

TOLUCA LAKE TIMES

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WORDS OF WISDOM

*As you leave, we know
that we are losing a
great educator ...
A friend who taught us
right from wrong and
weak from strong.*

*~ paraphrased from
Don Black & Mark London in
“To Sir, With Love”*



All Around the World at Toluca Lake!

By: Johana Lopez, David Acosta, Eliza Araneta, and Angie Zavala



On April 28th, we had our 1st All Around the World festival here at Toluca Lake Elementary School! The turnout was amazing, and everyone had an outstanding time. At the event, parents and students participated in many different activities, ate foods from around the world, and learned about several fascinating cultures.



Parents brought tasty foods from several different cultures, such as foods from The Philippines, Mexico, Argentina, India, Guatemala, Slovenia, and El Salvador. At each food station, a few people were wearing traditional clothing from the country's cultures along with hand made items and objects on display. The activities were outstanding and fun.



The event was planned and organized by the PTA. They did a great job. Some teachers participated, too. Everybody's help was appreciated very much. Activities included mural painting, passport stamps, dancing, singing, and martial arts. The food and activities were very enjoyable for everyone who attended.

All of the participants did an amazing job. We are grateful to them for taking their time to do all of this work for us. We hope that the "All Around the World" event will become a new tradition at Toluca Lake Elementary School!

**Featured Faculty:**

Ms. Bové Leaves Behind an Amazing Legacy!

**by - Emily Sazo, Genesis Smith,
Angie Zavala, & Ethan Davis**

Principal's Message:

Unbelievably the end of the year is here! We are very proud of the many achievements of our beautiful boys and girls, and even more important of how you have helped and supported us so that they could come as far as they have.

With the hard work of our fabulous P.T.A, and all of your generous donations throughout the year, our children have a beautiful campus, many enrichment activities and a nurturing place to learn.

I would also like to let you know that I will be retiring at the end of this year. I am filled with love and pride at all the achievements here at Toluca Elementary due to our magnificent staff, parents and students. I will definitely miss all of you. Thank You for an incredible eleven years with you!

- Carol Reo-Bové

**TIGER
PRIDE!**

CALENDAR

- May 26 = 5th Grade Activity Day trip to Santa Cruz Island
- May 29 = Memorial Day (school closed)
- May 31 = Volunteer Recognition
- June 5 = Student-Faculty Softball
- June 8 = Class Parties
- June 9 = 5th Grade Culmination
Final Day of School
(early dismissal)
- Aug. 15 = First Day of New Semester

Ms. Bové Leaves Behind an Amazing Legacy!

**by - Emily Sazo, Genesis Smith,
Angie Zavala, & Ethan Davis**

A time to say goodbye has come to our school. Our wonderful principal, Ms. Carol Reo Bové, is retiring after over a decade at our school.

Ms. Bové began her career as a teacher at Woodcrest Elementary school, and an assistant principal. Then, she became our principal. She has been our fantastic principal, but now it's time to make a stand and say our good-byes to Toluca Lake Elementary's super principal.

Ms. Bové has been working at Toluca Lake Elementary School since 2006. She was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and grew up in Upper Darby, Pennsylvania. Growing up, her mother was a teacher and she was very inspired by her teaching. "One day I received a blackboard for Christmas and I started teaching the alphabet; soon my dolls knew everything!" Ms. Bové explained. She's always wanted to work with children. No matter what the activity is, children are one of Ms. Bové priorities. Other than children, her other priorities are traveling across the world, knitting, music, family, and playing tennis.

Ms. Bové has had many important accomplishments here at Toluca Lake Elementary School. Since taking over as principal as our school, Ms. Bové has led the growth of our school into an award-winning school. In fact, our school has just been chosen by the Educational Results Partnership and the Campaign for Business and Education Excellence (CBEE) as a *2016 California Honor Roll Recipient!* The California Honor Roll is part of a national effort known for its extensive and rigorous analysis of student achievement in public schools. Our school stood above other schools in the state because of our success in a number of areas including test scores, community support, and outreach programs.

Under Ms. Bové's leadership, Toluca Lake has become an Arts Prototype school offering students lessons in dance, theater, and the visual arts. In addition, students at our school also get special programs like the Story Pirates, Robogals, after school tutoring, and partnerships with UCLA, JPL (NASA), the Skirball Cultural Center, the Autry, L.A. DWP, MOCA, and much more.



Ms. Bové has also made our school look better. She brought in a special grant to have murals painted last year. She also helped start our school garden, computer lab, new student chairs, and the marquee in front of the school. Her leadership has made our school a community.

However, working at a school has many obstacles and challenges. For instance, motivating children to understand how IMPORTANT it is to get an education. Also, all the things you have to go through to convince everybody to do what's best for students' education. The students and teachers all look up to Ms. Bové, not just a principal, but as a friend and a role model.

Ms. Bové has always wanted students to be "Safe, Responsible, and Respectful!" She hopes for us to each work hard to obtain an education and have a bright future. We will all miss Ms. Bové very much!



Awesome Alumni: Ryan Logo

By: Angie Zavala, Ethan Davis, Richard Ruvalcaba, & Veronica Chicas



"Notre Dame University! Wow!" We recently interviewed a Toluca Lake Elementary graduate, Ryan Logo. He is currently attending the University of Notre Dame pursuing a Bachelors Degree in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineer. As this month's Awesome Alumni, we asked him about his past years at Toluca Lake Elementary School.

In elementary school, Ryan Logo had to conquer many obstacles, including a fear of failure. When Logo failed, he had to accept it and move on. He realized that when you fall, it doesn't mean that you won't get back up and succeed. He says that you have to embrace your challenges to conquer them. In fact, when you fail, you're creating a future pathway to success. Logo learned this important lesson while attending our school. He's used this lesson to help drive him towards success. Ryan Logo's favorite subject at our school was math. This was because Mr. Brent and Mr. Daniel had their own ways of making math fun and interesting. He now has much respect for them. Logo also has respect for another person: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr..

Speaking of school, Logo's favorite memory from Toluca Lake Elementary was

participating in a musical in fourth grade while in Mr. Reidman's class. The students wrote, sang, wrote, and starred in their own production!

Ryan Logo also enjoyed the learning community created by students, parents and teachers. He loved that all of they all worked hard to help one another.

One piece of advice Ryan Logo suggests to us is that students "shouldn't hate the subjects that are hard, rather embrace them because the feeling of success and understanding after much work and thought will be significantly more satisfying than conquering an easy feat." He is saying that if we work hard right now, we will learn to overcome obstacles and achieve many great things in our life.



Family Pi Night

By: Daniel Caro, David Acosta, Danielle Ortiz, & Genesis Smith



Family Pi Night Took place on March 14 (3.14) this year. What is Pi? Well, Pi is the delicious, precious food that you eat for comfort. Wrong! Pi is an irrational number (meaning that it goes on **FOREVER**) as in dividing it. Pi is a mathematical tool used to find the circumference and area of circles.

Family Pi Night is celebrated in many different and unique ways - always on March 14 ... get it: 3/14. People who know about it celebrate by doing math, watching films about Pi (like Danika McKellar in "Dance of the Sugar Pi Fairy" and Donald Duck in "Donald in Mathmagicland"), and eating pizza and different types of pie. People also Run 3.14 kilometers to lose weight and stay in shape, wear cool Pi clothes and accessories, and even try to divide Pi to its infinite end ... or until they get too tired to keep going!

Pi is used for a number of things. First you can find the circle's diameter (a line going through the center of the circle). Next, you can find the circle's radius (half of the diameter). Then, you can find the circle's circumference by multiplying the diameter times Pi. Its quiet amazing how Pi is can then be used to find things like the circumference of Jupiter or Mars!

People have spent their whole lives figuring out Pi. In fact, some mathematicians have figured up to 67,890 digits of Pi (*which is crazy!*). I hope one day someone who went to Toluca Lake Elementary can break that record and make us all proud.

Inspirational Women Writing Contest

Junko Tabei

by - Eliza Araneta (5th Grade - Room 17)

Junko Tabei was born in Miharu, Fukushima, as the fifth daughter in a family of seven children. She was considered a frail, weak child, but nevertheless she began mountain climbing the age of 10, going on a class-climbing trip to Mount Nasu. Although she was interested in doing more climbing, her family didn't have enough money for such an expensive hobby. Tabei only made a few trips during her high school years.



From 1958 to 1962, Tabei studied English literature and education at Showa Women's University, where she was a member of the mountain climbing club. After graduating, Tabei formed the Ladies Climbing Club: Japan (LCC) in 1969. The club's slogan was "Let's go on an overseas expedition by ourselves", and was the first of its kind in Japan. Tabei later stated that she founded the club as a result of how she was treated by male mountaineers at the time; some men for example refused to climb with her. Others thought she was only interested in climbing as a way to find a husband. During this time, she climbed mountains such as Mount Fuji in Japan and the Matterhorn in the Swiss Alps. By 1972, Tabei was a recognized mountain climber in Japan.

Tabei is mostly known for being the first woman to summit Mount Everest and ascend the Seven Summits, the highest mountains of each of the seven continents. Her accomplishments are important because they show that a woman may and can do as much, and maybe even achieve more, than a man. For example, she climbed numerous mountains. This is a very risky, adrenaline-filled, dangerous activity, where some men today aren't willing to take that risk... Her bravery shows the impact that women are able to risk their safety and even their lives to accomplish great feats. Tabei inspires me personally because she shows that both genders are able to do things equally. She achieved her goals, doing her best, and sometimes even risked it all. Though her tragic death to cancer was recent (October 20th, 2016), she was a woman who deserves much honor for her accomplishments. Her bravery reminds me of women like Rosa Parks.

"Technique and ability alone do not get you to the top; it is the willpower that is most important. This willpower you cannot buy with money or be given by others, it rises from your heart." – Junko Tabei

These words mean that one's practice, time, and patience are not enough to succeed. One's intuition and willpower are the most important, remaining factors to help you succeed. These remaining factors cannot be bought or given, but come from you, yourself.

Rachel Carson

by - Vanessa Pereda (5th Grade - Room 17)

Do you know who Rachel Carson is? Rachel Louise Carson was an American marine biologist, author, and conservationist. A conservationist is a person who advocates, or acts, for the protection and preservation of the environment and wildlife. Carson was born in Springdale, Pennsylvania on May 27, 1907. Sadly, Carson died of cancer on April 14, 1964.

Rachel Carson achieved many things that make her a hero. For example, she was a founder of the environmental movement. This is an important accomplishment because she got more people to care for the environment. As part of this accomplishment, Carson researched and wrote a book called *"Silent Spring"*. This book alerted the world to the environmental impact of fertilizers and pesticides. Rachel Carson inspires me personally because when I grow up, or right now as a kid, I want to do something that will change the world and change my style of living.

Sadly, Rachel Carson died of cancer on April 14, 1964. She is remembered as an early environmental activist who worked to preserve the world for future generations. One of Carson's quotes was, " Those who dwell among the beauties and mysteries of the earth are never alone or weary of life." We all have the power to make a difference. Make yours a positive one.



The Third Annual Walkathon

**By: Tiffany Ramos, Sarah Castillo, Ramisa Ferdawsi,
Jesus Rodriguez, and Genesis Smith**

This year's Walkathon was so amazing! We raised 15,787 dollars; that is 6,687 dollars more than we raised last year. About 332 students participated, and they all seemed so excited.

The Walkathon is a fun way to raise money for our superior garden ranger! Many parents showed up to support their kids and watch them dance and walk around our school track. The reason why it was so fun was because of all of the energetic sources. The DJ was superb and our mascot was wearing a Star Wars costume to pump up the crowd. Here are some thoughts about the Walkathon: Ms. Harriman said, "I think it is really cool our mascot is dressed in a Star Wars

costume. I am proud our school raised this much money for our garden ranger, especially." Third grade teacher Mr. Reidman, said, "I think it's fantastic for our school. I am glad to see most kids participating." Rochelle Lewis is a big part of the PTA community. She said, "The Walkathon was very successful. We raised much more than last year." Alyssa Rossetti, also a huge member of the PTA, said, "The event was amazing; very energetic, and I think the mascot did a great job pumping the energy." All of these people: teachers, parents, kids, and the PTA, thought that the Walkathon was an entertaining activity.

The winning classrooms for 100% participation were Mrs. Balbuena and Mr. Reidman. Ms. Balbuena's class won a pizza party. Mr. Reidman, who is the teacher in Room 10, raised \$2,666 and won four NBA tickets. Students who won the raffle for raising over \$100 won an Xbox One S. Students who won the raffle for raising over \$50 won a Kindle Fire 8HD

Everyone really enjoyed our Third Annual Walkathon. Kids loved it, and everyone else did, too. We hope you come to our next Walkathon!



Food Forward

by - Emily Sazo, Sarah Castillo, Chezare Gordon, Diego Bejarano, & Angie Zavala

Our fifth grade students just participated in a program called Food Forward. It taught us the importance of saving, instead of wasting food. We had lots of visits from our guest teachers, did many interesting activities, received some cool recipes, and filmed a public service announcement. Following all of this work, we went to our school cafeteria to obtain more information.

We interviewed the people working in our cafeteria. Their names are Ana Estrada, Claudia Arceo, and Martha Cruz (the manager.) They answered all of our questions and even gave us a tour of the kitchen and the storage room.

They showed us how they try not to waste food. They save food all the food that isn't perishable (that means the food that doesn't go bad). Each morning, before they serve us the food, they try it to make sure it is safe to eat. The food is processed and packaged in different ways. It is from a company called NNC. The food costs money for the cafeteria and school to get, so some kids need to pay for it if they haven't filled out applications. If classes want food for field trips, they tell the cafeteria and is prepared for the students. Working in the cafeteria is tough because they need to distribute all the food among everyone equally.

Our cafeteria workers think that students should be more considerate so we don't waste so much food. We can appreciate our food more, and that the cafeteria workers try hard to deliver us the best quality. Say thank you to the cafeteria!

Special Memories

by - Kayden Flemming, Karla Santiago, Janelle Bueno, & Valentino Lara



Ahhhh All those school memories. If only we could replay them. But we can't, so we will always remember them. These are a few of our thoughts:

- Ramisa Ferdawsi - The first day of 5th Grade
- Danielle Quesada - Floating Marine Lab
- Cesar Alvarez - Daniel Caro & Mr. Garcia
- Mia Gonzalez - The ice-cream party!
- Eliza Araneta - Watching "Figaro's American Dream" at the Huntington Library
- Sarah Castillo - All the field trips, Poet's Café, and having Mr. Hagen-Smith as a teacher
- Jose Cruz - The Santa Cruz trip will be awesome!
- Valentino Lara - All the field trips & hanging out with my friends
- Vanessa Pineda - UCLA Brain Awareness Week
- Janelle Bueno - Being outdoors & hiking at Stunt Ranch
- Emily Sazo - Staying after school to learn more and being with teachers and friends
- Karla Santiago - Mr. Hagen-Smith's silly jokes
- Genesis Smith - Watching Mr. Hagen-Smith encourage students like me to keep going even though the path is hard
- Diego Bejarano - The view from Tree People
- Ms. Friedman - Having the whole class participate in the school Walk-a-Thon
- Adiba Rysa - San Pedro Floating Marine Lab
- Erick Mata - Smarter Balance Testing
- Cindy Paz - Chasing Erick around at recess
- Mr. Daniel - Being at the Around the World festival because families got to enjoy it together
- Jesus Rodriguez - Mr. Lee's childhood stories
- Kayden Flemming, - Easy math boosted my confidence for future success
- Danielle Ortiz - I loved doing the Robogals program
- Matthew Fernandez - The Floating Marine Lab
- Giselle Espinoza - I liked when we went to Sepulveda Wetlands
- Tiffany Ramos - The Walk-a-Thon because I got to dance around with all my friends and interview many kids!
- Addison Leon - The Halloween Contest
- Winstly Esquivel - The San Pedro Floating Marine Lab
- Haley Flores - The Annenberg Space for Photography
- Mr. Juan, Plant Manager - The start of baseball season
- Lowe Perrson - My first day here at Toluca Lake
- Mr. Garcia, Teacher Assistant - I liked pulling up the rope on the Floating Marine Lab because we used team effort.
- Chezaré Gordon - I loved when we threw a carnival for the Kindergarten with booths, a variety of games to play, and prizes
- Ephraim Miller - Winning the Scary Story contest.
- Bella Alvarez - I enjoyed going to San Pedro
- Johana Lopez - I liked learning new things on the field trips & all the personalities that came that came to the school this year.
- Veronica Chicas - Listening to the Kronos Quartet perform different types of music from around the world at UCLA
- Angie Zavala - Seeing great blue heron at Sepulveda Wetlands
- David Acosta - Reading about the Santa Cruz island fox
- Nyema Sciaky - Seeing the space shuttle at the Science Center
- Tadeo Campos - Preparing healthy organic food at LA Plaza
- Kevin Ceron - Learning about addiction at UCLA during Brain Awareness Week
- Mr. Lee - Visiting the Japanese American National Museum
- Mr. Hagen-Smith - Seeing young people find their hidden diamond as they go on to make their difference a positive one
- Ms. Bove - When kids say "Good Morning" to her each day

All these memories! They are all really great. We will not forget these! We 5th graders are proud to be Tigers and hope all the future 5th graders have an as good or better year! Say good-bye to this year's 5th graders, and think about all their memories they had to share!

Shining Lights at the Poet's Café

By - Emily Sazo, Michael Vega,
Danielle Ortiz, and Richard Ruvalcaba

On Wednesday May 3, students celebrated their creativity during our annual Poet's Café. We gathered in the auditorium with our families for this special nighttime event.

During Poet's Café, we had the chance to recite one of our own poems and one written by a famous poet or singer. Family members got to share their poems, too. This was a very courageous event because we got to face our fears by talking on stage.

We had fun reciting poems in front of our friends and family. The PTA provided snacks and drinks like hot cocoa, cookies, and coffee. Many kids from different classes shared their creative poems. Also, some parents shared their poems.

These poems used a lot of figurative language and variety of styles to explain thoughts, emotions and feelings. Even a little girl got the courage to recite a poem. Like other types of art, poetry gives an opportunity for people to show how they feel if they are too afraid to say it.

Most of the students were afraid and others were strong to say it in front of other people. We would like to thank the PTA for providing the snacks, and Mr. Hagen-Smith for starting and organizing this lovely event.



Teacher Tips

As students head into summer vacation, it's important to maintain an emphasis upon education at home. Practicing math skills, writing letter to friends & family, reading for pleasure & doing projects will help keep children interested in learning. Family outings and events are still very important for them. Try to keep them involved in group activities such as athletics or the arts to facilitate their transition to the next grade level. And, be sure to encourage the students to read one hour each day during the summer; there's still no greater asset for their future success than reading.

Robogals

By - Danielle Ortiz, Karla Santiago,
Sarah Castillo, Janelle Bueno, and Genesis Smith

Zoom! Zoom! What's that noise? That's the noise of Robogals. What is Robogals, you ask? Well, Robogals is a program that inspires girls to take on technology. In this case, boys are being included as well. Zoom! Zoom! Here we go!

How exactly does Robogals encourage girls to take on technology? Most girls don't ever think about it. Well, amazing women from CALTECH come to certain schools and explain why it's important for girls to engage in technology. Mr. Hagen-Smith recruited them for our school because they give a positive example to the class that makes you say, "I want to be like that someday." They do an amazing job transferring that enthusiasm to us students.

What do we do in Robogals? We use a computer to learn to program robots to do our bidding on the track. We learned how to work on a team and every one had a blast as we got things done on the track. We controlled them by programming using picture coding. By doing this, we learned how to problem solve and test our program.

We started out with a play button and had to add puzzle-like pieces to STOP, GO, TURN, AND SPIN. It was hard because we had to tell the robot specific details, or we would get it wrong. Then we test it out to see if we got the steps right. We usually didn't get it right the first time. As we tried, we got better and better. We interviewed Anushka and Ankita the student teachers from CALTECH. Ankita has been working for ROBOGALS for three years and likes to do this for fun since she was little. She became interested in science when someone taught her science when she was younger. Anushka has been working for ROBOGALS for two and a half years. She continues to volunteer and loves engineering and science. Anushka said, "I'm really happy to be here and meet everyone. It's very fun." We also interviewed a few kids.

Annette, a fourth grade student said, "I think it's amazing. This inspires girls to do technology like boys. It shows that not just boys can do certain things, but girls can, too."

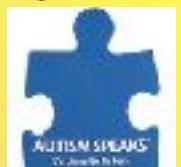
Louisa said, "I'm learning and having fun at the same time as learning."

Another inspiring quote is from Paulina. She said, "I think it's great to show girls that we can do more than what we're supposed to be."

Sienna said, "I really like ROBOGALS, it's a way to help girls be more interested in science."

This experience at Toluca Lake was amazing. Having this program was a very good opportunity and we are very grateful for the students from CALTECH for teaching the kids, and to Mr. Hagen-Smith for setting all of this up. We hope everyone enjoyed it and will extend his or her knowledge to all.





Better Speech & Hearing Month

by - Ms. Karen Mansky (Speech & Hearing Specialist)

May is Better Speech and Hearing Month. With 1 in 68 children now estimated to be on the autism spectrum, this is an opportunity to consider how we communicate and interact with children with autism.

Autism is a neurodevelopmental disorder characterized by difficulties in social communication and social interaction and the presence of restricted, repetitive behaviors.

Everyone can play a role in fostering an inclusive atmosphere for children with autism. Here are some tips when speaking with children who may be on the autism spectrum:

Make an effort to engage the child in conversation or to invite them to participate in an activity.

Be patient.

Give the child additional time to speak and respond.

Don't try to finish the child's sentence or thought for them.

Rephrase what you say if the child doesn't understand or respond the first time.

Use visual cues, or write your message down.

Go the extra mile to be a good communication partner!

Don't assume you know what the person wants or what they are thinking. Ask them!

This is a great time for parents to talk to their kids about classmates or friends with autism—how they can include them, be kind, and better understand that despite some differences, they are similar in many more ways than they are different.

Individuals and families interested in further expanding their awareness of autism may enjoy seeing the award-winning Broadway play, "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime" at Los Angeles' Ahmanson Theater this summer. More information about autism awareness can be found at <<https://www.autismspeaks.org/resource/fight-autism-now>>.

The Debussy Trio Visits Toluca Lake!

by - Danielle Ortiz, Genesis Smith, and Emily Sazo

The Debussy Trio, three professional musicians, brought classical music to life at Toluca Lake Elementary School! It was an amazing experience!

The three musicians Angela Wiegand, Andrew Duckles and Marsha Dickstein took a break from their professional gigs playing for movies and concerts to play chamber music for us students! They introduced us to their instruments and explained how each instrument was used. They also told how long they've played these instruments, and what they like about playing each type instrument.

Angela showed us that her flute was made of metal, but long ago these flutes were made out of wood. She also showed us a piccolo, or baby flute. Marsha showed us the harp, and explained that the red coded string is a c, and that the blue coded string is

an f. Andrew said that his instrument is the viola. It is bigger than a violin, but smaller than a bass or cello. The trio started with a song from 1568. Then they played a song by Claude Debussy (1915). They explained that Claude Debussy wrote songs during World War I so much of his music sounds suspenseful. This is called *evocative*; that means when a song brings emotion to you.



This Debussy trio was amazing especially that they have been playing music for more than 20 years! They really know how to work together to make music that makes people use their imagination, think, and feel emotions. That is awesome! We even got to touch the harp at the end of the show ... maybe one of us students will be a harpist some day in the future! We hope that all of you loved their music, and that you can see them again.

Top Readers Accelerate

By - Jeff Daniel, Coordinator

Did you know that Toluca Lake Elementary has an online reading incentive program? It is called **Accelerated Reader** (AR). AR is a computerized progress-monitoring system that promotes guided independent reading practice. The Accelerated Reader software serves three primary purposes:

- 1) AR provides quick and accurate assessments of whether students have understood / comprehended books they have read.
- 2) It assigns point values for each AR Reading Practice Quiz taken. Point values are a factor of book level and performance on quizzes. (For example, an easy book like Hop on Pop by Dr. Seuss is 0.5 points while Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire by J.K. Rowling is 32.0 points.) Points accumulate throughout the school year, and are a way for students, teachers, and parents to monitor the students' reading volume.
- 3) The system tracks student performance on AR quizzes over time that helps teachers monitor and guide reading practice to ensure success for the child through goal setting. Best of all, students also earn special incentives/prizes for their reading. Some incentives include: pencils, folders, and bookmarks as well as free kids meals to restaurants like Islands, Fuddruckers, California Pizza Kitchen, and HomeTown Buffet.

Toluca Lake's top readers for the 2016-17 school year are (as of 5/14):

*** 400 Point Reading Club ***



Ramisa
Ferdawsi
469.7 points
(Top 5th grade reader)

*** Star Reader Club * (20 to 49.9 points)**

Johana Lopez – 49.6	Nova Puga – 26.6
William Twoomey – 49.3 (Top 2 nd gr. reader)	Christian Hernandez – 25.9
Adiba Rysa – 45.9	Isabella Singngam – 25.9
Addison Leon-Portillo – 45.2	Emerson Salinas – 24.2
Benjamin Hastings – 42.8	De Di Novi – 24.1
Jaedy Bueno – 42.6	Anita Saakyan – 24.0
Genesis Smith – 42.0	Richard Andrade – 23.6
Aidan Mora – 41.8	Nadia Salazar – 23.5
Valentino Lara – 41.5	Jezabella Alvarez – 23.3
Kevin Santiago – 39.4	Paul D'Anna – 23.2
Finn Meyers – 39.1	Jaelyn Holmes – 23.0
Erik Gutierrez – 37.9	Mia Gonzalez – 22.9
Nathan Juarez – 37.7	Jillianne Ebueng – 22.8
Tiffany Ramos – 35.0	Julianna Patz – 22.5
Chezare Gordon – 34.7	Jack Deciga – 22.3
Isabella Brant-Tobar – 34.1	Suchel Camacho – 22.2
Vanessa Pereda Flores – 32.7	Sergi Ajquejay – 22.1
Ian Cardenas – 30.7	Eduardo Diego – 22.0
Alessandra Laws – 30.1	Sienna Garcia – 21.8
Gerardo Ruiz Gomez – 29.7	Jazmin Lix De Paz – 21.2
Journey Smith – 29.7	Deborah Gutierrez – 20.9
Matthew Fernandez – 29.3	Diego Bejarano – 20.7
Luke McMahon – 28.8	Tadeo Campos-Diaz – 20.2
Erick Mata – 28.7	
Emily Sazo-Pineda – 28.7	
Winstly Esquivel – 28.4	
Bea "Mikka" Flores – 28.1	
Martin Portillo – 28.1	
Daniel Caro – 27.7	
Dylan Chantarawong – 27.7	
Sebastian Rojas – 27.6 (Top 1 st gr.)	
Miranda Diaz – 27.5	
Michael Vega – 27.5	
Danielle Ortiz – 27.4	
Richard Ruvalcaba – 27.4	
Angelina Campos – 27.2	
Erik Hokanson – 27.0	

*** 100 Point Reading Club ***

Dean Risk – 144.7 (Top 3rd grade reader)
Kayden Flemming – 120.4
Reysa Cevallos – 113.0
Isabelle Vega – 102.6
Veronica Chicas – 101.6

*** Super Star Reader * (50 to 99.9 pts)**

Dylan Wyke – 94.8
Janelle Bueno – 93.4
Sabrina Jones – 83.4
Sarah Castillo – 81.1
David Acosta – 77.5
Eliza Araneta – 77.5
Anthony Gomez – 68.8
Angie Zavala – 67.7
Kevin Ceron – 65.0
Nayema Sciaky – 59.9
Luisa Goedde – 57.3 (Top 4th gr. reader)
Ephraim Miller – 55.4
Ethan Davis – 51.8
Rebecca Thompson – 51.4



Ami Vitale in National Geographic Live at the Broad Stage

By: David Acosta, Kayden Flemming, Genesis Smith, and Tiffany Ramos

Once a shy girl from Florida, Ami Vitale is one of the bravest photographers ever. What? No way! It's true though, and we got to meet this amazing person ... in person! She first thought about photography when she was a teen and felt spark of power and creativity while holding a camera. It gave her courage to talk to people and learn about many different cultures. Working as a photographer has sent Ami Vitale to many different countries including Kenya, China, and India. While working in China, she photographed successful efforts to reintroduce pandas into the wild. Her photographs made people be aware and have sympathy for these animals. That caused many people to donate money to help these animals.

Ami Vitale visited many people and places while working in the Middle East and parts of Africa. She took pictures and made films about the conflicts in the area. She also made films and took pictures of the results of warfare: famine and poverty. It was a sad experience for her, but she learned a lot

and that made her stronger inside. She got close up footage of the most violent moments. She told us a story about how dropping her camera batteries saved her life. She saw a building that looked damaged, and wanted to get footage of the violence (as assigned by her newspaper). But, while she was running towards the building, she dropped her batteries. When she put them all back in her camera, she looked up and saw a helicopter with missiles blowing up that building. If she didn't drop her batteries, she would've been in the building when it blew up! Later, she realized that showing images of bloodshed in an area only told part of the story. She decided to tell another part of the story; one in which she showed the commonalities of all people. Her more recent work

focuses upon more beautiful things than war.

When traveling to places like Kenya and India, Vitale meets a lot of people. They share their culture and religious beliefs with her. She often stays in these places for months, or even years. She emphasized the importance of really getting to know a place and its people, and then using photographs to provide a window for others to see the area.

Vitale's most recent work is about saving endangered animals. She is going back to Kenya to photograph rhinos and giraffes. She hopes to raise awareness and money to help protect these beautiful creatures.

Toluca's fifth graders learned a lot from Ami Vitale. We respect her for her courage and kindness.



Mr. Reidman's Amazing Class Quilts to be Honored!

by - Reysa Cevallos

Our class, Room 10, is finishing our patches for the 2017 class quilt. This year's quilt is based on a book we read called Frindle. We are drawing our patches with the help of our amazing Art Teacher, Ms. Crigler.

This will be Room 10's eighteenth quilt. Mr. Reidman's class has made a quilt every year since 1998. When we are finished drawing our patches, we will give them to Mrs. Susie Irving. Mrs. Irving is the quilt maker who has sewn all of Room 10's amazing quilts. We are super excited to see our new quilt.

Mrs. Irving will be honored as this year's Community Hero at this year's fifth grade culmination. She follows Mr. Connor White (author & actor from The Story Pirates), Mr. Bruce Gray (actor), and Councilman Tom LaBonge. We are happy that this year's award winner is being honored for all of her work helping third grade students in Room 10!



**Toluca Lake Elementary
An Arts Prototype School**

Principal:

Ms. Carol Reo-Bove

Assistant Principal:

Ms. Dori O'Shea

Coordinator:

Mr. Jeff Daniel

Lead Teacher:

Mr. Steve Reidman

Parent Representative:

Ms. Lucy Gonzalez

PTA President:

Mr. Martin Portillo

Newsletter Editor:

Mr. Dennis Hagen-Smith

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://toluca.weebly.com/>



Riddle Me This!

- Patrick Lima asks: Where did the pencil go on vacation?
- Cesar Alvarez asks: Where do animals go when their tails fall off?
- Vanessa Pereda asks: What is harder to catch, the faster you run?
- Danielle Ortiz asks: What do you call a skeleton that tells jokes?
- Diego Bejarano asks: Once there was a man on a bridge. He saw a boat full of people, yet there was not a single one. How is it possible to have a boat full of people, but not a single one on it?
- Benjamin Figueroa asks: What do you call a cow with no legs?
- Brian Flores asks: Where did the turkey go on vacation?

Super Sleuth Quiz & Scavenger Hunt

1. What were three countries featured at the “Around the World” Festival?
2. What are two accomplishments of Toluca Lake Elementary School under the leadership of Ms. Bové?
3. Which university does this month’s Awesome alumni, Ryan Logo, attend?
4. What is one thing Pi is used for?
5. What is one of Rachel Carson’s accomplishments?
6. Who is this year’s top Accelerated Reader?
7. Why does Ani Vitale take photographs of rhinos?
8. Which university sent the Robogals to our school?
9. What are two of the instruments used by the Debussy Trio?
10. Which event does our school use to raise most of the funds used to pay for the maintenance of the garden and the weekly lessons by the garden ranger?

Scavenger Hunt:
Where can you find this image on our campus?

