playing by the rules.
- Thinking about how your actions will affect others.
- Listening to people with an open mind.
- Not speaking when others are speaking.
- Not blaming others for your mistakes.
- Not taking advantage of other people.
- Not playing favorites.

FAIR ISN'T
everybody getting the
same thing.....

FAIR IS
everybody getting
what they need
In order to be
SUCCESSFUL.

Dealing with Unfairness

It can be tough staying cool when someone pushes your "unfair" button, but you can learn how.

Up for the challenge? Try this:

1. **Notice what's going on with you.** When you start feeling like you're losing control you may become upset.
2. **Stop.** Slam on the brakes before you do or say something that's going to get you in trouble. Even if you've already said or done some things that weren't great, it's never too late to stop.
3. **Close your eyes.** Closing your eyes blocks out the person you're angry with and helps you get back in balance faster.
4. **Breathe.** Inhale slowly and evenly through your nose. Then relax your mouth and exhale slowly. Repeat 5–10 times.
5. **Decide.** Now that you're calmer, think about the best way to respond to what happened.
6. **Your challenge.** From now on, whenever you start to feel upset, remember to breathe and put yourself back in control.

So how do we teach fairness to young children?

Practice Turn-taking

This is a good starting point for the especially young. Through playing games like peek-a-boo and building with blocks (you lay one, I lay one), parents are able to provide a basic understanding of taking turns which is an element of fairness. For older children, use games as an opportunity to model and explain why we play by a given set of rules, how we take turns, and how we encourage one another even when we are unhappy with an outcome.

Notice Fair and Unfair

Draw attention to behaviors in books, movies, and in life when others are acting in a fair or unfair manner. Ask your child questions like "What is another way he could have acted to make things fair?" or "How did she show fairness to the other person?"

Praise Fairness

Take a moment to recognize and verbalize when your child is acting out of fairness. Helping him to notice fairness in his own behaviors will help him to grow in his understanding of the concept. Fairness may not be taught as easily as other character traits, but with consistency, children will recognize fairness and act fairly towards others.

FAIRNESS

ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK TODAY.

Order online at
ybpay.lifetouch.com

**Announcing
STEAM Academy at River Island
2019-2020 Yearbook**

**All-color pages that vibrantly
capture school memories**

Extra options available online

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\$ 25.00

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Price Increases Jan. 1st

ORDER ONLINE OR WITH THIS FORM

Instructions: 1. Complete all sections of this envelope. 2. Insert your payment inside. 3. Seal and return to your school.

Student Name _____ Grade _____ Date _____

Teacher Name/Homeroom _____

**Thank You
for Your
Yearbook
Order!**

Cash Only

When you pay by check, you authorize us to process the payment as a check transaction, or to use the information from your check to make a credit card transaction.

Dress Code Reminders!

UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

TUESDAY - FRIDAY

- Coats, jackets, and sweaters must be school uniform colors Full zipper hoodies are allowed. Pull over hoodies are allowed on Monday's ONLY and must be in uniform colors or have a college logo.
- Shoes must be school uniform colors or black. (Black, White, Navy, or Green)
- Accessories must be in solid school uniform colors (No striped or polka dot tights)
- Hats must have school logo or uniform colors and can be worn outside only.
- Leggings, undershirts, coats, sweaters must be white, hunter green, or navy

MONDAY is School Spirit Day; students may wear:

- Their school uniform
- Spirit wear T-Shirt and sweatshirts or College logo t-shirts/sweatshirts
- Blue jeans- fitting at the waist - no holes/rips or tears

Some of the things we are seeing are:

Tiaras

Unicorn horns

Cat ears

Pink/Red/Purple Shoes

Large bows that are not uniform colors

Non-uniform color Polka dot tights

Please do not wear these to school, as they are not in uniform.



Breakfast Reminder

Just a reminder that our kitchen serves a hot and cold breakfast each and every morning!

Just come into the cafeteria and breakfast is served!

