

THE GLOBAL CONNECTION
A publication of the Global Education Program
Skyline School, Solana Beach, California



March 2019

IMPORTANT DATES

- 3/11-3/15:
Parent/Teacher
conferences, 12:25
dismissal
- 3/29: Skyline Talent
Show, 6:30 PM, Skyline
Theater (for families of
performers only)
- 3/29; Last day to
turn in GE applications
for 2019-20 & last day
to turn in strand
change requests

ABSENTEEISM AND ITS IMPACT ON LEARNING

We have noted an increase in student absences this year and are concerned about how this trend is affecting individual students' learning as well as impacting the efficiency of the learning environment. Regular attendance is important for students to be successful learners. When students are absent, they miss out on the sequence of instruction, learning activities that are collaborative and hands-on, and opportunities for small group instruction tailored to their educational needs. Most of the learning in the Global Education classrooms is not easily replicated in worksheets, nor is it easy to copy the richness of shared learning that is missed due to absences.

Of course, absences are inevitable due to illness, medical appointments, and family emergencies. These types of absences are considered excused. The nature of our recent concern with absenteeism is the increase of self-selected family vacations. Attendance is considered irregular when a child misses ten or more school days over the course of a 180 -day school year. Currently, the percentage of children in Global Education who are already considered to have, or are on the cusp of irregular attendance ranges from 10-20% in our eight classrooms.

So much of what we do in Global Ed. is to set the foundation for becoming lifelong learners. Chronic absenteeism creates a negative precedent for a pattern of nonattendance. There are district consequences for families through the School Attendance Review Board for irregular attendance. Mostly, we just want to convey that we love your kids and want them here at school to learn with us!



DONATION NEWS

As part of the 100th Day of School Celebration, Global Ed. taped together 100 one-dollar bills and gave the students a chance to estimate how long the money train would stretch. After the celebration, the money collected was donated to the American Cancer Society in memory of Linda LaGrange, one of the founding members of Global Education. We are happy to share that \$132 was donated in her name.



PARENT /TEACHER CONFERENCES (March 11-15 – Minimum Days)

We are looking forward to meeting with every parent during parent conference week to discuss your child's progress. During our meetings, we will be discussing your child's academic progress at this point in the school year. The Global Ed. teachers make every effort to coordinate conferences for siblings so that the conferences can be scheduled back-to-back. Please help us by coming to your appointment at the scheduled time. Note: there will be a brief lunch/snack break each day during this week. Please send in a lunch or a snack for your child.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE DURING CONFERENCE WEEK (March 11-15, 12:25-3:00)

At just \$20 per day, the after school care program is a convenient and affordable offer for after school care for your child during parent conferences. Each day of conference week the children who have signed up for after school care will meet in Lisa Campbell's room at the early dismissal time of 12:25. The after -school program will run until 3:00 each day. For those children who normally attend CDC, the CDC program will still be offered during conference week too. Snacks and activities will be provided in Lisa's room. It should be noted that it is necessary to sign up for the program in advance. Flyers with permission slips were recently sent home in your child's envelope.

LOOKING AHEAD TO THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

It's hard to believe that we are already looking toward the next school year, but the time is upon us to get ready for the 2019-2020 enrollment. Anyone interested in joining the Global Education program for the 2019-2020 school year must deliver an application to the school office by March 29th to be considered for the lottery. (*Note: this is for **incoming** students only). Letters will be sent to notify the families of the lottery results on April 5th. If a family currently in the program is interested in making a request for a strand change, the request must be made in writing and submitted to the office by March 29th as well. Teachers will also be asking parents during parent conference week to let us know if you will be returning for the 2019-20 school year. All of this information is necessary for us to have a more complete picture of enrollment for next year and to expedite the lottery process.

SKYLINE'S NEW AND IMPROVED TALENT SHOW

This year's talent show at Skyline has been reimagined and reconfigured to allow for maximum audiences. Skyline will be putting on a talent show on the day of and the evening of March 29th in the Skyline's Theater. In the past, the talent show was just one performance in the evening. This year the talent show will be presented in its entirety as a school assembly the morning of Friday March 29th. The morning performance will be **ONLY FOR SKYLINE STUDENTS TO VIEW**. In the evening of March 29th, families of the performers will be invited to purchase tickets to come see the show. The nighttime performance is **ONLY FOR THE PERFORMERS' FAMILIES**. Children interested in performing in the show attended mandatory information meetings during snack recess the last week of February, or in the case of the primary students discussed in class what the requirements were to be in the show. Permission slips were handed out to those who were interested in performing. Please carefully check over the details on the permission slip in order to clearly understand the time commitment. If your child is participating in the show, s/he has already received information (attached to the permission slip) regarding rehearsal times the week of March 25th. This special event requires a great deal of organization and effort on the part of the teachers running the talent show. We can help this experience run smoothly by following the guidelines set out on the permission slip. No parents are allowed at the rehearsal times. By working together, the talent show promises to be a memorable experience for all involved!



GLOBAL EDUCATION PRIMARY NEWS

SHARING SCHEDULE

- March 4-March 8: Create a celebration
- March 11-15: Open sharing
- March 18-22: Recycling creation
- March 25-29: Open sharing
- April 1-April 5: Memorize a spring poem

RECYCLING CREATION (MARCH 18-22)

The primary classes have started to study the importance of recycling (as well as reusing and reducing the use of materials) in a community. For this week's sharing, the children are to collect recyclable materials and repurpose them into something that would bring a new use to the materials (milk jug bird feeders etc.) Have your child bring in his/her creation on sharing day and be prepared to present it to the class.

MEMORIZE A SPRING POEM (April 1-April 5)

Your child's teacher will send home a packet of spring poems from which your child may choose one to memorize and "perform" on his /her sharing day. This is a great opportunity to practice reciting with expression! Props are welcome to add that dramatic flair to the poetry readings!



CREATE A CELEBRATION (March 4-March 8)

We will be looking at the types of celebrations communities celebrate around the world and the customs, clothing and food that accompany each. This week the children will create their own celebration and think through the reasons for the celebrations as well as the component parts of the celebration. The children may receive a form to record the details of their original celebration in preparation for their sharing day.