



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL HEATHER BURNS AND PRINCIPAL MARIA BRADY

Audubon

Principal's
Newsletter

September 2017

Audubon Mission

Audubon School provides a challenging learning environment, capitalizing on the rich diversity of our community and the supportive involvement of our parents. Audubon school is committed to our implementation of Response to Intervention (RTI) model. RTI is a framework for the integration of academic and behavior supports for all students in our school community. Our school wide focus on RTI ensures high quality research based instruction in the general education classroom. The California Core Standards are our guide for what students should know and be able to do at each grade level. We teach to these standards implementing curriculum that emphasizes listening, speaking, critical thinking, reading, writing and mathematics. Our Elementary curriculum Includes: English language arts; mathematics; science; history/social science; health and physical education; music; art; technology. The RTI framework includes our school-wide Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) program. PBIS supports social and emotional learning competencies for all students, cultivating a community committed to our Four Pillars of Excellence- Respect, Responsibility, Safety and Engagement.

Dear Audubon Families,

We have had an excellent start to the school year! All 755 students are enjoying all that Audubon has to offer.

Students are participating in engaging classroom instructions to develop the necessary skills and competencies of our California State Standards. Teachers have begun implementation of our new literacy curriculum. In addition to the core curriculum classroom music for TK-4 and instrumental music for grade 5 classes have begun. Our library and technology program is under way. As well as our enriching extra programs including Soul Shoppe and Playworks (detailed in this issue). Please visit our school website and join our Audubon PTA website for all of the wonderful happenings at Audubon.

I would like to thank our wonderful parent volunteers who have contributed to the successful start of our school year. There are so many to name and I'll name just a few: our PTA executive board who helps ensure that our fundraising efforts are used to promote our four Pillars of Excellence and provide our students with beneficial programs for their social and academic growth. Many thanks to our Art in Action volunteers and our fantastic room representatives just a few of the many parents I see daily on our campus!

With appreciation,

Maria Brady

Reminder Parent Conferences

Week of September 25-29 –Minimum Day dismissal every day this week at **12:45pm** for all students grades 1-5.

October Break

No school beginning Friday, October 6, 2017 through October 20, 2017. Classes resume on Monday, October 23, 2017.

Please visit our school website for important dates and reminders!

School Web Site click below

<http://audubon.smfcsd.net/>



Student Council Elections!

Thank you Mrs. Tesarowski our student council moderator for organizing the elections. We take great pride in offering our students an opportunity to participate in student council elections. We hold these elections to promote civic responsibility and allow students opportunities to learn how to win with grace and accept defeat gracefully, knowing they gave it their best try.

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Why is Playworks even necessary?

Traditionally, older children pass down games and take the lead in modeling a culture of play for younger children. Our experience is that diminishing opportunities for unsupervised play in our society have left kids with less knowledge of traditional recess games, less experience resolving conflicts independently, and fewer strategies for making play fun, inclusive, and safe enough to avoid trips to the Principal's office. When grown-ups or older students in leadership positions introduce basic rules and set the tone, children are better equipped to make play work. Schools that may have previously banned running or tag, or discontinued recess altogether, are more comfortable letting kids be kids, knowing that they have the tools they need to take responsibility for their actions.

Who is actually leading play? With hundreds of students out at recess at any time, everyone is leading play. Adults and Junior Coaches (student leaders) lead organized games, while all other students are welcome to play their own games that extend Playworks' culture of inclusion, healthy play, and healthy communities. We believe that kids have innate leadership, and give them easy ways to take ever-increasing responsibility for the



quality of play and for each other. Ultimately our unique brand of play fosters greater independence and leadership among children. On our playgrounds, kids feel safe and included, a part of the action. Games are safe and organized. Any child is welcome and able to play in any game or engage in free- or imaginative-play.

In partnership with teachers, principals, and parents, we build a culture of play that enables kids to feel a real sense of belonging and have the opportunity to contribute on the playground, in the classroom, and into their communities.

FOR MORE INFO ON PLAYWORKS
<http://www.playworks.org/about/why-playworks>

Thank You Fifth Grade Class of 2017

Each year our promoting fifth grade class donates a gift to our school. A wonderful bench was purchased with funds from the promotion fundraisers. It is located just outside the office under a mulberry tree.



WELCOME OUR NEW TECHNOLOGY PARA EDUCATOR

Hello Audubon Eagles!

Please welcome Sajitha Vinod our new technology para professional. Mrs. Vinod has a master's degree in English from University of Madras, India. She has a strong background in computer science. While teaching and lecturing at university she coordinated the implementation of the use of technology across disciplines. She has taught both adult learners and young learners to utilize technology. Sajitha Vinod is also a former Audubon parent and PTA volunteer. Mrs. Vinod is excited to join our community and looks forward to collaborating with our staff.

Please join me in welcoming her to our staff!



This September began our **Soul Shoppe Workshops**. These targeted workshops are facilitated by a Soul Shoppe facilitator. Over two days all students in k-5 attended a workshop. In each meeting two classes of students per session met for an interactive workshop. The focus supports development of behavior skills to learn how to make friends, resolve problems and manage our disappointments. *Soul Shoppe's mission is to create safe learning environments that bring forth a culture of compassion, connection and curiosity—eliminating bullying at the roots. Innovative, interactive and highly effective programs give the entire school community an EXPERIENCE of empathy, transforming not only our behaviors, but the very ways we see each other.* In past years this program was fully funded by PTA Move-A-Thon Donations. This year we are funding these

workshops with district LCAP funds, allowing us to add other programs to our offerings such as Play works which is fully funded by our PTA donations.