



Dear MLCS Families,

And the winner is... 5th Grade!



Congratulations to Mrs. McDaniel's 5th grade class for winning 1st place in the Accelerated Reader competition. Second through seventh graders are being challenged to read 5 MILLION words, with each child independently reading books according to their ability and passing comprehension exams through the Accelerated Reader on-line testing. The total number of words read are automatically calculated for individual children as well as for classrooms. The first, second, and third place classes will all have parties when that goal is met. Mrs. McDaniel's class had their pizza party last Friday, and Mrs. McDaniel will enjoy a dinner out with her husband at the Standard Pour as a reward. The word on the street is that the 5th graders are not going to relax with their reading even though they are the first-place winners. Their teacher has challenged them with an **EPIC PARTY** if they reach 20,000,000 words by the end of the school year. Go, cougars, go!

The New Roof is ON! Wow! Ricky Gonzalez and his crew at Innovative Roofing did a beautiful and efficient job reroofing our main administrative building. They worked on the weekends to complete the tearing off so that materials could be thrown down to the ground without risking harm to children or staff. They continued work each weekday morning thereafter, tethering themselves to the peak of the steep ridge and working until dark to accomplish as much as possible each day. In a world where companies often cut corners, delay their work, increase their bids, or otherwise fail to follow-through

on their commitments, it is WONDERFUL to work with people of such integrity. Definitely a FIVE STAR company! Thank you, Innovative Roofing!



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony: Our school was on the front page of the newspaper last Saturday, featuring our ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the new field and rejuvenated playground. We are sooo grateful to all of people at our school and within the community that made this possible! Many thanks to Dominic at the Daily Union Democrat for his excellent work as a reporter and photographer.

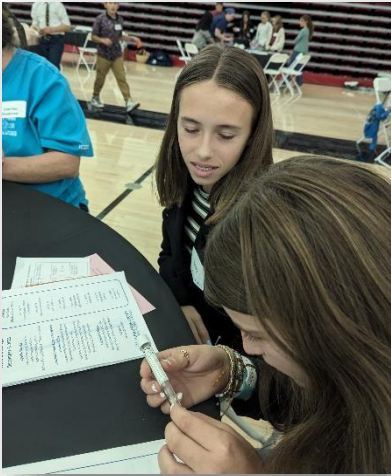
We do have a few extra copies of the newspaper article. Please contact the office if you would like one.

Dominic Massimino / Union Democrat

Sonora Area Foundation CEO Darrell Slocum (left) and Mother Lode Christian School Parent-Teacher Fellowship President Julie Smith (right) hold a ribbon while MLCS school board member Justin Myers cuts it at a ceremony celebrating the new renovations.



Dinner With the Scientists: Four of our middle school students enjoyed an evening at Columbia College interacting with a variety of scientists from our community. These students were recommended by Mrs. Laura Brinegar, our 6th-8th grade science teacher, for their aptitude for success in scientific fields. Congratulations to Zander Dumas, Andrew Lamanuzzi, Scarlett Kirk, and Summer Martinez.



Using Math in the Real World! The 7th graders took a walking field trip to Tuolumne Market to apply their math skills to modern day shopping. They had to calculate percentages, determine which purchases save the most money, and then pay for their designated items at the counter. We sure appreciate Tuolumne Market for allowing us to invade their store with a gaggle of youth. The students received compliments from both patrons and store workers for their good behavior.



Eye Dissections: The 8th grade class was deep in concentration when I visited them to see how the cow eye dissections were going. I was impressed to see how easily they could tell me what they were looking at and the function of that portion of the eye. Excellent work, cougars!



Thankful for Our Thanksgiving Luncheon: As we head into the Christmas season, we fondly remember our beautiful lunch organized by our Parent Teacher Fellowship. It was a perfect Fall day, sunny and warm, and the family style food reminded us that we are all brothers and sisters in the body of Christ. Thank you, once again, to all of the volunteers who made this event possible.



We Love Team Jesus, *Stephanie Torok*



Dec. 21st: K-8 Christmas program in the gym at 6:00 pm.
 Dec. 22nd: K-8 Early Dismissal at 11:30
 Dec. 23 – Jan 7^h: Winter/Christmas Break
 Jan. 8th: Possible K-8 Ski Day Opportunity at Dodge Ridge
 Jan. 9th: School Resumes
 All Mondays 8:00 am: Moms in Prayer in the Chapel

For sports & field trip events go to the "Interactive Calendar" on our website