

HAWKEYE



Dear Hacienda families,
April is truly a busy (but beautiful) month here at Hacienda. We are wrapping up state testing for 5th grade students, preparing for Spring Fling and Going Native Garden tours, and looking toward May

and many special activities such as Kids in Motion.

This month I would like to take a moment to address a topic that we encounter every day both at school, and at home. It's a subject that can be controversial, and is certainly present in our lives as adults, and to some extent, our students' lives.

That topic is screen time. At Hacienda, and all schools within San Jose Unified, we had a set amount of required screen time to allow for students to participate in our adaptive learning programs. For Dreambox (math) and Lexia (English Language Arts), students should be accessing screen time for about 40 minutes per week, per program. Of course, the recommendations vary by student need. In addition to these programs, students may also access Achieve 3000, and may even use the internet for research based projects, or Vittle to help them design and create science projects.

As educators, the faculty at Hacienda often has conversations regarding how much screen time is too much, and how much is appropriate, and I know as parents, many of you have likely had similar conversations. The answers to these questions are not easy. Some sources have suggested that children should not access any type of screen time for more than 2 hours per day. Other resources say that the type of screen time (television, tablets, game devices) should determine the amount of time a child spends in front of technology. And yet others recommend no screen time for children under the age of two. Whatever you decide, my intent in this month's letter is to provide some resources that may help you determine what is right for your child.

Below you will find links to two websites that may help as you consider how much time is just right. The Gizmodo article provides revised recommendations according to the American Association of

>6



Celebrate Earth Day Hacienda-Style!

Join us for Hacienda's Earth Day & Arbor Day Celebration: Friday, April 21 BY MS. AUDRA DECKERT

Earth Day is a particularly special event here at Hacienda. As an Environmental Science Magnet school, we work hard to encourage our students to be stewards of our environment everyday. On Earth Day, Hacienda students have a chance to show off all they know and share their love of the Earth with other students, family members and the community. There will be some exciting changes to our celebration this year! See the details of the day below:

- 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. – Grades 1-3 will visit the Expo and Tree Planting at their scheduled times,

and the Kinder rooms will be open for presentations

- 12:15-1:03 p.m. – Picnic lunch (on the field)
- 1:05-1:30 p.m. – Earth Day Music Celebration (on the field)
- 1:40-2:45 p.m. – Classroom Rotations (Grades 1-3), Tree Planting and Expo (for Kinder classes and visiting adults)

With all this wonderful rain we have gotten this year, we are watching the forecast closely. Look out for last minute changes to the day's events in case of weather!

>2

IN THIS ISSUE

Hacienda Hawkeye articles and features are collected two weeks in advance of publication. For publishing information and/or to submit content, contact newsletterhacienda@gmail.com.

CELEBRATE EARTH DAY HACIENDA-STYLE.....cont. 2	MUSICAL NOTES..... 5	SPRING FLING NEEDS YOU 6
LETTER FROM MRS. LOYcont. 6	SCIENCE FUNDRAISER: OUTDOOR CLASSROOM PORTRAITS 5	SPROUTS.....cont. 2
MARK YOUR CALENDAR..... 6	SCIENCE LAB NOTES 3	YES WE CAN!/¡SI SE PUEDE!..... 4

CELEBRATE EARTH DAY HACIENDA STYLE!

CONTINUED FROM P1

EARTH DAY EXPO - NEW THIS YEAR!!!

4th and 5th graders will be putting on an Earth Day Expo in the Outdoor Classroom and surrounding areas. There will be booths set up with various activities such as stick sculpture making, insect tasting, nature loom weaving, outdoor yoga and more! Stop by anytime from 1:40-2:45 p.m. to see all the amazing, nature inspired activities being led by our fabulous 4th and 5th grade students.

DONATIONS NEEDED

Donations of used colorful t-shirts, yarn and fabric scraps are needed for some of the activities. The intent of the Expo is to utilize "reused and recycled" objects and purchase **nothing new**. If you have any items to donate, please bring them to either Room 28 (Friedman) or Room 26 (Roberts) by April 19.

TREE PLANTING

Our City Forest will be here to help us plant a new tree near the YMCA



TREE PLANTING TRADITION Come help us plant a new tree during our Earth Day Celebration!

building. Stop by to add a cup of soil to help plant the tree anytime between 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

PICNIC LUNCH

We invite you to join us for a picnic lunch on the field from 12:15-1:03 p.m. We are encouraging everyone to bring a trash-free lunch if possible. What is a "trash-free lunch"? Think **REUSE, REDUCE, RECYCLE!**

- Bring water bottles, plastic food containers and reusable lunch boxes that can be **used over and over again**.
- Try to find foods that **don't have excess packaging**. Individually packaged servings are convenient, but produce much more waste than a large bag divided into reusable containers. For example, you could buy a large bag of carrots and put some into a reusable container each day instead of buying individually packaged, single servings.
- If you bring any pre-packaged food, try and make sure that it is packaged in **recyclable materials**.
- Try and do your part everyday by bringing a trash-free lunch as often as possible!

EARTH DAY MUSIC CELEBRATION

After lunch, we will gather as a school community **on the field** to sing a few songs about helping our Earth and recite the Earth Pledge (Previously held on lower grade blacktop). Feel free to join us! Be sure and send your child to school with sunscreen and a hat, as they will be sitting on the grass in the sun. Students will wear a specific colored shirt for the Celebration (This is **not** a free dress day):

- Kinder - Green uniform shirt
- 1st Grade - Navy Blue uniform shirt
- 2nd Grade - White Fish shirt (made at school)
- 3rd Grade - White uniform shirt
- 4th Grade - Red uniform shirt
- 5th Grade - Tie Dye (made at school)

CLASSROOM ROTATIONS

From 1:40-2:45 p.m., classes will be visiting classrooms to see projects and demonstrations from other students. Parents-please feel free to wander around and see everything too!

Grades 1-3 will have projects in their classrooms during this time.

What are the projects about?

- Kinder- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Activities (Presentations in the morning ONLY)
- 1st Grade - Live and Recycled Insect Projects
- 2nd Grade - Trout Habitat Projects
- 3rd Grade - Totem Hats and Biome Presentations
- 4th and 5th Grade - Earth Day Expo

Sprouts

Spring is here!! Our school garden beds are flourishing with bright colors and tall plants! Have you noticed the tall plants with white flowers ("Rocket" Arugula)? And, those with yellow flowers ("Italian" Arugula, Mustard)? The small purple flowers (Violas) and blue ones too (Borage)? All are attracting beneficial insects to our gardens. We don't use herbicides or pesticides. Instead, we rely on planting a wide variety of plants to attract beneficial insects and keep the pesky ones at bay. How many insects can you identify? Look closely...



BEE ON BORAGE Bees love borage, making it a valuable honey plant.

Most recently, with Sprouts Lesson #4, students learned about the 3rd, 4th, and 5th phases of the plant lifecycle (1st: seed -> 2nd: seedling -> 3rd: plant -> 4th: flower -> 5th: seed), tasting all parts of some plants, and leaves of others, as well as identifying and

tasting flowers, and seedpods. They observed the growth of the garden, noting which plants had seed pods growing, some of which were marked with orange-colored flags for seed collection in May. One class harvested 12 different items from the garden to taste in their mini-salads. They tasted broccoli flowers, arugula flowers, cabbage, radishes, lettuce, spinach, mustard, and kale. They also harvested a few items for the following group, teaching them about sharing, and, more broadly, about community gardening. Though each group only had 15-20 minutes in the garden, they made the most of their time and are looking forward to the next lesson.



LESSON #4, HARVEST TRAY Hacienda students harvested items from our school gardens as part of their Sprouts lesson.

A big "shout out" goes to all the docents, and helpers for contributing their valuable time delivering the lessons and ensuring the students are getting the most out of their time in the garden. Many thanks to all the waterers who have helped keep the gardens growing. Thanks to the students for their enthusiasm and cooperation. Thanks to the teachers for their continued support of the program.

Happy planting and eating from the garden!

— **BY LIEKE VLASVELD-COPPOOLSE AND HEATHER STENSHAMM (SPROUTS COORDINATORS)**

"All the flowers of all the tomorrows are in the seeds of today."

- Author Unknown

Science Lab Notes

BY MS. AUDRA DECKERT,
SCIENCE PROGRAM ASSISTANT

GOING NATIVE GARDEN TOURS IN THE OUTDOOR CLASSROOM: SATURDAY, APRIL 22

Invite your family, friends, and neighbors for a special, student-led tour of Hacienda's incredible native plants growing in the outdoor classroom, as part of the bay area's prestigious Going Native Garden Tour. It's peak season to see native California plants in their springtime bloom. Self-selected Hacienda 4th and 5th graders will be practicing giving tours to be ready to teach you about the diversity of plants and animals living in our outdoor classroom. Here's an extra perk: If you arrive between 10:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. and take an official tour, you can take your kids crayfishing for 30 minutes, right after your tour is over. You can't beat that! Tours of Hacienda's outdoor classroom's native plant communities last approximately 25 minutes. It's a great opportunity to learn about the benefits of native, drought-tolerant plants for your own yard. Don't miss it! For more information on other local, native plant gardens open for touring, visit: www.gngt.org



SEE NATIVE PLANTS GROWING IN OUR OUTDOOR CLASSROOM Join us on Saturday April 22 for Going Native Garden Tours!

THANK YOU MIGHTY MARCH WORKDAY VOLUNTEERS!

Thank you to those who came out for a mini-outdoor workday during our minimum day on March 16! We got lots done including weeding, compost sorting, pathway covering and more! Thank you for helping to support our unique Outdoor Classroom.

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| • Lia D. | • Cristina F. |
| • Bryan V. | • Abigail A. |
| • Cruz T. | • Heather S. |
| • Halleigh K. | • Samantha C. |
| • Wendy S. | • Kyle M. |
| • Ethan V. | • Sophia A. |
| • Zara T. | • Daniel S. |
| • Amelia L. | • Lieke V. |
| • Brooklyn S. | • Frank C. |
| • Abhi P. | • Jessica F. |
| • Andrea B. | • Emily C. |
| • Oliver E. | • Allison B. |
| • Sam S. | • Joshua W. |
| • Yasmine K. | • Lucy E. |
| • Zachary D. | • Kayleigh V. |
| • Fiona E. | • Denise C. |
| • Yukki W. | • Rahul P. |
| • Sam S. | • Jacob W. |
| • Edward D. | • Jason D. |

SUMMER ANIMAL CARE NEEDED

Would you like to take care of one of the Hacienda science lab animals over the summer months? Some Hacienda families even "share" an animal to cover for each other's vacations. If interested, please contact Ms. Deckert at adeckert@sjsud.org, or come find her in science lab after school. First come, first served.

Yes We Can! / ¡Si Se Puede!



Our community of volunteers has sprung into action

BY DIANA WILSON

Our community of volunteers has sprung into action. Hacienda is so grateful and honored to have volunteers doing so much for our community...

Send an email to Diana Wilson at Hipsvolunteervp@gmail.com and tell me all the great things that are



happening in our community because of our volunteers. Snap a photo and/or send me a list and we can give them a shout-out in the newsletter. Volunteers make it happen!

MARCH VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHTS

3/2/17 Star Party: Thank you Nancy D., Susan H., Elizabeth H., and Ms. Weissahn for a starry fun-filled evening for our community.

3/6/17 Dinner Night Out: Thank you Stephanie F. and Kristen C. for a coordinating the event at Smoke Eaters. Yummy!

3/15/17 Lunch Recess Impromptu Dance Party: Thank you to the ladies in the front office who volunteered for lunch duty and other staff and helpers. Not only did they keep the students safe and supervised, but they took time to play, dance, and bring some school spirit. Way to shake things up!

3/22/17 & 3/23/17 Class Field Trips: Thank you to all the volunteers who



CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE 3rd graders took a field trip to the California Academy of Science!

helped with class trips in March. Thank you to the teacher for coordinating an amazing experience.



SACRAMENTO FIELD TRIP 4th graders visited Sacramento, California's capital city.

3/24/17 2nd Grade Fish T-shirt Making Day: Moms and Grandma caught having fun while volunteering. Thank you Aisha, Noreen, Catherine, Goody, Claire, Michelle, Akiko, Sheila, Jen, and Jeannie. Thank you Mrs. Kang for the use of your library. 120 t-shirts completed in one day! Go team!!



2ND GRADER FISH T-SHIRT VOLUNTEERS 120 t-shirts completed in one day was only possible with our awesome volunteers!

3/24/17 International Art Night: What a magical night filled with diversity, love, art, food, music, martial arts demonstration, and much more. Thank you Gaby A and Carol B. for coordinating the event for your first time. Special thanks to Elisabeth P. who played beautiful international piano music all night. Penny S., Mrs. Friedman, Patty C., Goody R., Mary S., Akiko, Noreen, Alisa, Heather S., Tati, Michelle S., Susan H., Luz, Cristina, Yanira, Essi, Adriana, Debbi, Lieke, Elizabeth H., Elena, and Stephanie thank you for giving your time and passion to help this event be an international success. If we missed thanking anyone else that volunteered, please accept our thanks and apologies.



ART NIGHT VOLUNTEERS Volunteers take a moment to pose for a fun photo during international art night.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you spring into action, email Diana Wilson @ Hipsvolunteervp@gmail.com
Urgent On-campus needs:

- Kinder Reading - Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at either 9:30 or 9:50. There's also a preschool class on Tuesdays at 10:10. Come read a book to our kinder kiddos. Our new Librarian Mrs. Kang needs your help!!!
- Yard duties positions- see the front office staff
- Drop off circle helpers- do you have 20 minutes in the morning? Stop by **Coordinator Positions needed:**
- Membership Drive Coordinator (for next fall)
- 5th Grade Promotion Reception- we need a 4th grade parent to plan this amazing event
- Newsletter Editor
- Sprouts Coordinator

Science Fundraiser: Outdoor Classroom Portraits

Individual and family portraits in the Hacienda Outdoor Classroom

BY MARIAN HEINKEL

This is a fundraising event for our Outdoor Classroom and Science Program.

- Appointment times available:
- **Saturday, May 20 - 2:30-6:00 p.m.**
 - **Wednesday May 10 and Thursday May 18 - 3:15-6:15 p.m.**

Two types of sittings will be available:

- **Basic** - Appointments booked every 15 minutes. 10-15 pictures taken in several locations. Photographer chooses the pose that goes in the package. *Package prices begin at \$50.00.*
- **Premium** - Appointments booked every 30 minutes. 20-30 pictures taken in several locations. Customer will view pictures using my online gallery and choose the pose(s) they want for their package. *Package prices begin at \$90.00.*

Don't miss out on this opportunity to get a **professional portrait** of your child(ren) or your entire family in the beautiful setting of our very unique Outdoor Classroom. Packages will be delivered to your child's classroom



Outdoor Classroom Portraits - Fundraising for the Hacienda Science Program



before the end of the school year.

- **Basic Package A** - \$50.00 - (2) 5 x 7's and (8) wallets
- **Basic Package B** - \$70.00 - (1) 8 x 10, (2) 5 x 7's and (8) wallets
- **For Premium Package** - Add \$40.00 to Basic Package price

Services offered by **Photography By Marian**. Contact to schedule an appointment at 408-476-2343 or MarianHeinkel@gmail.com - www.PhotographyByMarian.com.

Cash - Check - Credit cards - Venmo accepted. Donations back to the school will directly benefit the Outdoor Classroom/science program.

MUSICAL NOTES

BY MONICA ULRICH,
MUSIC TEACHER

COMPOSITION OF THE MONTH

In April, the students at Hacienda are listening to and learning "Jump Children" by the International Sweethearts of Rhythm. **The International Sweethearts of Rhythm** was the first integrated, all-women's band in the United States. During the 1940s, the band featured some of the best female musicians of the day. They played swing and jazz on a national circuit that included the Apollo Theater in New York City, the Regal Theater in Chicago, and the Howard Theater in Washington D.C. More recently, they have been labeled "the most prominent and



probably best female aggregation of the Big Band era.

Children's books that go with our April Composition of the Month:

- **Swing Sisters: The Story of the International Sweethearts of Rhythm** by Karen Deans and Joe Cepeda (Illustrator)
- **Sweethearts of Rhythm** by Marilyn Nelson



WE ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT THE STUDENTS AND THE COMMUNITY WE SERVE

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Letter from Mrs. Loy

CONTINUED FROM P1

Pediatrics, and the commonsensemedia.org site offers possible solutions for scheduling media, and screen time, for your family. Commonsensemedia also offers information about the varying types and quality of media, and the impact of that media on your child's education. Ever wonder what's the right age for a cell phone, or a tablet? Or whether or not your child will be left behind academically if they don't access technology? These resources may answer some of those questions.

- <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/screen-time#>
- <http://gizmodo.com/we-were-wrong-about-limiting-childrens-screen-time-1788065909>

Happy reading, all, and I hope that you find the information useful in determining just the right amount of technology for to meet your child's needs.

And one more quick message, have a WONDERFUL Spring Break!

Kind regards,
Carmen Loy
Hacienda Principal

Mark Your Calendar

Mark Your Calendar dates are collected two weeks in advance of publication. Submit dates for publication by email to newsletterhacienda@gmail.com. Entries may be edited for length and/or clarity.

APRIL 10 - 14

NO SCHOOL - Spring Break

MAY 5

5th Grade Musical - Parent performance at 2:10 p.m in the cafeteria.

APRIL 18

SELAC (The School English Learners Advisory Council) Meeting - 9-10 a.m., in faculty dining room

MAY 11

Ways & Means Planning Meeting - 9 a.m.

APRIL 18



Hacienda Involved Parents & Staff (HIPS) Meeting- 6:30-8 p.m., faculty dining room
Free childcare (funded by HIPS) at on-site YMCA

for potty-trained kids, ages 3-12 yrs. No RSVP required.

MAY 12

Last day to order a yearbook!
\$27, cash or check (payable to HIPS) accepted. Order form available at [http://www.sjUSD.org/hacienda/docs/Yearbook-Order-Form-2017-2\(Eng-Span\).pdf](http://www.sjUSD.org/hacienda/docs/Yearbook-Order-Form-2017-2(Eng-Span).pdf)

MAY 16 - 18

Scholastic Book Fair

APRIL 21

Hacienda's Earth Day Celebration - 1:00 -3:00 p.m.

See information in this newsletter about Earth Day celebration and colored shirts to wear.

MAY 24

Principal's Coffee - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m., faculty dining room

APRIL 22

Going Native Garden Tours: 10:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. (last tours start at 3:15 p.m.)

See Science Lab Notes for details.

MAY 26

Kids in Motion - 10 a.m., upper-grade blacktop

MAY 29

NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day

APRIL 29

20th Annual Spring Fling
Spring Fling is one of our largest fundraisers. If you're able to help, please contact Spring Fling Chairperson Muriel Mawdsley at mcruneau@gmail.com

JUNE 3 (changed from June 4)

Outdoor Workday - 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

JUNE 8

Last Day of School

SPRING FLING NEEDS YOU!



April 29th will be here soon! Please help make Spring Fling a success!

We still desperately need an auction database person! We are also looking for a volunteer to lead the Bake Sale. Or let us know if you have shirts from the following past Spring Flings that you could donate or lend: 1997,1998, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009 and 2011. Contact Muriel Mawdsley at mcruneau@gmail.com if you can help.