

# Tzu Chi Elementary Newsletter

November 2018

## A Note from Mrs. Grover

Dear Families,

Can you believe we will be ending our first trimester soon! November will be busy in the classrooms. Kids will be taking end of unit exams and benchmark assessments so teachers can prepare the first report card of the school year! Conferences will take place on Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be no school that day for students. Closer to the time, teachers will send out time slots for you to sign up to come and talk with both your child's English and Chinese teacher and receive their trimester one report card!

Please make sure you are sending kids to school in layers. The mornings are cool but it heats up as the day goes on. It is easier if the kids have outer layers they can remove. Also, please make sure they are school colors – navy blue, black or white!

We are starting to plan our first Open House. It will be open to TK, kinder and first grade families. You can come and hear next year's teacher present about their grade level and what you can expect the following year. We will be inviting the preschool families who are moving up to join us as well! This date will be December 4<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:00pm. I hope to see you all there!

Please take a look at the important dates coming up. We are heading into the holidays and I know how busy many of us get around this time. Please remember to plan trips around our days off. It is very hard on the kids to miss a large amount of school.

Thanks!  
Mrs. Grover

## Jing Si Aphorism

"Thankfulness is the world's most beautiful language and the most genuine way for people to interact."  
– Master Chen Yen



## Important Dates

Please Save to your calendar:

**November 12** – No School  
in honor of Veteran's Day

**November 21** –  
Thanksgiving Celebration  
10:30-11:30 – **NOON**  
**DISMISSAL & NO AFTER**  
**CARE!**

**November 22 & 23** – NO  
SCHOOL, Thanksgiving  
Break

**November 30** –  
Conferences, No school for  
kids.

**DON'T FORGET TO  
CHECK OUT  
FACEBOOK FOR  
MORE PHOTOS AND  
SHARE THEM WITH  
YOUR FRIENDS!**

# Character Education

Thankfulness and Gratitude

## *Thoughts from Ms. Linda, Monrovia 4/5 Teacher*

The simplest form of gratitude just takes one sincere and meaningful phrase, “Thank you”.

In the month of November we focus on the character trait, Thankfulness. The common definition of thankfulness means to be grateful for what we have. It could be gratitude for items we possess, the food on our table, clothes on our backs, a roof over our heads, having an education, good health, and people in our lives or even our wonderful Earth.

Here at Tzu Chi, it is eminent that we educate and remind our students the importance of showing gratitude at school, at home and in society through character education classes.



Every grade has the same objective, but all focus on giving gratitude to different people that contribute to our livelihood or to natural resources. Another way we express our gratitude is through song. Before eating lunch, students sing the “Gǎn Ēn Gē 感恩歌”. The lyrics of this song states that food is precious and that we must show gratitude to the people who grow our food and to Mother Nature for providing us food. By teaching character education, we educate students to be mindful and appreciative of what's around them; not taking *anything* for granted.

Pictured: Students at Amy's Farm!

Meeting one of the cows on the farm!  
It was a great experience for all!

