



Spanish Heritage Month

September 2021

Rio Galaveras

The Class Times

The class newsletter written and published by Mr. Pham's Fifth Grade Students - Class of 2022

For past newsletters, please go to www.ClassTimes.us



Celebrating Our Diversity

Our Class is unique. We have students that came from different countries, have different backgrounds, and different family history. Among those differences, we also have a lot of similarities: We are in the same school, same grade, same class, and have the same teacher. We are all trying our best to learn and be better citizens. Because of all these differences and similarities in our classroom, it is very important for us to understand that all cultures have value, and the differences we have in class are to be respected and appreciated.

This year, we will observe different culture celebrations in class. We recognize those students who are connected with that culture. In the classroom, we always respect each other although we look different or know another language. Each of us brings something special to the class no matter where we came from.

- Janessa*
- John*
- Thomas*
- Melinda*
- Mateo*
- Preston*
- Alex*
- Adriano*
- Amelia*
- David*
- Rosalie*
- Leonardo*
- Natalie*
- Clarke*
- Isacc*
- Kyle*
- Xiaoqing*
- Gianna*
- Jaylene*
- Mr. Pham*
- Nayeli*
- Jonathan*
- Raul*
- Asusena*
- Dasanny*
- Auren*
- Ryan*
- Raina*
- Cassandra*
- Gretal*
- Aristan*
- Alasia*



Dear Parents,

1st Trimester Progress Report

First Trimester Progress Report was sent home with your child on Wednesday, September 15, 2021, showing an indication of your child's growing skills and maturity.

The grades are reflective of what your child is doing currently. We will have many more assignments and projects to complete. These marks could improve or decline depending on your child's effort and work habits from now until the end of the Trimester (October 29th).

Please look over and either encourage your child to continue doing good work or talk about trying their best in all assignments, turning in all classwork and homework. i-Ready scores and AR progress were also included with the Report.

Thank you for your support!



THANK YOU!!!

I would like to thank all parents (and students) who have taken the time to come to our Zoom Classroom for conferences. It's an effective system of cooperation when parents support at home of what we do in the classroom.

Please be assured that I ALWAYS have the students' best interest at heart.

My Mission Statement posted on our class website is my guiding principle for every decision I make regarding your child's development as a person and as a student.

Conference week may have ended, but communication is ongoing through our Weekly Learning Schedules, Monthly Newsletters, Class Website, Gradebook, and "ClassDojo" messaging.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you!

September Character Awards

At Rio Calaveras School we practice the "Six Pillars of Characters" where we learn about a character each month and are encouraged to try practice it every day. There is a Pillar Assembly each month to recognize students that express the character daily. During September, the Character was:

TOLERANCE

Willingness to accept behavior and beliefs that are different from your own.



Rosalie



Mateo



Jerica



Jonathan

Citizenship

Students that exemplify Rio Calaveras' guidelines: Safe – Responsible - Respectful



Celebrating Diversity

Many important events are based on the lunar calendar, and one special day, the fifteenth day of the eighth lunar month, is set aside to celebrate the Mid-Autumn or Moon Festival.

Lantern Festival

According to the people of Vietnam, this is the day of the year when the moon shines the largest and brightest. It can occur any evening between late September and early October. The legend that accompanies this festival tells the story of *Hau Duy*, an Imperial officer and expert archer. He was called upon to shoot nine suns that had suddenly appeared in the sky. He was also an excellent architect and built a beautiful jade palace for the goddess of the Western Heaven. The goddess rewarded him with a pill of immortality and told to take it after one year of prayer. At home, *Hau Duy's* wife, *Hang Nga*, discovered it. She swallowed the pill and immediately soared to the moon. According to the legend, *Hang Nga's* beauty is the most radiant on the evening of the Moon festival.

Today, families get together to celebrate the Festival. It is a public holiday and adults enjoy an evening moon gazing while drinking tea and munching on moon cakes. Children, meanwhile, make lanterns out of bamboo and color papers, parading through the streets singing songs. Houses with doors open will welcome the children and give out candies or prizes. *In the month of October, our class read a story about the traditions of the Moon Festival. We also made lanterns and hung them from the class ceiling. Mr. Pham made lanterns and paraded with other children when he was a child. David, Thomas, and Xiaoqing had participated in Lantern Festivals in their communities.*



Library & AR

Our library time is on Wednesday at 9:05-9:30. We find books that are at our grade level and check out books. We sit down quietly and read books. If we lost a book or damaged the book, then we have to pay for it.



The library rules are to take care of the books and keep them safe because they are school property. We should not write, color, or destroy the books because other students will not be able to enjoy the books. We can read chapter books, fiction, or non-fiction. After we read, we take AR quizzes. AR stands for Accelerated Reader. AR is a program that test our knowledge after we finish our books on our level to become better readers and achieve our AR goals.

Group 8: Amelia, Asusena, Gianna, Xiaoqing

Art Time

Our class art time is about being creating. It's time for relaxation and concentration on making art. It happens every Friday and we have a lot of fun. We do painting, coloring, cutting, and sketching. Some of the art projects we've done so far are drawings, "Elements of Art" poster creating a color wheel, and marble painting. We even made face distortions using the computer camera. We also created big state flags and make lanterns to hang on the ceiling.

These art projects were very fun and exciting to do. We love art time because it's a time to express your feelings and let your imagination go free.

Group 1: Gretal, Jerica, Nayeli, Raina



NEWS

EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS IN ROOM B1

\$\$ Class Money \$\$



In our class, we have class money that helps us learn how to use money. Class money is money made out of color paper, however, in class, it is real money!

We earn class money by having perfect attendance, doing our jobs, being group leaders, reward chips, and getting 100% or 90% on quizzes and tests. During math time, Mr. Pham sometimes has math questions that we answer on our white boards and get money if the answers are correct. We get class money during "Pay-Day" every Friday. Later on, we will use our money to trade in for carnival tickets in December.

However, we have to pay monthly fees! We have to pay the rent for the use of the classroom, desks, and chairs, and even electricity, as well as pay Mr. Pham's salary. Fines are when Mr. Pham takes away class money when break rules, groan and moan, saying "never mind" or shrugging shoulders.

By using class money, we can buy treats at flea markets or class store. Our class enjoys using class money and it helps us learn how to use real money.

Group 6: Alasia, Cassandra, Dasanny, Melinda

Class Website

Our website's address is www.classtimes.us. Our class has a lot of pictures of class activities, STEM projects, and an Art Gallery. We did a lot of stuff like flea market, science tools, and AR board. We did other things like balloon cars, catapults, and made lanterns to hang on the ceiling.

The website also has a links to check our grades and AR progress. We love our class website.

Group 4: Clarke, Leo, Mateo, Preston

State Report #1

In Mr. Pham's class, we have to do two State Reports. For the first State Report, we had to find information about a state that was assigned to us and did a poster. We also used paper, glue, and scissors to make a big state flag. The We spent 3 weeks completing our State Report. We displayed our state flags on the ceiling. The information posters are on the wall. Every time we look up, we see our flags. It is very cool.

Group 7: David, Isacc, John, Jonathan



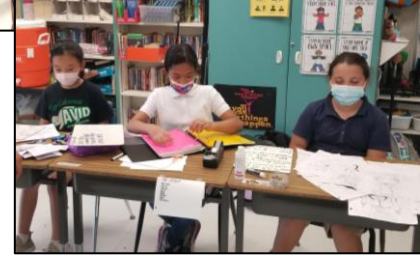
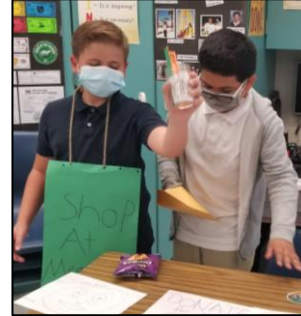
S.T.E.M.

STEM means **Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math**. We usually do STEM projects on Wednesdays. We have done Sun Dials, hoop gliders, catapults, aerodynamics, and balloon cars. On some STEM projects, we competed against our classmates to see who created the better device. Winners also get to be on the Class' "Wall of Fame" and hold the Unicorn trophy. STEM projects help our brains reach their pull potential. Alasia, Gretal, Cassandra, Gianna, Natalie, Nayeli, and Preston have won STEM challenges so far. In October, we will do helicopters and airplanes. Later on, we will build car robots. It's going to be exciting doing STEM this year!

Group 3: Adriano, Alex, Auren, Kyle



Flea Market Friday



The Flea Market is a class event to sell and buy objects using class money. We sold paper airplanes, chips, keychains, cards, origami, toys, cards, stickers, drawings, etc. Some of us were asking for donations, and Raul even charged people for punching Mr. Pham's "photo!" The Flea Market was a fun, chaotic, but controlled event. A lot of people were selling something. The next Flea Market will be in December.

Group 2: Aristan, Raul, Ryan, Thomas



ROOM B1 2021-2022

SPORTS TOURNAMENT

Room B1's "Sports Tournament" is a year-long friendly competition in 5 sports: 4-Square, Tether Ball, Volleyball, Basketball, and Soccer.

The first tournament will be 4-Square. We have been practicing during P.E. time for the last 2 weeks and we are ready to go. There are 26 players in our class playing for the "Giraffe Award" for the winner and a place on the Wall of Fame. It's going to be fun.

Group 5: Janessa, Jaylene, Natalie, Rosalie

what's up

- October 4-8 Fall Break
- October 9 Jonathan's Birthday
- October 18 Teacher PD – No School
- October 21 Alasia's Birthday
- October 23 Red Ribbon Week
- October 29 Halloween! Class RoAch Activity

