Once again we welcome you and your child to McKinley Elementary School! It is the desire of this dedicated staff to create and maintain an exemplary learning community for our students. To maintain future development and growth, McKinley teachers and staff have a clear sense of the goals they are trying to accomplish. McKinley teachers are dedicated to providing a comprehensive educational program for all children. We continue to focus on climate, curriculum, students, personnel, and community partnerships. Partnership such as Education through Music Los Angeles allows us to perform at the Skirball Center in Los Angeles. It was exciting and a little nervous because so many people came to see us perform. According to Mr. Kim, "Music makes the world a better place because music joins people together in a joyous way." Mr. Kim helps McKinley students do showcases for their friends and family. Mr. Kim is a great music teacher and I am glad he teaches music at McKinley! A crocodile cannot stick its tongue out. There are 293 ways to make change for a dollar. A cat has 32 muscles in each ear. A dime has 118 ridges around the edge. Maine is the only state that has a one-syllable name.

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Do you want to learn more about Mr. Kim, our music teacher? If you do, keep reading this article! Mr. Kim plays the guitar very well but playing the guitar did not just pop into his head. His older brother inspired him to play it. Mr. Kim does not just play the guitar. He also plays the piano, recorder and bass. As we all know Mr. Kim loves teaching music to children. Music class is so much fun and I look forward to it every week. Mr. Kim believes that everyone deserves music in their life. He also believes that music can make people feel happy. He loves seeing students be successful through music. According to Mr. Kim, "Music makes the world a better place because music joins people together in a joyous way." And that is important to him.

Music with Mr. Kim
By Laniya Tyler

Fun Facts
Bet you didn’t Know...

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Principal’s Message

Twillie from the Lion King. We also offer programs such as the Lego Robotics Project Lead the Way, and Meet the Masters. McKinley scholars are creating wonderful friendships and life long memories during their years here at McKinley!

McKinley students performing at the Skirball Center
The Amazing, Mrs. Williams
By Sarai Sutton

There are a lot of interesting facts about Mrs. Williams you should know. Did you know that when Mrs. Williams was in college when she wrote a autobiography called, The Road to Literacy. It was about her life while she was young and included stories about her family. One story she proudly shared was about her father who was usually away at sea. When he would return home, she would be excited to show him her report card because for every A she received, she would get fifty cents and for every B she received, she would get twenty five cents. Her parents encouraged her to learn. Oh, did you know Mrs. Williams mother was also a teacher? Her children inspired her to become a teacher after they left home to attend universities.

It took Mrs. Williams about five years to get her degree and credential to teach. Did you know Mrs. Williams has a BA from CSU-Dominguez Hills in History and African American Studies, and a MA in education from Argosy University with a focus in curriculum and instruction? She also has a multiple subject teaching credential. Mrs. Williams thinks that “it’s important to educate children because she wants her students to become productive citizens.” Mrs. Williams is an amazing teacher. Her philosophy of education stem from the belief that every child has the potential to learn although some students require additional assistance or adaptations to ignite their passion.

Mrs. Williams is so passionate about learning that she taught McKinley students a chant to inspire them to do their best everyday.

A Special Lady  By Chyna Taylor

Mrs. Villegas has two very important jobs at McKinley. She is a special education assistant and a program leader for the after school program ASES. She has been an assistant at McKinley Elementary School for 18 years and an ASES program leader for also 18 years.

Mrs. Villegas is nice and she likes to help children with their school work. As an assistant, she works with students with both physical and learning disabilities. She helps to keep the children focused and on track and keep them from falling behind academically. She loves working for the after school program. In the after school program, she makes a lot of fun projects with the students. Once she made a kaleidoscope. Mrs. Villegas loves the students and the students love her too.

Eagles Chant
Eagles fly high
Because the sky is not the limit.
Anything is possible,
If you try hard
And believe in yourself.
Try your best
Think your best
Do you best, TODAY!
A Great Teacher  By Lazaro Jimenez & Briana Carreon

Mrs. Rodriguez is a wonderful teacher and we can’t wait to be students in her class when we get to 5th grade! She is always laughing and smiling with her students. We think we will learn a lot in her class that’s why we wanted to interview her.

Mrs. Rodriguez was inspired to teach by her psychology teacher. She says she likes teaching because she likes to challenge herself. She has been teaching for thirteen years. She says she would define her teaching style as dynamic and intuitive.

Mrs. Rodriguez motivates her students through tough love. She knows her students are human beings and that is why she thinks building relationships with them is important. We know that being in her class will mean we will have fun but we also know that she will be strict and have high expectations. We look forward to next year because we know we will learn a lot and be exposed to many learning opportunities!

Mrs. Rodriguez
5th grade teacher

Extra! Extra! Movie Review
By Journalism Team

Disney’s movie Coco was self lost in the Land of the Dead where he finds himself talking to skeletons in a magical place. He has to rely on his dead great great grandfather along with his musical talent to find his way back home. The movie was really interesting.

The movie has great animation as well. The performances and music was awesome. If you want to see an exciting, fun and adventurous movie, I suggest you go see COCO.

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One day, Miguel found him-
Ms. Bass is always on the go. I see her walking around my school helping everyone and I wanted to know more about her so I asked if I could interview her for our journalism newsletter. The first time I interviewed her, I was so nervous that I didn’t ask any questions. I am glad she let me interview her again because I learned some interesting facts. I learned that Ms. Bass started working at McKinley in 2005. She was first hired as a special education instructional assistant, then an after school program leader and now she is our school librarian. This is her second year as the school librarian. In this position she has learned how to prepare and organize materials. She also keeps track of our school books so if you ever receive a fine for a lost book, it is Ms. Bass who sent it to you. Ms. Bass said she gets excited because she gets to meet different people who love to donate books to the library like Access Books. Access Books is a non-profit organization that donated books, furniture and also came and painted our school library. One last interesting fact about Ms. Bass is that she is going through the process of becoming a substitute teacher because she loves working with children. She feels that, “teachers make a huge difference in the lives of children”.

I am sure that Ms. Bass will make a great substitute teacher.

One Busy Lady

By Nathalia Sanchez

The weekends are exciting times for a 4th grader. There is no better sound than the bell ringing at 3:30 on a Friday afternoon. That sound represents time for video games, cartoons, sleeping late, playing outdoors with friends and little to no homework.

The weekend is usually going great when all of a sudden I hear my moms voice saying, “Are you ready for school tomorrow?” then I know it’s Sunday. I become worried thinking of the week ahead of me. I start to wish I was a 3rd grader again because the work was easier than 4th grade work.

4th graders have to be organized and ready to work hard everyday so they will not fall behind in reading, writing and math. There seems to be an endless supply of things my teacher insists on teaching like multiplication facts, division, fractions, writing, learning reading skills, comprehension and reading aloud in front of friends.

The work load and the pace of learning increases. I often wonder how many 4th graders feel like I do that 3rd grade is easier than 4th grade. I imagine 5th grade will be more challenging but I will accept the challenge and do my best. 5th grade, here I come!
Toys R Us is Really Closing By Journalism Team

Toys R Us has sold toys to children for generations and now their doors are closing. Ms. Curry asked the journalism team to think of reasons why a toy store would go bankrupt when the world is full of children that spend many hours playing with toys.

One student said that parents don’t have money to spend on toys while another thought that Toys R Us prices were too high. One team member believed that many people prefer to shop at Wal-Mart or Amazon because their prices are cheaper. We concluded that children just don’t play with cars, trucks or dolls anymore. Children are into cell phones, video games and anything they can do with technology.

Could technology be the real reason Toys R Us is closing?

Why Meet the Masters?

“I believe that the students at McKinley enjoy creating art because it allows them to show how talented they are in areas other than ELA and Math. Art has given the students a way to express their creativity and individual style in ways they might not be able to do in reading and math. It brings us together as a school.”

Regina Powell
According to Ms. Curry, McKinley’s teachers are the best! They are the best because they understand that teachers play a vital role in the development of children. They set high expectations for all students and believe all children can learn. They spend a lot of their free time at home writing lesson plans so they can come to school prepared, organized and ready to teach. McKinley teachers provide a lot of chances for students to think and work together to explore many topics. They motivate students to learn. Ms. Curry says she sees different teachers daily build strong bonds with students. They care about the students behavior and a lot of them even stay after school and tutor students who need extra help with learning. Most teachers are involved in extra activities like teaching students to dance, sing, play instruments and put on live performances. Not only do McKinley teachers help students but they make themselves available to assist parents in any way possible. “Great teachers know that it’s more than just having knowledge of subject matter. Teachers must possess a caring attitude as they are not only teachers but nurturers as well. Teachers must have a strong knowledge of effective discipline and management techniques. Great teachers are not hard to find they are at McKinley Elementary School”, according to Ms. Curry.

What makes McKinley teachers GREAT
By Journalism Team

McKinley teachers united for student success

ASES
After School
Enrichment
and
Safety Program
Available Monday - Friday
3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Supper and Snacks served daily
Site Coordinator
Mrs. L. Delatorre

Components of ASES

Academic Enrichment
Tutorial opportunities of previously introduced skills in reading/language arts, mathematics, history, social studies and science.

Project Based Enrichment
Collaborative projects aimed at building self-esteem

Homework Assistant
Opportunity to start/complete homework assignments under the guidance of program staff

Changing Lives, One Afternoon at a Time

We’re on the Web
Mes-compton-ca.schoolloop.com/ases
2017-2018 McKinley Highlights

Ready! Set! Action!
Ms. Wyckhuyse & her 3rd grade students.

McKinley Eagles checked into UCLA with Erwin Aguilar (Simpsons)

Pajama Day

Crazy Hat Day

Read Across America

The Ned Show

Drum lessons
McKinley celebrates Black History Month

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