

A message from the Principal...

This school year is off to a fantastic start! Our students are exemplifying the S.T.I.N.G. throughout their day. For those of you who are new to our EFGA family, the S.T.I.N.G. stands for Solution-Driven, Tolerant, Inquirer, Negotiator, and Global Learner. Our students learn how to effectively exhibit these aspects while here at school and hopefully at home too.

We're looking forward to having you as involved as possible with your child's education. Our PTO is once again actively pursuing ways to involve you in making Estrella Foothills and the Laveen Online Academy the best school possible for your child. There are only four meetings throughout the year, and the first one is Tuesday, August 17 at 6:00 p.m. in our library. If you miss this first meeting, the next one is October 19th. These dates are on the school website as well. Please join us for a wonderful time of getting acquainted and finding out the new happenings here at Estrella Foothills.

We are excited for the opportunity to work with you and your child this year. If you have any questions or concerns at any time, please don't hesitate to contact us.

-Mrs. Sarah Zembruski

A message from LOA Dean of Students...

We are so excited to welcome you to the Laveen Online Academy. As you have noticed, online learning looks a little different this year. Students will work on the Canvas platform and use Google Classroom for specials only. Please reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions. It is important that teachers and parents work as a team in order to ensure the most successful experience for your child.

Parents will track and log daily attendance in Parent Vue. Please follow these steps:

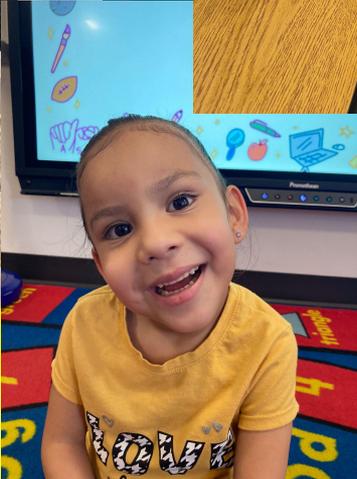
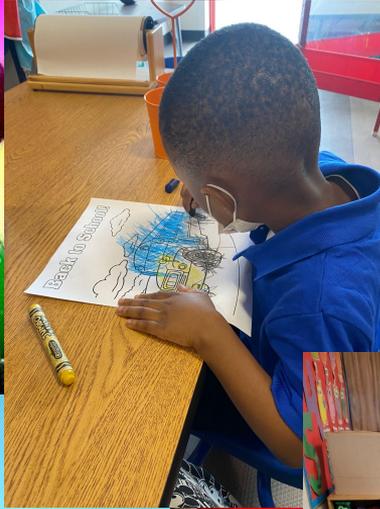
1. Log into your Parent Vue account. Select the child you are logging attendance for.
2. Select the attendance tab.
3. Click Time Tracker to open the Time Tracker Screen.
4. Log the minimum number of instructional minutes for each subject area. You do not need to log anything under "attendance"
5. Repeat the process for any additional student attending the LOA.

Each grade level has a minimum number of instructional minutes that needs to be logged in each subject area each day. These minimum minutes are as follows:

3 rd Grade	4 hours or 240 minutes per day	20 hours per week
4-6 th Grade	5 hours or 300 minutes per day	25 hours per week
7-8 th Grade	6 hours or 360 minutes per day	30 hours per week

Click on this [short video tutorial](#) to see what it looks like to log attendance. It is important that you click "update" each day and "update and submit" only when you are ready to submit attendance for the whole week.

Preschool News



Preschool had an amazing Meet the Teacher event last week. We had a great turn out and got to meet so many excited families! Preschool started school this week and it has been going great! The kids are ready for a fun filled year!!

Kindergarten Grade News



Our little kinder scorpions are excited to take off this year and be global learners!!! They have prepared their luggage and can't wait to store all of their "new learning" materials inside from all of the various countries we explore!! First stop is MEXICO!!!!

1st Grade News

Hello First Grade EFGA Families!

Welcome back to school! We have had a fun but busy month of August. We have been working hard at becoming STING experts around campus and in the classroom. We have already earned lots of stamps on our passports. We get to spend our stamps at our classroom mini-mart on Fridays! We can't wait to visit EFGA's Scorpion Den opening in September!

We are excited for a year full of laughter, fun and lots of learning!



2nd Grade News

Hello families, our first week back was a **BLAST!** It was so nice to be able to get to know each other, review **STING** expectations, and bond as a community.

Your little **Scorpions** did an amazing job this week getting back into “work mode” and finished their first **NWEA Math and Reading** test! It was fun getting to see their **growth mindset** while they took on these tests so early on in the year!

This quarter, in Math, we are working on refining our **addition and subtraction** skills with double digits then moving into triple digits. In Science we will be learning about the **States of Matter!** In ELA, we are learning about story sequence, point of view, and nouns!

Lastly, our focus for our Social and Academic success this quarter is **being respectful!**



3rd Grade News

August has been a busy month in third grade! We read some great stories to help us make connections to the different parts of the STING and then used them to work together to deepen our understanding of our school values. One of our favorite activities went along with the story we read for being NEGOTIATORS, called Going Places. We talked about how teamwork can help us accomplish big goals and how negotiators can communicate to hear each other and value different ideas.

Coming up, we will dive into place value and how it relates to addition and subtraction. We will also begin our first novel study on The Case of the Gasping Garbage! We'll write narratives and study how light energy works!

Heard in Third: "Guys, guys, everyone's idea is valuable, let's give it a chance!"



And now THEY took off—off into the air!



3rd Grade Laveen Online Academy News

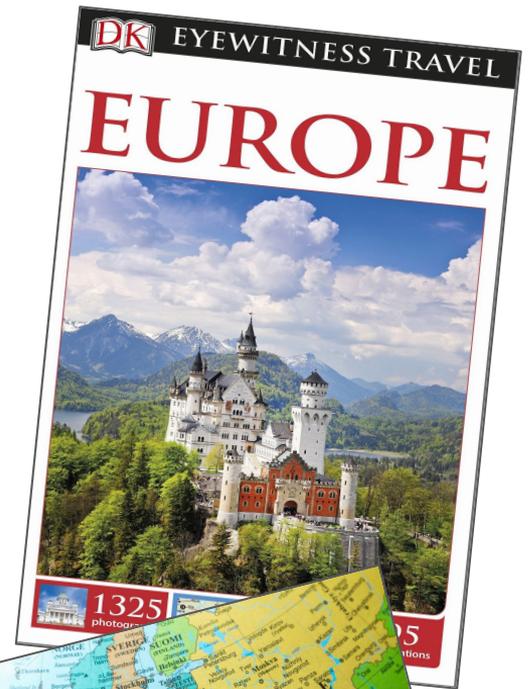
It has been a busy month with NWEA testing and figuring out together how to use Canvas. Thank you parents for being so patient and supportive so far as we begin this year! In class, we have been presenting our “all about me” slides to get to know each other more. I have also been putting them in groups so students have that opportunity to ask questions and talk with each other to get more help during live instruction. We have been learning about place value and how to order numbers. Next month, we will probably get into multiplication. Please have students get multiplication cards to help them memorize their facts. Lastly, remember to log in attendance each week and check your emails regularly for any other updates. Looking forward to a great year!



canvas

4th Grade News

We have had a great start to the 2021 school year! The students have all adjusted very well in their new learning communities, and we are so excited to see them negotiate with one another to learn. We have kicked off the year with our first Social Studies project, where students become mini-ambassadors for a European country. They will research their country, organize their information into a travel brochure and write an informative article to add to our class "Visit Europe" magazine.



4th Laveen Online Academy Grade News

Hello families!

We had such a great first week of school! Our students did a great job navigating Canvas, our new online platform. We really enjoyed getting to meet our new classmates, learning about place value, and starting our new “Porpoises in Peril” text!

I look forward to a great year!



LEARNER PROFILE ATTRIBUTES

INQUIRERS

KNOWLEDGEABLE

THINKERS

COMMUNICATORS

PRINCIPLED

OPEN-MINDED

CARING

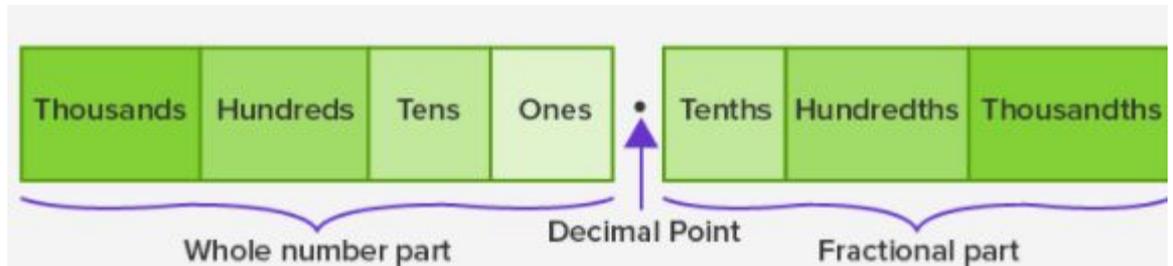
RISK-TAKERS

BALANCED

REFLECTIVE

5th Grade News

We are off to a great start to the 2021–22 school year! Students did a fantastic job at reading a full novel our first week back and now starting another novel! Fifth graders have been focusing on the IB Learner Profiles last week by focusing on being inquirers by using higher level thinking to answer questions related to ELA, Science and Social Studies content. In math students have been working with place value in decimals to the thousandths. Students are being knowledgeable to use what they learned last year and applying to the content this year.



5th Laveen Online Academy Grade News

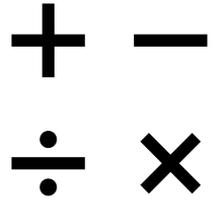
The learning is strong, even while learning from home!

What message from this story, can I apply to my own life?



Our students have been busy learning how to navigate the Canvas platform, and getting used to our daily schedule. It was great to meet many of them, during in-person testing. In ELA we will be covering Theme and comparing characters. In Math, we are diving deep into place value. Please don't forget to submit your student attendance through the Parentvue time tracker. AS always, reach out with any questions.

6th Grade (Rocks!) News



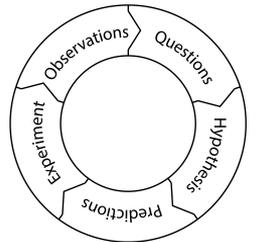
Hello Scorpion Families! Mr. Fraser here and I am super excited to be the 6th Grade English teacher this year. I have some amazing students who bring their “A” game every day!

In our first week we have analyzed “The Road Not Taken” by Robert Frost. We have also covered figurative language and work on daily writing prompts.

Hello Scorpions!

Welcome back students and families! The first week of school was amazing! I am excited to be teaching 6th grade math and science.

Our first weeks of school have been focused on the number system in math (specifically multi-digit numbers, estimation, and decimals.) and in science the scientific method (inquiry process). In addition to learning we are working hard to master our STING expectations throughout the campus.



6th Grade Laveen Online Academy News



Welcome back families! We are so excited to have you join Laveen Online Academy. I have enjoyed getting to know the students this first week. They did a great job navigating our many online apps, including: Canvas, Discovery Ed, StudySync, and Nearpod. Sixth graders are so tech savvy!

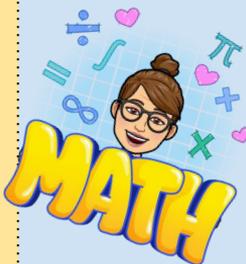


In ELA, we learned about Capitalization, Annotation, and Citing Textual Evidence, and used those skills to analyze the story "Eleven" by Sandra Cisneros. Next week, we'll be reading the novel "A Wrinkle in Time" by Madeleine L'Engle.

In Social Studies, we learned about archaeologists and how they uncover relics to help us to understand the ancient civilizations we will be studying this year.



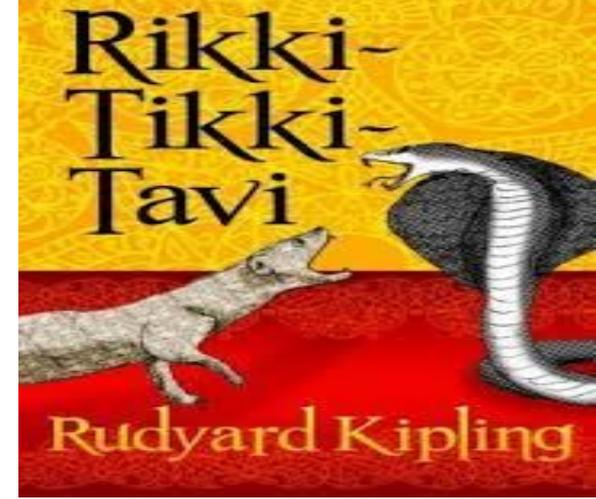
In Math, we learned how to find the Greatest Common Factor and Least Common Multiple of 2 numbers and how to use them to simplify fractions and solve word problems.



In Science, we learned about the different parts of an atom: proton, neutron, and electron by utilizing the Bohr Model.



7th Grade News



Science and Math combined to complete several STEM activities.



7th graders have finished reading their first story in the curriculum! They have been working hard to collaborate in their "law offices" this week and acting as attorneys. They will perform their first mock trial this Thursday in the library with the help of our very own librarian starring in her first cameo as Judge Schneider!



7th graders have been doing an amazing job showing what they know on their Math, Reading and Language NWEA Assessments this week!

7th Grade Laveen Online Academy News



**MATH AND
SCIENCE**



Johnson

Dear Middle School Families,

It has been a great start to the school year at LOA! We have been busy jumping into our novel "Stargirl" and working hard on the NWEA testing. It has been very inspiring to see the students' excitement and smiling faces as learn the Canvas Platform.

We thank you for your continued support and dedication as we learn how to navigate the Canvas platform and making middle school a success. We are available to answer questions so please feel free to contact us with any questions.

It's going to be an amazing year!

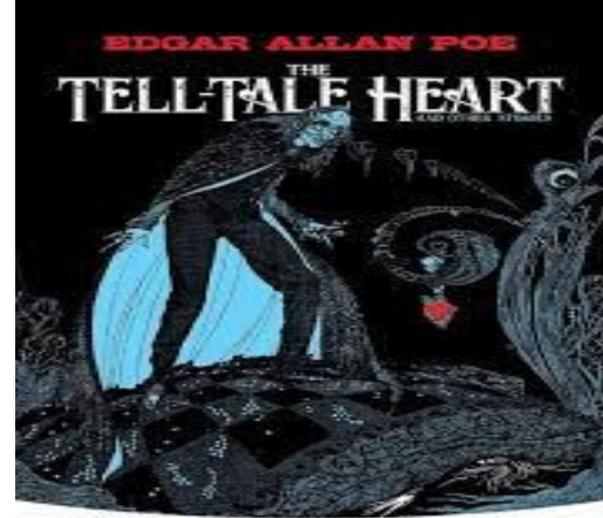
Reilly

It has been a great first week with our new online academy and our new platform, Canvas! I've really enjoyed getting to know the students and meeting some of them in person for testing.

In math, we are in our chapter about rates. For science, students are learning about how the Earth's major systems interact with one another.

I'm looking forward to an awesome year!

8th Grade News



8th graders completed an introduction to using a compound microscope. They looked at prepared slide and had to make their own wet mount slide.

8th graders have finished reading Edgar Allen Poe's Tell Tale Heart. They have been analyzing Poe's word choice and evaluating how he is able to reveal aspects of the narrator, propel the plot and provoke decisions with the usage of dialogue.

8th Grade Laveen Online Academy News

**MATH AND
SCIENCE**



Johnson

Dear Middle School Families,

It has been a great start to the school year at LOA! We have been busy jumping into our novel "Monster" and working hard on the NWEA testing. It has been very inspiring to see the students' excitement and smiling faces as learn the Canvas Platform.

We thank you for your continued support and dedication as we learn how to navigate the Canvas platform and making middle school a success. We are available to answer questions so please feel free to contact us with any questions.

It's going to be an amazing year!



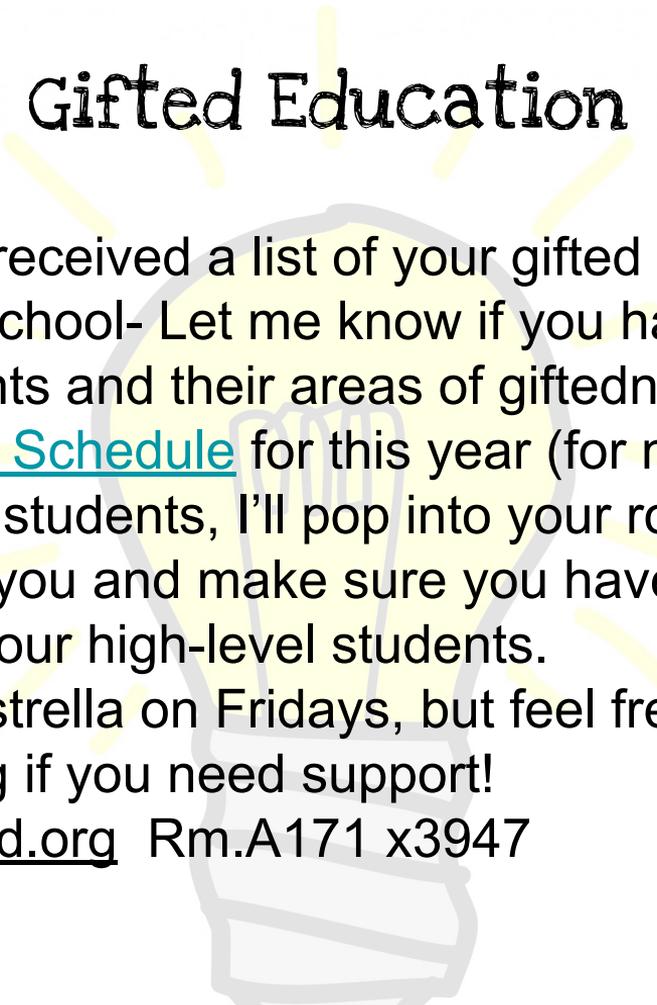
Reilly

What a great week it's been with the 8th graders! I've really enjoyed getting to know everyone and meeting some of you in person for testing.

This week, we had the chance to familiarize ourselves with Canvas. In math, we are learning about rational numbers and exponents and in science, we are discussing genetics and traits.

I'm looking forward to an amazing year!

Gifted Education



- You should have received a list of your gifted students in your box the first week of school- Let me know if you have any questions about your students and their areas of giftedness!
- Here is the [Gifted Schedule](#) for this year (for now!)
- If you have gifted students, I'll pop into your room occasionally and will check in with you and make sure you have all the resources you need to support your high-level students.
- I will only be at Estrella on Fridays, but feel free to email anytime or request a meeting if you need support!
sharris@laveeneld.org Rm.A171 x3947

Estrella Foothills PTO

EFGA PTO 2021/2022

Quarterly Meetings
EFGA Library @ 6p.m.

- 1st Quarter – August 17, 2021
- 2nd Quarter – October 19, 2021
- 3rd Quarter – January 25, 2022
- 4th Quarter – March 29, 2022

Learn about the PTO, how
the PTO supports the school,
what events are coming up,
offer up ideas, and volunteer!

Follow us on Facebook – EFGA PTO

FUNDRAISING EVENT



**ESTRELLA
FOOTHILLS**
GLOBAL ACADEMY
Parent-Teacher Organization

How:
Let them know
you are supporting Estrella
Foothills at checkout!

When:
Thursday, Aug 19th
4 pm - 7 pm

Where:
5150 W Baseline Rd, Laveen

20% of proceeds
will go to
Estrella Foothills
Global Academy PTO



EFGA PTO

August 2021

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Map Testing	10 Map Testing Band Night! 4-6p.m.	11 Map Testing	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Early Release at 12:00p.m.	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

