

Glenn E. Murdock Elementary School

4354 Conrad Drive, La Mesa ☎ (619) 668-5775
Murdock Website - 🌐 www.lmsvsd.org/murdock
Murdock PTA Website - 🌐 murdockpta.org



A Note From The Principal

Recently I hosted a parent education night with Fletcher Hills Elementary School and Casa De Oro Elementary School. All of our schools had data from our 2013-2014 Parent Input Survey stating that bullying was an important topic that parents wanted to better understand. For those of you who were unable to make it I wanted to take some time in this newsletter to share some of the main points of what we discussed that evening.

Our presentation started with a quote from Martin Luther King Jr. **“In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends”**. Fortunately at our school bullying is a rare event. What we discussed in our meeting and what I see more of is personal conflict. We discussed the notions that not all mean behavior is bullying. While we hope our students use kindness at all times the reality is sometimes children are unkind to one another. Isolated moments of unkindness are examples of personal conflict rather than bullying. Additionally, it is important to consider the age of a child when deciding whether or not an incident is bullying. Very young children often do not realize how unkind their words are and the impact of their words and actions; they are learning to be friends and are working on developing their social skills.

We discussed different types of bullying including verbal, social, physical and cyber. We looked at examples of each of those types of bullying and discussed isolated incidents vs. repeated incidents. In addition, we looked at the motivation for students who are bullying others. We examined the repetition involved in true bullying along with the purpose of causing harm. We looked at the relationships between someone who is being bullied, the student who is bullying and the imbalance of power that exists. **(Continued on page 2)**

Upcoming Events

January 12-15

Book Swap

January 19

No School – MLK Day

January 20

Full School Day (out at 2:30 & 2:50) **This Tuesday only**

January 21

Assembly – Where Did the Water Go?

January 23

PTA General Association Mtg. & Family Movie Night

January 31

Elite Gymnastics Parent Night Out

Check out the full calendar and event details by going to the [PTA website](#).

A Note From The Principal (Continued from page 1)

We had some wonderfully rich discussions on the topic and went through some examples and personal situations that have been troubling to some families. A great deal of time was spent considering the differences between personal conflicts and bullying. Toward the end of the presentation we discussed what we do with students here at school and simple solutions for bullying. We discussed the PeaceBuilder pledge and how that connects to staff conversations with students on a daily basis.

It was an informative night. Please let me know if you ever have any questions or concerns.

Jennifer Luibel

Who is Mrs. Luibel...really?

The detective minds of Mrs. Cooper's Kinder class were going to find out the answer to this question. They invited her to a class interview one day. Each student had a question that would really get to the bottom of things. With such probing questions like, "Do you own the school?" "Can I play with you?" and "Has anyone sassed you?", they knew they were going to find out just who Mrs. Luibel really was. Here are some of the all-important things they learned:

Her favorites: Dogs (because she has a chocolate & a yellow lab), Blue & Green, the number 2 (because she has two children), sunflowers, the UC Davis Swim Team (her daughter is on it), and any picture with a sky in it because it will have the color blue. (Response to "What is your favorite picture?")

With an audible gasp, the students found out there is a Mr. Luibel who is a college professor and lives in El Cajon with Mrs. Luibel and their 2 dogs and cat (Cooper, Whinston, and Bailey). She does like the movie Frozen and will play with students if they ask nicely. She also likes to laugh and talk to people, but sometimes she is a little shy. Not only does she have a brother, but 3 sisters as well, who are all tall, but not all of them reach 6'1" like she does.

Before she was a principal, she taught K, 1st, 3rd, & 4th grade. As principal, she answers emails in the office (not her favorite job) and she keeps children safe...her biggest, most important job. Yes, someone has sassed her...her daughters and "No, she does not own the school. She just works here."

Welcome Mrs. Luibel!!! We're so glad you're here at Murdock!!!

~ Heather Roschke & the Kinders of C5



I Am a PeaceBuilder.
I pledge...

to praise people,
to give up put-downs,
to seek wise people,
to notice and speak
up about hurts I have
caused,
to right wrongs,
to help others.

I will build peace at
home, at Murdock,
and in my community
each day.



Murdock Elementary
Your child's foundation



CONTACT INFORMATION:

Glenn E. Murdock Elementary School
4354 Conrad Drive
La Mesa, CA 91941
619-668-5755

Principal: Jennifer Luibel
Jennifer.Luibel@lmsvsd.net

PTA President: Mo Davis-White
mdw0501@cox.net

Newsletter Editor: Tina Hanson
newsletter@murdockpta.org