



Spanish Heritage Month

September 2018

# Bio Calaveras

## The Class Times

The class newsletter written and published by Mr. Pham's Fifth Grade Students - Class of 2019

For past newsletters, please go to [www.ourclass.us](http://www.ourclass.us)



## Celebrating Multiculture

- Tyeon
- Taanvi
- Christopher
- Eduardo
- Jayden R.
- Olivia
- Faith
- Yohan
- Sharlene
- Jaylana
- Malysa
- Julian S.
- 
- Michael
- Carlos R.
- Deren
- Matthew
- Lyeon
- Aaron
- Stephanie
- Sophia
- Emma
- Grant
- Jayden F.
- Gabriel
- Jamar
- Carlos M.
- Nina
- Julian H.
- Henry
- Malindy
- Skylar
- Mr. Pham
- Ashir

*Our Class is unique. We have students that came from different countries, have different backgrounds, and different family history. Among those differences, we also have a lot of similarities: We are in the same school, same grade, same class, and have the same teacher. We are all trying our best to learn and be better citizens. Because of all these differences and similarities in our classroom, it is very important for us to understand that all cultures have value, and the differences we have in class are to be respected and appreciated.*

*This year, we will observe different culture celebrations in class. We present those students who are connected with that culture in our newsletter. In the classroom, we always respect each other although we look different or know another language. Each of us brings something special to the class no matter where we came from.*



Dear Parents,

## 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester Progress Report

First Trimester Progress Report was sent home with your child last Wednesday, September 19, 2018 showing an indication of your child's growing skills and maturity. The grades are reflective of what your child is doing at this time. We will have many more assignments and projects to complete. These marks could improve or decline depending on your child's effort and work habits from now until the end of the Trimester (November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018).

Please look over and either encourage your child to continue doing good work or talk about trying their best in all assignments, turning in all classwork and homework. MAP scores and AR progress were also included with the Report.

### Parent Conference



Invitations were sent home last Wednesday for our Parent-Student-Teacher (PST)

Conference which begins in October. I would like to meet with all parents to discuss about your child. Every child has reasons to celebrate and I'd like to share how your child is growing in class. Please return the PST Request Form as soon as possible so a schedule can be made.

Thank you for your support.

### Report Card Marks

Since last year, Stockton Unified District has changed the format of the Report Card to a Common Core rubric grades beginning this school year. Letter grades are no longer used. Instead, your child will be given a numeric score below in relation to the standards.

4 = Exceed standard    3 = At standard  
2 = Near standard    1 = Below standard



## September Character Awards

At Rio Calaveras School we practice the "Six Pillars of Characters" where we learn about a character each month and are encouraged to try practice it every day. There is a Pillar Assembly each month to recognize students that express the character daily. During September, the Character was:

### TOLERANCE

*Willingness to accept behavior and beliefs that are different from your own, even if you disagree with or disapprove of them.*



Jaylana



Gabriel



Olivia



Jayden R.

### Citizenship

*Students that exemplify Rio Calaveras' guidelines: Safe – Responsible - Respectful*

### 5 Ways to help your child do well at school



#### 1. Teach the magic word "yet"

As in, "I haven't yet learned how to do division of fraction." Or "I haven't yet understood the water cycle". Seeing learning as an optimistic, positive process boosts success.

#### 2. Move bedtime forward

Teachers report more restlessness, tiredness and frustration in 7- to 11-year-olds who get half an hour less sleep than their classmates. Researchers also have found that high-school students who achieve C, D and F grades get 25 minutes less sleep than students getting A and B grades. Sleep is important. It is essential to learning and regulates health.

#### 3. Read together

According to researchers, children who read for pleasure make more progress in math, vocabulary and spelling between the ages of 10 and 16 than those who rarely read. Reading is important when it comes to doing well in school.

#### 4. Learn something yourself

This means you are modeling what enjoyable, rewarding learning looks like. Also model how difficulties in learning can be overcome with positive attitude!

#### 5. Do "nothing"

If your child misbehaves in class or fails to do their work, let them take the consequences. Experiencing the results of actions is essential to good learning. Shielding your child from every bump in the school road will produce a passive, dependent learner.

# Library

Our library time is on Mondays 11:30-12:00. We check in books and then check out more books and quietly read until everyone is done. We are supposed to be at voice level "0" always in the library.



The library rules are to carefully take care of the books and keep them safe because they are school property. We take care of the books because we want everyone to enjoy the book. If we lose a book, you'd have to pay for it. We like to go to the library because we are reading for our AR and help with our reading skills.

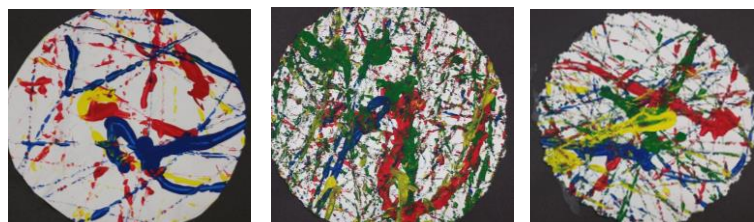
**Group "Weirdos": Jaylana, Topher, Julian S., Nina**

# Art Time

Our class art time is fun, cool, and exciting. We did line art, Jackson Pollock marble painting and the color wheel which was very cool. We so used our computer camera to take our pictures and then distorted them using different styles. It was VERY fun! In Social Studies, we created big state flags and tape them to the ceiling.

Art is a relaxing, fun things to do because you can use your creativity and express your feelings on paper. We LOVE to have art each Friday.

**Group 4: Grant, Lyeon, Tyeon, Jamar**



# NEWS

EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS IN ROOM P1

## \$\$ Class Money \$\$



In our class, we have class money that helps us learn how to use money. We get money for attendance, for perfect homework return, getting good grades on tests and quizzes, AR achievement, and for doing jobs in the classroom. During math time, Mr. Pham sometimes has math questions that we have to answer on our whiteboards and get a green chip which can be traded for money.

However, we have to pay monthly rent for the use of desks and chairs, electricity, as well as pay Mr. Pham's salary. When we break class rules, or groan and moan during learning time, saying "never mind", or shrugging our shoulders, Mr. Pham fines us.

With the class money, we get to bid for stuff during class auctions, buy goodies from the class store, buy raffle tickets, and have enough left over to pay fines. Later on, we will use our money to trade in for class carnival tickets. We haven't experienced a carnival yet but we will have two. One before winter break and one at the end of the year.

We like having class money because we get prizes and treats. It's also educational because we learn how to handle money, pay rents, fines, and to use our money wisely.

It's going to be fun using money in class.

**Group 2: Yohan, Olivia, Faith, Deven**

## 2018 Book Fair

The 2018 Book Fair started on September 18 and took place in the library. There are mainly books at the Book Fair. But there were also fun and cute stuff you can buy. When it's your turn to go to the Book Fair, you can guess where the owl was in the room, guess the amount Fruit Loops cereal in the jar, and a coloring contest.

**Group 3: Emma, Ashir, Eduardo, Sharlene**

# AR Reading

AR (Accelerated Reader) is a reading program to help students read better. You take quizzes after reading a book to make your AR goals. The goals you have to achieve are point goal, accuracy, and book level. We read books according to our level. As we read, our progress is tracked on our AR board, which is the “Pac-Man” board. We must make our AR goals 3 times a year!

**Group 6: Malyssa, Uma, Skylar, Julian H., Jayden F.**



# State Report #1

In Mr. Pham’s class, we have to do two State Reports. For the first State Report, we had to find information about a state that was assigned to us and write and one-pager. After that, we transfer the information to a poster. Finally, we were given materials to create a big flag of our state. The flag has to be correct and neatly colored or glued together. We spent 4 weeks completing our State Report. Now our State Report is taped to the class ceiling. Every time we look up, we see our flags. It is very cool.

**Group 5: Matthew, Taanvi, Stephanie, Michael**

# Flea Market Friday



**S.T.E.M**



**Michael, Julian S.  
Hoop Glider**



*These and a lot more pictures are posted on our class website: [www.ourclass.us](http://www.ourclass.us)*



**Sophia, Carlos M.  
Catapults**



**Grant  
Aerodynamics**

The Flea Market is a class event to sell and buy products using class money. The event was great because we were very excited to buy lots of stuff from sellers. Some of the products were snacks, books, tickets, bookmarks, and pictures. There were also slime, legos, drinks, making bracelets, and even a skit performance. Overall, we had a great time at the Flea Market. The next Flea Market will be in December.

**Group 1: Carlos R., Henry, Carlos M., Jayden R.**

**STEM** means **Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math**. We usually do STEM projects on Wednesdays. We have done Sun Dials, hoop gliders, catapults, and aerodynamics. Winners also get to be on the Class’ “Wall of Fame”. Michael and Julian S. won the hoop glider, Sophia and Carlos M. won the catapults, and Grant won the aerodynamic car race. In October, we will do marshmallow towers and balloon cars. Later on, we will build robots. It’s going to be exciting doing STEM this year!

**Group 7: Sophia, Malindy, Gabriel, Aaron**

# what's up



- October 1-5 Science Camp
- October 8-12 Fall Break
- October 10 Jamar’s Birthday
- October 22 Teacher training – NO SCHOOL
- October 25 Picnic on the Grounds  
Pillar Assembly 9:15
- October 26 Western Day
- October 27 Rio Calaveras Fall Harvest Festival
- October 31 Halloween! Class RoAch Activity