



# EL SEMANARIO



Edison Language Academy, November 1-5, 2021

## Announcements

**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** – Adjust your pick up schedule accordingly -- 12:30 pm pick up for TK and K, 1:35 pick up for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades, and 1:50 pm pick up for grades 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>

### **Festival de Otoño / Día de los Muertos** –

Thank you to Event Chair *Andrea Stella*, PTA President *Judy Tobar Lerner*, the entire PTA Board, Room Reps and other volunteers for all your work on a beautiful Fall Festival. And muchísimas gracias to our wonderful teachers who designed class art projects and lessons about this holiday and traditions across cultures for remembering the dearly departed. The *alfombra* was designed by *Maestra Martha Ramirez* and painstakingly assembled from colored sand, and raw rice and beans by *Heidi Vega Aimonetti*, *Judy Tobar-Lerner* and a few other dedicated volunteers. It was amazing! In addition to the *ofrendas* for people (and pets) near and dear to the hearts of our students and community, we also acknowledged the more than 26,000 lives lost in Los Angeles County from Covid-19 and wished peace to families who have lost loved ones in the pandemic. Due to Covid restrictions, the event was smaller this year, but it was wonderful to be together again, return to some of our school traditions, and to have current and former families on campus again! *Thanks to all for observing the safety precautions and to everyone who helped with this event.*

### **Edison Community Support Network**

Coordinator *Francine Ortega* and volunteers sold Sugar Skull kits recently to raise money for Edison families struggling to pay back-rent because of losses during Covid. This parent-to-parent care and assistance is one of the most generous and caring parts of our Edison community. If you missed the sugar skull sale but want to contribute, contact Francine. Support is always needed and welcomed.

## From the Principal's Desk

The end of October gave us the opportunity to see if the health safety measures we have in place would stop the spread of a possible Covid exposure within a classroom – and they did. We had our first classwide quarantine a couple weeks back and no one else tested positive. Not only did students flip successfully to distance learning, we were able to have a shorter quarantine with only 5 days of distance learning. Thanks to all for creating the conditions that stop the spread of the virus and lead to shorter quarantines.

**We're back to celebrating another week of 100% negative PCR test results and the fact that families will now be getting individual test results emailed directly home.** This should help reduce even further the number of days that some children may need to be out if they do develop covid-like symptoms since the turn around on the PCR tests at school is shorter. If you did not get your child's test results last week, check your spam or junk mail folder and if there is nothing there, then let us know so we can help troubleshoot.

### **There are lots of calendar interruptions in**

**November** – a pupil free day and three minimum days for parent-teacher conferences, Veteran's Day Holiday (Nov. 11) and Thanksgiving Break (November 24, 25, 26). All of these wonderful things also mean missed instructional time, so **it is especially important to avoid additional absences this month.** If pressing family business that cannot be rescheduled will cause your child to miss more than five instructional days, please notify your child's teacher right away and arrange for an independent study contract so your child can keep learning during the absence.

**I'm excited to announce the launch of a series of parent education workshops**, beginning with a November-January series for parents of emergent readers (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade). Spanish Reading Teacher John Ellis will lead these virtual and interactive sessions to offer practical strategies to reinforce decoding skills, increase fluency, and help students become successful readers who love books.

**We're also thrilled to move to the next step of our Science in the Garden initiative** – a series of three, 8-week cycles of hands-on science and environmental lessons to be taught in our Edible Garden. Last year we commissioned retired Edison teacher Lorissa Boxer to develop a series of "hands in the dirt!" lessons and she and six of our teachers will be co-teaching these lessons in the first Nov-Jan cycle.