

James Madison Elementary School

November 29, 2021



Important Updates

Welcome Back!

We hope you had a restful Thanksgiving Break! As we reflect on the many things for which we are thankful, we want to take this opportunity to share just a few of them with you:

We are thankful for our students who come to school every day ready to learn – they give us all a daily reminder of what is important and why we are here. We are thankful for the support of the parents in creating an outstanding partnership for our students. We are thankful for the teachers, residents, paraprofessionals, noon duty staff, bus drivers, secretaries, nurses, custodians, support staff, therapists and administrators who really care about student achievement and have the best interests of our students at heart. We are also thankful for our volunteers who enthusiastically contribute so much to our school.

In these most difficult and challenging times, we see dedicated and tireless individuals going above and beyond to make sure that great things happen in our school. They do make a difference, and the children, in their own individual ways, benefit from those efforts.

Most importantly, we are thankful for the parents that have kept the faith in us. They continue to share their most valuable possessions with us and—in most cases— work hard and advocate to be a partner in their children's education, safety and well-being. For this, we are ever so thankful.

DUAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAM

**Applications Window
December 1 - February 18**

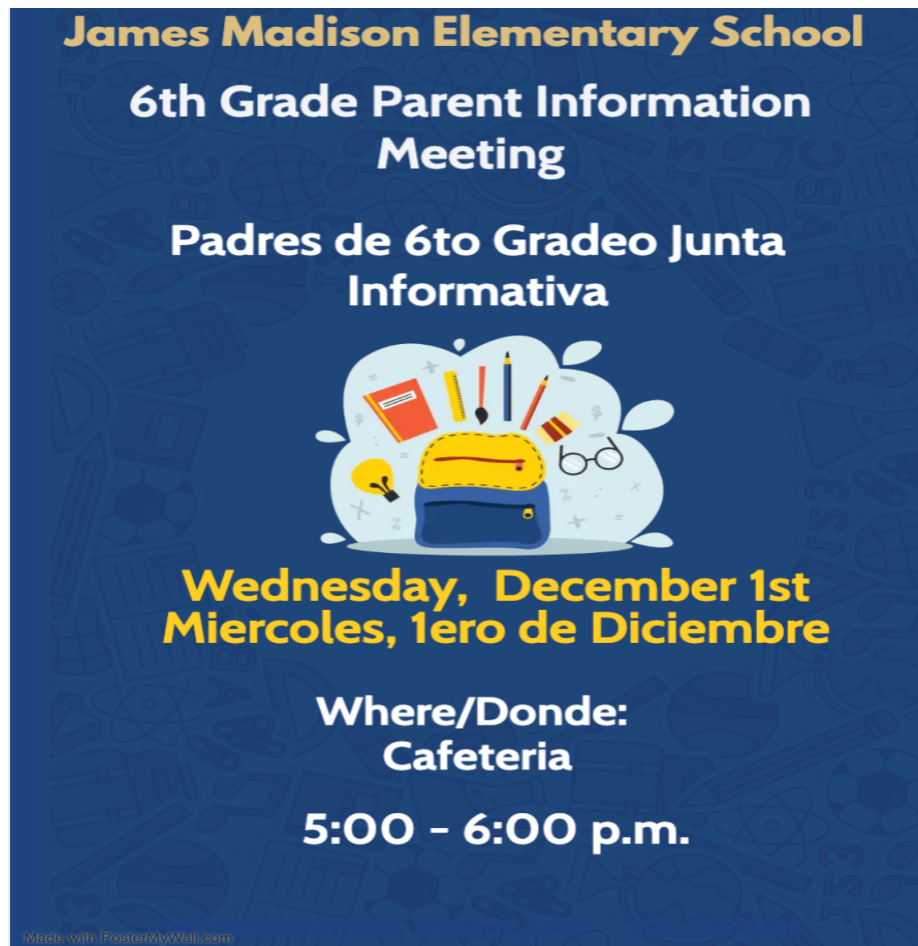
Applications will be accepted on a first come first served basis!

Parents- If you have an **incoming Kindergarten student**, please be reminded that you **must complete and submit** a new application for your incoming Kinder child to join the DLI program at Madison. For a child to qualify for Kindergarten in the 2022-2023 school year, they must turn 5 years old on or before September 1, 2022. Those who have a child already in the program will receive priority; however, please don't wait to turn in your application. Applications are date and time stamped upon receiving them and taken on a first come first served basis so it is important that you fill yours out right away and indicate the name of the sibling currently in the DLI program attending Madison to ensure your application gets flagged correctly. You can download and print your application [here](#) or stop by 1) any elementary school office or 2) the district office to obtain an application. The below information provides the special locations you can submit your applications during the first week the window is open. You are welcomed to drop off your applications during one of these special events:

- **Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2021,**
at Madison Elementary student drop off/pick-up section behind the school on Santa Cruz from 4 pm-6 pm.
- **Thursday, Dec. 2, 2021,**
at Pershing Elementary's front parking lot area on Ellis Street from 4 pm-6 pm.
- **Saturday, Dec. 4, 2021,**
at Madison Elementary in front of the school from 9-11 am.

6th Grade Parent Orientation Meeting

6th Grade Parent Information Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 1st, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria. Please join us! We will inform you about Parenting Classes, Science Camp, School Expectations and ways you can be involved in your child's education.



Student Hero

Madison School was recently honored to have representative Kimberly Bitter from the Department of School Culture and Climate join us for Madison's morning announcement time to recognize two Maverick students for their outstanding demonstration of character traits for the 1st quarter. These two students received a "Student Hero" t-shirt, plaque, certificate and yard sign for demonstrating excellence in the schoolwide PBIS behavior expectations of PRIDE to Success.

Madison recognized second grader Vincent Hillario. Mrs. Millhollen, 2nd grade teacher stated, "Vincent consistently demonstrates **respect** to others, both his peers and adults. He comes to

school on time and **prepared**. Vincent is quick to help his classmates when he sees the need. I am proud to have such a great leader in my classroom. I look forward to watching him progress with honors on his journey through Madera Unified."

Madison also recognized 4th grader **Aimee Castillo-Mares**. Mrs. Pereyra, 4th grader teacher, expressed that "Aimee exemplifies all the traits of Madison **PRIDE**. Aimee has such a joy in her spirit that she just needs to share. If a classmate cannot find his or her materials, she jumps into action to help out. If she senses a peer is having a bad day, she will draw a colorful picture and give it to her or him in hopes that it will make them feel better. She readily accepts her peers and the peers that are/assigned to her when tasked to complete a group assignment. Best of all, she treats everyone with **respect** and always shares a friendly smile. I am grateful for the respect and acceptance she has for everyone in her class."

Madison's behavior expectation is to demonstrate characteristics of **PRIDE.**

P - Prepared, R- Respect, I - Integrity, D- Determined, E- Enthusiastic.

Madera Unified School District's *We Believe in Character* initiative was funded from the Cal-Hope Mini Social Emotional Learning grant from Madera County Superintendent of Schools last spring. In addition to student recognition swag, the grant funds instructional resources and material for our schools. To help support instruction the Culture & Climate Department has developed monthly K-12 lessons and *Character Counts* resources were recently ordered in English and Spanish for all Elementary Counselors. Student Heroes are acknowledged because, **"We believe a true hero isn't measured by the size of their strength, but by the strength of their character."**

PTA Elections!

PTA Elections took place on Monday, November 8, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

- ***Congratulations to Eréndida Magos - President, Maria Mendoza - Secretary, & Amelia Jaregui - Treasurer.***
- ***They also voted on the official name to be: "Madison DLI PTA"***

All parents and teachers are welcome to join the PTA for only \$5. For information on how to join please contact Eréndida Magos (erendidamagos@maderausd.org).

Next general meeting will be held on **Dec 2, 2021** at 5:30pm via zoom Come join us!

More Events!!



MSTC auditions coming up for SEUSSICAL Dec. 7 and 8 after school. Callbacks on Thurs. as needed. Show runs March 30-April 9, 2022 ,Madera South High School Theatre

You will be expected to sing from the show. See attachments below.

Casting elementary/middle school kids too.... ages 8 up

song list:

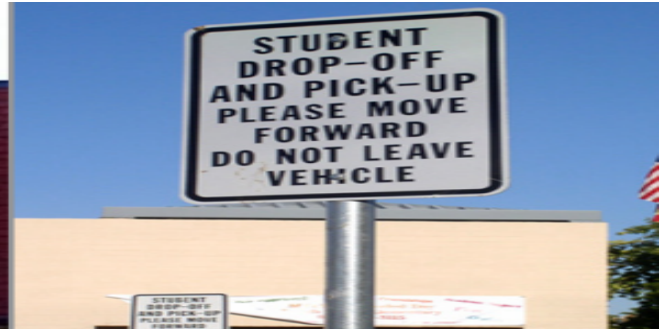
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvosRLvXMo_7tpJUmk1VTA8TW1M9xj66g

Arrival & Dismissal



CAR RIDERS: **ALL car riders** are asked to use the back parking lot which is the designated DRIVE-THRU Drop off/Pick up (cars must follow the cones on Santa Cruz to enter and exit the parking lot area turning to the right only). **Please do not leave your vehicle.** After school, children will be brought to you through the same entrance as the arrival in the morning. A staff member will bring your child to your car. Once your child is securely fastened in his/her seat belts, please continue moving forward.

Again, please Do NOT get out of your car. Parents are not to get out of the vehicle to assist their child. The Parent Drop Off / Pick Up line will go much more quickly when you remain in your vehicles. Thank you for your cooperation.



WALKERS: All after school walkers **MUST** report to the basketball court and will be escorted to the appropriate cross walk by a staff member.

Added Reminders:

- Please be reminded that there is **No Adult Supervision** on campus prior to 7:25 am.
- The roundabout driveway on Stadium road in front of the school is a **BUS LOADING ZONES ONLY**. Please drop off your child in the back of the school if you arrive by car. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping both staff and students safe during arrival and dismissal times by following this procedure.

Information/Communication:

Health & Safety

Madison Elementary would like to remind all parents/guardians to please continue to self-check your child every day before coming to school. If your child is experiencing any of the following symptoms please keep them home:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Please continue to call our attendance office to report any absences.

Culture and Climate

PBIS Update:

Prepared **R**espectful **I**ntegrity **D**etermined **E**nthusiastic

Maverick Store



The Maverick Store will be coming on Friday December 3rd. We will have items ranging in price from **one to five Maverick Bucks**.

This event is possible thanks to the support of the Madison DLI PTA, parent volunteers, and teachers. Thank you all for generously supporting Madison students!

All items at the store have been generously donated by teachers, staff, parent club and Madison parents.

Donations of small student rewards or incentives are always welcome in the front office for the PBIS team. **If you would like to anonymously provide the [PBIS team feedback click here.](#)**

Thank you,
-James Madison Elementary PBIS Team

Spirit Rally!!



Madison students enjoyed their second rally! The sixth grade girls gave it their all in a volleyball game against Principal Guillén and Vice Principal Olmos with some help from a few Maverick teachers. The 6th grade girls earned this fun event for our school by not having any referrals and following the Madison school rules over the course of a week. It was a very exciting event that not only promoted school spirit but also reinforce a culture of rewarding positive behaviors and following school rules.

Social Emotional Learning (SEL)



Winter is the most magical of seasons. Between frosty days, winter break, and the holidays, it can be a joyous time. But it also can bring stress, loneliness, and unhappiness for some. One way you can support your children during winter break is by practicing social and emotional learning (SEL) while they are home for the holidays.

Social and emotional learning (SEL) is skills that help students:

- Stay focused and engaged in learning
- Work through strong emotions
- Remain connected with others at school and home
- Achieve academic success

[Linked here](#) is a challenge of SEL activities developed by *Aperture Education* that your family can practice during break. The challenge is like bingo and can be completed many ways - straight across, diagonally, or complete every task for a “blackout.” See how many challenges your children can do, and make it a whole-family activity. Take time with loved ones to relax and recharge during the winter break and create some joy!

WINTER BREAK SEL CHALLENGE

<p>Explore World Holiday Traditions Learning about different winter or holiday traditions can be a great way to build cultural and social awareness.</p> <p>Try:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading a book about how different cultures celebrate diverse holidays and traditions (Try seeking out one of these books at the library). • Asking a family friend, a neighbor, or a teacher to share how they celebrate winter holidays, and then write about it. 	<p>Do Community Service Helping the community is a terrific way to develop social awareness and empathy for others.</p> <p>You could:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make a card for folks living in a retirement community. • Bake a treat or make a card for a neighbor. • Pick up trash around a local park. • Donate food or time to a food bank or homeless shelter. <p><i>Be safe during community service activities. Always complete these with the help of an adult.</i></p>	<p>Growth Mindset Visualization Having a growth mindset means you believe people can improve themselves through hard work.</p> <p>For this activity, sit quietly for 5-10 minutes and repeat one or more of the phrases below to yourself or out loud.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “I won’t give up, even if the work is difficult.” • “I will learn from my mistakes.” • “I can do anything if I work hard and believe in myself.” • “It’s not too easy, I am not learning.” • “The more I use my brain, the smarter I will get.” • “I will try my best.”
<p>Practice Deep Breathing Deep breathing exercises can help you achieve mindful awareness and can have a tremendous impact on your ability to de-stress.</p> <p>Sit quietly for 10-15 minutes. Focus on your breathing and try to clear your mind. See how many times a week you can do these. You can even set a challenge for yourself to increase the amount of time you meditate or how many days a week you do the activity.</p>	<p>Seasons Greetings Buoni Festi! This is how you say “Happy Holidays!” in Italian.</p> <p>Learn how to say season’s greetings in Italian and 15 other languages to increase your cultural awareness and spread good tidings to all.</p>	<p>Take a Break From Social Media Research shows that spending too much time on social media can increase feelings of stress, anxiety, and depression.</p> <p>Take a social media break during winter break! Start with an hour each day and build up to a full day or more.</p>
<p>Explore Family Traditions Different families have different traditions. A great way to increase self-awareness is to examine your family’s traditions and what they mean.</p> <p>Pick a special object, a book, a family photo, a song, or a religious object that symbolizes how your family celebrates a holiday. Write about your item and your family’s traditions. <i>“If you don’t celebrate holidays during the winter months you can write about any holiday or special event your family celebrates throughout the year.”</i></p>	<p>Set a Goal for Winter Break The most successful people — including musicians, actors, and athletes — rely on goal-setting to get what they want.</p> <p>Practice goal-setting by setting a small, achievable goal for yourself that you can complete over winter break. Like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will exercise 3 times a week for 30 minutes. • I will spend at least 15 minutes reading every day. • I will write down what job I want to do after high school and how I am going to get there. <p>After you choose your goal, create a plan for achieving it. Ask friends or family members to help you stay on task.</p>	<p>Practice Kindness The Golden Rule is to treat others how you want to be treated. Going out of your way to be kind to someone can go a long way in brightening their day.</p> <p>For this activity, do something nice for a sibling, parent, caregiver, neighbor, or friend. You could:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write them a nice note or draw them a picture. • Give them a special compliment. • Help them complete a chore. • Tell them why they matter to you.

APERTURE EDUCATION

For more information about SEL,
visit <https://info.apertureed.com/parent-portal>.

Parent Volunteers

If you would like to volunteer your time to support our school before and after school or when the Maverick store is open please email Sra. Mendoza or Sra. Olmos karenmendoza@maderausd.org and/or maricelaolmos@maderausd.org

Upcoming Events - Mark your Calendar

December 1 -

- 2022-2023 DLI Kinder Application window opens
- 6th Grade Parent Information Mtg.

December 3 - Volleyball Game @ MHS XC meet @ T/C/ Park

December 6 -

- SSC @ 5:00 p.m. via zoom
- DELAC @ 6:00 p.m.

December 10 - Volleyball & XC meet Championship

December 14 - MUSD Board Meeting

December 15 - ELAC @ 6:00 p.m. via zoom

December 17 - Quarter Ends

December 20 - January 10 - Winter Break

