

# THE OAK



The Los Encinos School Newspaper

"By kids, for kids."

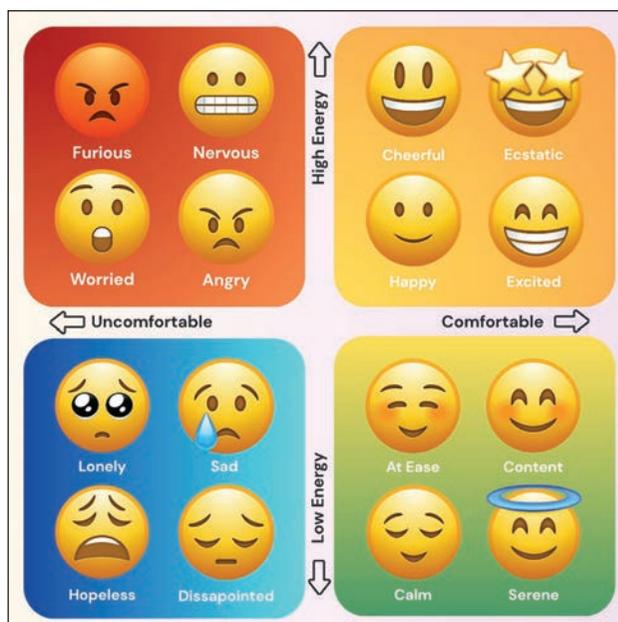
## Marvelous Mood Meter

by Millie, 2nd

The Mood Meter was invented by Dr. Marc Brackett at the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence. He studied social-emotional learning and developed RULER, which stands for the five skills of emotional intelligence: Recognizing, Understanding, Labeling, Expressing, and Regulating.

The Mood Meter helps us label and express our emotions. Each grade uses it. The meter has four colorful areas that display the spectrum of emotions related to energy level and comfortability. High energy and high uncomfortability is anger. Low energy and low comfortability is sadness. Yellow is happy, excited, and energetic. Green is calm, peaceful, and relaxed. At Los Encinos, we place small pictures of ourselves on the Mood Meter each morning as a "check in" to show how we feel. In second grade, we have a picture of an animal, and we try to say what it is feeling and why.

I interviewed the 6th grade teacher, Ms. Byer, because she went to a conference  
see **Mood**, page 4



Kindergarteners paint their own Mood Meters.

## Buddy Up

by Magnus, 5th

In fifth grade, we have the incredible buddy program which gives each fifth grader an opportunity to mentor a first grader (and sometimes more than one, depending on class sizes). It's not just fifth and first graders, however; sixth graders and kindergarteners have a similar program. The "buddies" do fun activities together. On Halloween, for instance, we built edible haunted houses out of graham crackers and chocolate spread. We are mentors to our buddies because, for most of them, it's only their second year at LES. We can tell them what to expect and help guide them through the school year. The Buddy Program benefits everyone; it's a great way to get to know younger students and be a leader. 🌿



5th & 1st grade buddies make edible haunted houses.

## Diverse Discoveries by Audrey, 3rd

At Los Encinos School, we celebrate *Dia de los Muertos*, or Day of the Dead. It is a holiday when people honor the spirits of family members who have passed away, eat good food, and put out pictures of their loved ones on an altar, or *ofrenda*. At school, a kindergarten mom named Anna Almada came and taught us about the holiday. She even brought everyone sweet bread to try. My favorite part was the sweet bread. One thing I learned was how to make an altar. I liked the golden color of the marigolds because they remind me of a warm sunny day.



*Anna and family presenting Dia de Los Muertos.*

Another assembly we attended featured Filipino dancers from the Student Association at CSUN. They came and presented a cultural dance and even showed us how to do it. I liked how they taught us to begin with our hands positioned like we were holding a beach ball. We are continuing to learn the dance in Library and during PE. It's one of the dances we did as a community at the Harvest Festival.



*Dancers from the Filipino American Students Association (FASA) at CSUN.*

I like the all-school assemblies because it gives us a chance to all learn together. 🌿

## The GREAT Assembly by Nora, 3rd

Each week, Los Encinos families and students come together on the yard for the Friday morning assembly. Sixth graders lead it by making announcements and inviting representatives from other grades to come up and share what they've been learning.

For instance, presenters might discuss upcoming holidays, or review a field trip, or a service learning project, or the virtues and values featured that month. Some grades go up and sing songs they've learned. Every Friday, we learn something new.



*Each Friday, a pair of sixth graders takes on the hosting duties for the all-school assembly.*

A highlight each week is when the hosts introduce  
see **Assembly** page 3

# Assembly continued from Page 2

Everest the Eagle, the LES mascot. Everest enters to his theme music, "Jump," and high-fives the kindergarteners. He always has a joke or a riddle to share.

Next, the hosts introduce Mrs. Reinfeld, and she enters with her own pump up music. She makes announcements for the parents before calling up students and teachers who are celebrating a birthday that week.

The whole school sings Happy Birthday to them, and the kids receive a gift. This year, the gift is a kaleidoscope to fit in with the schoolwide theme, Exploring Diverse Systems and Structures.

At the end of assembly, we get to say goodbye to our parents before heading to class to start the day. 🌿



Mrs. Reinfeld and Everest lead the "Happy Birthday" singing. Birthday celebrants are seen holding their kaleidoscope gifts.



Students display their art pieces for the all-school art installation.



Everest makes a big entrance with high-fives all around.

# Mood

continued from Front Page and learned from experts about the Mood Meter. Then she teaches the teachers!

*The Oak:* Do you like learning about the Mood Meter?

*Ms. Byer:* Yes, I absolutely love learning about the Mood Meter.

*The Oak:* Have you ever learned the history of the Mood Meter? If so, what is it?

*Ms. Byer:* It originated when grown-ups realized kids could benefit from tools and strategies that help manage emotions.



*Ms. Byer shares what she learned at the RULER conference with the rest of the faculty.*

*The Oak:* Did you learn anything new?

*Ms. Byer:* Yes, I learned why it's important to find regulation strategies.

*The Oak:* What is your favorite thing about the Mood Meter?

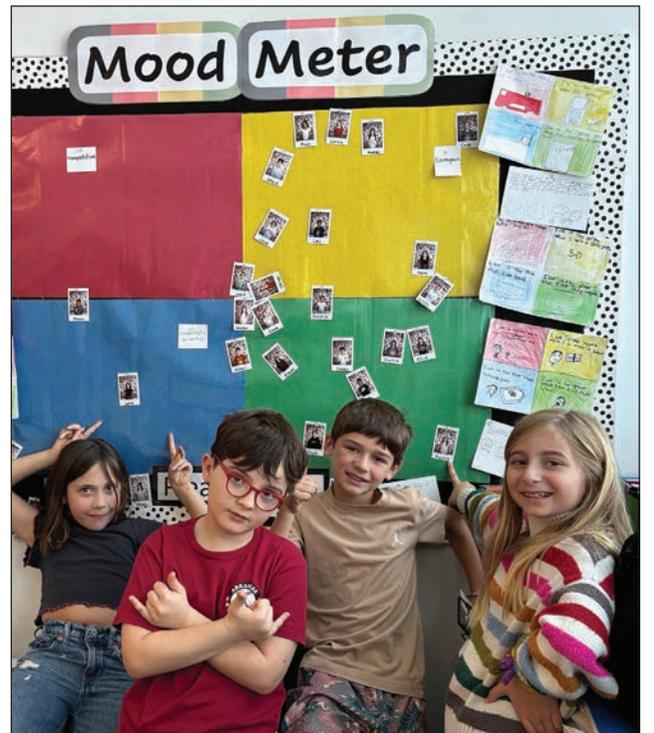
*Ms. Byer:* It gives us all a way to name and manage our emotions so we can all be our best selves. 🌱



*6th graders plot their emotions online and Ms. Byer can monitor the results.*



*A 5th grader indicates her current spot on the Mood Meter.*



*3rd graders plot their photos on the classroom Mood Meter.*

# Handle with Care

by Elle, 1st

In school, we have something called Care Families. Each “family” is led by two sixth graders with their buddies and a group of students from different grades, kindergarten through fifth. I interviewed Luna, a current sixth grader, about Care Families.

*The Oak:* What is Care Families?

*Luna:* Care Families are a group of kids who get together each month and do activities, and we learn about things that are happening that month.

*The Oak:* What is your Care Family number?

*Luna:* My Care Family is number #4.

*The Oak:* What was your favorite Care Family class you have hosted this year?

*Luna:* My favorite class was the Halloween one because I loved making the games.

*The Oak:* What have you learned in Care Families?

*Luna:* I learned how to be a mentor to other people, showing examples, and teaching things I know to other people.

I also interviewed Penny, a first grader.

*The Oak:* What is your Care Family number?

*Penny:* I am in #7.

*The Oak:* What was your favorite class you’ve done in Care Families?

*Penny:* I liked the Meals on Wheels class because I like packing bags for veterans.

*The Oak:* What do you like about Care Families?

*Penny:* I like being with friends, making new friends in different grades, and doing fun activities.

*The Oak:* What have you learned in Care Families?

*Penny:* I learned how to be a good friend.

I hope you’ve learned something new about Los Encinos School. Bye-bye, people who are reading the newspaper. We’ll see you at the next Care Families! 🌿



6th graders lead each Care Family meeting.



# On Campus

## Small Changes, Big Difference

by Eleanor, 3rd

Changes happen around us every day. For instance, you may have noticed the new, large-screen TV as you walk through the red gates! Other changes were made over the summer that aren't as noticeable. I interviewed Mr. Beckmann about all the improvements happening on campus.

*The Oak:* How did you get the idea for the new TV in the courtyard?

*Mr. Beckmann:* The TV in the courtyard, also called a visual display, was an idea that Mrs. Reinfeld and I had about three years ago to post announcements and reminders. We thought it was a good way to let parents and other visitors to the school know what's going on. The challenge was making it weather-proof, which it is!

*The Oak:* I heard there were changes in the first and second grade classrooms. Can you describe what we did?

*Mr. Beckmann:* Yes, we repainted and updated the lighting. The lights were different sizes, and some of the bulbs were different colors. We took down the old lights, put drywall on, and then added new lights. Those new lights will help students read better and maybe do math better because they're soft lights. That all happened during the summertime.

*The Oak:* How long did it take to replace the lights and repaint those classrooms?

*Mr. Beckmann:* Both of the classrooms took a long time because the first thing the workers did was hang drywall. They had to take all those big pieces of drywall and put them on the ceiling, and then when someone was holding it, somebody else had to nail it in. So you can imagine that those workers got really tired fast because the pieces were so big. Then they had to cut out all of the ductwork, which is the air conditioning. Once they put all the drywall up, they taped

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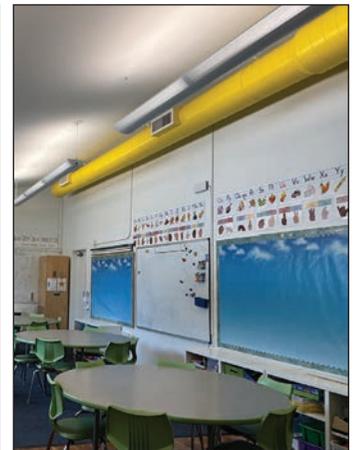
Mr. Beckmann and Mr. Birch install the monitor.



Candie activates the Red Gates Display messaging.



1st Grade Classroom "Before"



1st Grade Classroom "After"



2nd grade classroom after the update.

# On Campus

it, then they painted it, and then they hung the light fixtures. They painted all the air conditioning and heating a different color.

*The Oak:* Another change this year is the new lockers. Why did we get new lockers?

*Mr. Beckmann:* The lockers we had were very well-used, and a lot of the kids were having trouble opening them. We also replaced them with smaller versions so we could get three in a column instead of two. Now more students now have access to a real locker instead of a cubby.

*The Oak:* Where did the old lockers end up?

*Mr. Beckmann:* That's a great question. The people who installed the lockers recycled them.

*The Oak:* Blue is a nice color, but were there other colors to choose from?

*Mr. Beckmann:* Yes, and you know why we picked the color we did? Because we looked at the tile that goes around the lockers, and there's a lot of blue in that tile. We thought it would be a nice complement to that blue. They also match the new couches in the reading room.

*The Oak:* Why did you replace the couches in the reading room?

*Mr. Beckmann:* I don't know if you were there in the spring or during the summer, but if you sat on those couches, you would have noticed the stains and the zippers. We could take the covers to the dry cleaners, but then the zippers wouldn't work properly. So Mrs. Reinfeld and I thought it was time to get new furniture that's even more cozy. We also expect it to help students sit in a group and stay focused!

After interviewing Mr. Beckmann, I learned that a lot of care and effort go into making changes to the school. I hope that students and parents enjoy and notice all the changes and improvements that are made. 🌿



Lockers "Before"



Lockers "After"



Reading Room "Before"



Ms. Pinkus leads a book talk about *Esperanza Rising* with her 4th graders in the newly furnished reading room.

# Virtues & Values

SEPTEMBER



## Adventurous Kids are the Best Ones in the Whole Wide World

by Elle, 1st

Every month, the whole school learns about a new Virtue and Value. September's VV was Adventurous. It means to do something you haven't done and be brave about it. I was adventurous when I went surfing. At first I was scared because it was my first time. I was brave, and it was worth it! After all, I had fun. I hope people are brave and face their fears, and be adventurous because there is nothing to be scared of in trying something new. 🌿

NOVEMBER



## Grateful for Gratitude

by Millie, 2nd

We focused on Gratitude in November by talking about what it means, doing activities related to it, and reading books about it! Gratitude is when you are thankful for something. We like to think of things you love love love, not buy in a store. Example: MOM/YES TOY/NO DAD/YES STUFFY/NO SIBLING/YES COSTUME/ NO. Now that you get the point, let's hear from some people about what they are grateful for.

*The Oak:* What are you grateful for?

*Mrs. Vaisman:* The enthusiasm of my *Oak News* students!

*Ms. Pinkus:* My health.

*Miss Valerie:* The freedom to do what I do best and be welcomed back to LES to teach art. 🌿

OCTOBER

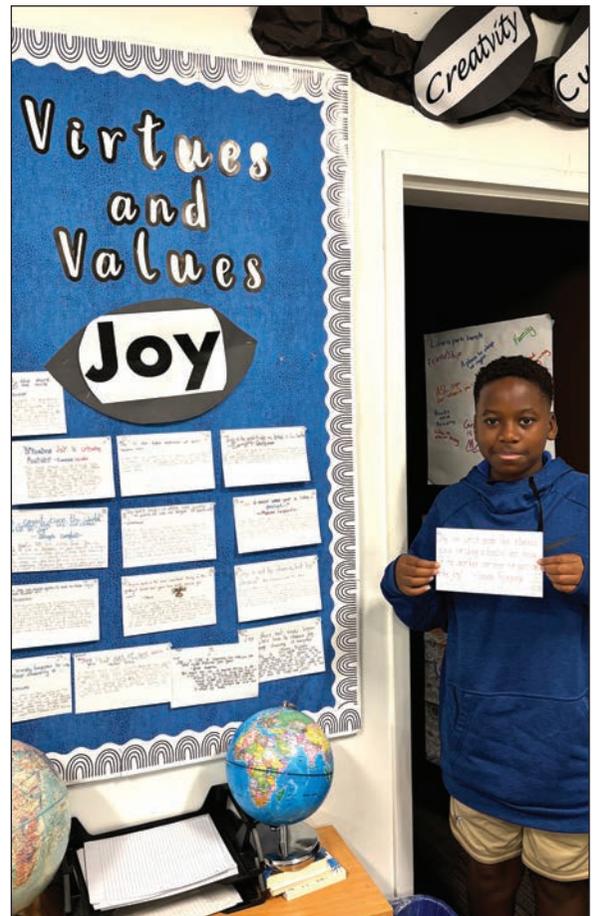


## Coloring Creativity

by Maren, 3rd

Creativity is showing how you can use art and imagination in a great way. Our school shares its really imaginative ideas, and I think that is remarkable. I show my creativity at home when I want to feel calm. I draw using a variety of markers. In the art room, creativity is all around us. I love seeing other classmates' beautiful artwork. That's why I love creativity! 🌿

DECEMBER



A 6th grader displays his thoughts on December's VV: "To me, Joy means that someone is more than happy."

# Community Engagement

by Cormac, 4th

Mrs. Vaisman organizes service learning projects for each grade. Service learning is a way for us to help the community and make a difference.

One way is to donate household items to people who don't have them, which can be expensive.

In kindergarten, students collect coins each month, and in April they go to Pavilions to buy necessities for families in need through LA Family Housing.

In first grade, they recently met Pastor April, who started New Friends Homeless Center. They set up a donation drive for cozy blankets, coats, and socks for the chilly winter.

Second grade will collect canned food like soup, vegetables, pasta, and peanut butter for the North Hollywood Food Pantry. They will take a field trip to the Food Pantry in the spring.

In fourth grade, we collected candy through the Sova Food Pantry so that when a family in need picks up their food, they can have a sweet treat to brighten their day. We collected over 4,600 pieces of candy! We also collected costumes for LA Family Housing so children can go trick-or-treating.

The final project before winter break was Holiday Workshops. In Holiday Workshops, the whole school donated board games for LA Family Housing's Winter Wonderland event. We donated board games because some families can't afford to give presents for Christmas, so we donated to cheer them up and bring them joy for Christmas. Joy is our Virtue and Value in December. We wrapped the board games in plastic bags so the children could choose the game they wanted. We wrote sweet cards to go with the presents. We chose board games because the whole family is included.

This program is amazing. We hope our school can keep helping the community around us. I can't wait to see what projects we will do for our community next! 🌿



Mrs. Miller counts and sorts coins with her kindergarteners.



1st graders interview Pastor April from the New Friends Homeless Center.



4th graders collect and sort candy for LA Family Housing.



Parent volunteers help each grade with their Holiday Workshops.

# Faculty in Focus

## Miss Alexa

by Cade, 3rd

I sat down with Miss Alexa, my 3rd grade assistant teacher. It's her first year here at LES, and she loves many movies. She also loves soccer so much!

*The Oak:* What made you want to be a teaching assistant?

*Miss Alexa:* I love working with kids because I think they are the funniest people around. The school environment is great because of the community and the learning that's happening, and I like all of the celebrations. Oh, and Dance Party Fridays! It's the whole vibe!

*The Oak:* Did you like school when you were my age?

*Miss Alexa:* I really liked school because I had really good friends, and I loved reading and writing, and I still miss it sometimes. I miss having the opportunity to listen to teachers and learn all day.

*The Oak:* If you could have any superpower, what would it be?

*Miss Alexa:* Time travel. There are so many moments in my life that were so amazing that I wish I could experience them again. I wish I could experience being with my best friends from third grade again.

*The Oak:* What is a fun fact about you?

*Miss Alexa:* I am ordained, which means that I can perform weddings. I ordained my cousin's wedding in Minnesota a few years ago.

*The Oak:* If you were in third grade and could take a field trip anywhere, where would you go?

*Miss Alexa:* I would go to Dodger Stadium!

*The Oak:* What is your favorite book and why?

*Miss Alexa:* My favorite children's book is *Olivia* because she always wears fun outfits, and she is funny and silly in the books.



*Alexa Peterson is the assistant in 3rd grade.*

*The Oak:* What is your favorite thing to do out of school?

*Miss Alexa:* I like to watch movies.

*The Oak:* Do you have a favorite movie?

*Miss Alexa:* That's easy. *Clueless*. I've seen it a ton of times because it makes me laugh and I love the clothes. 🌿



*Miss Alexa works with her students on Writer's Workshop.*

# Faculty in Focus

## Miss Mercedes

by Cade, 3rd

I sat down with the second grade assistant, Miss Mercedes! She loves going to the gym and enjoys eating sushi for dinner. She loves Japanese restaurants. She doesn't have any pets.

*The Oak:* Where did you work before coming to Los Encinos School?

*Miss Mercedes:* I had a lot of jobs. I worked at an after-school program in the Bay Area, up north.

*The Oak:* What was your job in the after-school program?

*Miss Mercedes:* I started off as the after-school program leader, and then I was moved up to the site coordinator. I managed about 300 students after school, and divided them by grade level. They were kindergarten through 5th graders. Every grade level participated in homework club, enrichment classes, and PE outside. We had three blocks. Then they had a snack and went home.

*The Oak:* What do you like best about working at Los Encinos?

*Miss Mercedes:* I love being part of the community and the feeling of belonging I have when I'm here.

*The Oak:* What is your favorite thing to do out of school?

*Miss Mercedes:* My favorite thing to do outside of school is go to the gym.

*The Oak:* Can you describe a typical weekend day?

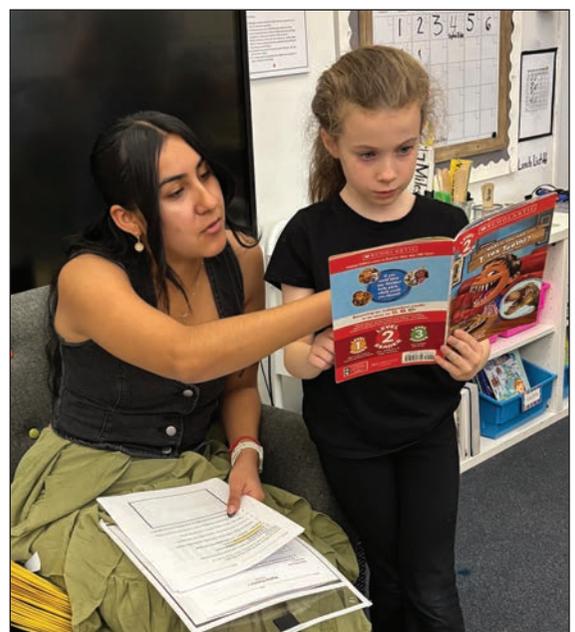
*Miss Mercedes:* I wake up early, about 7, and I go on a morning walk. I listen to a podcast while I walk. Then I shower and eat a protein breakfast. Then I like to go window shopping, or I like to go to my public library and plan my week out. I love to end the day with sushi!



*Mercedes Chavez is the assistant in 2nd grade.*

*The Oak:* What is your favorite movie?

*Miss Mercedes:* My favorite movie is *Coraline*. I love the storyline about her other mother and the adventures she has in the movie. I would recommend it to you and your sister. 🌿



*Miss Mercedes helps a 2nd grader select a "just right" book.*

# Faculty in Focus

## Mrs. Calderon

by AJ, 3rd

I sat down with Mrs. Calderon in the library to learn more about her pregnancy and her job at Los Encinos.

*The Oak:* Is it different teaching children while you are pregnant?

*Mrs. Calderon:* YES! I think about my child being a student one day, and wanting them to enjoy learning as much as I want my students to enjoy learning.

*The Oak:* When is your baby due?

*Mrs. Calderon:* My baby is due on December 26, the day after Christmas, but the doctor said they could come any day now!

*The Oak:* Do you know if you're having a boy or a girl?

*Mrs. Calderon:* My husband and I have chosen to be surprised when the baby arrives. The most important thing to us is that the baby is healthy, no matter who they are!

*The Oak:* Do you ever feel the baby kick?

*Mrs. Calderon:* Yes. Right now! They must be excited to be a part of the interview for *The Oak*. It feels magical! I love it when I get to feel them move. It makes me feel connected to them.

*The Oak:* How do you feel about being the teacher of the library at Los Encinos?

*Mrs. Calderon:* I love reading books to students and helping them discover new books they've never read before.

*The Oak:* After you have the baby, what are the plans for the students in the library?

*Mrs. Calderon:* They will continue to come to the library, reading books, and doing fun activities with Miss Sutton. 🌿



Jordan Calderon heads the Library and is also the Coordinator of Student Life & Integrated Studies.



Mrs. Calderon doing her favorite activity with 3rd graders.



Mrs. Calderon helps a 5th grader during the Holiday Workshops.

# Faculty in Focus

## Miss Sutton

by AJ, 3rd

Miss Sutton is the newest faculty member. She joined LES this year as the library assistant before Mrs. Calderon goes on maternity leave.

*The Oak:* Welcome to Los Encinos! What is most exciting about your new job at Los Encinos?

*Miss Sutton:* I am so excited to get to know all the fantastic children and staff here.

*The Oak:* After you work in the library, do you want to be a classroom teacher?

*Miss Sutton:* I am thinking about it. I never did before, but now that I'm here, this experience is changing my mind.

*The Oak:* Where did you work before you came to Los Encinos?

*Miss Sutton:* I worked at a school called Hollywood Schoolhouse. I subbed there. Before that, I was a student at Boston University.

*The Oak:* What is your favorite book?

*Miss Sutton:* Such a good question! One of my favorites is a book called *Chrysanthemum* because I also grew up with an uncommon name, so the story resonated with me. It was a shared experience.

*The Oak:* What are your plans for the kids in the library?

*Miss Sutton:* Well, Mrs. Calderon and I have been working to plan lots of lessons. We are also going to have good reading time so that we can explore our love of reading.

I enjoyed getting to know the library specialists. I am excited for Mrs. Calderon to have her baby. Maybe when they are born, Mrs. Calderon will bring them to school! What if it's twins?! 🌿



*Sutton Faye, the new library assistant (pictured above with a 5th grader) will fill in for Mrs. Calderon when she goes on maternity leave.*



*Miss Sutton helps 3rd graders make new book selections.*

# SPORTS

## Soccer Kick! by Kimora, 2nd

We have a soccer team for the fourth, fifth, and sixth graders. Their team name is the Eagles. I interviewed Coach Terry about the soccer team.

*The Oak:* How many games have you played?

*Coach Terry:* We played 5 games.

*The Oak:* How many players are on the team?

*Coach Terry:* We have 11 players on the soccer team.

*The Oak:* What's a good drill to practice?

*Coach Terry:* One example is a three person passing drill.

*The Oak:* Where do you play games?

*Coach Terry:* We play at the Valley Soccer Center.

I also interviewed a player on the team. His name is Erik and he is in sixth grade.

*The Oak:* What do you like best about soccer?

*Erik:* I like when we score a goal. It feels so good.

*The Oak:* What is your position in soccer?

*Erik:* My position is goalie.

*The Oak:* How long have you been playing soccer?

*Erik:* I have been playing soccer for 4 years.

Soccer is a fun sport to learn about and play. I can't wait to be on the soccer team when I am in fourth grade! 🌿



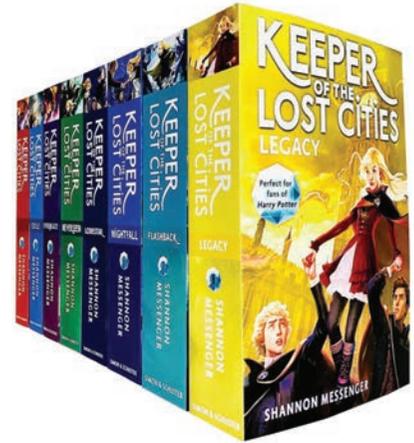
# Book & Movie Reviews

## Finders Keepers by Archie, 3rd

*Keeper of the Lost Cities* by Shannon Messenger is a series with 9 ½ books, with the 10th one, *Elysian*, coming out in November 2026! The stories begin with a girl, Sophie from the human world, who is different because she can hear people's thoughts, even though she doesn't want to.

Later, on a field trip, a boy named Fitz appears and says, "You're an elf!" Sophie thinks he's lying, but then he proves he is telling the truth. Sophie decides to move to the Lost Cities, where she can be herself. Every book after is a different story about Sophie's adventure in the Lost City.

I like this book because it teaches you how to accept being different. I love jumping into different adventures and going on Sophie's journey with her. I recommend this series to people who like fantasy and lost worlds because there is so much to learn and be curious about. Characters go to places we've heard of, like Atlantis, while also traveling to new worlds. 🌿



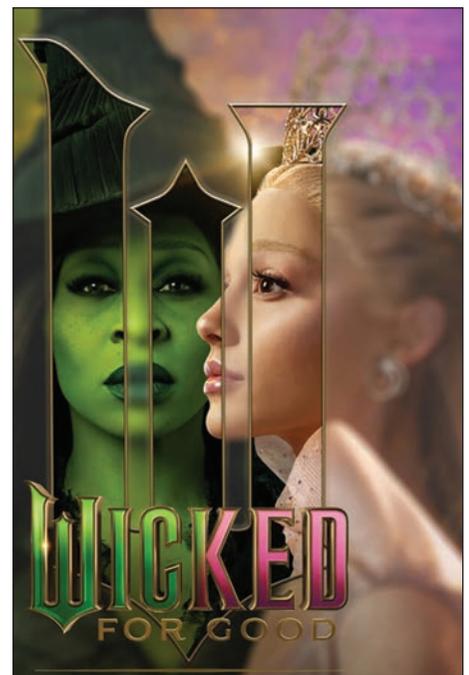
Shannon Messenger (left) is known for writing the middle-grade series *Keeper of the Lost Cities*, as well as the young-adult *Sky Fall* series.

## The Big Movie by Archie, 3rd

Everyone is talking about *Wicked*! It is about two people, Elphaba and Glinda, who couldn't be more different from each other. One is popular, and one is green, which everyone hates. Later in the movie, the two characters become friends because they realize they have a lot in common. They share the goal of wanting to meet the Wizard, but when they do, they realize he is a fraud! Elphaba gets so upset that she flies away, leaving the first movie on a cliffhanger.

A year later, the bigger movie is *Wicked: For Good*. It starts with Elphaba flying through the city and freeing the animals because she believes that the animals deserve to speak. Throughout the movie, Glinda and Fiero try to protect her, but finally, Elphaba chooses to disappear. In Elphaba's anger, she turns the main characters into the characters we know and love from *The Wizard of Oz*: the Tin Man, the Scarecrow, and the Cowardly Lion.

I enjoyed both movies a lot and recommend them both, but I liked the second one a little bit better because there was more drama. 🌿



*Wicked: For Good* (also known as *Wicked: Part Two*) is a 2025 American musical fantasy film directed by Jon M. Chu and written by Winnie Holzman and Dana Fox.

# Eagle Days Take Us to New Heights

by Nico, 4th

Eagle Days is a week to do something different than what you do in your normal life! You choose two things to do. The first session starts at 8:45am and ends at 10:15am. The second session starts at 1:00pm and ends at 2:30pm. I think Eagle Days are a very good and fun way to try something new.

I met with five classes. Here are the questions I asked each class, followed by their answers!

## Questions

- Q1: What do you do in this Eagle Days' class?  
 Q2: Do you have fun doing this class and why?  
 Q3: What is your favorite part and why?  
 Q4: What did you learn?  
 Q5: Is this class difficult?

## Pickleball Mania

- A1: You play one-on-one, king of the court.  
 A2: It's fun because it's entertaining to play.  
 A3: My favorite part is playing king of the court because it's hard and fun.  
 A4: We learned you can't go in the kitchen unless the ball is there.  
 A5: It's challenging because you need to be a strategic player.

## Board Games Around the World

- A1: You play Chinese checkers and backgammon.  
 A2: It's fun because I like the competitive spirit and winning.  
 A3: My favorite part is that you get to experiment with games you might not play.  
 A4: We learned the history of the games and how to play them.  
 A5: It's not difficult because it's simple and fun.

## Wilderness Survival Skills

- A1: We set up tents.  
 A2: It's fun because we get to work with fire.  
 A3: My favorite part is baking, because you get to eat what you make and share it with others.  
 A4: We learned how to survive in harsh conditions.  
 A5: It's hard to be a part of everything like a group and fire.

## Clay Critters Workshop

- A1: We got to make clay animals.  
 A2: It's fun because we get to see Miss Valerie.  
 A3: My favorite part is making the animals because I like clay.  
 A4: We learned that if you don't have an air hole, when you put it in the kiln, it might break.  
 A5: It's not difficult, the clay is easy to work with.

## 3D Miniature Mania

- A1: You print 3D toys and build small playhouses.  
 A2: It's fun because I love 3D printing.  
 A3: My favorite part is 3D printing and hanging out with my friends.  
 A4: I learned how to rebuild and revise my work.  
 A5: It's not difficult, it's pretty simple. 🍃

*(See photos from Eagle Days - Fall on the next page.)*



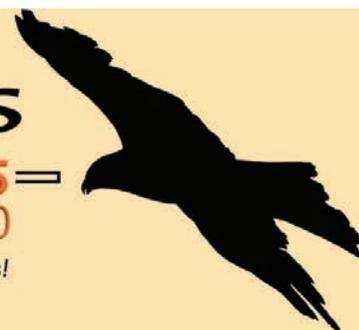
Los Encinos  
School

# Eagle Days

FALL 2025

November 17 - November 20

Unite, Explore, and Create: A Week of Discovery for First through Sixth Graders!





The community hall transforms into pickleball courts.



The theatrical cast performed "Little Red Riding Hood."



3D Miniature Mania.



The music room becomes a martial arts studio.



Mr. Birch introduces a group to Dungeons & Dragons.



Clay Critters Workshop.



Mr. Myers helps make hot cocoa at the 'campsite.'



The kindergarteners have a special farm themed week, and even get to have a petting zoo!

# Unmasking the Fun in Halloween

by Maren, 3rd

Each year we have a Halloween Carnival/Parade. And there are really fun games and tasty treats, like Rice Krispies and Oreo spiders.

We start the day in our classrooms to get ready for the fun day ahead. Then we go on the grass and dance to a spooky song. This year we danced to "Ghostbusters."

Then we strut down Ventura Blvd. and get compliments on our costumes. This year there were a lot of KPop Demon Hunters, Squid Games, and blow ups.

After the strut, the sixth graders open the haunted house. The theme this year was Haunted Motel.

We got to enjoy the carnival and collected pins from each game. Then we go back to the classroom at the end of the day. Time goes too quickly, but at least we still get to go trick-or-treating later that night! 🍃

Watch the Halloween video montage online:  
[losencinosschool.org/happy-halloween-2025](https://losencinosschool.org/happy-halloween-2025)



*Mr. J, Coach Terry, and Mr. Hutch get into the spirit of the holiday!*



*The costume parade on Ventura Blvd.*



*6th graders design and build the haunted house.*



*Parent volunteers from each grade take turns running their carnival game.*



*There's no shortage of treats on Halloween!*



*(left) Souvenir pins are awarded at each game. (right) Group costume themes are popular.*

# Fun & Games

## Jokes by Cade, 3rd

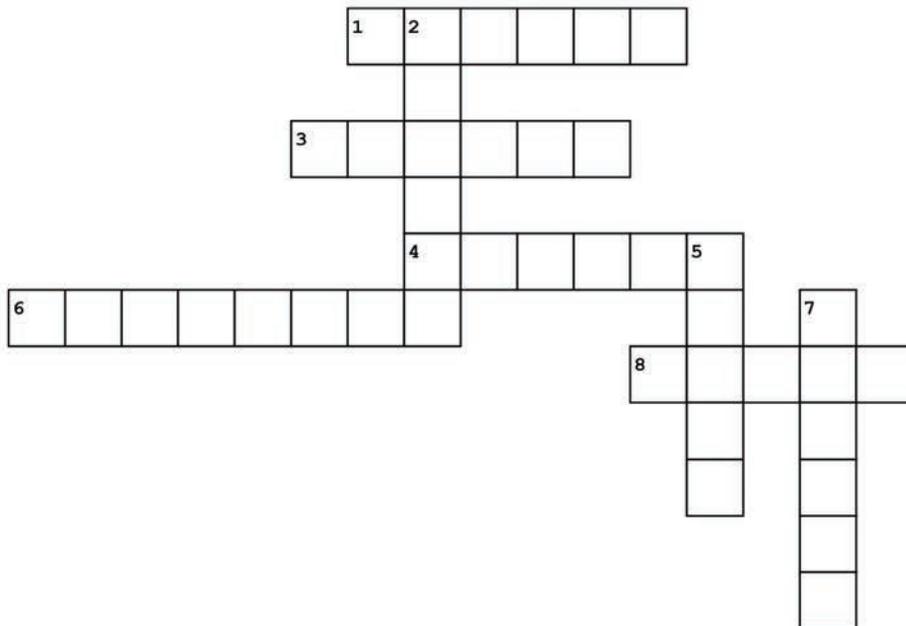
(Solutions on back page.)

1. Why did Mickey get hit by a snowball?
2. What do you call a pig that does karate?




---

## Los Encinos School Puzzle by Elle, 1st



### Across

### Down

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are the different levels in school called?</li> <li>3. What city is our school in?</li> <li>4. Where do students go to learn?</li> <li>6. Who helps students to learn?</li> <li>8. What do students write or draw on?</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. When do students get to play?</li> <li>5. What do students come to school to do?</li> <li>7. What do students write with?</li> </ol> |
|---|--|

# The Oak Staff

- Magnus, 5th I love anime, Fortnite, and Roblox. Maren, 3rd I love to play Roblox.
- Cormac, 4th I love to play the electric bass. Nora, 3rd I love to go to the pool, but now it's too cold! I also love to play soccer.
- Nico, 4th I love to watch football. Go Raiders! Kimora, 2nd I love pizza and playing soccer, too!
- AJ, 3rd I love acting and singing. Millie, 2nd I love school and reading.
- Archie, 3rd I love to read and watch hockey with my dad. Elle, 1st I like to bake and cook with my mom.
- Audrey, 3rd I love acting.
- Cade, 3rd I love playing soccer and playing striker.
- Eleanor, 3rd I love cooking, especially sweets.

## Faculty Advisors

Ms. Pinkus  
Mrs. Vaisman  
Mr. Falk

## Founder

Zelda Bleiweiss '25



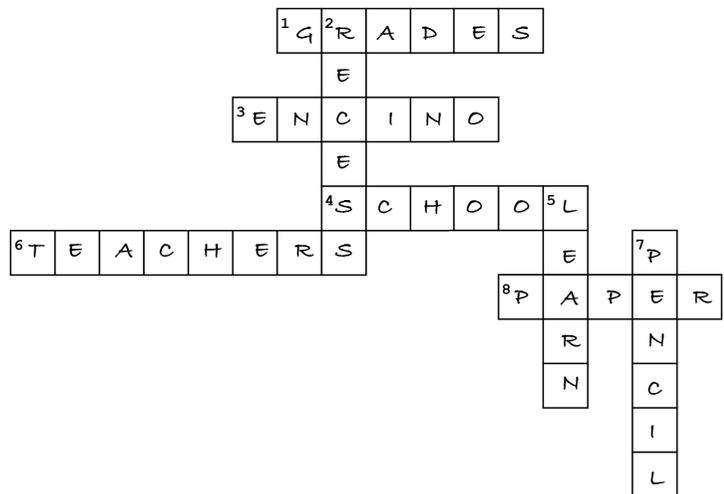
## SOLUTIONS

### Jokes (page 19):

- Why did Mickey get hit by a snowball?  
Because Donald *ducked*.
- What do you call a pig that does karate?  
A pork *chop*.



### Crossword (page 19):



Read THE OAK online!  
[losencinosschool.org/oaknews](http://losencinosschool.org/oaknews)