



THE PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

WHEN IT COMES TO LIFE...THE CRITICAL THING IS WHETHER YOU TAKE THINGS FOR GRANTED...

OR WITH GRATITUDE.

❖❖❖❖❖ Things We Are Grateful For This Month ❖❖❖❖❖

This month our campus had our first Kudos, with five scholars recognized (out of many nominated) for embodying the values of the IB Profile. We are also grateful for our Ambassador's Club. They have been volunteering at morning drop-off and afternoon pickup to assist scholars getting out of and into their cars, which has helped speed up the line.

Also, a big Thank You to our many parent volunteers, and those who support us with donations and time. You make our community special!

❖❖❖❖❖ Thank You! ❖❖❖❖❖

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M-Th. 7AM-5PM

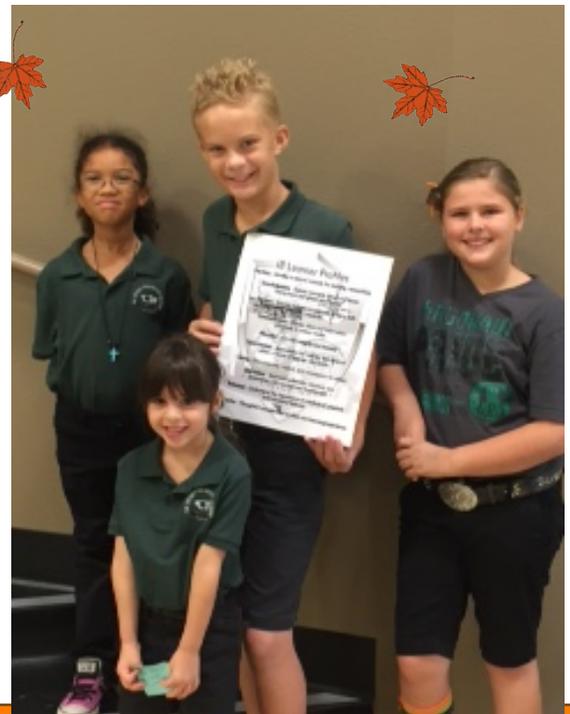
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Fall Festival November 4 th 5:30-8:00	Jamba Juice Fundraiser November 10 th	Fall Break November 18 - 27
<p>This Friday Evening will be a fantastic family friendly time.</p> <p>Buy wristbands anytime this week for \$8.00 or pay at the door for \$10.00</p> <p>Don't forget to bring your friends and family!</p> 	 <p>Jamba Juice.</p> <p>Order forms passed out by Homeroom Teacher, due November 9.</p> <p>10 ounce smoothie \$2 Strawberry Whirl, Mega Mango, or special orders for food allergies.</p>	<p>Enjoy time with your family and friends and we will see you when you return</p> 



Congratulations to our first Kudos winners. Left to Right: Kloe Garrett (3); Isabel Bolivar (K); Aiden Repasz (4); Sadie Gladden (4)

Upcoming Events:

- K-2 Thanksgiving Feast – Thursday, Nov. 17 – Details to Come
- Argonaut Adventure Day and November birthdays – Thursday, Dec. 1
- Cookies with Santa – Friday, Dec. 9 from 5 to 7 pm



Why Knowledge Matters

-The rationale behind the Core Knowledge Curriculum-

Each of our Odyssey Preparatory Elementary Campus is committed to giving all scholars a well-rounded, Core Knowledge education. However, we frequently have parents ask, “So, what is Core Knowledge?”

If you were to ask our scholars what Core Knowledge is, they would probably associate it with their favorite time of day. This is because each and every day, our scholars are introduced to a broad, balanced, and sequential set of concepts typically grounded in the Sciences or Humanities. While our scholars probably couldn’t tell you what Core Knowledge is... they most certainly could show you what it looks like! From making butter like the pioneers to learning to dance the Georgia Reel... our scholars are exposed to a spiraling sequence of hands-on engaging content that is based in **knowing**.

Right now in the educational world, we are at a place where the pendulum has swung to emphasize test-taking skills over knowledge acquisition. However, research has proven even students who have the skills to read, miss out on the true, rich meaning of the text if they do not have the appropriate background knowledge. It is the mission of the Core Knowledge foundation to reduce the knowledge gap. Core Knowledge states that for the sake of academic excellence, greater equity, and higher literacy, elementary schools need to teach a coherent, cumulative, and content-specific core curriculum. At TOPA, we could not agree more. Core Knowledge is not only a kid favorite, it is one of the best ways we can ensure that our scholars embody the Learner Profile of ‘Knowledgeable’.

Core Knowledge Topics by Grade Level:

Kindergarten	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
Native Americans	Mesopotamia	China	Native Americans	China	Forms of Government
Presidents/American Symbols	Egypt	India Greece	Rome	Feudalism (Europe, Japan, Islam)	Plant & Animal Classification
Exploration	Presidents	Democracy	Vikings	Africa	Civil War
Pilgrims	13 Colonies	Westward Expansion		Middle Ages	Westward Expansion
13 Colonies	Westward Expansion	Immigration	Human Body	Magnetism	Forces and Motion
Seasons & Weather	Astronomy	Magnetism	Ecology	Geology	American Revolution
Plants	Matter	Human Body	Animal Classification	Human Body	Human Body

We believe that every person in a diverse democratic society deserves equal access to the common knowledge base that draws together its people, while recognizing our differing traditions and contributions. We believe that offering universal access to this shared knowledge is a primary duty of schooling, critical to literacy, and to the closing of the achievement gap between ethnic and racial groups. --The Core Knowledge Foundation