

# F U L L B L O O M

A Message from CLC by Bree Mitchell

Spring is in the air and CLC is in full bloom. Our students continue on their mock world travels and have traveled to Asia and Africa. They are now headed to Australia, New Zealand and Antarctica. The students break into rotation groups (one student from each grade, first through fourth, comprise each group) and research a particular aspect of the continent we are studying such as its history, food, culture, geography and conflict. Their group then presents to the class what they learned about the continent.

Special guest speakers have been visiting CLC to help our studies come alive. Paul Renner is a photographer of African Wild Life and he spoke about his adventures and shared his amazing photography. Marla Hodes from the Ethiopian Family Fund spoke with our children about Ethiopia and their projects there, inspiring our children that they, too, can make a difference. Rosalind Russell, the 'goat lady', also spoke with our children about her project delivering goats to women in remote places in Nepal to support their incomes. She shared with the children about village life in Nepal and left us peace/prayer flags which our children decorated to be sent to a school in Nepal.

When we finish studying each continent and hear the students' presentations, we have a celebration that involves experiencing a bit of the culture. The African celebration was a great success. The children tasted different foods such as Ugali,

Chlada Fakya (African fruit salad), couscous, Ingera bread and many different Ethiopian specialties. There were art stations where our students created African necklaces along with making African masks. Barbara McMurray brought in African drums and instruments so that parents David Levine and Steve Cohn could instruct the students on playing some African beats. It was a fantastic and fun way for the students to learn. A special 'thank you' to the parents and the teachers for making this learning experience possible.

To tie in on the African leg of the children's voyage, they also took a field trip to Los Angeles on February 5<sup>th</sup> to the African American Museum. The students enjoyed a great history session by the museum tour guide. The CLC students also went to Crystal Cove State Park on February 26<sup>th</sup> to learn about whale migration which was led by one of our own CLC parents, Ranger Winter! The children took in so many facts about whales and their 6,000 mile migration, and listened to the different sounds from different whales. Later in March we will be heading to the Ralph B. Clark Regional Park to learn about fossils and have a paleontologist-led dig.

The CLC students are continuing their pursuit as world peace makers. Some of our students marched in the Laguna Beach Patriots Day Parade as "Peace Makers" and the CLC campus is also looking to obtain a peace pole. Our students will become

pen pals to students around the world - New Zealand, Sweden and Holland. This will be a great way for the children to learn more about different countries and cultures. The students also have their service project reports due the first part of June. The children decide how they can help make a difference and they donate their time, not money, to organizations, groups, families, shelters, etc. They make a presentation at the end of the year showing what they learned and how they helped. It is a wonderful way to teach the true sense of the word charity.



The CLC Auction Dinner will be held on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at Tivoli Too. This is CLC's largest fundraiser and is a fun event that is enjoyed by the CLC parents, alumni parents and teachers. The dinner committee is working diligently on gathering items for the auction.

The Spring Season puts a little spring in our step and the CLC program continues teaching our students a solid education, peace, and giving. Our teachers do a wonderful job at balancing education and values. A special thanks to Cheryl, Laia, and Gwen for everything they do!