



Dear PVES Family,

Happy Hanukah! I hope the holiday is filled with family and fun all week long. This newsletter has been co-written by our LMU partners and myself. Enjoy!

Over the last fourteen weeks we (**LMU and PVES leadership**) have been meeting regularly to collaborate around our many partnership initiatives. Our communication has been frequent, open, and productive. Keep reading to find about the wonderful progress we've made towards becoming an LMU STEM demonstration school.

This semester we've hosted six **student teachers** from LMU: Georgia Bertollini, Candace Bohannon, Justine Creed, Min Kim, LaDonna Martin, and Carlie Smith. They have had a positive impact on classroom culture and it has been wonderful to see the PVES teachers working collaboratively with the student teachers. The ongoing LMU presence includes instructional assistants, Lions for Learning tutors, STEM volunteers, education-major students coming in to do observations, and the constant presence of LMU faculty and staff. We are a busy campus, and expect to host more LMU student teachers in January.

During this first semester Kelly has been keeping you up to speed on what the students have been doing in STEM through Kelly's Corner. We've continued to work with the Friends of Ballona Wetlands, making field visits to Ballona Discovery Park and the Ballona Wetlands. We have expanded on our STEM curriculum through the addition of the gardening program (co-funded by FPVS and LMU stakeholders), led by Ms. Kate Byers. The classrooms have been on rotations with Ms. Byers, engaging in gardening lessons every Friday, and tending to the garden throughout the weeks. In addition, the creation of an LMU Teacher Leader cohort has deepened our commitment to becoming an LMU STEM demonstration school. In partnership with LMU Faculty, Ms. Albertson, Ms. Killacky, Ms. Horton, Ms. Wong and Dr. Mohazab have been co-designing and co-teaching two graduate courses and opening their doors to field observations by LMU students. As an extension of this, Dr. Mohazab and Ms. Albertson were invited to present their Kinder STEM Unit on Force and Motion at the STEM Symposium in Anaheim, CA in November.

In addition to the academic components of our partnership above, LMU has continued to play an active role in collaborating with PVES and all of the impacted community stakeholders to address the expanding enrollment in Playa Vista. What an amazing beginning to the 2015-2016 school year. We (Jelena Trifunovic, Maryann Krikorian, and Mrs. Johnson) meet on a regular basis, share a vision for the future of our partnership, and simply enjoy each other's company!

Our **first school tour**, originally scheduled for December 8th, is taking place on Tuesday, December 15th. We begin in the MPR at 9:00. If you know of anyone who has signed up for the tour please let him or her know about the change in the date. To sign-up for a tour go to our school's website playavistaschool.com and click on Tour Sign-Ups. Anyone interested in helping out with our guided tours, please let Vicky Routson or Lisa Weinbaum know, they are the interim president and vice-president of the FPVS.

Our first **Winter Concert** is on December 11th. We'll enjoy our 2nd through 5th grade students as they perform under the direction of our music teacher Mrs. Patillo and their teachers. On December 28th our TK, Kindergarten, and 1st grade students will delight us. Both concerts begin at 8:30a.m. in the MPR. I look forward to seeing you there!



CALENDAR

Thursday, Dec. 10th
4th grade
Point Fermin orientation
for students and parents
8:30 MPR

STAR Winter Program

5p.m. - 7p.m. MPR

Friday, Dec. 11th

Winter Concern for
2nd - 5th grade
8:30a.m. MPR

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, Dec. 15th

4th grade
Point Fermin orientation for
parents, students welcome
6 MPR

Tuesday, Dec. 15th

School Tour
9:00a.m. MPR

Wednesday, Dec. 16th

Room Parent Breakfast
8:30a.m. MPR

Curriculum Committee
4:00 - 5:00 PVES Library

Friday, Dec. 18th

Winter Concern for
TK, Kindergarten, 1st grade
8:30a.m. MPR

Winter Break

**Monday, Dec. 21st
through
Friday, January 8th**

All of our **fourth grade students** are headed to **Point Fermin** in San Pedro the weekend of January 29th through January 31st. This is a great trip, I know because I went along last year and plan to do the same this year! On Thursday, December 10th there is an orientation for both students and parents. At the orientation you'll enjoy a slideshow of last year's trip, an informational power point, and we'll go through the required paperwork. If you are unable to attend on Thursday, there will be an evening orientation meeting on Tuesday, December 15th at 6:00.

We are beginning to think about the enrollment for the 2016-2017 school year. An **Intent to Return** letter is being sent home with your child on Monday, December 7th. It is very important that we have an accurate count of who is returning to PVES next year. Please take a minute to complete the form and return it to the school office by Friday, December 11th. Thank you in advance for your help with gathering this important information.

With an additional 120 families joining the learning community this year our school office has become a very busy place. You can help us out by **having your child's lunch ready in the morning**. That way your child can bring it with them and we won't have to interrupt the class instruction with a phone call about their lunch.

Please have your child to school on time! The first bell rings at 8:10 and teachers take their students to the classroom at 8:15. It is so important to have your child at school by 8:10. This let's your child know that school is important to you and they are able to start their day on the right foot. Please make every effort and be on time!

It has been our pleasure to co-write this newsletter.

Have a good weekend,

With the warmest of regards,

Mrs. Johnson Jelena Trifunovic Maryann Krikorian

Principal Loyola Marymount Partners

Every girl deserves to take part in creating the technology that will change our world and change who runs it.

Malala Yousefzai,
co-winner of the
2014 Nobel Peace Prize

LMU|LA School of Education



The LMU Family of Schools welcomes our 2nd Annual Series. The theme of the 2015-2016 LMU Family of Schools Dialogues is

FROM GIRLS TO GAMECHANGERS

Our hope is that these dialogues translate into actions that are conducive to promoting educational success in the lives of students from traditionally underserved populations.

STEM Community Dialogue

December 7, 2015 | 5:30-7 pm (reception 7:00-7:30pm) | Ahmanson Auditorium

Panelists

Moderator: **Jelena Trifunovic**, Associate Director, LMU Center for Math and Science Teaching

LMU: **Dr. Tina Choe**, Dean, LMU Seaver College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Christina Eubanks-Turner, Assistant Professor, LMU Seaver College of Science and Engineering

Community: **Dr. Malina Hills**, Vice President, Aerospace Corporation

Melinda Aron, Manager, Facebook

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