

Pleasant Grove Elementary Gazette



Spring is in the Air!

It's Spring! The time of year when we all start to anticipate summer and the next school year. It's important that we finish strong while we enjoy longer days, sunshine, and the end of year fun.

- **Be in school all day, every day!** Arrive by 8:15 a.m. (8:05 a.m. for Levels) ready to learn.
- **Focus on academics!** Our end of the year state assessments are coming up and we want our Tigers to excel.
- **Celebrate your accomplishments!** What a great time of year to reflect on all the hard work both students and families have put in to make the year a success.

This month we welcomed in Teasjia Bangle as our new PGES secretary! We have a few substitutes coming in for the front desk while we wait for HR to process the hiring of a new School Office Assistant for our front desk.

We are looking for more ways to keep our school safe at drop off and pickup. Please join us on **April 14 at 6:00pm** on Zoom to hear from our district Safe Routes Coordinator and help us plan based on his analysis.

We are planning for our LCAP spending for 2026-27. Our next School Site Council meeting will be held on **April 21, 2026** on Zoom. If you have ideas for things or events for our school, please email Mrs. McCartney or call the office.

Summer Learning is just around the corner. Click here to register your student for the PGES Summer Learning program! The June session will be run by our Expanded Learning partner, NorCal Arts. The July morning session will be run by our teachers, and the afternoon by NorCal Arts. It's free to take advantage of this program!

Last, we are planning for our PBIS program for 2026-27 and we need your feedback from this year! Ms. Bowles sent out a survey last month, but if you haven't had a chance, please share your thoughts with us. Reach the survey by clicking here.

Have a wonderful April!

In this newsletter you can expect:

Principal's Message

April Events

Yearbook/PTA Corner

Character Strong

Coming Soon

School Accountability Report Card

Meet Our Tigers

See What We've Been Up To!

Celebrate Our Students



April 2026

Date	Event
April 2	TK Student of the Month Volleyball Game 4:15pm (AWAY @ Adreani)
April 3	Spirit Day - Animal Print/Stuffie Day Student of the Month 2pm
April 6	2nd Grade Field Trip @ WOW Museum
April 8	Family Art Night 5:00-6:30 pm (MP Room)
April 9	Volleyball Game 4:15pm @ Home PTA General Mtg @ South Slope Winery 6:00-7:00
April 10	Kindergarten/Macdonald Field Trip @ Fog Willow Farms
April 14	Volleyball Game 4:15pm (AWAY @ McGarvey) Traffic Informational Parent Meeting 6:00pm (Zoom Link)
April 20	1st Grade Field Trip @ Sheldon High School
April 21	TK WOW Museum Presentation (On Site)
April 24	Lunch with Loved Ones (Formally Family Picnic Day) Kinder Reptile Presentation (On Site 10:30-11:00)
April 27-May 8	CAASP Testing 3 rd - 6 th Grade
April 28	Volleyball Game 4:15pm (Away @ Dillard)

Click below to purchase your Yearbook today!!

It's not too late to purchase the

PLEASANT GROVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL yearbook!

To purchase your yearbook go to [Treering.com](https://treering.com) →

Customize your 2 free pages

- Add photos from your computer, Facebook, Google Drive and more
- Answer fun memory questions to help remember the year
- The 2 custom pages are free and are printed only in your book. Want more pages? Each additional 2 pages are just \$1.99.

To purchase and customize your yearbook, use the QR code or:

Must be a parent or student 13 years or older

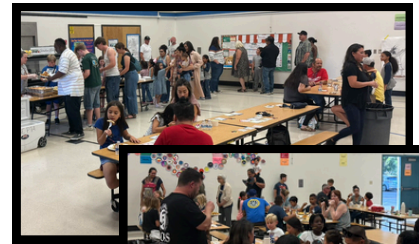
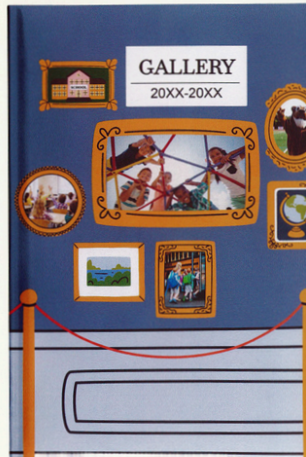
1. Go to: treering.com/validate
2. Enter your school's passcode:

1016823675404978

Regular price: **\$19.68**

*Does not include sales tax, if applicable

Deadline: Apr 1



PTA Corner

Thank you to our PTA for their wonderful work this year! They raised over \$20,000 for our school this year at the most recent fundraiser, and held 6 low cost family events including the Oodles of Noodles and Bingo pictures above! They also supported us with the APEX fundraiser. Because of PTA, our community was able to be together, our teachers were able to make purchases for their classrooms, our students were able to be celebrated with AR and attendance prizes, field trips were reduced in cost, assemblies were held and new tables will be purchased for outside our classrooms. Are you interested in being a part of the PTA board? Please email ptapleasantgrove@gmail.com for more information and keep an eye on your email for more details.

FAMILY
Strong

COURAGE
Family Newsletter

Purposeful People

Courage Overview
We are excited to focus on Courage this month! One way to think about Courage is "choosing what is helpful, right, and kind even when it is hard or scary." Courage can look a little different for everyone. Get ready to explore as a family what Courage means to you!

Courage is 1 of 3 traits we will focus on throughout the year that helps students **Be Strong**. Across grade levels, students will be developing skills like focusing, organizing, and goal-setting.

Conversation Starters

- Can you share or show what it means to have Courage?
- When you practice Courage, how does it make you feel? Why?

Purposeful Pursuits
Have some fun connecting as a family this month while practicing Courage. Here are 2 "Purposeful Pursuits" you can complete together!

#1 Remember that Courage is choosing what is helpful, right, and kind even when it is hard or scary. Reflect, think, and discuss things you would like to do, but find intimidating or scary (individually or as a family). Maybe it's a new hobby, trying a new game, sharing your art or invention with others, or going on an adventure somewhere. Give 1 of these things a try together this month and take a selfie to capture the memory!

#2 We have all demonstrated Courage in our lives. Stories are powerful tools for connecting as a family. Protect time this week to share stories about Courage with each other (you can use the story prompts to get started). At the end of the conversation, think of 1 way you can practice Courage this week.

Story Prompts:

- A time I (or someone else) showed Courage was _____
- An act of Courage that changed/challenged me was _____

Trait of the Month: Courage

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>

This month's focus is Courage. One way to think about Courage is "choosing what is helpful, right, and kind even when it is hard or scary." Courage can look a little different for everyone. Get ready to explore as a family what Courage means to you!

To read more about this month's trait, along with 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>.

Coming Soon!

Mark your calendars for these dates in May:

May 2 - Trigg Track and Field Meet @ Cosumnes Oaks HS

May 4-8 Staff Appreciation Week

May 8 - Last day to apply for Summer Learning.

May 13 - AR BBQ

May 14 - OPEN HOUSE

May 15 - Minimum Day (1st -6th grade)

May 15 - 6th Grade Living Museum

May 18 - 6th Grade Living Museum

May 22 - 4th Grade Pioneer Day

May 25 - Memorial Day - No School

May 26 - Unity Day

May 27 - TK Promotion

May 28 - 6th Grade Promotion

May 29 - Kinder Promotion & Last Day of School



School Accountability Report Cards Available

The current School Accountability Report Card (SARC) is available online at the Elk Grove Unified School District website at <https://www.egusd.net/District/Academics/Assessments/School-Accountability-Report-Cards/index.html>. Both a long detailed format and a short executive summary are posted for parents to learn more about the schools in our community.

Each school's SARC summarizes the school's mission, goals, accomplishments, and highlights the school's unique programs. In addition, state law requires that the SARC contain all of the following: demographic data, school safety and climate for learning information, academic data, school completion rates, class sizes, teacher and staff information, curriculum and instruction descriptions, postsecondary preparation information, fiscal and expenditure data.

The federal law requires that SARCs contain reports concerning the "adequate yearly progress" of students in achieving state academic achievement standards; Title I Program Improvement status; graduation rates at the secondary level; and the extent to which "highly qualified" teachers are teaching core academic subjects.

A hard copy of these reports can be requested by visiting your child's school office. Additionally, these reports have been translated into Spanish at schools with large populations of families who speak these languages. Any questions regarding the SARCs can be directed to Mrs. McCartney at 916-685-9630 or by contacting Learning Support Services at 916-686-7712.



Meet Our Tigers! Our 4th Grade Teachers

Mrs. Swensen is a 4th grade teacher. She went to college at Sacramento State and Chapman University. Mrs. Swensen has been teaching for 30 years! And in that 30 years she taught in the San Juan Unified School District and has taught in Elk Grove since 2003. She loves California history. She has a son named Bryce. He is 14 years old and goes to Joseph Kerr Middle School. Mrs. Swensen likes to travel with her family, go to Rivercats games, and especially loves going to the beach. She also likes going to students' baseball games, recitals, performances and other events. Her favorite food is chicken mole, biscuits and gravy, See's raspberry truffles, and salted caramel. Other interesting facts about Mrs. Swensen is that she sings a part in the worship team at her church, she's lived in three other states besides California she has an orange cat named Boots, and has been in three other countries outside of the U.S. (England, Canada, and Spain). Mrs. Swensen's dad went to Purdue, not Mrs. Swensen. But she grew up singing Purdue songs like "Hail Purdue", which her students sing when someone passes a level in Xtramath. Mrs. Swensen as a kid wanted to be a Broadway star. Mrs. Swensen taught with Mrs. Praxel at Beitzel Elementary. Ms. Praxel convinced her to come to Pleasant Grove Elementary and teach with her again.

The other fourth grade teacher is Ms. Praxel. If you have been to Ms. Praxel's classroom you can see her favorite animal is a frog. Frogs are all over her classroom. Ms. Praxel has been a teacher for twenty-eight years! Eighteen of those years she has taught fourth grade, and she still is. Ms. Praxel loves acting, you can see her on stage in Elk Grove at Village Stage Productions. Ms. Praxel's favorite subject to teach fourth graders is social studies. When Ms. Praxel is not teaching she is giving tours in Old Sacramento for the Sacramento History Museum. Make time to go on a tour with her! Fun fact Ms. Praxel has been nominated for Teacher of the Year 2026! Ms. Praxel has a schnoodle dog named Samie and a cat named Wyatt. They are adorable. Also she loves sewing historic costumes from the 1800s! Ms. Praxel says if she weren't a teacher she would be a fashion designer. Everyone loves summer break! So do teachers. During summer break Ms. Praxel loves to travel. She has been to more than twenty states and nine different countries! Ms. Praxel's favorite book as a kid was the Encyclopedia Brown series.

So these are our fourth grade teachers. We hope you enjoyed learning more about them!

Meet Our Tigers! Our 4th Grade Authors

Kinsley Congdon is a fourth grade student who loves golf, flag football and horseback riding. She has two horses named Boa and Dakota and a dog named Cooper.

Olivia Marango is a fourth grade student who loves golf, soccer and just started flag football. She has two dogs, Tucker and Bonnie.

See What We've Been Up To!



Read Across America Day kicked off our March Madness book competition! Our school board member, Beth Albiani, joined in the fun.



The lion dancers from KAMS performed for us to celebrate Lunar New Year!



Our talent show highlighted our amazing performers!



Our volleyball team played its first game and won!



Parents shared their jobs with us in career day!





Excellent Attendance



CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE STUDENTS! 02/27/2026 - 03/30/2026

NO LATES, NO ABSENCES, NO EARLY DISMISSALS.

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

TK - AM

LUCAS LEDOUX
ARIA LEE
AVA VALENCIA
CAMRYN WESSEL
ETHAN WINKLER

ALEXIS LAU
AVERY LE
TRINITY ROWE
MILES THOR

TK - PM

EVELYN BUI
JAYDEN GAYAS
CALEB HOANG
ATOM LY
KATIE QU
AMINA SMITH
ELLIETTE THACH
CELINE YU

EYAN CABRERA
EVAN HUANG
JACKSON SCHRITTER

AM KINDER

JOSEY CONGDON
AN DO
SAMIE HADGU
ALEXANDER HAM
CLAIRE JONES
CHARLES LOVE
JACKSON NEAL
THAO NGUYEN

PM KINDER

ODIN BUNA
AMOS CALVILLO
LIANA CALVILLO
AMELIA COLES
HUNTER JOHNSON
AAYAN RANDHAWA
ROXANNE TYLER
LINCOLN WESSEL

FIRST GRADE

ENOCH ANDALUZ
NOLAN HUYNH
HAI KHUU
CAITLIN KUBACH
KAPTAIN SYTHANYARUTT
LUKAS XIONG
NATHAN YANG

SERAPHINA BUFFORD
REMI COFFEY
JUVIA FANG
ATHENA TARR

SECOND GRADE

JACE BUFFORD
LIAM CHAVEZ
OWEN LOVE
LANI NGUYEN

ISAAC ROBLADA
WYATT COLEMAN
ABIGALE COLES
TRI DO
ELLYLYNNE HUYNH
HANHNA KHUU
SARGI SIDHU
AVERY WESSEL

THIRD GRADE

HAVA ANDALUZ
ASHLEY BOK
CAMDEN BOK
JAILYN BUFFORD
FRANKLIN CANUELA
AVA GARCIA
MILES HOSMANN
EVELYN LINLEY
ELIZABETH MCFADDEN
TAYLOR PRATT
KIRA RHYNAS

JINJIE CHEN
MIA WIECHERT



Excellent Attendance



CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE STUDENTS! 02/27/2026 -03/30/2026
NO LATES, NO ABSENCES, NO EARLY DISMISSALS.
KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

FOURTH GRADE

HANIYA USMAN AHMAD
CHASE BALLARD
HUKAM BATH
ELLIOTT COLES
AJMEHR GILL
MIA KUMAR-PESCI
ISAELE NGUYEN
YILANA RODRIGUEZ
ANDREA ELAINE SOARES
JASMINE TRINH

JALTON BUFFORD
KAYLEE HENZIE
WILLIAM NEWMAN

FIFTH GRADE

EVERETT BARFIELD
MAX BRECHBILL
SEBASTIAN FLORES
RORY FRENCH
JULIANA GARCIA
MASON HAM
MICHELLE INGLISH
ELI LINLEY
EMILIO MUNOZ ROMERO
JAXON SATEGNA
BENJAMIN WIECHERT

SIERRA BUFFORD
OSCAR CUNANAN
LIKE SEEVERS
MASON SHAW
MEHAR SIDHU
KANAN SYTHANYARUTT
HANNAH TRAN
AGUSTIN VALENCIA
BRAEDEN WHITE

SIXTH GRADE

ANDREW BORLAK
AVA KING
KASH RUFFELL
SUBHAN SAEED
CHIDLMMMA ENEMUOH
NELSON LE
QISMAM MOHAMMAD
RYAN NGUYEN
NAV SONDH
RAJVIR SONDH
ZACHARY MATTHEW WINKLER

ANDREW BORLAK
AVA KING
KASH RUFFELL
SUBHAN SAEED

Students of the Month

Academic

Faith Anacleto
Ridge Congdon
Noah Gonzales
Kadence Hickling
Reagan Hickling
Hunter Johnson
Sebastian Luong
Zara Majeed
Paige Moua
Hien Nguyen
Hieu Nguyen
Jaxon Sategna
Nav Sondh
Everly Whitehead

Cooperation

Andres Aguilar
Cristian Cervantes Espinoza
Keiry Cervantes Zepeda
Cristian Calderon
Jinjie Chen
Rayden Dang
Chloe DeBolt
Addison Fox
Gage Harlan
Nolan Huynh
Rayna Long
Owen Love
Josiah Manning
Allison Pham
Quinton Saechao
Subhan Saeed
Amanah Samawi
Kaden Tran
Ava Valencia
Jessie Vo
Benjamin Winemiller
Everly Yin
Magdalena Zakhir

Effort

Haniya Ahmed
Jace Bufford
Alexander Bustamante
Angelique Ceballos
Junhao Chen
Dallas Congdon
Zachuriya Glenn
Hai Khuu
Georgia Lawson
Luis Montez
Daniel Navarro-Rivera
Amelia Phelps
Caia Raines
Mike Sanchez



Accelerated Reader



BRONZE

ANDRES AGUILAR
DEANE BAKEY
MATEO CAPETILLO
LIAM CHAVEZ
MAVERICK CONGDON
JEEVUN DHILLON
PENELOPE DOMINGUEZ
BENJAMIN FONG
ELIAS GODINEZ
KAYLEE HENZIE
JORDAN JONES
ZARA MAJEED
LUIS MONTEZ
NATALIE NORIEGA
CARSON RETKE
ISAAC ROBLADA
AMELIA TODD
IVAN TORRES
AREYA VALENCIA
ARTHUR VOQUI
KODI WALLACE

SILVER

HANIYA AHMAD
BRYCE ASTON
ABIGALE COLES
MATTHEA ENRIQUEZ
KADENCE HICKLING
ELLYLYNNE HUYNH
EVIE LAWSON
LANI NGUYEN
MAKENZIE POTI
CAIA RAINES
VICTORIA TRUKHAN
ANYA TYMOCHKO

GOLD

EVERETT BARFIELD
ALEC CHAN
NAVAAB DHILLON
JAPREET GILL
ROSE JACO
GEORGIA LAWSON
OWEN LOVE
SEBASTIAN LUONG
QUINN MARENGO
HAMZAH NAFI
CRUZ PEREZ
ELIJAH RAJU
YASMEEN RASHED
MEHAR SIDHU

PLATINUM

KYLEIGH ASTON
JEREMIAH BANKS
HUKAM BATH
CAMDEN BOK
KENZIE BRENNAN
FRANKLIN CANUELA
AVA CONGDON
SOPHIA LUA GARCIA
MILA PEREZ
JAXON SATEGNA
LINH TRAN