



THE EAGLE EXPRESS



Golden Empire Elementary School ★ 9045 Canberra Drive ★ Sacramento ★ 916.228.5890
Sacramento City Unified School District
www.goldenempire.scusd.edu
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Soaring To New Heights, Together!

Principal's Corner



Happy Spring! With spring here, it must be that time to start thinking about our annual state testing period. There has been a major change to state testing this year: the STAR test is no longer here. Now, the test is called the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP). These tests replace the former STAR program. The CAASPP will be given to all students in grades 3-6. Second grade students no longer have to take the standardized test. The CAASPP

tests are completely computer-based. The students will take the test on Apple Macbook Air laptops which were provided by the school district. As there are only 3 classroom sets of computers, students will take the CAASPP test on different days. The state is still requiring current 5th grade students to take the paper Science Test. You will find a schedule enclosed in this newsletter so you know which days your student(s) will test.

It is very important that your child attend school during this time frame—please do not schedule any appointments during the school day or vacations during this time. Our teachers are working very hard to ensure that students will be prepared to do their best on these new tests.

What is the most important and also the easiest test taking tip to implement? Making sure your child is at school—each and every day and on time. We are seeing a dramatic increase in tardies. We often have as many as 50 students late, daily. These tardies are very disruptive. When a student is late to class, the teacher has to stop instruction to change the attendance in the computer, remind him/her to turn in homework and then give directions for whatever activity they missed. The other students lose their focus. These interruptions = lost instruction. Please assist us in preventing so many disruptions by bringing your student to school on time. Instruction begins at 8 am. We so appreciate our families who make every effort to get their child to school on time and make appointments during non-school hours. We are giving awards to students who attend every day and special awards for students who are not tardy. Together we can improve attendance and decrease disruptions!

Are you interested in serving on our school's School Site Council for next year? Maybe you know of a parent who would be interested? Please review our election/nomination form in this newsletter. We are looking for parents who are willing to serve a 2-year term. Thanks for your help in making the Golden Empire Eagles soar!

Just a reminder about safety drills. At Golden Empire, we practice fire drills on a monthly basis. During the next few weeks, we will be practicing intruder and lockdown drills. It is important for the students and staff to be prepared if an emergency were to happen. Please know that these drills are only for practice. It is best to be prepared.

Thank you all for your continued support of Golden Empire!

~ Dr. Eister, Principal

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Need a Summer Program? Consider Summer Quest!

Summer Quest is a free summer program that will be based here at Golden Empire, June 22—July 30, from 8 am—2 pm, Monday—Thursday. Sponsored by the Sacramento City USD, Summer Quest is a 7-week opportunity for incoming 1st through 6th grade students to participate in a meaningful and engaging summer learning program. Students will meet new friends and get the support to strengthen their literacy, math, social science, nutritional and physical activity skills.

Additionally, all participating students will receive a breakfast and lunch daily.

This year's 7-week program will give students an opportunity to learn with their peers through fun and student driven project-based activities. These projects will be recognized at a district-wide celebration that will bring together all Summer Quest sites to showcase their work and participate in fun physical and academic challenges.

The SCUSD Summer Quest program is coordinated by the Youth Development Support Services' (YDSS) Youth Engagement Services Unit (YES). YES has partnered with various community based organizations to provide onsite management at Golden Empire and other selected schools. All sites are required to maintain a ratio of 1 adult for every 20 students. Each site will have an onsite Program Manager. The Program Manager will be supervised by a YES Area Specialist.

Applications are due by May 1. If you want to register, go to www.summeratscusd.org or call 916-643-7993. Applications are due May 1. Space is limited and enrollment is based on a lottery process.

Need more information? Contact the Youth Engagement Services Unit at summermatters@scusd.edu or call START at 919.2635.

Home Visits Are Here!

Have you heard about the Home Visit Program? Home visits are just that—a visit by 2 teachers to the student's home in the hope of increasing connections between school staff and students in your community. Golden Empire is proud to be a partner with the California Home Visit Program, a program in 12 states, nationally. The goals are simple: to increase communication between the home and school and build relationships. This visit can also help teachers have a better understanding of the various strengths and challenges faced by each student and to meet the student and their family in a relaxed setting. Ideally home visits occur before the school year begins, but anytime is a good time for a home visit. Our four teachers who are our Golden Empire Home Visit ambassadors are Mr. Frankenberger, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Randazzo and Mr. Mitchell. These teachers have already visited over 40 homes, and more are being scheduled. Will you and your child want a home visit? If so, please look for the flier coming home soon, or email Mr. Frankenberger at norm-frankenberger@scusd.edu.



All students entering grades 7-12 this fall must show proof of receiving their TDAP (tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis) booster before they can attend school in September. This applies to every current student, new student and transfer student. Please bring proof of this booster to school to be reviewed and recorded. Visit www.shotsforschool.org for more information.



CAASPP Tests Are Here Testing for Students in Grades 3-6 Begins in April

The California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress, or CAASPP, which has replaced the former STAR Test, is the new state academic testing program. CAASPP is a system to provide information that can be used to monitor student progress and ensure all students leave high school ready for college and career. CAASPP includes computer adaptive tests in English–language arts and mathematics as well as paper-based tests for science.

Last year, our students participated in a field test. This practice run of the test, though no scores were provided, allowed students to experience computer-based testing and new types of questions. The field test also helped determine what resources teachers and schools would need to better prepare students for future assessments.

Lessons learned from last year’s field test will help ensure a successful, full launch of the CAASPP system this year.

Students’ testing schedule is as follows:

Grade	Teacher	Dates
3	Conway	Thurs., May 7—Tues., May 19
3	Gardner	Thurs., May 7—Tues., May 19
3	Rinaldi	Thurs., May 7—Tues., May 19
3/4	Johnson	Monday, April 13—Tues., April 21
4	Macey	Monday, April 13—Tues., April 21
4	Maples	Monday, April 13—Tues., April 21
4	Snider	Monday, April 13—Tues., April 21
4/5	Hutchins	Tuesday, April 21—Wed., April 29 AND Tues., May 12—Thurs., May 14 (Science)
5	Bergeron	Tuesday, April 21—Wed., April 29 AND Tues., May 12—Thurs., May 14 (Science)
5	Maples	Thursday, April 30—Friday, May 8 AND Tues., May 12—Thurs., May 14 (Science)
5/6	Engstrom	Thursday, April 30—Friday, May 8 AND Tues., May 12—Thurs., May 14 (Science)
6	Hogg-Wood	Thursday, April 30—Friday, May 8
6	Maples	Thursday, April 30—Friday, May 8
6	Sunahara	Tuesday, April 21—Wed., April 29

To learn about the types of questions on the computer-based test, you and your child can view the practice test online at the California Department of Education (CDE) Smarter Balanced Practice Test Web page at www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/practicetest.asp.

Following testing, students will receive individual score reports. These score reports will be sent home to parents and will include an overall score, a description of the student’s achievement levels, and other information. It is important to note that these scores cannot be compared to scores that your child previously received on the STAR tests because this test is based on the new Common Core State Standards, involves different types of test questions, and will not be reported using the STAR Program reporting categories.

For more information, visit the Parent/Student tab of the CDE CAASPP Web page at www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/. If you have questions regarding your child’s participation, contact Dr. Eister at 228.5890 or via email: irenei@scusd.edu.

Take Your Parents to **LUNCH DAY**

Golden Empire is thrilled to share that we are starting a new program: Take Your Parent to Lunch! On the last Friday of each month, students are welcome to eat lunch with their parent/guardian. Parents are encouraged to bring a blanket and/or chairs to sit in the quad area and enjoy their lunch with their child(ren). Our next Parent Lunchtime will be Friday, April 24. Parents, please remember to sign-in in the office first. We look forward to seeing you there!

Lunch times are as follows:

- 5th & 6th Grades: 11:30am-12:10pm
- 4th Grade: 11:45am-12:25pm
- 1st Grade: 11:55am-12:45pm
- 2nd & 3rd Grades: 12:05pm-12:55pm

Take Your Child to Work Day = Unexcused Absence

Each year we have a few students participate in *Take Your Daughter/Child to Work Day* on the 4th Thursday in April. Misunderstanding has led families to believe students who participate will not be considered absent from school. This is not the case—students will receive an unexcused absence.

We heartily endorse efforts to help children increase their awareness of career options which will be available to them. We believe taking your children to work during the summer months, when they are on vacation from school, is more effective. This will prevent parents/guardians and their children from having to choose between school and this activity.

If your child participates in this event, understand that s/he will be marked as absent from school and required to make-up missed work.

2015 CAASPP Testing



This year's CAASPP testing will take place April 13th through May 19th. Please do not schedule doctor or dentist appointments during school hours in

this window of your student's testing days. Only grades 3—6 will be taking the test.

During this time, please make sure your child gets to bed on time and eats a nutritious breakfast each morning. Please encourage your child to "Do their best and reach their goal!"



Help End School Zone Jaywalking

Families, just a reminder that Sacramento County has a School Zone Jaywalking Ordinance. Jaywalking across the street, especially with your child, is an offense. The ordinance is strictly enforced 30 minutes before school begins and 30 minutes after school begins as well as 30 minutes prior to the end of the school day and 30 minutes after school dismissal. It is everyone's responsibility to model safe traffic regulations for our students. We need all of our parents and guardians to do the right thing and use the cross walk each and every time you cross the street.

teacher  appreciation
May 4th - 8th
Week



This month McTeacher's Night is back! This popular event will take place on Thursday, 4/9, from 5:00-7:00pm at the McDonald's on Folsom Blvd and Manlove Road (8901 Folsom Blvd). Enjoy your favorite McDonald's meal served by a Golden Empire teacher. 25% of all sales, including take-out and drive-thru, will be donated to Golden Empire.

The students have voted and the results are in... "Despicable Me" will be shown at Family Movie Night on Friday, May 8th. This is a FREE event for all Golden Empire families. The gates will open at 7:30pm.

Have you ever considered volunteering with the PTO? Now is a great time to think about how you can volunteer and what skills you can bring to the PTO. Maybe you would like to coordinate an event such as Family Movie Night, BoxTops Challenge, or Pancake Breakfast? Maybe you have time to copy and staple the monthly school newsletter? Maybe you love working with numbers and would make a great treasurer? Maybe you have a great idea for a new school event? Maybe you love taking pictures? Whatever way you can help, we would like to hear from you. Join us at the April PTO Meeting on Monday, April 13th at 2:30pm in the school library or contact me at the email listed below. All are welcome to volunteer with the PTO!

Alison Milobar, PTO President
geptopresident@yahoo.com



Remember to Sign-In When Entering the Instructional Area

Keeping safety at the forefront at Golden Empire, remember to always sign-in at the front office before entering the school grounds during school hours. Most of our families are well aware of this policy, but it is just a good reminder, as this policy is enforced by Penal Code 627.2. This regulation is to ensure our students and staff are always safe, and to ensure we always know who is on campus in case of an emergency. When you sign in, we will be asking you to wear a visitor's label showing that you have registered in the office. While this is not a new policy, we just have to remind everyone to take this extra step.

Staff Parking Lot

The staff parking lot is for staff members only. Families have been seen pulling into the parking lot to drop off or pick up students. The staff parking lot is not a place for students. Please help us in keeping our students safe! Do not use the parking lot to drop off your students. Please do not park in the parking spaces, as there are not enough parking spaces for staff members. Thank you for your cooperation.



Join Golden Empire teachers as they serve your favorite McDonald's meal and help raise money for Golden Empire.

Thursday, April 9th from 5:00-7:00pm

Eat In – Take Out – Drive Thru

8901 Folsom Blvd, Sacramento 95826 (Corner of Folsom Blvd & Manlove Rd)

25% of all sales are donated to the Golden Empire PTO

March Multiplication Madness! (M³) Results

We all know how important it is for students to memorize their multiplication tables; not knowing the tables makes math difficult. Golden Empire teachers and staff have emphasized multiplication tables, making it a school-wide focus. On March 20, 2nd—6th grade students took a test consisting of 100 problems. Second graders had 6 minutes, 3rd graders had 5 minutes, 4th graders had 4 minutes and 5th—6th grade students had 3 minutes to try and complete 100 multiplication problems successfully.

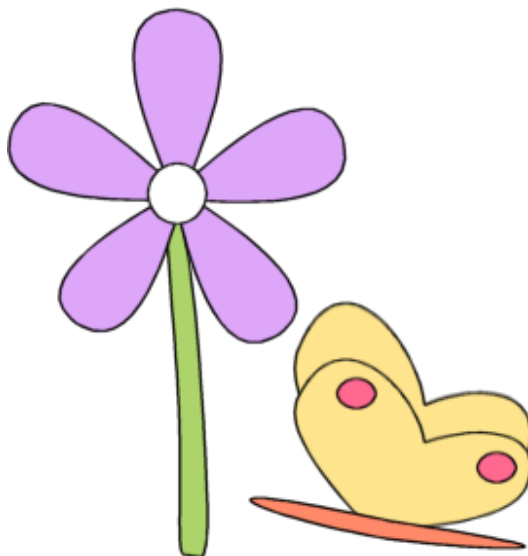
We are so proud of the 138 2nd—6th grade students who successfully completed 100 multiplication problems with 100% accuracy. Students will be rewarded with an ice cream treat, extra recess, a certificate and Brag Tag. Fabulous work!

Further congratulations go out to 106 amazing students who not only finished the 100 problems, but went on to complete additional problems with time remaining. The top **2nd grade student** was **Justin Ta** who completed 164 problems! The top **3rd grade students (there was a tie)** were **Ava Shipp and Jasdeep Uppal**—in Mrs. Johnson’s—who completed 200 problems! The top **4th grade student** was **Eddie Aseel**—in Mr. Snider’s class—who completed 231 problems! The top **5th grade student** was **An Chuong**—in Ms. Hutchin’s class—who completed 198 problems! And the top **6th grade student** was **Kalvin Gong**—in Miss Sunahara’s class—who completed 146 problems! WOW! These 6 students each won a \$15 Target gift card. Phenomenal work, students!

Teacher & Grade	Students Successfully Completing 100 Problems—Or More!			
Mrs. Bailes—2nd	Allan Baltazar Rubio	Savannah Nitura	Zachary Phan	
Mrs. Brown—2nd	Taaliyah Brown	Nickolas Hewitt	Sha’Kur Osborne	Gabriel Sanchez
	**Justin Ta			
Mrs. Lawson—2nd	Connor Cagle	Ryan Familia	Nathan Ferguson	Ellona Ivanina
	Chloe Lacy	Jovani Onedera	Nhi Thanh	Joshua Walters
Ms. Conway—3rd	Mankanwar Uppal			
Mr. Gardner—3rd	Justin Insixiengmay			
Ms. Rinaldi—3rd	Alyssa Chan	Ayden Friedenbloom	Jeremy Wolfe	Avenir Yasinsky
Mrs. Johnson—3/4	David Cruz	Jerimiah Dawson	Carissa Goga	Alex Lopez
	Juliana Lopez	**Ava Shipp	**Jasdeep Uppal	Bryden Washburn
	Natalia Zhuravlev	Joshua Dunham	My Loan Le	Jonathan Ortega
	Adriana Pino Guerrero	Angel Rodriguez	Kiya Saechao	Angelina Tang
	Lizette Tinoco	Christopher Vegafria		
Ms. Macey	Jared Adams	Kean Barredo	Kaleaha Becerra	Brandon Castellanos
	Miguel Esquivel	Jessica Hansen	Jasmine Howard	Ashot Kerobyan
	Yuliana Khoronzhak	Anthony Lomeli-Gutierrez	Lucinae Mesrobyan	Cynthia Mondragon
	Cameron Quan	Daymion Rivera	Orlando Robinson	
Mr. Snider—4th	Victoria Alfiche	**Edrees Aseel	Julian Cisneros	Juan Delgado-Villegas
	Vanessa Escamilla	Alexander Etheridge	Yelena Gryaznov	Marquiece Johns
	Robert Johnson	Rachel Key	Cordell Koroma	Lauretta Kovalchuk
	Isabel Mercado Novoa	Ethan Orr	Diana Ramos Gomez	Jazmyne Reed-Johnson
	Rohan Singh	Michael Stafford	Christina Sverdan	Jennie Tran
	Mark Yasinsky	Natalie Yettner		
Ms. Hutchins—4/5	Quinn Frank	Natalie Tran	Sean Aflaki	Angelina Bachinsky
	Addisyn Barnum	Mariana Barron	**An Chuong	Alexander Grischuk
	My Linh Le	Xiangbin Li	Kenneth Netherton	Esmeralda Santiago Galvan
	Jessica Vasilyuk			
Mr. Bergeron	Christina Bonilla	Lakayla Brown	Alejandro Camarillo	Hailey De La Torre
	Glenn Farrell	Olivia Howard	Svetlana Khymz	Emily Mischuk
	Dominic Rodriguez Gonzales	Marlene Salinas	James Ta	Sammy Wong
	Juliya Yasinsky			
Mrs. Maples—4/5/6	Arnold Abenes	Tomas Norse	Dakota Sweeney	Samia Walker
Ms. Engstrom-5/6	Kennedi Dawson	Numaan Formoli	Samuel Kushnirchuk	Aldair Rivero Balbuena
	Daeja Scott	Tyler Swanson	Grace Taeleifi	Tiffany Tran
	Jack Watts	Jennifer Becker	Sophia Du	Madison Parsons
Ms. Hogg-Wood—6th	Alexis Castellanos	Jonathan Cook	Jaya Diggs	Autumn Lamberth
	Benny McGlaston	Marlon McManus	Ashley Saavedra Velazquez	
Miss Sunahara-6th	Jesilyn Bradford	Katrina Dang	Kate Foltz	Emma Gillette
	**Kalvin Gong	Anna Kushnirchuk	Fiorela Lopez-Vasquez	Peter Marsenovic
	Emily Oliferchik	Simeon Regis	Avadin Rodis	Anissa Saldivar

April Calendar of Events

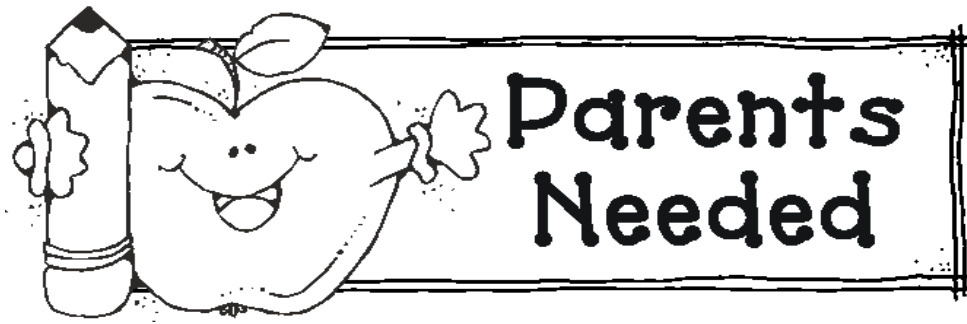
Day	Date	Time	Event / Activity	Location
M-F	3/30-4/3		Spring Break	
Monday	4/6	8:00am	School Resumes	Classrooms
Monday	4/6	8:15am 9:15am	Rules Assemblies	Cafeteria
Thursday	4/9	5:00-7:00pm	McTeacher's Night	Watt & Manlove
Friday	4/10	8:00am	6 th Grade Promotion Pictures	
Friday	4/10	1:50pm	Jamba Juice Friday	In front of school
Monday	4/13	2:30pm	PTO Meeting	Library
Monday	4/13		CAASPP begins for grade 3-6	
Friday	4/17	1:50pm	Jamba Juice Friday	In front of school
Friday	4/17	2:00-3:00pm	Garden Club Group A - 3 rd & 4 th Grades	Library
Monday	4/20	2:30pm	SSC / ELAC Meeting	Library
Wednesday	4/22		Flower Power & Tie Dye Spirit Day in Celebration of Earth Day	
Wednesday	4/22		Administrative Professional Day	
Friday	4/24	Lunch Time	Take Your Parent to Lunch Day 5 th & 6 th : 11:30-12:10pm 4 th : 11:45-12:25pm 1 st : 11:55-12:45pm 2 nd & 3 rd : 12:05-12:55pm	Grass Quad
Friday	4/24	1:50pm	Jamba Juice Friday	In front of school
Friday	4/24	2:00-3:00pm	Garden Club Group B - 5 th & 6 th Grades	Library
Wednesday	4/29	6:30-8:00pm	Family Game & Bingo Night	Cafeteria



May Calendar of Events

Day	Date	Time	Event / Activity	Location
Friday	5/1	1:50pm	Jamba Juice Friday	In front of school
M-F	5/4-5/8		Teacher Appreciation Week	
Monday	5/4	6:00pm	6 th Grade Planning Meeting	Library
Tuesday	5/5	2:15-3:15pm	Variety Show Tryouts	Room 13
Friday	5/8	1:50pm	Jamba Juice Friday	In front of school
Friday	5/8	7:30pm	Family Movie Night	Grass Quad
M-F	5/11-5/15		Classified Staff Appreciation Week	
Monday	5/11	2:30pm	PTO Meeting	Library
Tuesday	5/12	2:15-3:15pm	Variety Show Tryouts	Room 13
Friday	5/15		Crazy Hat Spirit Day	
Friday	5/15		Progress Notes Sent Home	
Friday	5/15	2:00-3:00pm	Garden Club Group A - 3 rd & 4 th Grades	Library
M-F	5/18-5/22		6ths Graders at Sly Park	Sly Park
Monday	5/18	2:30pm	SSC / ELAC Meeting	Library
Tuesday	5/19	2:15-3:15pm	Variety Show Practice	Room 13
Thursday	5/21	1:00pm	Kindergarten Orientation for Fall 2015	Cafeteria
Friday	5/22	2:00-3:00pm	Garden Club Group B - 5 th & 6 th Grades	Library
Monday	5/25		No School – Memorial Day Holiday	
Tuesday	5/26	9:00am	Variety Show Performance for Primary Grades	9:00am
Tuesday	5/26	6:00pm	6 th Grade Planning Meeting	Library
Wednesday	5/27	9:00am	Variety Show Performance for Intermediate Grades	9:00am
Wednesday	5/27	5:00-6:00pm 6:00-7:00pm	Variety Show Open House	Cafeteria Classrooms
Friday	5/29	Lunch Time	Take Your Parent to Lunch Day 5 th & 6 th : 11:30-12:10pm 4 th : 11:45-12:25pm 1 st : 11:55-12:45pm 2 nd & 3 rd : 12:05-12:55pm	Grass Quad





Golden Empire School Site Council Members Needed

Please consider serving or nominating a friend to serve on the 2015—2016 School Site Council.

The School Site Council (SSC) is an advisory committee that reviews and recommends changes to the school plan (this plan defines the academic focus for the school) and develops and approves the school budget in accordance with state and federal laws. Every school that receives Title I monies must have a SSC.

The committee is a collaborative effort between parents, teachers and staff and meets approximately five times a year.

We need parent volunteers to run for a two year term. If you are interested or would like to nominate someone, please fill out the form below. Questions? Contact Dr. Eister, principal, at 228.5890.



GOLDEN EMPIRE'S SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL (SSC) 2015—2016 APPLICATION / NOMINATION FORM

I would like to serve on the Golden Empire School Site Council (SSC) for the 2015—2016 School Years. I understand there is an election process.

I would like to nominate _____ to serve on the Golden Empire School Site Council (SSC) for the 2015—2016 School Year.

I have talked with him/her and s/he has agreed to serve.

I have NOT talked with this individual, but believe s/he would serve if asked.

My Name _____ Phone _____

Email Address _____

Youngest Child's Name _____ Teacher _____

Signature _____

**Please return this form to your child's teacher by Monday, May 4, 2015.
Thank you for your help!**