Dear Families,

Picture a child walking up to their teacher, assignment in hand and a proud smile across their face. The child asks the question all children seem to have on their minds: Is it good? Children routinely inquire about whether their work is “good” because they look to us for validation. As such, it’s important that we provide them with the best possible feedback.

There’s a lot of research that indicates that the type of feedback with which we provide children is a critical component of learning. Visible Learning for Literacy (2016) by Fisher, Frey, and Hattie describe four types of feedback. Feedback about the self is the most frequently used, yet the least effective form of feedback (Excellent job! You’re so good at doing math.). While the authors point out that praise can be important, it doesn’t contribute to learning. Feedback about the task helps students with a specific skill on a specific assignment, but it doesn’t enable the student to learn how to transfer it to other contexts (Your goal was to solve the problem in multiple ways. The second way is unclear. You need to show your work so we can understand your thinking.). Feedback about the process enables students to think about the strategies they need in order to perform a task, but it doesn’t support them beyond that particular situation (I can see that you got stumped on this problem. What’s another way you could solve it? What other strategies have you learned?). The authors posit that the ideal type of feedback is self-regulatory feedback (When you got frustrated with the math problem, you took a deep breath, stood up, and got a drink of water. Then you asked your partner questions and were able to solve it. Why did that work for you? How were you different after you took the break?). This type of feedback provides students with the opportunity to gain insight into the conditional knowledge and understanding they need in order to understand what they’re doing. It assists students in understanding who they are as learners, what a task demands, and the strategies they can leverage to resolve problems.

There’s also a lot of research about the elements of effective feedback, one of which is being goal-oriented. If a child asks, “Is it good?”, we can help them to think about the goal of the assignment or task by asking, “What were you trying to do?” This allows children to think about how they are progressing toward the goal and whether they’re meeting it. Another important element of effective feedback is timely-
feedback along the way, so that they can make adjustments and improve at what they’re doing. It’s not enough for a child to receive one piece of feedback after they’ve completed a task.

We provide students with a great deal of feedback at school, but it obviously has a place outside of school as well. Think about the type of feedback you offer your children related to how they interact with siblings, their chores, sports, and so on. As parents, you can support your children by offering them effective feedback - that is, feedback that promotes self-regulation, is goal-oriented, timely, actionable, and ongoing. I look forward to hearing about the feedback you’re trying out with your children!

Warmly,

Stephanie Hasselbrink, Ed.D
Stephanie Hasselbrink, Principal

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**LJES CHOIR**

Under the leadership of Ms. Julie Greathouse, the LJES choir is off to a roaring start. 4th/5th grade Concert Choir meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:10am while the 3rd grade choir rehearses on Fridays at 7:10am. This year, in addition to performances on campus, the two choirs will sing at La Jolla Rec Center for various holiday celebrations including Halloween and Breakfast with Santa, the Open Aire Market, and more. This past weekend, they performed at the La Jolla Art and Wine Festival.

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**MEET MS. BUEHLER, OUR NEW SCHOOL COUNSELOR**

Hello LJES Families, I’m Courtney Buehler, the new counselor on campus. This is my first year as an elementary school counselor and La Jolla has been a very welcoming community to enter into, I’m so happy to be here! For the past seven years, I’ve been at home raising my own children, but prior to that, I worked for seven years with San Diego Unified, counseling at the high school level. My husband and I have two children - Ainsley (age 7) and Lachlan (age 4.5), so while this elementary school experience is new to me, it is what I am living day to day at home with my own. Elementary counseling has been fun so far - letting me be silly and have fun with your children while working on helping them to develop some life skills. This year, I will be going into every classroom numerous times to work on skill sets such as Self Awareness, Effective Communication, Empathy & Diversity.

In my free time, I love going to the beach, reading, swimming, and I used to be an avid soccer player. I am only on campus on Fridays and every other Tuesday, but if you happen to be on campus during those times too, please pop by my office in the PTO room and say hello - I’d love to meet you!
At this year’s LJES Family Back-to-School Picnic, a curious but not at all unexpected thing happened: While parents spread out blankets and chairs and otherwise began picnicking, the children of LJES, perhaps agog at seeing nearly the entire school body so far beyond school hours, immediately began shrieking, racing, playing, dancing — basically just moving — which they kept up for the full two hours of the event. DJ Ron Jones urged them on, holding court on the erstwhile four-square blacktop, while Belinda’s Familia’s taco truck tempted parents with its stellar Mexican fare, including its under-the-radar quesadilla (take my word for it). The fifth-grade bake sale was again on hand with another legendary spread, and the student body, once led to it, stood transfixed, armed with dollar bills, told to choose anything they wanted. As the sun set and the children became harder to see, eventually winking out entirely to be replaced by the neon blur of the latest in wearable glow tech, DJ Ron blew past his end time and gave the kids more of what they wanted -- top 40 dance bangers. Special thanks to the PTO, chairs Michelle Landry and Meleana Leaverton, and the host of volunteers who kept the event running smoothly; also to the fifth-grade committee, who once again made our day by bringing Krispie Creme to La Jolla.
Welcome back! The students are off to a great start in Physical Education this year! We have spent the first several weeks focusing on our character strength of self-regulation and incorporating it into our warm-up routines, as well as learning about and practicing recess games. We are now transitioning into ball skills, which will include hand- and foot-related skills and activities, and fitness evaluations.

Run club is off to an amazing start as well. Our community of runners that includes students, parents, siblings & teachers are all working together to commit to a healthy start to the day, and we are already up to 1800 miles!
Kindergarten Circus is, for many, the first memorable big event during their LJES career. It guarantees smiles, laughs and some adorable pictures of our youngest students and their families. Thank you to our incredible teachers for creating wonderful memories and to our tireless parent volunteers who helped the event run so smoothly.
Please join us on Sunday, October 20th for our Harvest Festival. This free family event includes a performance from Ms. Julie’s Choir, arts & crafts, and games on the field. We hope your family can come celebrate with us! As always, proceeds from the market support and enrich the education of our children at LJES. We hope you make the market part of your Sunday routine. Visit us at www.lajollamarket.com for more information.

PRODUCE GOOD!

The Open Air Market is so proud to partner with this amazing organization who provides 10,000 servings of nutritious produce to those in need each week. Did you know that ProduceGood collects more than 300 pounds of gorgeous produce each week from the generous farmers at our market? Thank you ProduceGood, the farmers and the amazing volunteers who make this happen! Visit www.producegood.org for more information.

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Bridging the Gap in Education Funding

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<th>Per Student Funding, $</th>
<th>National Average</th>
<th>California</th>
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<td>$12,756</td>
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Friends closes this gap by providing $1,390 of educational value to every LJES student.
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Our suggested donation is $550 per child. 100% participation is our goal.

Questions? Contact Molly Gutierrez at mollymcdowell@yahoo.com or Alicia Calhoon at aliciacalhoon@yahoo.com.

Donations can be made at www.friendsofljes.org/annual-giving-campaign/.

Donors who have contributed $1,250 or more by Friday, October 18, 2019 will be invited to an Annual Giving Campaign Cocktail Celebration to be held on Friday, October 25, 2019.

*please note: AGC Donor List is complete as of October 14, 2019.
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