

Pleasant Grove Elementary Gazette



Walking a Mile in Their Shoes

Have you ever wondered how children develop empathy for others? It is a work in progress! We are born with the capacity for empathy, but it is experience and practice that develops it over time. Preschoolers are becoming aware that other people have separate bodies, feelings, and emotions. By the ages of 6 or 7, they are more able to take another perspective and offer solutions or support. Empathy is “caught, not taught” by learning through examples by adults.

So, this is a great time of year to serve others and model empathy for our children, whether it is donating new, unwrapped toys to our toy drive at the Family Movie Night, or finding ways as a family to donate time, talent, or treasure to a cause important to your family values.

Now that we've finished our first trimester, we also want to learn from your experience. Please take the time to fill out [this survey](#) so we can understand your perspective too and continuously work to improve our services!

One of the best things about Pleasant Grove Elementary is our caring and supportive community. I wish you all a joyous season, be it one of holiday festivities, or winter time celebration, or gratitude for the completion of another year. I hope to see many of you at our PTA Family Movie Night on December 5 or on campus visiting!

Our PGES team looks forward to educating your students in 2026.

In this newsletter you can expect:

Walking a Mile in Their Shoes:
Principal's Message

Events

PTA Corner

Character Strong

APEX Fun Run

Reading Screener

See What We've Been Up To!

Celebrate Our Students

EVENTS

| Date | Event |
|----------------|--|
| December 1 | Character Rally |
| December 5 | Student of the Month & Veteran's Day Performance |
| December 8 | School Site Council Meeting |
| December 11 | PTA General Meeting (South Slope Winery @ 6:00 pm) |
| December 17 | Band Concert |
| December 19 | 1 st Grade Winter Performance |
| December 19 | Minimum Day: All TK and Kinder on AM Schedule 1 st - 6 th Grades: 8:20am - 12:50pm |
| Save the Date! | January 28: Family Music, Math, and Science Night with Phil Tulga |

PTA Corner

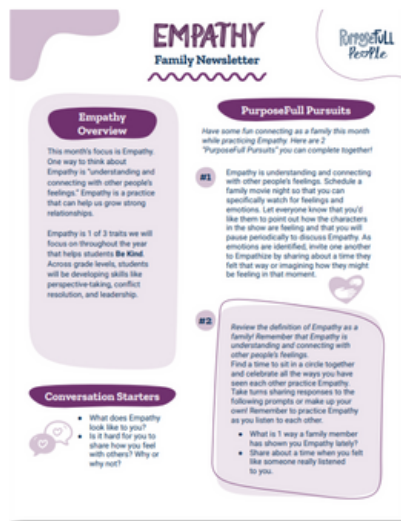
PTA General Meetings are the second Thursday of the month at South Slope Winery at 6:00 pm. All are welcome!

The next event of the year will be the Holiday Movie Night on Friday, December 5! PTA will be showing Disney's *The Naughty Nine*.



| TIGERS PGES PTA UPCOMING EVENTS | |
|--|---|
| GENERAL PTA MEETINGS 2ND THURSDAY EACH MONTH FROM 6-7 AT SOUTH SLOPE WINES | |
| 25 SEP | SOCK HOP & BOOK FAIR  |
| 24 OCT | FALL CARNIVAL  |
| 05 DEC | HOLIDAY MOVIE NIGHT  |
| 23 JAN | FAMILY DANCE  |
| 16 FEB | FAMILY SKATE  |
| 07 MAR | ANNUAL FUNDRAISER DINNER  |
| 27 MAR | Oodles of Noodles & BINGO  |

TEAM
PTA



Trait of the Month: Empathy

Our Character Strong Curriculum has its own family website! Click on the Family Strong icon to access the website or go to:

<https://www.characterstrong.com/familystrong>

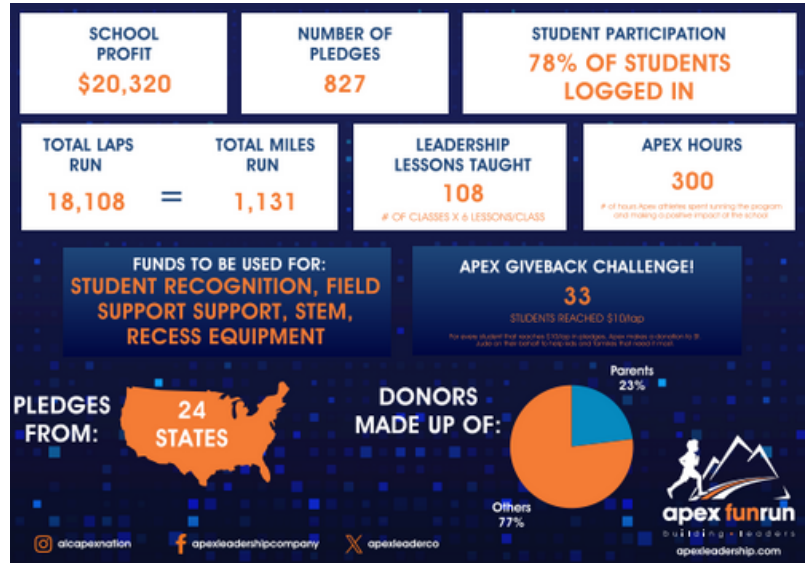
One way to think about Empathy is “understanding and connecting with other people’s feelings.” Empathy is a practice that can help us grow strong relationships.

To read more about this month’s trait, along how you can talk about it as a family, click on the newsletter pictured to the left, or go to our website: <http://pleasantgrove.egusd.net>.

APEX Leadership and Fun Run

Our Fun Run was a huge success! Here are some stats from APEX.

If you have any questions about how APEX collects and how the fundraiser works, please reach out to Mrs. McCartney or the PGES PTA.



Reading Difficulties Screener



In 2023, a new state education law was passed requiring all CA school districts to screen all kindergarten, first grade, and second grade students for risk of reading difficulties starting in the 2025-26 school year. This school year, EGUSD will implement the Multitudes screener for all students in those grades about midway through the school year. It is a quick, one-on-one assessment of critical areas of reading and language.

Screener results will be shared with families within 45 days of the assessment. PGES students will be taking the screener between January 20 - February 6. Students who are currently on IEPs for reading, or being tested for one, will not take the screener. Students who are not currently proficient in English or Spanish will take an alternate screener.

Parents who wish to opt their students out of the screener must come into the PGES office to fill out an opt-out form by Friday, December 19.



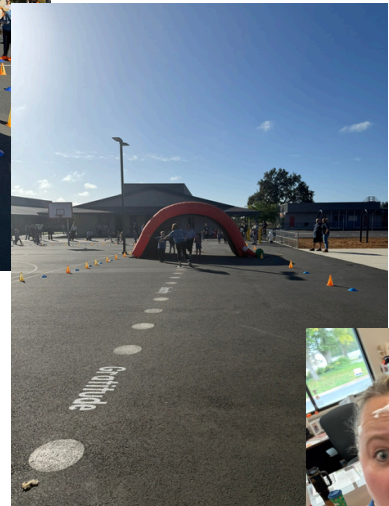
For more information, see the links below:

- [English Flier](#) | [English FAQ](#)
- [Spanish Flier](#) | [Spanish FAQ](#)
- [Vietnamese Flier](#) | [Vietnamese FAQ](#)
- [Chinese Flier](#) | [Chinese FAQ](#)



See What We've Been Up To!

Our APEX Fun Run was super successful!
We beat all our challenges, leading to
Coach Mel Fresh and Mrs. McCartney
getting pied in the face!



Student Council
taught us how to
say "Thank You" in
several languages!





Excellent Attendance



| TK - AM | TK - PM | Kindergarten |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Eliana Banks Raegan Enterkin Harrison Hart Kayla Ho Parker Hoffstot Lincoln Mac Layla Paine Taj Phelps Karisa Saephan Savannah Tu Jessie Vo Camryn Wessel Ethan Winkler Zoey Xiong</p> | <p>Sanya Asar Owen Cronan Travis Davila Gianna Dominguez Zavala Margaret Hand Caleb Hoang Rayden La Renzo La Oliver Le Katie Qu Jackson Schritter Suraya Singh Amina Smith Elliette Thach Cameron Tran Kaden Tran Vevila Woolston Linares Landon Wong Celine Yu</p> | <p>Alexandra Bauer Amos Calvillo Liana Calvillo Amelia Coles Alexander Ham Charles Love Isaac Magana Hunter Moua Bennett Nanzer Jonathan Nguyen Thao An Nguyen Lincoln Wessel</p> |
| First Grade | Second Grade | Third Grade |
| <p>Seraphina Bufford Ridge Congdon Juvia Fang Fiona Hart Ashlee Henzie Hai Khuu Georgia Lawson Rowan Marengo Brandon Mccord Alan Martinez Alvarez Christian Paine Madison Phu Ayla Shapiro Kaptain Sythanyarutt Colt Thompson Everly Whitehead Nathan Yang</p> | <p>Andres Aguilar Hope Anderson Jeremiah Banks Jace Bufford James Cartwright IV Wyatt Coleman Liam Chavez Nash Hand Ellylynne Hunyh Jordan Jones Hanhna Khuu Owen Love Hamzah Nafai QUinn Marengo Alice Nguyen Lani Nguyen Emory Sandhu-Goldner Xander Simunich Avery Wessel</p> | <p>Hava Andaluz Eli Borlak Jailyn Bufford Jinjie Chen Addison Fox Atlas Herr Ronan Lux Paige Moua Annika Otero-Frost Mason Phu Taylor Pratt Caia Raines Kira Rhynas Shayaan Saeed Lucas Ursin Mia Wiechert</p> |

Excellent Attendance



| Fourth Grade | Fifth Grade | Sixth Grade |
|--|---|---|
| Emily Borges Jesus Cervantes Hudson Coates Maverick Congdon Syndey De Cou Sophia Fernandez Braxton Fonda Colton Fonda Ajmehr Gill Kaylee Henzie Jack Jones Luka King Olivia Marengo Chase Moua William Newman Isabelle Nguyen Saige Pitt Carson Retke Andrea Elaine Soares Marco Taylor Huy-Haiden Tran Jasmine Trinh Gage Williams-Harlen | Faith Anacleto Bruce Andaluz Everett Barfield Brody Barrozo Aiden Bennett Sierra Bufford Easton Dominguez Yeray Dominguez Zavala Colton Enterkin Rory French Mason Ham Evelyn Hardenburg Chu Ye Her Myka La Sance Devin Mendoza Kainoa Motoike Aizelle San Jaxon Sategna Luke Seavers Mason Shaw Kanan Sythanyarutt Valeria Torres Benjamin Wiechert Skylar Zhou | Junhao Chen Dylan Chuang Finely Coates Dallas Congdon Graham Cornell Charlotte Cuong Chidimma Enemuoh Kaverick Fonda Atticus Herr Ava King Zuri Luu Angel Martinez Alvarez Trevor Pratt Ella Retke Antonio Ruano Kash Ruffell Subhan Saeed Nav Sondh Benjamin Ursin Kent Vang Carson Vongvilay Zachary Winkler Jordan Xiong |

CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE STUDENTS!

11/03/2025-11/21/2025

NO LATES, NO ABSENCES, NO EARLY DISMISSALS.

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK

Students of the Month

Academic

Hukam Bath
Alexandra Bauer
Ally Buna
Amos Calvillo
Wyatt Coleman
Julianna Garcia
Kaylee Henzie
Atlas Herr
Angela Lai
Zuri Luu
Douglas MacDonald III
Alice Nguyen
Amelia Todd
Nathan Yang

Gratitude

Sanya Asar
Eyan Cabrera
Gemma Cornell
Katherine Diaz
Matthea Enriquez
Japreet Gill
Chu Ye Her
Caleb Hoang
Sadie Long
Atom Ly
Cindy Marks
Lani Nguyen
Taj Phelps
Makenzie Poti
Kash Ruffell
Karisa Saephan
Luke Seavers
Ivy Tran
Cairo Truong
Gabriella Turanski
Avery Wessel
Zoey Xiong
Celine Yu
Magdalena Zakhir

Effort

Chase Ballard
Chase Beitzel
Faith Bryant
Elliot Cole
Mason Ham
Alan Martinez Alvarez
Bennett Nanzer
Noel Lopez Sanchez
Taylor Pratt
Chase Radich
Rashed Rashed
Isaac Roblada
Rajvir Sondh
Indie Taylor
Colt Thompson



Accelerated Reader



BRONZE

BRYCE ASTON
JEREMIAH BANKS
ALEC CHAN
HUDSON COATES
ABIGAIL COLES
CRUZ DAVILA
ASHLEE HENZIE
BRANDON MCCORD
VICTORIA TRUKHAN
LUCAS URSIN
CARSON VONGVILAY

SILVER

CAMDEN BOK
AVA CONGDON
ALICE NGUYEN
JULIAN NORIEGA

GOLD

PLATINUM

RONAN LUX