



TOYON TIGER MONTHLY NEWS

November 2018

Toyon's Mission Statement : Toyon creates innovators, inspires leaders and sparks love of learning.
Core Values: Toyon Tigers Lead with Ideas and Motivation

Krista Castellou, Principal
kcastillou@busd.net

Phone: (408) 923-1965
Fax: (408) 937-4908

Principal's Message

What an awesome October!! It was full of fun events such as PTA Movie Night, which showed Hotel Transylvania 3, the Harvest Festival, and our Halloween Parade.

Thank you to all who donated food and time to the Harvest Festival. It was a huge success! It was wonderful seeing so many happy faces participating in the events the teachers, PTA, and YMCA had to offer.

Krista Castellou

Principal



Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled for November 7th, 9th, 13-14th, and the 16th. We will be on a

Minimum Day schedule during Parent-Conference Week. Parent-Teacher conferences give you an opportunity to increase communication between school and home, keeps you informed about your child's progress- both academic and social-, and develop a plan for your student's future.

Students in grades 1-5 will be dismissed at 1:10 PM. Kindergarten students will be dismissed at 1:00 PM



Parent Involvement

Parents/guardians are their children's first and most influential teachers and that sustained parent/guardian involvement in the education of their children contributes greatly to student achievement and a positive school environment.

Research shows that "there are strong indications that the most effective forms of parent involvement are those which engage parents in working directly with their children on learning activities in the home. Programs which involve parents in reading with their children, supporting their work on homework assignments, or tutoring them using materials and instructions provided by teachers, show particularly impressive results." (Parent Involvement in Education by: Kathleen Cotton and Karen Reed Wikelund)

Please review the Districts Board Policy regarding Parent Involvement at <https://www.berryessa.k12.ca.us/OUR-DISTRICT/Board-of-Trustees/Board-Policies/index.html> 6000 Instruction.



Growth Mindset Parenting

by *Eduardo Briceño*
(Excerpts from www.gettingsmart.com)

How Can We Develop a Growth Mindset in our Children?

Children learn whether abilities are fixed or malleable from their observations of the world. If we, adults, have a fixed mindset, we will behave and communicate in fixed-minded ways –such as shying away from challenges or talking about people as if their abilities are fixed. This will tend to encourage a fixed mindset in our children. For example, when we think that people are either smart or not, we may find ourselves praising our children for being smart, rather than for the effort or strategies that led them to success. We do that with our best intentions, in order

to raise their confidence and self-esteem. But research shows that when we praise children for being smart, they adopt a fixed mindset (i.e. thinking that people are either smart or not), and as a result when things get hard for them they conclude that they are not smart and they experience higher anxiety, lower confidence, and lower performance. They also become less interested in learning, and more interested in showing what they already know how to do. While being told they're smart may make them feel good in the short term, the deeper lesson they learn is that people are either smart or not, and when things get hard, they feel incapable.

We'll be more successful in developing a growth mindset in our children if we also work to develop it in ourselves, which is never too late to do. How can we do so?

Monitor your self-talk. Pay attention to your own internal dialogue about abilities. When you see a highly capable person, do you recognize the hard work it took to develop that competence? When you or your child struggle to do something, do you tend to conclude that you can't develop the needed ability, or that you haven't developed it yet? When your child does something well, do you praise them for being talented or help them reflect on the behaviors that led them to success?

When you realize you're thinking in a fixed minded way, observe what effect that thinking has on you, and remind yourself of what you've learned about the malleability of abilities and what it takes to develop expertise.

Become a role model learner. Children observe and imitate us. If we want them to be interested in learning and work hard to develop their abilities, we need to do the same ourselves. Setting learning goals, working hard to improve, and making our learning process visible to those around us are ways to demonstrate that effective effort is worth doing and leads to improved abilities. Talk about the challenges you are taking on, the mistakes you're making, the lessons you're learning, and your progress.

Be deliberate about the messages you send. When we feel uncomfortable calculating the tip on a restaurant bill and hand it off for someone else to calculate, it conveys that we think we can't learn math and don't work to develop our abilities. When we speak about other people as smart or naturally talented, or unfit for a particular area, it conveys that we have fixed mindsets, which prompts children to do the same. When we cover up our failures or

mistakes, rather than reflect on and discuss them, it conveys that mistakes are a sign of inability, rather than a consequence of challenge and an opportunity to learn.

Some people enjoy ongoing learning and growth as a source of fulfillment throughout their lives, one that nobody can take away from them. I wish that for you and for your children. Happy learning!

CALENDAR November 2018



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| Nov. 7- 16 | Parent Teacher Conferences | |
| | Minimum Day Schedule Dismissal at | |
| | 1:10 PM 1st-5 th grade | |
| | 1:00 PM Kindergarten | |
| Nov. 7 | School Site Council | 5:00 pm |
| Nov. 7 | PTA | 6:00 pm |
| Nov. 8 | District BDAC Meeting | 6:30 pm |
| Nov. 12 | Veteran's Day: NO SCHOOL | |
| Nov. 16 | PTA Movie Night | 6:00 pm |
| Nov. 19-23 | Thanksgiving Break: NO SCHOOL | |
| Nov. 26-30 | Toyon Book Fair | |
| Nov. 28 | Winter Wonderland | 6:00 pm |
| Nov. 30 | Coffee with the Principal | 8:15 am |
| Nov. 30 | Spirit Day: Pokemon Day | |

December 2018

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|---------------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Dec. 5 | School Site Council | 5:00 pm |
| Dec. 5 | PTA | 6:00 pm |
| Dec. 21 | Pajama Day | |
| Dec. 21 | Minimum Day Schedule Dismissal at | |
| | 1:10 PM 1st-5 th grade | |
| | 1:00 PM Kindergarten | |
| Dec. 24-Jan 4 | Winter Break: NO SCHOOL | |

Please call the district hotline

923-1901 (Chinese) 923-1902 (Spanish) 923-1903 (Vietnamese)

Somebody will get in touch with you to deliver the essence of the document.

Por favor llame al teléfono de asistencia al 923-1902 y alguien se pondrá en contacto para darle la información esencial del documento.

Xin gọi số hotline của khu học tại 923-1903 và sẽ có người giúp quý vị để hiểu những điều cốt yếu của văn kiện
如果您需要更进一步的帮助，以便了解學校發回家的信件。請撥打學區中文熱線電話 923-1901
有人會與您取得聯繫，為您解說文件上的重要內容。