

# Kay Carl Elementary School

5625 Corbett Street, Las Vegas, NV 89130

kaycarl.net T: 702-799-6650



## Spring is on the way!

We wish you a restful and refreshing spring break beginning on March 11, 2024!

In the face of challenging weather and illness, our teachers, families and students have persisted to keep learning and engaged! We appreciate everyone's hard work and commitment to our school community. Thank you, thank you!

- When school resumes on March 18, 2024, we will be ready to run towards the finish line.
- As long as your student is healthy, please encourage showing up to class when school is in session.

Every day of school is an important opportunity for students to learn and connect to peers and their teachers.



Until then, have a wonderful spring break!

## Fifth Grade Folklore

Fifth grade is flowing right into Spring!



In Math we are working with fractions through a variety of operations. We are learning how to add, subtract, multiply, and divide fractions. Question:

How do you make a mixed number MAD? You change it into an improper fraction by MULTIPLYING, ADDING, and keeping the DENOMINATOR the same! This is just one of the tricks we are learning about in our fraction adventure.

Social Studies has taken us through the colonies and we are now moving into the battles of the Revolutionary War. So much to learn, so little time. Make sure your kiddo is working on the Great

## Upcoming Events

### March 4

Soda Spot- all proceeds support the Drama Dept.

### March 5

SOT Meeting @ 3:45 p.m.

Talent Show Tryouts (K-2) @ 3:45 p.m.

### March 6

Talent Show Tryouts (3-5) @ 3:45 p.m.

### March 8

Progress Reports: check IC

### March 11

Spring Break begins

### March 18

Classes Resume

### March 22

Talent Show @ 5:30 p.m.

### March 25

U-Swirl 12-10 p.m.

### March 28

Progress Reports: check IC

### March 29

NO SCHOOL

### April 1

NO SCHOOL

## Highlights in this Issue

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American Award. Did you know that we already have FOUR Great Americans? Congratulations to Liam P., Jacques M., Symphony L., and Landon C. for completing the entire Great American Award. All three have their photos proudly displayed next to our fifth grade bulletin board in the hallway. Will your child be joining them on the wall? We sure hope so.

Check back with us next month to read about the exciting adventures we are having in Reading and Writing class!

## First Grade Fairytale

First Grade had a wonderful time in February with all the different celebrations! In the month of March we will be working on measurement in math. In reading, we will focus on stories and reading comprehension. Students will explore writing their own narratives too. Continue to work on reading daily, adding and subtracting at home.



## Preschool Picture Book



Spring is an exciting time for us in Mrs. Allen's class. We will continue practicing our handwriting skills. We will be learning about farms and different animals that live on a farm. We will also be learning about lots of different insects and their life cycles. We will get caterpillars in our classroom and the students will be able to follow along on their journey as they transform into a butterfly.

## KIDS Mystery

In the KIDS program we are working on writing our numbers, and one-to-one correspondence with them. We are also working on beginning letter sounds, and rhyming words. We are learning about the outside world, specifically the weather and insects! We are getting so good at our letter sounds, and letter and number identification! We also know all the days of the week and months of the year!



## Fourth Grade Fantasy

Measurement Conversion Table	
<b>Conversion Rule</b> Use the equivalent measures and multiply or divide. Examples: To change inches to centimeters: $12 \times 2.54 = 30.48 \text{ cm}$ To change centimeters to inches: $51 \div 2.54 = 20.08 \text{ in}$	
<b>Capacity</b> 1 fl oz = 29.574 ml 1 ml = .034 fl oz 1 pt = 473 L 1 L = 2.113 pt 1 qt = 946 L 1 L = 1.057 qt 1 gal = 3.785 L 1 L = .264 gal	<b>Length and Distance</b> 1 in = 2.54 cm 1 cm = .394 in 1 ft = 30.48 cm 1 m = 1.094 yd 1 yd = .914 m 1 km = 1,000 m 1 mi = 1,609 km 1 km = .621 mi
<b>Weight</b> 1 oz = 28.350 g 1 g = .035 oz 1 lb = 454 g 1 kg = 2,205 lb 1 ton = 907 metric tons 1 metric ton = 1,102 tons	<b>Abbreviations</b> in = inch ft = foot yd = yard mi = mile gal = gallon qt = quart pt = pint fl oz = fluid ounce oz = ounce lb = pound ton = ton metric ton = metric ton

In fourth grade our math focus is converting units. We are learning both the customary system and the metric system. Students will be using multiplication and division to go from one unit to the next.

In reading, students are focusing on the story elements for both our novel study on Frindle and our HMH stories. Students are analyzing characters, retelling and sequencing plots, and evaluating the stories for the theme. We will soon be moving onto Food For Thought and reading about healthy food choices.

We can't wait to take the students to The Smith Center on March 5th to see "Frindle," based on the book we have been reading together in class.

## Second Grade Short Story

Second graders have been working hard on their reading skills. They have been working on comparing and contrasting two different versions of the same story. Students have been filling in Venn Diagrams to help organize their information on how the stories are alike and different. They have been writing compare and contrast paragraphs using sentence frames using their Venn Diagrams. Please continue to encourage your child to read for at least 20 minutes each night to practice their reading skills. In math students have been working on money. We have been identifying coins and their values. We have also worked with different bills



such as \$1 and \$5. Students have been working on solving money word problems. You can help your child work on money at home by having them practice counting up the change in your pocket, piggy banks, wallets, etc. After we are done with

money we will be moving into telling time to the nearest five minutes.

### Second Grade Perspective Writing:

The Wolf's Perspective:

I did not mean to kill the first and second little pig. I was just trying to get a cup of sugar for my granny. It's not my fault that they died. It is all because of my cold. Written by Brycen G.



The Pig's Perspective:



The Wolf is so mean! He was trying to blow over houses. I had to run as fast as I could! He tried to eat me. He was hungry! Good thing I ran to my older brother house! My brother house was made of bricks so he couldn't come in the house. Written by Aaron M.

## Kindergarten Literature

Fabulous February was full of exciting learning experiences in kindergarten. We had Black History Month, Groundhog Day, Dental Health Month, Presidents' Day, and Valentine's Day.



## News You Can Use

### March Table Topics

Here are a few table topics to get your family trying to name the most things.

- Name as many things as you can that begin with the letter M.
- Name as many things as you can that can roll.
- Name as many things as you can that have numbers on them.
- Name as many things as you can that are made out of wood.
- Name as many things as you can that make noise.
- Name as many things as you can that can float.
- Name as many things as you can think of that come in pairs.
- Name as many things as you can that can hop.
- Name as many things as you can that are green.
- Name all the kind gestures that you can think of doing.
- Name as many things as you can that can be found at the zoo.
- How many different kinds of fruits can you name?

Source: [growingbookbybook.com](http://growingbookbybook.com)



Now it is time for some March merriment. In honor of what would have been Dr. Seuss's 110th birthday on March on March 2, read some Dr. Seuss books with your kindergarteners and practice rhyming while you are on car rides with your kiddos. The following week is Spring Break. Here is a Spring Break Bucket List keep the kindergartener in your life engaged:

- Practice tying your shoes
- Have a scavenger hunt in your house. Find something that starts with each letter in your name.
- Watch your favorite cartoon or movie and tell your grown-up the problem and the solution.
- Help your grown-up make dinner one night.
- Build a leprechaun trap.
- Play I spy in your backyard.

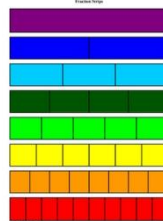
### Third Grade Thriller

In 3rd grade, we have been busy researching a famous person, completing a research paper, and making a biography bottle to resemble our famous person. We will be displaying our bottle projects in each pod for the school to enjoy along with us. Thanks for helping your child!

We also attended a special presentation from The Discovery Museum here at school. Students learned about their hereditary traits. There were many hands-on activities and students looked at some slides through a microscope. It was a great review of our science unit. Everyone enjoyed this presentation.

We will continue prepping for our SBAC testing that will be coming up after Spring Break. Please continue to make sure your child is reading for 20 minutes each day without stopping for a snack, a drink break, etc. We have been working on building our reading stamina here at school. Ask your child to recall the important facts of the passage, how they might change the ending, look for evidence in the text to respond to your questions, and if they can compare it to another passage they have previously read.

To prepare for 4th grade, please continue to work on memorizing the multiplication math facts,



## Announcements

### Acknowledgements

Thank you for all of your support for our recent fundraisers. We are thankful for the wonderful community that we have surrounding us. The monies raised will be used for student incentives and events, A.R. prizes, etc.

- Read-a-thon results coming soon!

### Was your child absent?

If your Kay Carl Champion was absent, please submit the attendance note via our website: [kaycarl.net](http://kaycarl.net). There is a bright pink button on the front page. You will fill out a Google Form and you are even able to upload notes from your child's doctor. You can also prearrange an absence when completing the form.



addition and subtraction with regrouping, and identifying and comparing fractions using their own drawing of fraction bars.

## ECSE Edition



The month of March will be a Ball Study. We will learn different sports equipment and how to play a game as a team. Sportsmanship and proper use of equipment will be covered. How do you ask a friend to play with you? How do you follow the rules of a game? What is a coach and a referee? What sports can you play without a team? We look forward to playing outside and using our bodies in new ways.

## Goldilocks' Guide

### Set high expectations that your child can achieve



Setting expectations can be tricky. Research shows that students generally live up to family and teacher expectations, whether those expectations are high or low. So, you want to set the bar high for your child. It's also important to be realistic. Most students are not going to excel at everything. If only near-perfection satisfies you, your child may think, "What's the point?" and stop trying altogether. To make sure your expectations are realistic and effective:

- **Encourage your child's** best effort in all pursuits.
- **Have unique expectations** for each of your children. Avoid comparing your child with siblings, friends or classmates.
- **Express pride** in your child's effort and hard work. Say things like, "You should be proud of yourself."
- **Remember that** your expectations are for your child, not for you. Kids are entitled to their own dreams. Avoid expecting your child to do what you wish you had done.
- **Learn about your child's interests.** When children feel like their families value their passions, they are more motivated to do their best.
- **Be a good role model.** Let your child see you give your best effort. Set expectations for yourself and talk to your child about how you plan to meet them.

Source: J.A. Fredricks and others, Handbook of Student Engagement Interventions: Working with Disengaged Students, Academic Press.

### Help your child learn how to recognize and manage feelings



All kids feel worried or upset sometimes. Being aware of these feelings and thoughts is the first step toward managing them in healthy ways. Here's how:

- **Talk about thoughts.** When your child seems sad or anxious, ask, "What are you thinking about right now?" Your child might say, for example, "I'm worried no one will sit with me in the cafeteria at lunch tomorrow."
- **Show understanding.** Put your child's feelings into words. "I know you're worried about finding someone to eat with at lunch tomorrow."

- **“Flip” thinking.** Tell your child to make negative thoughts do a “flip” so they’re more positive or helpful. Your child might think, “I can ask my reading buddy to have lunch with me” or “I can tell my teacher I’m worried about sitting alone.” If your child often seems worried or upset, talk to your child’s teacher, school counselor or pediatrician.

Source: “Catch, Check, and Change Your Thoughts,” National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine

## Do you show your child what respect looks like?



Children learn about respect from watching the adults in their lives. Are you modeling the behavior you want your child to have—so that your child will show the same respect for you, teachers and others? Answer yes or no to the questions below to find out:

1. **Do you treat** your child and others with kindness and honesty?
2. **Do you admit** mistakes when you make them, apologize for them and try to fix them?
3. Do you listen attentively when your child is speaking to you? If you aren’t able to listen right then, do you schedule a time to talk later?
4. **Do you maintain** self-control and find healthy ways to vent your anger—rather than taking your frustrations out on your child?
5. **Do you enforce** household rules and the consequences for breaking them fairly and consistently?

### How well are you doing?

If most of your answers are yes, you are demonstrating respect for your child. For no answers, try those suggestions.

## Playtime is linked to improved mental health in children



When children have fun, their brains release chemicals that cause happiness and reduce stress— which leads to improved mental health. To get the most from playtime:

- **Make time for active play.** Your child needs at least one hour of daily exercise for physical and mental wellness. Active play (jumping rope, playing tag, etc.) counts toward that hour. Have your child keep a physical activity diary for a week—does it total at least seven hours?
- **Limit recreational screen time.** Hands-on, real-life play stimulates your child’s brain better than passively watching a screen. Together, make a list of screen free playtime activities. When your child wants to play a video game, point to the list.
- **Play with your child.** Family play is great for strengthening bonds. Have a family board game night, build something together or ask to join in your child’s pretend play.

Source: S. Wang, Ph.D. and S. Aamodt, Ph.D., “Play, Stress, and the Learning Brain,” Cerebrum, National Library of Medicine.


# SEVEN DEVELOPMENTAL BENEFITS OF THE ARTS

Simple creative activities are some of the building blocks of child development, including cognitive, social and emotional skills. Participation in the Arts positively affects your child's:



## 1 MATH CONCEPTS


1 Creating patterns and learning time signatures teach problem solving and numeracy



$xy=ab^2$


## 2 DECISION MAKING

2 The need to make decisions and choices in the course of creating art strengthens problem-solving and critical thinking skills



## 3 VISUAL LEARNING

3 Drawing, sculpting, and threading beads on a string all develop visual-spatial skills



Kids learn to interpret, criticize, and use visual information and make choices based on it

## LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT


7 Provides opportunities to learn words for colors, shapes, and actions



7 Offers an opportunity to talk about what feelings are elicited through music and art

## 4 INVENTIVENESS


4 Encourages kids to express themselves and take risks, which develops a sense of innovation



Stimulates the process and experience of thinking and making things better

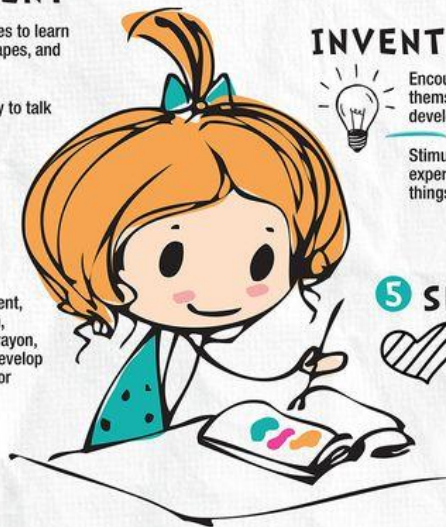

## 6 MOTOR SKILLS

6 Playing an instrument, using a paint brush, scribbling with a crayon, and shaping clay develop gross and fine motor dexterity



## 5 SELF-ESTEEM






5 Gives kids the autonomy to express themselves



Adapted from "The Importance of Art in Child Development," PBS for Parents

# MARCH 2024

**RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS  
FOUNDATION®**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>FEBRUARY</p> <p>S M T W Th F S</p> <p>28 29 30 31 1 2 3</p> <p>4 5 6 7 8 9 10</p> <p>11 12 13 14 15 16 17</p> <p>18 19 20 21 22 23 24</p> <p>25 26 27 28 29 1 2</p> <p>3 4 5 6 7 8 9</p>	<p>APRIL</p> <p>S M T W Th F S</p> <p>31 1 2 3 4 5 6</p> <p>7 8 9 10 11 12 13</p> <p>14 15 16 17 18 19 20</p> <p>21 22 23 24 25 26 27</p> <p>28 29 30 1 2 3 4</p> <p>5 6 7 8 9 10 11</p>	27	28	29	1  Eat a healthy lunch.	2 Unplug from all technology for one day.
3 Share a favorite memory with a family member.	4 Post a sticky note with a kind message on someone's locker.	5 Thank an influential woman in your life.	6 Spend at least 30 minutes doing something that you love.	7 Forgive yourself for something that's been bothering you.	8 Be honest and kind when speaking to others.	9 Volunteer with your family at an animal shelter or rescue. 
10 Go on a nature walk with a friend or family member.	 11 Eat a slice of your favorite pie.	12 Offer to help a school staff member with a task.	13 Reply positively to an online post.	14 Compliment a classmate about a unique characteristic.	15 Say, "Thank You!" and mean it.	16 Get your family members together and tell funny stories.
17 Make someone happy today by doing something they love with them.	18 Share an encouraging poem with someone.	 19 Go to bed an hour early.	20 Pick up trash in your school's hallways.	 21 Do 15 minutes of stretches.	22 Finish your work on time and to the best of your ability.	23 Celebrate a made-up holiday.
24 Swing on a swing.	25 Make sure your pets know how much they're loved.	26 Try eating 5 servings of fruits and vegetables a day.	27 Take a walk in the park with a friend or family member.	28 Color a page and share it with a loved one.	29 Give someone a genuine and meaningful compliment.	30 Share your favorite book with your best friend.
31 Give others the benefit of the doubt.	1	2	3	4	5	6

Visit [www.randomactsofkindness.org](http://www.randomactsofkindness.org) for more kindness ideas.

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## Special Announcement

Have you heard? The theme for next year has been released. Kay Carl Elementary School will be heading to the Wild West for the 2024-2025 school year! Grab your boots, hats, and saddle up your horses as we get ready for a wonderful western adventure.

