

El Granada Elementary School

Cabrillo Unified School District • Carrie Betti, Principal



November-December, 2011

Dear El Granada Community,

I look forward to our fall school Carnival on October 30, 2011. I hope to see you all there! I'd like to invite you all to stop by our Scholastic Book Fair in the library the first week in November. There are many great books and affordable gifts for your family for the upcoming winter holiday season. We will have the Book Fair open for two evenings on November 2nd & 4th from 5:50-7:30 pm. Thank you to the PTO and parent volunteers for organizing the book fair, Halloween Fun Day, School Carnival, Fund Run, and Art In Action lessons. If you are interested in becoming a parent volunteer in the school, please see our new parent volunteer bulletin board hanging on the wall near Cupcake the Dolphin. There are also sign up sheets on the office window for upcoming events. Thank you for all of your time and dedication to our school.

At El Granada we are in the process of rebuilding our technology on site. You will notice that all classrooms have computers, and our computer lab is finally ready for student use. We are happy to be able to provide after school interventions using a reading program called Lexia Reading. Each year we've been able to build our technology capacity. The next step is to install Documentation Camera projectors and interactive SMART Boards in five of our upper grade classrooms. This next step has been funded by the remaining Bond money left over after the Cunha building project finished, and a donation from our generous Parent Teacher Group of \$7,500. Thank you to the entire community for supporting our technology growth which provides access for all students. In the upcoming weeks teachers will be participating in Professional Development around the use of technology in the classroom.

We are in the process of conducting the GATE assessments of our current 4th grade students. Families will be notified if their child qualifies for participation in the program by the end of December. Once students are identified, we will host an afterschool enrichment program starting in January. This program is specifically for 4th & 5th graders who are identified as GATE students. Our current 3rd grade students will be assessed in the spring for step one of the identification process.

The Book of the Month title for this month is **Ruthie And The Not So Tiny Lie** by Laura Rankin. The November character trait is Kindness. Please ask your students about what they have learned in school about demonstrating how they care.

Ways to Demonstrate Kindness:

- * Be considerate of others. * Be compassionate and show you care. *Greet your classmates and teachers with a friendly smile. * Use kind words of praise with your classmates. *Be helpful to your peers and community members. * Express gratitude, say "thank you" when someone helps you. *Be generous and give to others. * Share with your siblings and friends. *Clean up after yourself in class and at home without being reminded. *Be selfless *Don't gossip about other people.

Thank you for all of your support. Our students, parents, teachers and staff members are what make our school a wonderful place to learn.

Sincerely,

Carrie Betti