

# Kay Carl Elementary School

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## A Spring Poem

The desert wakes, a vibrant hue,  
With sun-kissed blooms, a sky of blue.  
Sagebrush whispers, windswept and free,  
A western spring for all to see.



## Our Newest Cowgirl

Hello KCES Families!

My name is Nicole Lawrence, and I am absolutely thrilled to join the KCES family as your new Assistant Principal! I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself and share a little about who I am.

I grew up on the beautiful island of Oahu, Hawaii, where I developed a love for playing soccer and soaking up the sun at the beach. I'm also a proud mom of two adorable and energetic kids, ages 2 and 4, who keep my days filled with laughter and adventure!

With 11 years of experience in education, I have taught special education, kindergarten, and 4th grade. For the past two years, I've had the amazing opportunity to serve as a strategist, coaching both teachers and students to help them reach their academic goals. Each of these experiences has fueled my passion for supporting students and creating an environment where they can thrive both academically and personally.

As your Assistant Principal, I am dedicated to working alongside our fantastic staff, students, and families to create a positive and enjoyable atmosphere for everyone. I'm here to support you and your child in every way possible, and I'm always eager to connect!

Warmest regards,

Nicole Lawrence

Assistant Principal

Kay Carl Elementary School



## Upcoming Events

### April 4-8

Willy Wonka Jr.

### April 8

SOT @ 3:45 p.m.

### April 15

Donuts with Grown-ups 8:00-9:15 a.m.

### April 30

Fine Arts Night 5:30-7:30 p.m.

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## Griffith's Giddy-up

We are enjoying the second half of the school year so far, working hard daily to improve our reading and math skills. Reading week was a blast, all the activities and getting to partner up with other classes to read with was very enjoyable. We have a couple of field trips coming up and we are very excited to go on new adventures.

## Fourth Grade Frolics

Hello Guardians,

We are beginning a new module, our class will build their knowledge about protecting the planet, with a focus on the persuasive text genre. We will read texts and view videos about what people can do to take care of our planet. Children will also write a speech for an imaginary school council meeting.

### Homework Reminder:

- Students are responsible for reading 20 minutes per night, 5 times a week. With the typical fourth grade reader averaging 100 words per minute, this equates to approximately 10,000 words per week.
- Students will use their nightly reading to help them complete A.R. quizzes at school. Time is given in the morning, during acceleration time, in the afternoon, and when they finish independent work early. **A.R. quizzes do not count if they are done outside of class.**
- Students will receive a monthly reading fluency grade based on the number of words they read each week according to the A.R. program. This scale is available on classdojo. The goal for 90% (A) is 40,000 words.

### Upcoming Field Trips:

April: Lake Mead

## Heeding Health

### Return to Learn/Return to Play (Concussion Policy)

Under a new Nevada law (Senate Bill 80), effective July 1, 2024, students who have a head injury, such as a concussion, will be screened with a Return To Learn Protocol. As part of the Return to Learn Protocol, students who continue to experience symptoms as a result of the head injury may require additional assistance with their educational needs and will be referred to the school's Section 504 Liaison for consideration of a 504 Plan to assist them during their recovery. Student-athletes who sustain a head



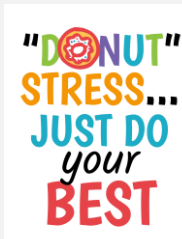
## News You Can Use

### Helping your child prepare for standardized testing

Successful test-takers tend to be students with good attendance, homework, and study habits; therefore, your daily assistance with homework and attitude toward school have the biggest impact on your child's performance. However, there are key ways you can develop your student's test-taking ability:

- Optimize brain power
- Encourage good study habits and challenge critical-thinking skills
- Know what to expect
- Look at your child's past performance
- Provide practice opportunities
- Relax and remain positive

Source: scholastic.com



injury during an athletic event will participate in both Return to Learn and Return to Play protocol as outlined in the new law.

## Counselor Corral

Our upcoming lesson will focus on Growth Mindset. We will be discussing the difference between growth and fixed mindset and the magical power of YET.

Research shows that parents can have a powerful impact on their childrens' mindsets. Research on praise and mindsets shows that when we praise children for being smart, it promotes a fixed mindset. It sends a message that their accomplishments are trait-based, and tied to something innate. In contrast, praising kids for working hard promotes a growth mindset. It sends a message that the child's effort is what led them to success. Want more tips on what to say, and what not to say, when praising your kids? Say This, Not That!

| Say This  | Not That   |
|---|--|
| "I can see you worked so hard on this!"   | "You are so smart!"  |
| "It seems like it's time to try a new strategy."  | "It's okay. Maybe you're just not cut out for this!"   |
| "I like watching you do that."  | "You're a natural at that!"  |
| "It looks like that was too easy for you. Let's find you something challenging so your brain can grow."   | "That's right! You did that so quickly and easily: great job!"   |
| "That's not right. You don't understand this yet. What strategies can you try to understand it better?"   | "That's not right. Are you paying attention in class? It seems like you're not even trying."                 |
| "That was really hard. Your effort has paid off! Next time you'll be ready for this kind of challenge!"   | "That was really hard. I'm so glad it's over and you don't have to do that again."                           |
| "You've worked hard to become a good writer. You should challenge yourself with an advanced class, and learn something you don't know how to do yet." | "You have a real talent for writing. You should take a creative writing class because you're so good at it." |

Source: <https://www.mindsetworks.com/parents/growth-mindset-parenting>



### Contact Information

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Message Me on Class Dojo



## Let's Talk

Effective communication can change the world and most certainly improve our home life! Try some of the following conversation starters during car rides, meal time, or a walk to the park.

- What is the best part about spring?
- What is your dream job?
- What's your favorite zoo animal?
- What is the most courageous thing you've ever done?
- How do you decide between "right" and "wrong?"
- What is your favorite day of the week? Why?
- Describe your dream vacation is money were no object.
- What do you do to feel better when you're having a bad day?
- Something I dream of is \_\_\_\_.
- What experience has strengthened you the most?
- How do you handle disappointment or failure?

Source: [smarterparenting.com](https://smarterparenting.com)

## Fifth Grade Fuss

Can you believe it...5th Grade is over halfway done!!! Students are working hard to stay focused and organized. The teachers and students look forward to an awesome finish. Class assignments and projects are moving along and the students continue to learn new ways to improve their work. We encourage you to stay connected with us on Class Dojo!

**Reading:** We continue to explore the Arts and Informational Text. We have covered main ideas, key details, theme, compare and contrast...the list goes on. Please ensure that your students are completing their reading homework nightly and working towards their AR goals.

**Writing:** Students are working on writing RACES responses to informational text in order to improve their ability to analyze and respond to texts effectively. By using the RACES strategy, students are learning how to construct well-supported answers, cite evidence from the text, and provide clear explanations. This process not only helps students engage with the material more deeply but also strengthens their writing and critical thinking skills, ensuring they can communicate their understanding in a structured and organized way.

**Math:** This month, our students are diving into the world of measurement! We are exploring both the metric and customary systems, learning how to convert between units, and applying these skills to real-world scenarios. Please encourage your child to practice measuring objects at home using rulers, measuring cups, and scales to reinforce what they are learning in class.

**Social Studies:** March is Women's History Month, and we celebrated by learning about influential women who have made a lasting impact on history. Students are researching pioneers in science, politics, civil rights, and more. Ask your child about the women they are studying and how their contributions have shaped our world today.

**ATTENTION!!** Fifth graders will begin studying and challenging themselves for the upcoming SBAC tests. Students will be challenged in all content areas. Be on the lookout! Fifth grade is excited about our upcoming Aviators Field Trip. Fifth grade students ONLY, came home with information regarding their participation in the Kay Carl Scholarship Program. Did you see it??

Thank you for your support in making learning engaging and meaningful for our students!

**Happy Trails!**



## Celebrations

Congratulations to our Student of the Month Super Citizens for March. Continued thanks to Dentistry for Families and Dr. Zac Soard for sponsoring the celebration each month.

|               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| Phoenix R.    | Heaven B.      |
| Randy R.      | Naya R.        |
| King D.       | Cefira M.      |
| Jude T.       | Gage R.        |
| Ava B.        | Tristan K.     |
| Mia B.        | Valerie P.     |
| Bruno P.      | Kelly S.       |
| Bodhi E.      | Charlotte H.   |
| Blakely T.    | Zae S.         |
| Camie W.      | Emma A.        |
| Elena S.      | Jesse James D. |
| Iris E.       | Lauryn W.      |
| Quinn B.      | Kai R.         |
| Ma'Leyah T.   | Leila U.       |
| Jeremiah N.   | Sema'J C.      |
| Johanna Y.    | Jaiyana M.     |
| Souphattra V. | Itzayana G.    |
| Isabel Z.     | Nia W.         |
| Sophia H.     | Luca D.        |

