

WHAT'S HAPPENING
AT ELM THIS MONTH

Panther Tracks

JANUARY 2017

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Get informed of ELM News



Mision

Prepare students to become ethical global leaders who are effective communicators committed to lifelong learning in the 21st century.

Vision

To provide a challenging academic program that engages students through individualized instruction and blended learning, which empowers them to reach their full potential.



Message from the director

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Escuela Las Morochas! All of us here at ELM are very happy to be back working for your children! Even though Venezuela is experiencing hard times we want to make sure your children have a positive learning environment at ELM. As some of you may know, I was asked to stay as a Director for the rest of the school year. I am very pleased to continue working hard for your children and the school.

Morning Assemblies are back. Every Monday all the students will have a quick assembly to update them with school related news. It is important to keep our students and teachers informed of the events that all the clubs are organizing, and information related to them.

We have a Student Council running, and Mr. Kelley is their advisor. They meet once a week to plan events for the students. They have decided that Dress Down Fridays will continue and they have many ideas for Valentine's Day. They will inform you of their plans.

Upper School Parents and students attended to a couple of conferences given by Mr. Kenny Urdaneta inviting Escuela Las Morochas to an international competition held in England. The "British English Olympics" will take place during Spring Break 2018, so our students will have plenty of time to get ready and excel at this competition. It is important though, to sign up before January 30 with Ms. Marian in order for them to save our place.

Last, but not least, Student of the Month Ceremony will be next week. We can't wait and see who were the students that showed the most positive attitude during January!



Message from the director

Estimados representantes,

¡Bienvenidos a Escuela Las Morochas! ¡Todos aquí en ELM estamos muy contentos de estar trabajando para sus hijos! Aunque Venezuela está pasando por momentos difíciles queremos asegurarnos de que sus hijos estén aprendiendo en un ambiente positivo en ELM.

Como algunos de ustedes sabrán, les quiero informar que se me pidió que siguiera en la dirección por el resto del año. Estoy muy contenta de seguir trabajando muy duro por sus hijos y por la escuela.

Les comento que las Asambleas Matutinas están de regreso. Todos los lunes los estudiantes asistirán a una asamblea para informarles de las noticias relacionadas dentro de la escuela. Es importante mantener a nuestros alumnos y maestros informados de los eventos que los clubs están organizando, y de información que sea pertinente para ellos.

Tenemos ya el Consejo Estudiantil en acción, y Mr. Kelley es el supervisor y guía de ellos. STUCO se reúne una vez por semana para planear eventos para los alumnos. Ellos han decidido continuar con los Viernes de Vestimenta Libre y además tienen muchas ideas para San Valentín. Ellos nos estarán informando de sus planes.

Los representantes y alumnos de Upper School han atendido a un par de conferencias impartidas por el Sr. Kenny Urdaneta invitando a Escuela Las Morochas a una competencia internacional en Inglaterra. Las Olimpiadas Inglesas van a llevarse a cabo en semana santa del 2018, por lo que nuestros alumnos tendrán bastante tiempo de practicar y ser excelentes en esta competencia. Sin embargo, es importante que se registren antes del 30 de Enero con Miss Marian para poder guardar nuestro lugar en dicha competencia.

Por último, la ceremonia del Estudiante del Mes será la próxima semana. No podemos esperar a ver cuáles alumnos serán los ganadores por ser los más positivos durante este mes!

Ms. Ercel Mireles



Students of the month - Positive Attitude

Positive attitude is something that every person needs to have in their lives so that plans can work out the best way possible. Having a smile on the face and being happy to share time with teachers and classmates is what these students are excellent at.

Congratulations to all of them!



ECE nominees:

Carlotta Al Abdala

Stavros Carataidis

ECE student of the month:

Stavros Carataidis

Lower School nominees:

Arianna Rivillas

Manuela Melendez

Lower School student of the month:

Fernando Vilchez



Students of the month - Positive Attitude

Middle School nominees:

Valentina Parra

Giulia Coletta

**Middle School student
of the month:**

Luis Teran



High School nominee:

Miguel Mogollon

**High School student
of the month:**

Cherry Cardona



Congratulations to our students with the best attitude!

STUCO - Student Council

Student Council is preparing fun activities this month! Stay updated and don't miss any of these activities...

Dress down Fridays - 300bs

Valentines sale / candy grams - February 14th, Tuesday

Movie night - February 17th, Friday

President: Aurelio Perez

Vice-president: Pietro Piemontese

Treasurer: Davide Mezzanotte

Officer: Akram Humeidan

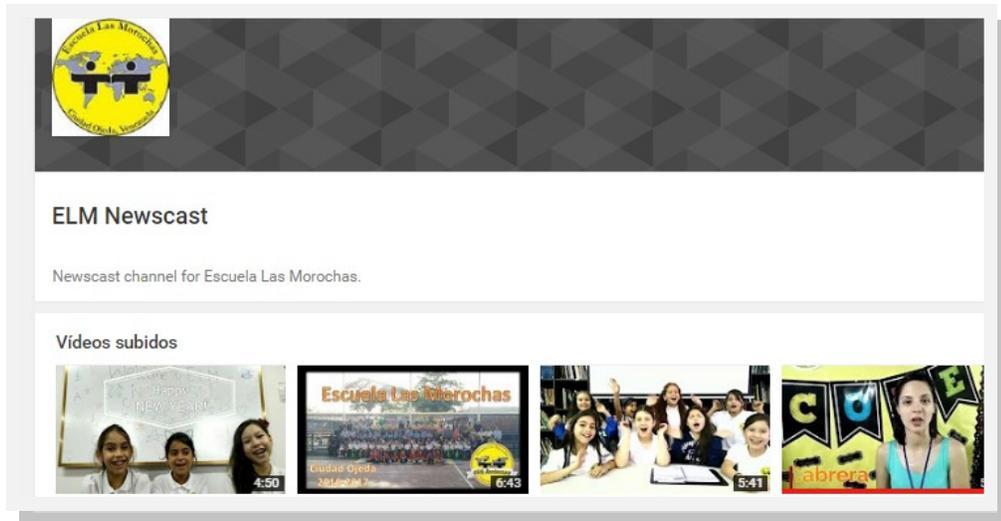
PR/ secretary: Victoria Soto



ELM Newscast

If you love social media, be sure not to miss ELM Newscast videos!

In YouTube, look for "ELM Newscast" and visit our channel. Videos will be uploaded periodically keeping our audience up to date with interesting news and important notices related to school.



Remember to visit January's video! We hope you subscribe and like our videos, produced by students!

Newscast team: Samuel Parra, Ana Hernandez, Sofia Carataidis, Aaron Rivillas, Amanda Vilchez and Mr. Alejandro Florian.



ECE 1 - Miss Adriana Sopracase

ECE 1 students had great welcome back to class, this month they learned about short and tall, counting up to 20, reviewing colors and doing some tracings. They have improved their gross motor skills by playing with construction block and following directions. They also have improved their fine motor skills by playing with dough, puzzles, cutting, pasting and drawing. One of their favorite games in class is guess what letter is coming next. They really enjoy guessing and saying each letter sound. ECE 1 You are doing great!



ECE 2 - Miss Mariana Cabrera

This month ECE 2 students gave the welcome to Frank Medina. Students were so excited to have a new classmate and they have been helping a lot to Frank.

Some of the things students have been practicing are beginning and ending sounds, identify and trace parents' names. Also, they recognize the differences between a word and a sentence, count the words in a sentence, practice blending with zoo-phonics sounds, and develop their fine and gross motor skills. In math, students worked with count objects up to 30, they created a counting book. In science students have been learning about human body. In social studies, students practiced the differences between a family and a community.



ECE 3 - Miss Frances Cable

2017 began with many exciting new ideas for ECE 3. They started with the Author of Month Study of Eric Carle. They enjoyed learning about the author and making comparisons of his books. Also they began taking weekly spelling test and all students have been getting 100%. As well they began subtractions and are doing wonderful with taking away numbers. I am so happy to be their teacher!



1st Grade - Miss Cecilia Hernandez

First graders returned to school as happy as always. They continue working with the development of addition and subtractions skills and their relationship. Little by little they like to work with partners, helping each other to solve their doubts.

This month the children are excited with the sky. They couldn't believe that we are moving in the universe and really enjoyed to be outside playing with their shadows, measuring them during different times of the day.

But the most exciting issue for the moment is to learn how to handle the money. They received a certain amount of dollars and had to make decisions when buying products. Some decided to save something and others who no longer had money had to trade. They had a lot of fun. Now they will have to make a savings plan to buy something they want.

The challenge is to write paragraphs joining ideas and of course improve their reading fluency.



2nd Grade - Mr. Jesus Velazquez

Starting the 3rd period, a new challenge for the kids and also for me as a teacher we have started with measures and to differentiate between inches and centimeters, how to use a ruler in a proper way and to mix multiplication, addition, and subtraction in their daily activities for making this knowledge more effective and productive.

Regarding reading and writing they have involved with activities that encourage them to be better readers and analistic student, the kids have been working their memory a lot remembering tales and also creating tales to a breakdown afterwards.



3rd Grade - Miss Sharlene Smith

Third graders have been doing many things this past month. They have been reading Charlotte's Web. Each student will have a different project, which they chose according to their preferences, to demonstrate their creativity and love for reading.

In Math, they have been analyzing data through different kinds of graphs, and multiplications. First they started organizing the information with the help of building blocks. Now, they are able to interpret information through such as the line plot, pictograph, and bar graph, multiply by 0, 1 3, 4, 5,6,7,8,9

Science has been fun too! We learned all about the plant and animal life cycle.



4th Grade - Miss Karen Gaddis



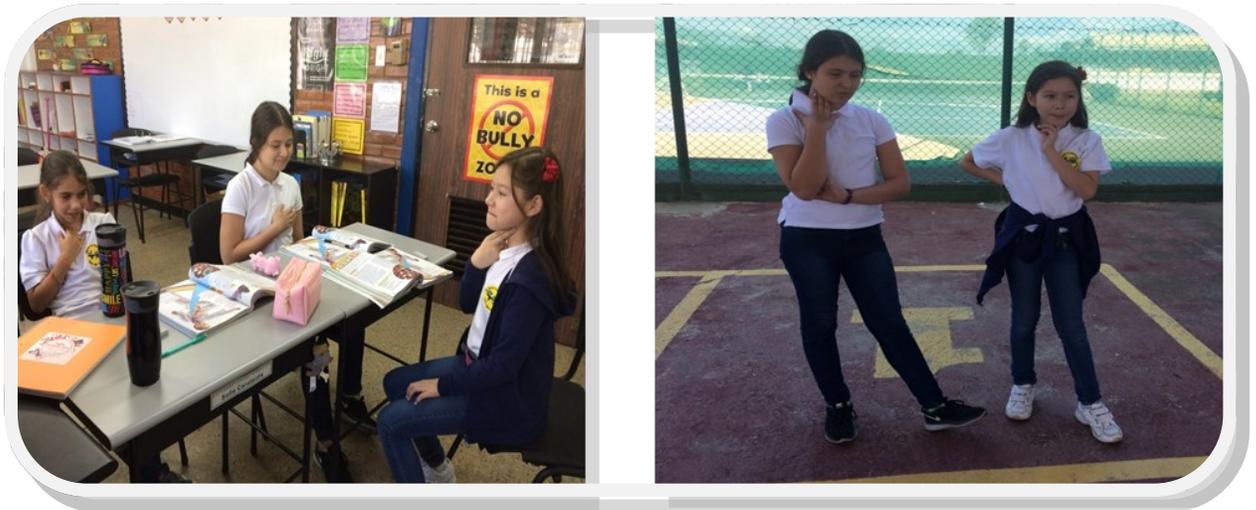
Grade 4 students are getting ready to celebrate the month of February. Students will be engaged in writing their monthly narratives, and their daily writing prompts. Students are enjoying learning about the different regions in the United States. Our goal is to know all the US states and capitals by the end of the year. I think they can do it!

5th Grade - Miss Gabriela Cabrera

This January the 5th graders studied in Science class about “How Do Our Bodies Move, Breathe, and Circulate Blood”, we did different practical activities inside and outside the classroom to enrich and enhance students knowledge about this topic, and test it at the same time.

One of the activities was to find their pulse, putting the pointer finger and middle finger on the right side of their necks, right under the jawbone, or where they could find their pulse easily. After that we set a stopwatch for a minute, and they counted how many times their hearts beat and they wrote it down, then we went outside and the students ran for one minute in the gym, and when they completed their time, they took their pulse once again for 1 minute, to calculate later the difference between the two pulses.

Students realized that when we run or exercise, our muscles use more energy, and in consequence the heart must beats faster to supply them with the oxygen they need to produce that energy. Here are a few pictures of the activity. The students had a great time doing it!



Miss Gabby.

ESL & Music - Miss Lily Muñoz



My ESL students are growing in confidence in terms of speaking and writing. They continuously show excitement in everything activity they are involved in. They read every day, write a lot every day, spell words to know every day, practice phonics every day and most importantly they communicate in English among themselves thoughts and wonders every day and indeed they laugh and have a lot of fun, too!!! When I stop by to pick them

from their classrooms, they are so ready to use their English and to greet me with a Good Morning, Ms. Lily and how are you today? And now they are expanding their language by establishing conversations related to things they do at home or in class. Their English is becoming stronger. I feel happy to see how far my students have gone in the acquisition of the English Language Surely always they are excited to work in class in the different activities related to the themes from the variety of Journeys reading stories. I continue to be pleased to see how they are so motivated to do their classwork, activities and even to turn in homework.

My Music students continue to learn a lot of new Musical Concepts and to enjoy even more their Music class, as always, they are getting to know and to learn new terms each class, going through with what they are learning and putting it in practice. From ECE to Lower School they are having a great time in getting to know about Pulse, Duration, Tempo, and Pitch so far. All of them are engaged with the activities that are developed to improve both Music language and English as well and yes!!! They love to participate actively in class at all times. In general they continue to explore sounds from the immediate environment, learning how to listen and responds to Music in a variety of ways. And we are adding Musical Concepts to expand the knowledge of Music Theory. All in all; my students are having fun while learning.

Art - Mr. Miguel Rivero

En Artes estamos combinando, la historia y el Hacer-Arte, de diferentes épocas. El contenido Temático de estas semanas, es el Arte de la época Colonial, en América específicamente en Venezuela, con influencias como el arte Barroco Europeo. La Arquitectura, Pintura y Escultura. Tema y Técnicas, que los estudiantes deben interpretar con ejemplos Gráficos de Artistas de la Época. Usando el dibujo y el color como elementos de expresión fundamentales.

En La Escuela Media, tomamos el color y lo relacionamos a las estaciones. El Invierno, Primavera, El Verano, que nos permitan identificar la variedad de colores que se muestran en cada estación la impresión y percepción, que cada estudiante puede mostrar, con el ejemplo de la misma Naturaleza. Ya nos preparamos para crear trabajos creativos para el día de San Valentín, donde el cariño y el Amor, servirán de motivación para crear Cartas de Regalo.

Miguel Rivero. Artes, ELM

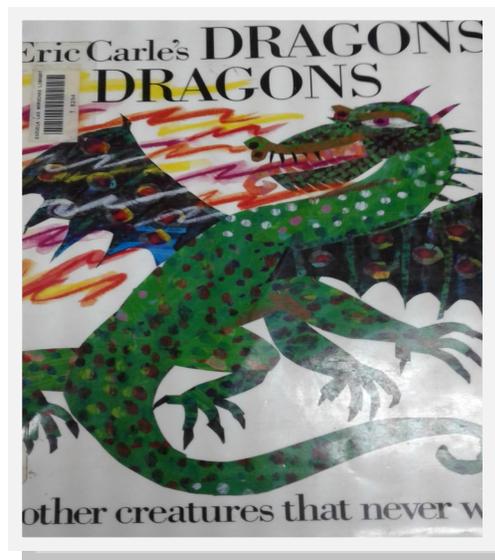


Art & Library - Miss Reina Machado

Hello Everyone !!!! This month we are studying how lines help us to create a beautiful art piece. Look this lovely work from ECE 1 and 2.



This book was written by Eric Carle, I love the beautiful pictures. This is the Author of the Month for ECE 3, I am reading it to them to reinforce what they have learned on class.



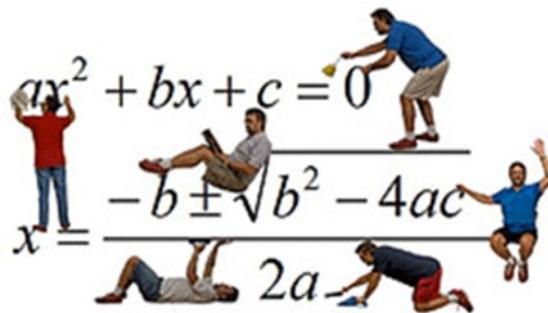
English - Miss Lauren Breton

The New Year has started out with a lot of work in English class! The sixth and seventh grade students have started reading a new novel, *Wonderstruck*, that is told half in pictures and half in words. The eighth graders are wrapping up their novel study of *I'll Give You The Sun*, and are beginning to see how the entire story comes together. The ninth graders are working their way through the last half of *To Kill a Mockingbird* and have just completed the "trial" portion of the novel. The tenth grade students are already halfway through *Macbeth* and while they are being challenged with the language, they are doing an excellent job with the challenging content. The eleventh and twelfth graders have committed themselves to reading *The Power of One* and seem to be enjoying the story of Peekay and his adolescence.



Math - Miss Naira Trolle

February has arrived at ELM and we hope to continue with the renewed energies we have from the winter break. The sixth graders will begin their Geometry unit and will master the skills of perimeter and area of polygons and circles, as well as surface area of 3D objects.



The image shows the quadratic formula $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ and its solution $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Several cartoon figures are interacting with the formula: one stands on the left holding a sign with 'a', another stands on the right holding a sign with '0', a third is on the ground holding a sign with 'x', a fourth is on the ground holding a sign with '2a', and others are positioned around the plus/minus sign and the square root term.

Seventh grade will begin their unit on equations and expressions and will start solving for x in one and two step equations. The eighth graders finished their geometry unit which they finished with a project which can be seen in the Math Bulletin Board. They will move on to polynomial equations and will begin to cover skills normally mastered in Algebra 1.

The 9th grade Algebra 1 class is currently starting their unit on functions and graphs and Algebra 2 is beginning Chapter 7 in which they will solve quadratic equations in multiple ways. ELM's Upper School is busy mastering their math skills!

French - Mr. Alfredo Oquendo

In January, the French classes started reinforcing all we studied in the first semester. This has shown even them that learning French is not impossible; all it takes is some discipline and a good attitude facing the difficulties that a different language can present. We have been working on our communication skills, trying to learn how to talk a little bit more about ourselves and the world that surrounds us. Now we will start learning the main verbs and adjectives in order to be able to build and understand sentences.

The departments of Foreign Languages and English Literature started a new program for our ESL students, which are already showing good results. They have been learning about sentence structure and acquiring new vocabulary every class. Another strategy we have been using with our students is a new reading project which will, not only help them building up their English proficiency level, but also to establish good reading habits.

Mr. Oquendo



Technology - Mr. Alejandro Florian

Hello everyone and welcome to a new year! This 2017 will be full of fun and excitement for all of the students in IT classes. High schoolers have opened their blogs related to technology and middle school students are learning programming and animation using Scratch MIT.

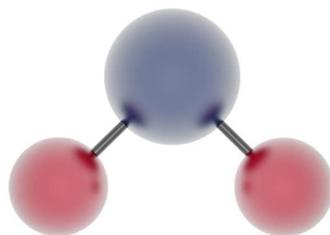
Lower school is ready to take on binary numbers, as well as to learn how to look for specific information on the internet when requested. The little ones, ECE students, are developing their social skills when it comes to technology, since it's always important to help other and have a respectful attitude towards technology.



Science - Mr. Daniel Schriefer

The New Year brought some changes. I had to give the history classes to Mr. Kelley and was assigned to teach economics, earth science, and business math in addition to the chemistry, life science, and biology classes I had been teaching in the second quarter.

Students in chemistry were drilled to calculate molar masses and mole contents of molecules upon their own request. To visualize the concepts of molecular chemistry they build 3D models of a hydrogen molecule like the one below.



Scientific reports were another more formal topic of exercise.

In biology and life science we went through the domains of bacteria, archaea, and eukaryotes to understand how all the species on earth have evolved.

Earth science dealt with volcanoes, earth quakes, and, in general, with the formation of the Solar System of which Earth is our home.

In economics students learned about the best ways to start a company and make money, and hopefully, they will use the knowledge in the future.

Business math dealt with money matters and how to get rich.

It was a good start so far.

Daniel Schriefer

Social Studies - Mr. Jim Kelley

Hello ELM community! My name is James Kelley, and I just came to the school. I will be teaching social studies for grades 6 through 12. I am from North Carolina. I have been a teacher for about thirty years, and I have lived and taught in thirteen different countries. I look forward to meeting all the parents in the near future.

The students have been very helpful in making me feel at home. They have helped me by decorating my classroom. I asked each one to bring something that represents him or her and that would serve to decorate the room. I have included a picture to show you some of the things they brought. These decorations really brighten up the room. Thanks to one and all!



January 2017

