

# The Chronicle



ISSUE 03 / NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019

## From the Director's Desk: Ms. Ghonouie

November and December were exciting and busy months here at Carden! We had fantastic Veteran's and Thanksgiving assemblies and we had an amazing, and a little competitive, auction! Our second Skate Night of the year, our restaurant fundraisers and our Bowling Night were also fun evenings for our school community. Do you ever notice how well our students behave? Do you notice how hard they work and how happy they are to help others? I am proud of the constant comments that I get from people who are impressed with our students' behavior and character. The best part is that they are having fun, not realizing that they are building traits that will one day help them stand out in a group, in a community, in institutes of higher education and in their future careers. I am so proud of all of our students for exemplifying the Carden Conservatory mission of Educating the Whole Child. Not only do our students show their academic strength on a daily basis, but are continuously demonstrating their sense of community and responsibility. Thank you to all of our amazing Carden families for working with us to instill such important values in the children. As we head deeper into the holidays, I encourage families to continue teaching their children the value of being a good citizen and the joy of helping others. We wish everyone a joyous holiday season and we look forward to all that the New Year will bring!

## STUDENT *of the* MONTH

Carden recognizes these students for exhibiting fine citizenship!

### NOVEMBER

|     |                  |
|-----|------------------|
| JK  | Logan Kersch     |
| K   | Kit Echepelelecu |
| 1st | Dariusz Davis    |
| 2nd | Irwin Luu        |
| 3rd | Dean Shoga       |
| 4th | Ayden Bernal     |
| 5th | Clara Davis      |
| 6th | Alyssa Huynh     |
| 7th | Avery Ross-Ryan  |
| 8th | Allison Zuniga   |

## STUDENT *of the* MONTH

Carden recognizes these students for exhibiting fine citizenship!

### DECEMBER

|     |                    |
|-----|--------------------|
| JK  | Lilianna Sowards   |
| K   | Arrow Pa           |
| 1st | Hudson Gerber      |
| 2nd | Gweneth Chau       |
| 3rd | Jacqueline Perdomo |
| 4th | Maya Saade         |
| 5th | Gavin Wills        |
| 6th | Theo Ewing         |
| 7th | Shirin Morakkabi   |
| 8th | Athan Taylor       |

## Upcoming EVENTS

Dec. 16  
Bowling  
Night

Dec. 20  
All-School  
Winter  
Assembly  
8:45am

Dec. 20  
Nov./Dec. Citizen  
of the Month  
Awards  
Presentation

Dec. 23-Jan. 3  
Winter  
Holiday

## Preschool

The preschool children had fun and busy months of learning. They all enjoyed participating in our wonderful Thanksgiving program. The junior kindergarten class is almost done with their second language book, "The Runaway Bunny", and learned the play names and sounds for the letters "B" through "R". The children in the pre-primary class and the 2 year old program are having fun with various art projects and learning some important skills, like following directions and hand-eye coordination, through these art projects. Make sure to take the time to look at all the wonderful art projects displayed in the classrooms. Happy holidays!



## Kindergarten: Mrs. Metz

The Kindergarten students have been working hard to increase their reading skills. They have learned blends and the long and short sounds of the vowels. They have read the "I See" book, the first reader for Kindergarten. It is exciting to see the Kindergarten students' progress each school day at the Teaching Table, both in acquiring new reading skills and practicing the skills they have already learned. In November, the students learned the meaning of Thanksgiving Day and about the Pilgrims. The students also enjoyed decorating a gingerbread turkey. The best part was eating the turkey! For our literature unit, we read "The Little Red Hen" books. The K students compared what was the same and what was different about the Red Hen stories. The books taught us the importance of everyone helping each other. This was followed by a unit on the Native Americans. The K students have enjoyed the Native American stories and learning how to write their own Native American stories, using the Indian Picture Language. In November the 1st grade and Kindergarten students toured Prehistoric Pets for a fascinating afternoon of learning about different types of animals. The students were able to touch and hold many of the animals, such as snakes and lizards. For a holiday event, the Kindergarten and 1st grade went to the University of California, Irvine to the Barclay Theater to see The Nutcracker Ballet. I wish all our Carden families a wonderful holiday season!



## 1st Grade: Ms. Vardeman

With fall in full effect and Thanksgiving past, students are continually on the hunt for signs of autumn. On the playground, they have been looking for leaves that have changed colors, bugs and fallen twigs; children have even spotted a few rabbits preparing for winter and fall fruit scattered on the ground. Each day, students have found new treasures to bring to our "science table." I absolutely love this time of the year. First grade is looking forward to Christmas and has been planning a great time in our classroom. December is a busy month at Carden— schedules change, projects to make, cards and letters to write, and of course "The Elf"! We are never sure what his antics will be! Students are very excited, and who can blame them?! Over the next few weeks students will participate in STEM inspired ideas for the season, Christmas Star Slime, Christmas Sink & Float, How Tall Are You in Bows, Water Xylophone Jingle Bells. Elf on the shelf has a few experiments to do as well! There is much to accomplish before the end of 2019. Merry Christmas to Everyone!



## 2nd Grade: Mrs. Lambert

November and December have been busy months for second grade. The students thoroughly enjoyed presenting the Thanksgiving program and are excited for the Winter Holiday performance. It was great to see all the parents there to support the hard work the students put into the shows. Our trip to the Natural History Museum in December was the highlight of the month. Everyone enjoyed being fossil detectives, looking at the dinosaurs, exploring the Nature Lab and examining the minerals and gems. Throughout these months we have been focused on mastering our multiplication facts of 0-5 by singing songs and completing timed practice sheets. We have continued to practice and improve our cursive writing and will soon be completing all our work in cursive! In reading, the students have been enjoying the Bluebird book. This endearing story of a bluebird family is presented as a chapter book with complex vocabulary, which challenges the students to increase their sustained concentration. I wish you all a happy relaxing holiday season filled with family and love. See you in the new year!

## 3rd Grade: Mr. Henderson

We are already in December and wrapping up an amazing 2019! The students have been mastering their multiplication facts, doing multi-digit multiplication, number patterns, division, and covering some fourth grade math skills. We have also been studying the different parts of speech in Language Arts. So far we've covered sentence structure, nouns, and verbs. The other parts of speech will be covered in the upcoming months. We attended our first 2 field trips by visiting Knott's Berry Farm to study various rocks/fossils and Shipley Nature Center to explore the environment. We are looking forward to future field trips! On a weekly basis we will continue studying new spelling and vocabulary words. Third grade is an amazing journey and we remain excited about the challenges ahead!

## 4th Grade: Mrs. Hashin

Fourth grade had a very busy, exciting November and December. The fourth grade class had a day-long field trip to Lazy W Ranch last month. The students participated in the California Time Capsule Day program, where they experienced Native American survival, Spanish settlement, and the Gold Rush.



Each time period had three different activities. The fourth graders put on a fabulous Veterans' Day Assembly. We had veterans from the American Legion come out to watch the production. They were very complimentary! Additionally, the children went to a retirement home and performed the program there. They were sensational! The class finished reading *Island of the Blue Dolphins*, which was about a Native American woman found living by herself on San Nicolas Island in 1853. Scott O'Dell wrote the book based on what he thought might have happened to her. The students completed their first book report, a biography, for fourth grade. I was very impressed with the number of good writers I have in the class. We have a very busy December reading *Bambi*. The students have picked their missions and we have started the mission report in class. The students are learning to think logically to solve math work problems and honing their grammar skills. We have started a new science unit on rocks. The fourth graders are very busy all day long! I am very impressed with the growth they have thus far shown! Happy Holidays!

## English & Literature: Ms. DeLoa

I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving. The junior high did an excellent job on their Thanksgiving play. I was so proud of them! Now the junior high has been working on their Christmas song. Junior high students will be singing and dancing to "Holly Jolly Christmas". I am really looking forward to seeing their performance. All of my students have been working hard in their English and literature classes. In literature, the 5th grade is reading "The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood". It was a little difficult for the students to understand at first, because it is written in Old English, but they are getting the hang of it and doing very well. The sixth grade is reading "A Dog of Flanders". This book is about an abused dog who finds a family, but they all don't live happily ever after. The 8th grade finished reading "Uncle Tom's Cabin" and now they are almost done with "Fahrenheit 451". Their next book after the new year will be "King Arthur and His Knights of the Round Table". Children at Carden Conservatory read the classics and they really enjoy reading these books. I stress to all my students how important reading is. Studies have shown that the more you read, the better your speaking and writing skills become. My goal for all of my students is to help them become excellent writers, speakers and critical thinkers. I hope you all have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Enjoy your vacation and I will see you all next year!

## Music: Ms. Murga

I hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving! I would like to thank all of our wonderful students for their outstanding performance at our Thanksgiving Program. The holidays are drawing near and fast approaching and at this time the students are preparing for our all-school Winter Program. They are very excited and they are enjoying rehearsing the songs and dances for the program, as well as the beautiful instrumental music of "Angels We Have Heard on High." We are inviting everyone to come to our one of a kind Winter Program on December 20th at 8:45 a.m. Besides practicing for their fun and memorable programs, the students were challenged to draw a picture of the composer they learned in class. They also learned about the different families of the orchestra, and were encouraged to craft their own musical instruments based on the family they learned in class. I will end with a quote by Robert Schumann: "To send light into the darkness of men's hearts-such is the duty of the artist." Wishing you all a Merry, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

## Math & Science: Mrs. Sowards

Happy Fall Carden Families! Can't believe we are already nearing the holidays. Jr High students have been accomplishing some great things. Fifth grade has continued working with decimals in the multiplication and division sense. We will continue to work with decimals in the metric system. Sixth grade has been working with factors and operations with those factors. This has led us into Probability and putting actual numbers together to understand the *chance* of something occurring. In Pre-Algebra, we have covered the realm of Geometry, which were full of equations and multi-step problems. We are now stepping into Rational numbers and learning ways to change their forms. Seventh grade Science has had some fun getting to understand genetics and heredity and how we pass down dominant and recessive traits. Algebra One has finally finished FOILing and solving for x in quadratic functions. Now we get to have some fun graphing linear equations! In Science, we have started looking into Atoms and discover the subatomic particles inside. We have been doing some great things in Jr High. Happy Holidays!

## Spanish: Ms. Garza

This time of year of celebrations has been very positive and productive in our Spanish class. We have had a lot of fun coloring, singing, and dancing. We began with 'El dia de los muertos'-The Day of the Dead. The final project was to make an 'Altar de muertos.' The students learned about the food, history and the meaning of this important tradition in the Hispanic culture. Thanksgiving celebration, as well as the Christmas holidays, is the best way to learn not only about the culture in Hispanic countries, but also about values. Our goal in this special time in Spanish class is to know about the values of solidarity, peace, compassion, help, etc. It is not just about improving the vocabulary, or making a good sentence in Spanish, it is also about being polite and showing respect, as the same time we recognize that we learn in many different ways. The students have been working very well as a team, and I am very proud of them.



**Happy Birthday!**

**DECEMBER**

- 9 Isaac Luu
- 12 Ava Gutierrez
- 12 Luke Gutierrez
- 14 Hudson Gerber
- 18 Arielle Zappia
- 24 Maya Saade

**JANUARY**

- 2 Logan Kersch
- 3 RJ Tajanlangit
- 5 Ms. Vardeman
- 7 Harvey Levine
- 18 Braeden Smith
- 24 Jessica Ha
- 26 Michael Ginnett

## Junior High: Mr. Wilkinson

We are rapidly approaching the end of 2019, and celebrating a new year and beginning of a brand new decade! If we look at the scientific breakthroughs of the last decade, one can only imagine what the next ten years will bring us in technological advancements. As an educator, I hope to create a group of students who are critical thinkers, able to navigate the positive and negative attributes of our new found advancements, whatever they may be. It is my goal to give students critical thinking tools that will be necessary in the not so distant future. The 5th grade students have been studying Earth and the solar system. They understand why Earth has seasons, can support life, and why other planets cannot support life. We have moved into the “physical science” portion of our book. 5th grade students should have a better understanding of mass vs. weight, types of energy, the Periodic Table of elements, and how to classify elements. In social studies, students have learned about: The colonization of America, that this colonization did not benefit the native people already living on the continent, the foundation of the New England (original thirteen colonies), and specialized in the knowledge of one particular state for their presentation. In 6th grade social studies, students have studied the rise of the Indus Valley Civilization (India) and learned about great India rulers. We have explored the foundations and belief systems of the major religions of the Middle East and India and compared and contrasted these religions. We have begun to study the Chinese Dynasties and Chinese culture in the coming weeks ahead. 7th grade has now completed reading and discussing 1984. This dystopian novel by George Orwell gave us a glimpse of what the future may hold if we are to allow a government to control its people through propaganda, lies, fear, and technology. Students learned one of the slogans of the book “..the party told you to reject the evidence of your eyes and ears; it was their final, most essential command” is a theme governments today are using for their own advancement. The Aeneid, our current book, has a much different theme. 8th grade will have mastered 700 spelling words by the end of December with the average proficiency of over 95%. They continue to work well as a collaborative group, assisting and helping each other be successful. As a teacher, it is amazing to see this kind of collaboration among students and one of the many reasons I really enjoy teaching here at Carden Conservatory.



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