

February Charger News

2023

Cherry Chase Elementary School

1138 Heatherstone Way, Sunnyvale CA 94087

Phone (408) 522-8241



Sick child? cce.absence@sesd.org

Click [here](#) to be directed to the Cherry Chase Website



Is Your Child Sick or Unable to Attend School?

Is your child sick or unable to attend school?

Parents please report any student absences by calling the school office at 408-522-8241 or emailing

cce.absence@sesd.org or jen.maylard@sesd.org

Please include you child's name, grade, teacher, and reason for the absence

Lost and Found

If your student is missing anything, please be sure to check the lost and found rack located on campus.





2022-2023 New Student Registration will begin Monday, February 1, 2023

Registration for the 2023-24 school year begins February 1, 2023 at 10:00 am.

Current TK students need to register for kindergarten in the 2023-24 school year. Please follow the New Student Registration process here: <https://www.sesd.org/Page/4932>

Current kindergarten-4th grade students do not need to register for the 2023-24 school year. Their registration will rollover to the next school year.

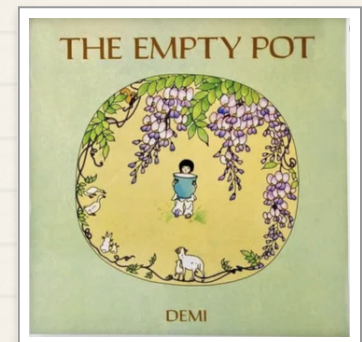
Current 5th grade students do not need to register for Sunnyvale Middle School for the 2023-24 school year. Their registration will rollover to the next school year.

If you have questions about registration or enrollment, please reach out to Jen Maylard at jen.maylard@sesd.org

February Character Trait: Honesty

"I always tell the truth, even when it is hard to do so."

During the month of February, teachers will be focusing on the character trait of HONESTY. Teachers may read the book Empty Pot by Demi to emphasize this character trait.



What is Honesty?

- An honest person is someone who tells the truth.
- An honest person does not cheat, steal, or lie.

How Can You Encourage Your Child To Be Honest?

- Read books that show the main character being honest.
- Create a warm, loving, and safe home environment so that when your kids make mistakes they feel that they can admit them honestly and seek out your help. When they do admit their errors, be careful in how you respond so you don't shut them down. Yes, they may need to be disciplined, but approach the situation as a learning experience.
- Be a good example with your actions.

Discussion Starters About Honesty:

Discuss the following story starters with your child. Have him/her finish the story. Have your child tell you how they would be honest in each story.

Discussion story starters:

- Yesterday I found \$100...
- Honesty is important because...
- During the test, my friend asked for the answers...
- Telling the truth means...

Give your child other scenarios that describe someone doing something an honest person would do and have your child tell you how the person was honest. Give scenarios where someone is not being honest and have your child say what the person could do to be honest.



Citizen of the Month for January

Click here to see all the students who were honored for the character trait of PERSEVERANCE.

Download
254.6 KB

February is Black History Month

This February, Cherry Chase celebrates Black History Month, which celebrates the contributions of those in Black and African American community as well highlighting events of significance. There were many people of the African American community who helped make this a nationally recognized month. Carter G.



Woodson, an historian, journalist, and son of former slaves is considered the Father of Black History Month. In 1926, he created and publicized the celebration of "Negro History Week" in the second week of February to coincide with the birthdays of President Lincoln, who signed the Emancipation Proclamation, and Frederick Douglass, a Black abolitionist and writer. Students at Kent State in the 1960's expanded on his idea to include the entire month and encouraged other universities to celebrate too. Finally, in 1976 as part of the US Bicentennial celebration, President Gerald Ford declared February as Black History Month. At school, teachers will be sharing biographies of influential people from this community as well as read books about their culture and history.

Want to celebrate and learn more at home:

- For an explanation of the month, visit:
 - [National Museum of African American History and Culture](#)
 - [Black History Month](#)
 - [Black History Month 2023](#)
 - [The story behind Black History Month - NPR](#)
- Books are a great way to dive into a culture! Here are some book lists for kids:
 - [The Best Kids' Books to Read During Black History Month \(and all year long\)](#)

- [Children's Books to Celebrate Black History Month](#)
- [13 Exceptional Kid Lit Books to Read for Black History Month](#)
- [Black History- Social Justice Books](#)

Tolerance

Tolerance is about accepting people for who they are. It also means treating others the way you would like to be treated.

How Can Parents Teach Tolerance?

Parents can teach tolerance by example — and in other ways, too. Talking together about tolerance and respect helps kids learn more about the values you want them to have. Giving them opportunities to play and work with others is important as well. This lets kids learn firsthand that everyone has something to contribute and to experience differences and similarities.



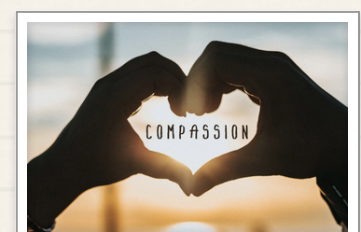
Things parents can do to help kids learn tolerance include:

- Remember that kids are always listening. Be aware of the way you talk about people who are different from yourself.
- Select books, toys, music, art, and videos carefully. Keep in mind the powerful effect the media and pop culture have on shaping attitudes.
- Answer kids' questions about differences honestly and respectfully. This teaches that it is acceptable to notice and discuss differences as long as it is done with respect.
- Acknowledge and respect differences within your own family. Demonstrate acceptance of your children's differing abilities, interests, and styles. Value the uniqueness of each member of your family.
- Remember that tolerance does not mean tolerating unacceptable behavior. It means that everyone deserves to be treated with respect — and should treat others with respect as well.
- Help your children feel good about themselves. Kids who feel badly about themselves often treat others badly. Kids with strong self-esteem value and respect themselves and are more likely to treat others with respect, too. Help your child to feel accepted, respected, and valued.

When parents encourage a tolerant attitude in their children, talk about their values, and model the behavior they would like to see by treating others well, kids will follow in their footsteps.

Helping Children Learn Compassion

Set a good example



By far, the biggest thing you can do to teach your children well is to lead with your own shining example. Exhibit kindness to other people. Stick to your values and morals. Embrace differences between people. Don't just talk the talk...walk it in every single thing you do.

Respond with love

We all make mistakes, yet when our kids do, it's easy to forget we're not perfect either. Show forgiveness and love in your response to your child's needs and they will learn that they are loved even if they messed up. Warmth and forgiveness help children learn from the mistakes they make and when others make mistakes, they respond with the same compassionate heart.

Acknowledge kindness.

Be sure to show your child that you notice when someone does something nice. For example, if someone slows down to let you exit a parking lot at a busy intersection, say, "It was really nice of that driver to let me out." Likewise if your own child treats someone nicely, be sure to acknowledge and praise his/her effort.

Be patient with your child.

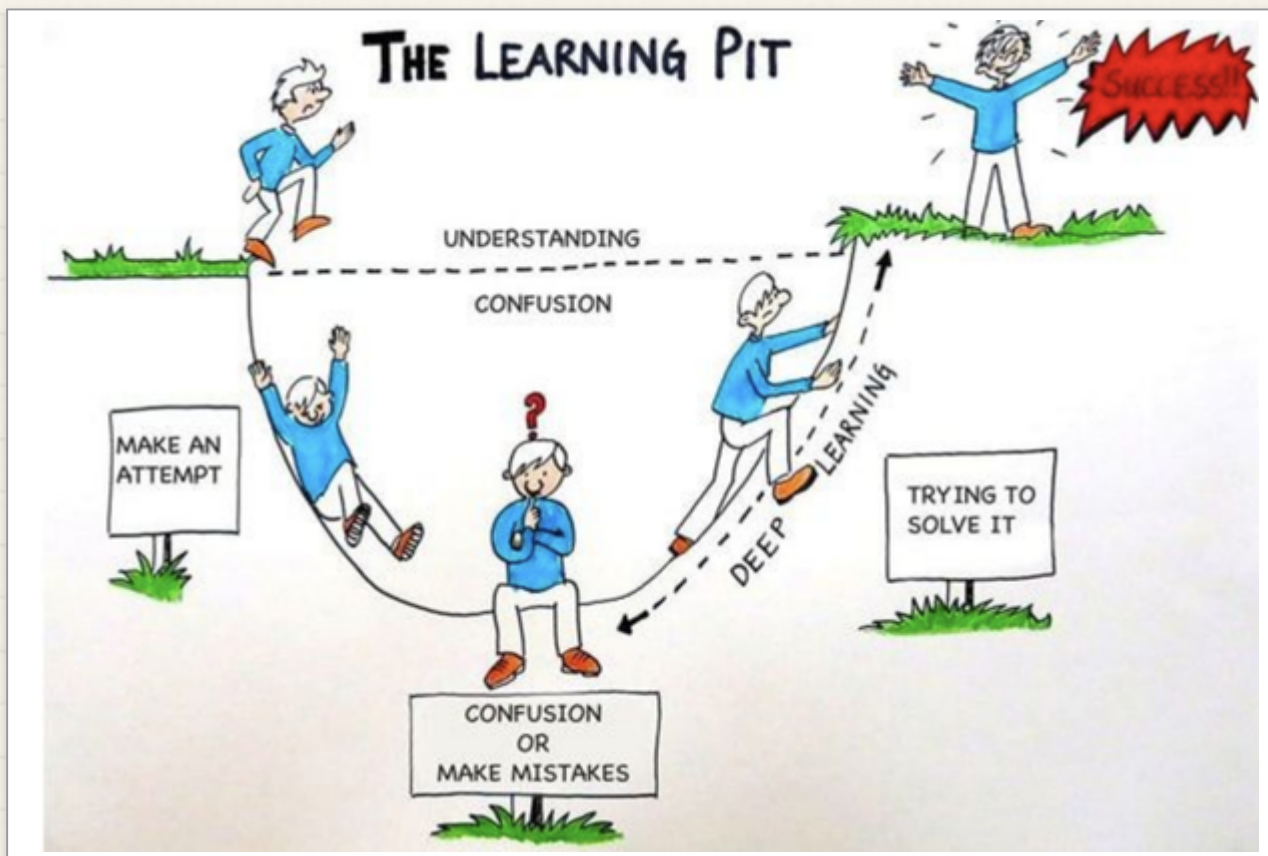
Kindness and compassion are learned and life presents challenging situations even to adults. Being a loving parent and a great role model will go a long way toward raising a wonderful, tolerant human being.

Family Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Corner

The ultimate goal of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) is for students to become experts in their own learning in any context. Students learn what helps them concentrate (e.g. headphones, music, silence), how they prefer to get new information (e.g. verbally, written, video, combinations), and how they can express their learning most effectively (e.g. written essay, oral report or conversation, multimedia presentation). Learning about what works for them can help students be successful when they are exposed to new material in class.



Something all students go through when learning new things is "productive struggle". This is an important part of the process regardless of a person's age. While it might be hard to think of struggle as a good thing, *productive* struggle leads to new connections in the brain, strengthened resilience, and boosted self-esteem. This is illustrated below in The Learning Pit diagram.



If a student can “jump” across the pit, then no learning has taken place. For instance, completing a worksheet of math facts quickly and accurately with no assistance is practice not learning. When confronted with a challenging problem or new material, students “jump” into the pit with a first attempt at solving the problem. They will experience some failures and confusion, and they will make mistakes. This is where productive struggle takes over. Students try new methods, practice new skills, and collaborate with peers. There might be more setbacks, but as they gain knowledge they start to head up and out of the pit. Finally, they experience success and those new connections in the brain have been created.

During this process, family members might want to just give students the answer or do something for them. Rather than lessening their productive struggle, see how you can help your child through their confusion so they can get out of the pit themselves. Do they need more information? Do they need more time or space? (Taking a break from difficult tasks allows students to return to the struggle with fresh eyes.) Offer to be a thought partner. Let them bounce their thinking off of you. Ask them questions to further their own thinking.

For more information about how productive struggle helps students learn, here are some resources for families to use together:

- [The Learning Pit](#)
- [How Productive Struggle Fires Up Learners](#)
- [Productive Struggle](#)
- [The Productive Struggle Video](#)

Helpful Parent Resources

**Click here to go to the Cherry Chase PTA
Website**