



# EL SEMANARIO



Edison Language Academy, October 18-22, 2021

Fall Festival / Día de los Muertos, Saturday, October 30 1:00-5:00 pm

## Announcements

Costume Day – Friday, October 29 students are invited to wear Halloween costumes to school. They may come in costume, but should bring a change of clothes as they will only be wearing costumes for the first 60-90 minute of the day. We cannot do a schoolwide parade or invite parents yet, but there will be the opportunity for some classroom photos and fun. **Wearing costumes is completely optional.** Children should wear a regular safety mask and should not cover their face with another mask for the costume. As always, no play weapons as a part of costumes and nothing overly gruesome please – we’ve got lots of “littles” and want this to be fun for everyone. We are not “celebrating” Halloween at school, but we recognize that there may be families that may not want their children to be in class during the time when Halloween costumes are being worn. Because of Covid rules, we cannot put all the children who need an accommodation together to provide safe supervision, so we may need to go with an excused late arrival that morning. Please contact your child’s teacher if you need an accommodation that morning.

The Official Edison Halloween Costume Parade will take place during Fall Festival this year on Saturday, 10/30. We moved the parade to Saturday to give families the chance to be part of this fun annual event. Students can come in costume and the parade with music and the 5<sup>th</sup> grade presentation of the Thriller Dance will be at 2:00 pm.

Picture Make Up Day—Make up day is Friday, October 22.

PTA Association Meeting –Wednesday, October 20 at 6:00 pm via Zoom.

Parent-Teacher Conferences – Please make sure you have signed up for a conference between November 2-5. November 2 is a pupil free day and the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> are minimum days – so please note this different schedule on your calendar so that you’re on time to pick up children during minimum days.

## From the Principal’s Desk

Part of what elementary school students learn each year is how to negotiate and solve problems with each other. They learn how to sustain attention for longer and longer periods of time. They learn how to pause to think before acting, how to deal with frustration and challenges, and to stand up for themselves. And they learn when to cooperate with peers and when to stand their own ground. They learn about their own identities, the diversity of different cultures, and about the importance of inclusion and equity.

Children learn these skills incrementally and they are not always easy skills to learn. With instruction, practice, and coaching, each year we expect to see better and better skills. Teachers use Responsive Classroom to help build positive relationships in the classroom community. We use Mindfulness to teach self-regulation and calming skills. The Olweus Anti-Bullying Program helps student learn to be upstanders and not bystanders and to tell adults when something doesn’t feel right. We use Cool Tools to help students de-escalate and resolve conflicts, and Restorative Justice circles to help students make amends and restore relationships.

During the pandemic, we missed the opportunity to support students with the kind of skills that come only from working in community with others. We’ve noticed that some of our students are not at the place we usually expect of children at their age in terms of regulation of impulsive behavior and problem-solving skills with peers. So teaching and practicing SEL skills is on the front burner in class meetings and in playground problem solving discussions.

Parent Teacher Conferences offer an opportunity to talk with teachers not only about children’s academic skills, but also about their social emotional needs and challenges. If your child is experiencing challenges with self-regulation, anxious feelings, or challenges the peers, please reach out to the teacher during conferences.

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**Great ShakeOut!** Edison will be practicing how to stay safe in an earthquake on 10/21 at 10:21 am. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1sbkSfQa69Q>. It’s a good moment for all of us to make sure all family members know what to do in an earthquake.