

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**Third Street Elementary School**  
 201 South June Street, Los Angeles, California 90004  
 TEL. (323) 939-8337 FAX (323) 939-3098  
[www.ThirdStreetSchool.com](http://www.ThirdStreetSchool.com)

Dr. Suzie Oh  
**Principal**

Lillian Walker  
 APEIS

## November 2011 Monthly Letter to Parents

### **Calendar of Events for November:**

- .11/2-Picture Day-auditorium
- .11/3-Prospective Kinder Parents' Orientation for 2012-13 School Year - 501 Wilcox Ave., LA, 90004
- .11/04 – 7:00 a.m.-SSC Meeting–Agenda: School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) & Intervention Strategies
- .11/04- 8:10 a.m. - Friends of Third/PTA Meeting-auditorium
- .11/05 – Sat. – Culture Day 11:00-4:00pm-Frances Okwu, Parent, in charge
- .11/08-Aud.-Polling Place for Election
- . 11/1, 11/8, 11/15, 11/29- Early dismissal days (Regular dismissal on 11/22-2:30 p.m.)
- .11/10-8:10am-ELAC Meeting in Room 33-Agenda: Parent Workshop on Diversity presented by Dr. Melissa Tufeld, Clinical Psychologist & Dr. Melvora Fulton
- .11/11 – (**NO SCHOOL**)– Veterans Day Observance- “Honoring All Who Served” [www.va.gov/vetsday](http://www.va.gov/vetsday)
- . 11/24 & 11/25- Thanksgiving Holiday (**NO SCHOOL**)

### **Coming in December:**

- . 12/1-School Picture Make-up Day
- .12/2-PTA Meeting – 8:15 a.m.
- .12/6-Winter Concert
- .12/5-12/9-Parent Conferences: 12/5, 12/7, 12/8, 12/9 (12:35pm Dismissal for all students, 12/6 is 1:30 p.m. dismissal)
- .12/5-12/9-Book Fair by PTA
- .12/6, 12/13-Early Dismissal Tuesdays-1:30pm Dismissal
- .12/19-1/6/2012-Winter Recess (**NO SCHOOL**)

### **Other Important Dates/Holidays:**

- . 01/16 - M.L. King Day (**NO SCHOOL**)
- . 02/20 - Presidents' Day (**NO SCHOOL**)
- . 03/27 – Open House
- . 3/30- Cesar Chavez Day (**NO SCHOOL**)
- . 04/2 – 04/6 - Spring Break (**NO SCHOOL**)
- . 05/7 – 05/25 - California Standards Test (CST)
- . 05/28 - Memorial Day (**NO SCHOOL**)
- . 06/14 – Science Fair
- . 06/21– 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Luncheon
- . 06/22– 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Culmination
- . 06/22– Last Day of the School Year for Students

\***REMINDER:** Please mark your calendar and make the necessary child care arrangements.

\***REMINDER:** Please do not make family travel plans while school is in session.

### **Dear Parents,**

Of all the holidays, my favorite one is the Thanksgiving Holiday in November, because it gives me an opportunity to reflect, a moment to pause from life's treadmill, and savor its blessings. This holiday provides a much-needed relief from my hectic life as a school principal.

What am I thankful for? I am thankful for the opportunity to continue to learn and lead. In my nineteenth year as principal, I feel grateful for the teachers, students and parents in my learning community who inspire me to make a difference in the lives of children. Ralph Waldo Emerson said, “Education is learning what you didn't even know you didn't know.” The more we learn, the more we realize how little we really know.

This month is not only for thankful reflection of the past year, but it's also a time for anticipation. The growing crispness of the air, the colorful leaf changes, and other signs of winter's imminence inspire me to look forward to the winter holidays. Therefore, November is the perfect month to look back and forward at the same time.

As I look back I can't help but feel gratitude for all those who have worked so tirelessly to make our school what it is today. I am especially thankful for the countless hours put in by our parent volunteers and our teachers who work many hours beyond their contract. Looking forward to this year and the years to come, I am confident that my vision for Third Street, to be one of the best schools in Los Angeles, (API 939) will continue, because it is a vision shared by all of our wonderful stakeholders.

## **CHOICES Brochure**

The 2012-2013 *Choices/Opciones* application will be available in early November. This memorandum contains the timeline information for the Magnet, Permits With Transportation (PWT) and No Child Left Behind - Public School Choice (NCLB-PSC) Programs. Please share this information with parents. An informational flyer that may be used to inform parents is attached (Attachment A).

Brochures will no longer be mailed home. Applications will be accepted electronically. Parents whose children are currently attending LAUSD schools can sign up for an online account at: [parentaccess.lausd.net](http://parentaccess.lausd.net). Parents will use the online access account to apply for the Choices program at: [echoices.lausd.net](http://echoices.lausd.net).

The school's Student Information System (SIS) provides student addresses and other student data that is pre-populated on the *Choices* and *Opciones* on-line application. When parents request changes, the school is responsible to verify the information and update the data in the school's SIS system.

Channel 58 (KLCS) will air a special television program in English and Spanish about the various integration programs offered to residents of LAUSD. Dates and times can be found on the eChoices website at: [eChoices.lausd.net](http://echoices.lausd.net)

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November 1, 2011: Begin accepting on-line *Choices* or *Opciones* applications.

- December 16, 2011: The Magnet, PWT, or NCLB-PSC paper applications must be postmarked or received by Student Integration Services, at 333 S. Beaudry Avenue, 25<sup>th</sup> Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017 by 5:00 p.m.

Only original applications will be accepted. Please do not make copies of the application for distribution as copies cannot be processed. If additional *Choices* and *Opciones* brochures are needed, the Request for Additional Choices Brochures form (Attachment B) can be filled out and forwarded by fax to Student Integration Services, (213) 241-8482, Attention: Elpidio Ortiz.

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## **PTA (Parent Teacher Association) NEWS:**

(PTA) PARENTS AND TEACHERS ASSOCIATION is very excited about what lies ahead this school year and have many entertaining and educational events planned.

**PTA MEMBERSHIP WAS A HUGE SUCCESS... HAVE YOU JOINED THE TEAM YET?** And the winning class is... Classroom # 5 Mrs. Mark! Congratulations, to the entire class, parents and Mrs. Mark for joining the PTA! A pizza and cupcake party is coming your way!! Joining us helps fund PTA's many programs and you also get special benefits, like discounts for Legoland, Enterprise, T-Mobile, Hewlett Packard, and many, many more! So if you haven't joined yet... There's always time!

**REFLECTIONS ART CONTEST!!** Reflections Art Contest has started! This year's theme is "Diversity means..." Let our children express themselves and the theme through their creativity in any of the six categories: visual arts, music, dance, photography, literature or film. Deadline is December 2nd. Rules and entry forms available with your teacher. Contact Alysoun Higgins at [alysoun1@aol.com](mailto:alysoun1@aol.com) with any questions.

**PROSPECTIVE KINDERGARTEN PARENT ORIENTATION BEGINS!** Love 3<sup>rd</sup> Street School? Spread the word to family, friends, co-workers, strangers, etc... about our Kinder Orientations beginning November! November 3<sup>rd</sup> and November 4<sup>th</sup> begins are the first dates! Please visit the main office for a flyer with specifics and further information.

**CANNED FOOD DRIVE BEGINS** on Monday, November 7, 2011- Friday, November 18, 2011. Let's share our bounty with those less fortunate bring non perishable items to school to help those in need. Boxes will be placed outside every classroom for collection. At the end of the drive the food will be donated to PTA District 10's food pantry.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Quarterly PTA Association** meeting on Friday December 2nd at 8:15am in the auditorium

**Scholastic Book Fair** the week of December 5th in the library. Shop for the holidays! Shop for yourself! Shop for your teacher! We look forward to seeing you there.

**Holiday Toy Drive** – buy new toys for needy children the weeks of December 5th and 12th.

**TREMENDOUS THANKS** to all the parents who volunteered to make this years BTS Breakfast fantastic and helped our school wide "Clean Team" beautify the grounds in preparations as well. It's parents like you who make 3<sup>rd</sup> Street such an exceptional school!

All the best,

-Deanna Hughes  
PTA President

**Friends of Third:**

Another page off the calendar, and we find ourselves already in November! While the holidays are fast approaching, we've got many things to do before then!

Hopefully, everyone is aware we have kicked off our **Annual Giving Fund** drive, which is the single most important fundraising activity we do here at the school. We're asking each family to consider making a \$625 donation per child. If you can do more, we certainly appreciate that. If that isn't within your budget, we are grateful for whatever you can do. But please try to participate at some level. A very big THANK YOU to everyone who has already taken the initiative and turned in their donation form. You can pay by check or go online and pay by credit card, <http://www.friendsofthird.org/support-us.html>

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5 IS THE SIXTH ANNUAL CULTURAL DAY!** This event is a celebration of the wonderful diversity of cultures represented by Third Street School families. It's great fun for kids and adults alike, with incredible food, performances, games, crafts and more! Buy your tickets in advance and save. There is still time to pitch in and help. It's a fun opportunity to meet other parents and become involved in school activities, so please consider volunteering to help. **Contact Carrie Fundingsland, [csuze17@gmail.com](mailto:csuze17@gmail.com).**

Thanks to your support, Friends of Third has been able to keep the library open despite LAUSD laying off all elementary library aides in late September. FOT has "bought back" this position, providing LAUSD with the funds for a 3 hour library aide. They have assigned Ms. Mia Drake as our new library aide. Mia comes to us with 6 years of library aide experience, most recently at King Elementary. We also have been able to engage the services of Ms. Kate Satore, a literacy specialist who will be working collaboratively with Mia in the library on various fun and creative reading programs for our children. This is all in addition to the afterschool library hours FOT provides. **Without your donations, our library would be closed**, so thank you all so much. Please be sure to stop by and meet Mia and Kate.

**COMING UP ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2 IS THE FRIENDS OF THIRD GALA**, a dinner/dance/auction for the grown-ups. Save the date on your calendar. For more information and to volunteer, visit [gala.friendsofthird.org](http://gala.friendsofthird.org).

**Holiday Shop & Help Our School:** The holidays are coming up, so if you're planning to make any purchases of personalized cards (think holidays and thank you notes), or anything through Amazon.com (gifts, electronics, clothes, homewares, books, music, etc.), please go to our [www.friendsofthird.org](http://www.friendsofthird.org) website first and click on the links for Tiny Prints and Amazon. At no additional cost to you, FOT gets a portion of every purchase you make, which has added up to several thousand dollars each year! And just by doing what you were doing anyway!

For the latest Third Street information, blogs, calendars, and more, go to [www.friendsofthird.org](http://www.friendsofthird.org). The next Friends of Third/PTA meeting is on Friday, November 4 after drop off. Have a great month and **THINK ANNUAL GIVING!!**

Jennifer Rissier & Roy Forbes  
Co-Presidents  
Friends of Third

**Food for Thought**

We may have different religions, different languages, different colored skin, but we all belong to one human race.

**Third Street School Vision Statement:**

We, the stakeholders of Third Street Elementary School, will, in partnership with our school community, educate, challenge and empower our students to become productive and responsible members of a changing society by providing a rigorous, forward-looking and nurturing environment. **Together, we can and will make a difference. We believe that all children not only can learn, but must learn.**

The Principal's Letter will also be posted in our school website at [www.thirdstreetschool.com](http://www.thirdstreetschool.com).

Sincerely,

Dr. Suzie Oh, Principal  
[drsuzieoh@gmail.com](mailto:drsuzieoh@gmail.com)