

Merizo Martyrs' Memorial School

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Dolphin News Splash

Annual Saitama Visit

Delegates from the Saitama group who represent our Japan sister school will visit our campus on Wednesday, October 12, 2016. We are currently accepting donations of non-perishable Guam souvenirs. If you are able to contribute, you may submit your items to your child's teacher by Monday, October 10, 2016. For more information, you may contact Mr. Naputi at the number listed above during school hours. We thank our families in advance for your continued support and contributions!

October 2016

Volume 1, Issue 3

Unity Day 2016



This year's Unity Day is scheduled for Wednesday, October 19, 2016. We will be celebrating the theme, Unity Day: Together Against Bullying—

United for Kindness, Acceptance, and Inclusion, by wearing orange. Students are encouraged to wear orange on this day to show the message of support against bullying.

PTO Officers

Congratulations to our new PTO Officers: President—Elizabeth Guerrero; Secretary—Jazmine Sanchez; and Public Relations Officer—Brianna Santiago. The position of Vice President is still vacant and open for nominations. The next PTO meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at 6pm in the school cafeteria. We hope to see you all there!

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- Wednesday, October 12th—Saitama Visit
- Thursday, October 13th—Picture Day
- Wednesday, October 19th—End of 1st Quarter
- Wednesday, October 19th—Parent Workshop @6pm
- Monday, October 24th—No Classes: Professional Development
- Monday, October 31st—Parent-Teacher Conference

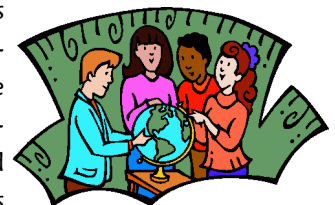
MMMS Jacket Sale

As announced during our Open House, our uniform vendor, Bics is offering a special price on jackets. His initial special was \$25 but has dropped the price even more to \$23. This special will end on November 10th. For families' convenience, jackets may be purchased through the PTO at the school in room A1 beginning on Thursday, October 6, 2016.



October Parent Workshop

Our first Parent Workshop for this school year will be held on Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at 6pm in the school cafeteria. This month's workshop focus will be "Learning Around the House." We will be sharing ideas



of simple learning activities for families to try at home. We will also discuss tips to help your child be successful with homework. There will be door prizes raffled off and light refreshments served. To ensure we are prepared with enough supplies and materials, we kindly ask that you fill out the attached RSVP form if you are planning to attend. We do hope to see you there! For more information, you may contact Ms. Balajadia.

The Great Guam ShakeOut-Get Ready!

Along with many others throughout the island, MMMS will practice our Drop, Cover, and Hold On skills during the annual Great Guam ShakeOut Earthquake Drill on October 20th at 10:20am. This drill helps us assess our procedures and determine any changes/improvements we need to make to ensure we are prepared should an earthquake occur during the school day. We encourage our families to also participate in this drill wherever you may be on that day and time!

Dolphin Praises

We would like to recognize and congratulate this year's Flag Detail and newly inducted Youth Crime Watch members. Our Flag Detail members ensure proper respect is paid to our nation and island's colors during our daily flag ceremony. Our Youth Crime Watch members sacrifice their lunch recess to patrol the play areas ensuring our students are demonstrating our Dolphin 3: Be Safe. Be Respectful. Be Responsible.



Birthday wishes to our Dolphins born in September and October!

September Birthdays

Zayden Borja—9th
Kai'lani Yamasta—17th
Marley Reyes—21st
Hailey Manglona—4th
Jonathan Taity—8th
Shyrae Tajalle—29th
Jesse Aguero II—11th
Dru Aguon—9th
Charles Heberle—1st
Antonio Tajeron—7th
Grace Ha'ani Tenorio—10th
Luke Camacho—17th

October Birthdays

Anako Peter—20th
Rudy Sablan Jr—8th
Joseph Yamasta—3rd
C-anajo Aguon—9th
Jan Badowski—16th
Ezekiel Chargualaf—28th
Jeremiah Mansapit—8th
Tasty Peter—25th
Joshua Tajeron—22nd
Azaria Rose Chargualaf—17th
Kayden Reyes—27th
Jesarae Santiago—30th
Maya Jae Mansapit—1st
Barron Jr. Aflleje—12th
Malakai Chargualaf—31st
Erianna Cundiff—14th
Redlee Tigilmai—26th
Elijah Asuncion—1st
Zianna Baker—14th
Kimo Elesha—30th
Themelyn Kete—13th
Vianyka Reyes—17th
Catelyn Siguenza—17th



Red Ribbon Campaign

The Red Ribbon Campaign, held annually during the month of October, aims at presenting a unified and visible commitment towards a Drug Free environment. This year's theme is "YOLO Be Drug Free" (You Only Live Once Be Drug Free). Throughout the month of October we will be actively showing our commitment within our school environment through various fun, creative, and educational learning activities. A few of these learning activities include an in-school door decorating contest, Be Drug Free pledging, and the island-wide video contest. Red Ribbon Spirit Week will be held during the week of October 24-28, 2016. Listed below are the themes of the day during this week. If you have any questions, please contact Nurse Paula at the school during school hours.

- Monday, Oct. 24th—No Classes: Professional Development
- Tuesday, Oct. 25th— "Sock it to drugs!" Wear your favorite decorative socks.
- Wednesday, Oct. 26th— "Drugs make you wacky." Come with a wacky hairdo.
- Thursday, Oct. 27th— "You are a gift. So treasure your life." Wear a gift bow.
- Friday, Oct. 28th— "Be a team player/hero and be drug free." Wear a sports uniform or a superhero outfit.



Quick Announcements

- Picture day is scheduled for Thursday, October 13, 2016. See attached packet for prices.
- 1st Quarter Parent-Teacher Conference is scheduled for Monday, October 31, 2016. PTC hours will be announced.
- Aluminum Can Collection Contest is still ongoing. Please don't forget to visit the main office when you drop-off cans to ensure appropriate students are being credited.
- Please continue to collect Box Tops and have your child turn them in to his/her teacher. Note that expired Box Tops will not be accepted.
- We are currently planning our 2nd Annual Literacy Harvest Festival which is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, November 23, 2016. If you are interested in assisting with the planning and/or volunteering for the event, please contact Ms. Balajadia at the school during school hours or via email at fmpbalajadia@gdoe.net.

Home & School CONNECTION[®]

Working Together for School Success

October 2016

Merizo Martyrs Memorial School



SHORT NOTES

Focused on learning

Does your youngster know that sitting up straight and watching the teacher helps him stay focused? This position signals his brain to be alert so he can pay attention to lessons and instructions. *Tip:* To avoid distractions, he might pretend there's a tunnel directly between him and his teacher.

Respect for all teachers

Tell your child to treat substitute teachers the way she would treat guests in your home. She should be respectful and provide help if the substitute asks for it. Explain that it's also important for your youngster to follow classroom rules and routines—just as she would if her regular teacher were there.

Time to play

No matter what grade your child is in, he's not too old to play! He'll stretch his imagination and relieve stress. Try pulling out toys he hasn't used in a while, like building blocks or toy trains. Having them in plain sight may inspire him to play with them again. Or walk to a playground after dinner—and invite the entire family to swing, slide, and climb.

Worth quoting

"Three things in human life are important. The first is to be kind. The second is to be kind. And the third is to be kind." *Henry James*

JUST FOR FUN

Q: What never asks questions but gets a lot of answers?

A: A phone.



Homework: Set the stage

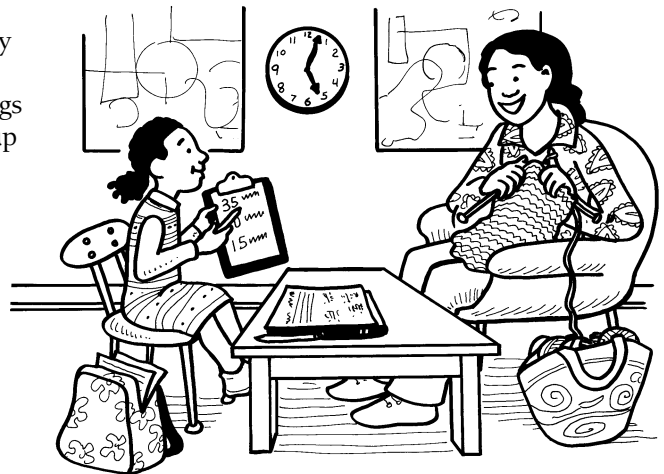
Homework is your child's job, but you play an important role, too. Here are everyday things you can do to set her up for success.

Show interest

Before your youngster starts homework, ask her to tell you about her assignments. She could show you her textbooks or worksheets and explain what she is supposed to do. ("I have to finish the even-numbered math problems on this page and answer questions about this poem.") This shows her that homework is important to you.

Create a schedule

Encourage your child to list the subjects she has for homework every day, and help her estimate how long each will take. ("Math: 35 minutes. Writing: 20 minutes.") Keep in mind that some kids prefer to do easier assignments first so they can quickly accomplish something,



while others would rather start with harder work. Have your youngster decide which method suits her best.

Offer support

There are lots of ways to support your child while she works. Let her bounce ideas off of you for a project, or listen as she reads her essay out loud. If she gets stuck, ask questions to guide her rather than giving her the answers. Or suggest strategies like looking at a previous textbook chapter, consulting her notes, or calling a friend. She'll see that she can rely on herself to find solutions. ♥

After-school recap

"What did you do in school today?" If your youngster usually answers, "Nothing," you're not alone. Try these alternatives to get insight into what he's learning:

- Let your child pretend he's a newscaster reporting on the day's events. He could decorate a paper towel tube as a "microphone" for delivering his newscast. ("Alex's class had a guest speaker this morning! She talked about her job as a computer programmer.")

- Before dinner, have each family member write something he learned that day on a slip of paper and put it in a shoebox labeled "Guess what I learned today?" *Example:* "Jupiter has 63 moons." Pass the box around as you eat, and take turns pulling out a slip and reading it. The person who wrote it can answer everyone's questions. ♥

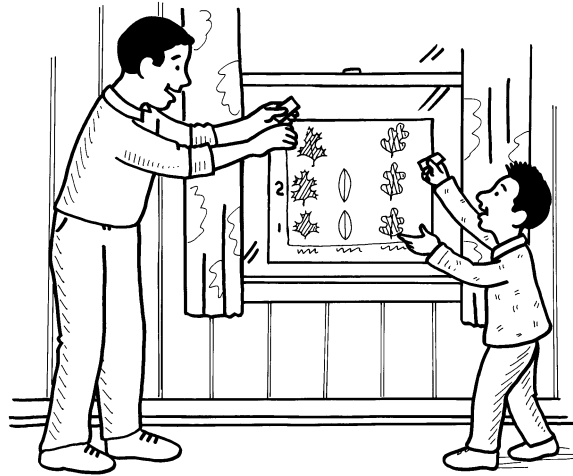


Learning with leaves

Fall leaves aren't just fun and colorful—they're ideal for practicing all sorts of skills. Help your youngster collect leaves from the ground, and enjoy these activities together.

Leaf prints. Have your child dip each leaf into finger paint and firmly press it onto a sheet of white paper. He'll see the imprints of the veins—ask what he thinks the veins are for. (They deliver water to the leaves.)

Graph of leaves. Encourage your youngster to sort his leaves into columns, lining them up evenly across each row. If he sorted by color, you



could ask, "How many more red leaves are there than yellow leaves?" or "Which color did you gather the most of?"

The story of my leaf. Suggest that your child pick his favorite leaf and write a story starting it as the main character. Perhaps he

will write about the leaf changing color or being carried to the ocean by the wind.♥

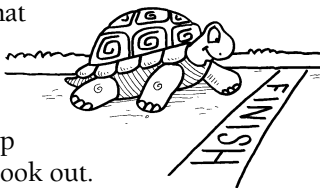
Q & A Finish what you start

Q: My daughter often signs up for activities and then wants to try something different. Recently, she asked if she could quit the school yearbook to join the art club. What should I do?

A: It's okay to try different activities, but sticking with commitments teaches your child to show grit, or perseverance and mental toughness.

Explain that the yearbook staff is counting on her to help get the yearbook out. Find out why she doesn't want to continue. Is her job too hard? Does she want to join the art club because her friends are members? Then, brainstorm solutions. Perhaps your child could switch to a different role on the staff or get to know another member better by inviting her over after school.

Point out that she'll feel proud of herself for doing her best and meeting her obligations. And the perseverance that it takes to finish out the semester or year will serve her well in the future.♥



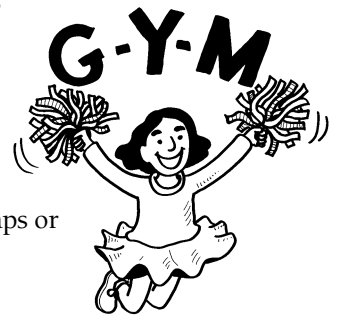
ACTIVITY CORNER

Action-packed spelling

Be active *and* practice spelling? Yes! Encourage your youngster to grab her spelling list and use these ideas to study.

Cheerleading

Give me a G! Give me a Y! Give me an M! What does it spell? *Gym!* Suggest that your child spell her words like a cheerleader. She could do cheerleading jumps or other moves as she calls out the letters.



Basketball

Head to a basketball court for this twist on Around the World. Take turns choosing a word to spell (*say, piece*). Then, stand in a different spot and say a letter of the word for each shot. Get one point for each basket you make—and double your score if you spell the word correctly. When all the words on the list have been spelled, the player with the most points wins.♥

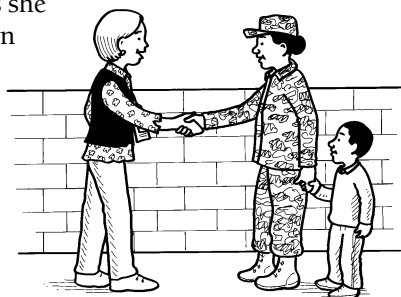
Communication counts

Build a strong relationship with your child's teacher by communicating regularly. Here are tips:

- Ask the teacher about the best way to contact her. Does she prefer email, notes in your youngster's backpack, or phone calls?
- Sign and return items as soon as possible. Your signature on a graded test or reading log

communicates to the teacher that you're interested in how your child is doing.

- Your youngster's life at home can have a big impact on his life in school. Talk to the teacher right away about changes like a new custody arrangement or a parent's military deployment. That way, you and the teacher will both be able to keep an eye out for any changes in his grades or behavior.♥



OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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Recipes for Success

Practical Activities to Help Your Child Succeed

OCTOBER 2016

Refrigerator Poster

Just hang your *Recipes* poster on the refrigerator and sneak in an activity when you have a few minutes. These fun activities will help develop school success and positive behavior. Check off each box as you complete the "recipe."

READING Family book club

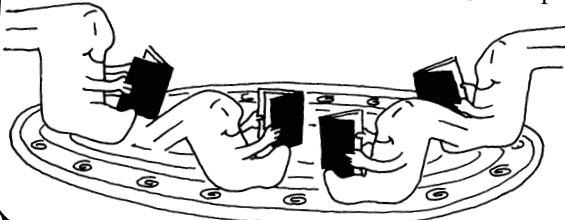
Want to get your youngster excited about reading? Start a book club with your family.

Ingredients: books

Together, decide on a book to read. Pick a date for your first club meeting, giving everyone enough time to finish the book. When the big day arrives, meet in a special place—the library, a coffee shop, or a cozy spot in your home.

Get the discussion rolling by asking open-ended questions like "What surprised you? Why?" or "What kind of friend would the main character make?" Encourage your child to back up his opinions with examples from the story, just like he'll need to do in school.

When you finish your discussion, select a new book and a date for your next meeting.



ENGINEERING Tinker away

Instead of tossing out old or broken household objects, you can use them to let your child think like an engineer.

Ingredients: basket, broken items (electronics, toys), screwdriver, household materials

Fill a basket with items for your youngster to explore. Be sure to make them safe by removing old batteries or unplugging them.

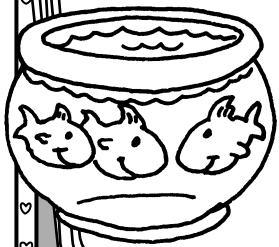
You might help your child use a screwdriver to take apart a toy vacuum cleaner or a radio to see what's inside. He could try to reassemble it and figure out how it worked. Or he might attempt to repair something. For instance, he can replace the broken handle of a bucket with rope or plug a hole in a torn beach ball with duct tape.



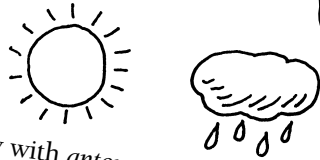
MATH

Have your youngster write the numbers 1–20 down one side of a piece of paper. Then, ask her to think of something that equals each number. Encourage her to be creative! Examples:

3 = the number of goldfish in our fishbowl, 16 = the number of legs on two spiders.



OPPOSITES



Play with *antonyms*, or words with opposite meanings, by having conversations with your child where you use as many opposites as possible. Instead of, "It's a warm, sunny day. Let's go outside," he could say, "It's a cold, rainy day. Let's stay inside." Can you "translate" each other's sentences to figure out what you really mean?

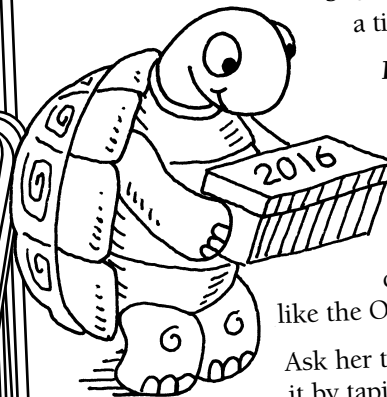
SOCIAL STUDIES Time capsule

Show your youngster how times change by creating a time capsule.

Ingredients: "time capsule" (a shoebox or similar container), paper, crayons, tape, marker

Talk with your child about what is popular this year. Examples: a bestselling book, a new comic, a clothing fad. Have her draw a picture of each item to put in her time capsule. She can also write about major events like the Olympics or a blizzard.

Ask her to put everything inside her time capsule, seal it by taping it closed, and write the date on the outside. Store the capsule in a safe place—to be opened one year from today!



Recipes for Success

Practical Activities to Help Your Child Succeed

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Character Corner

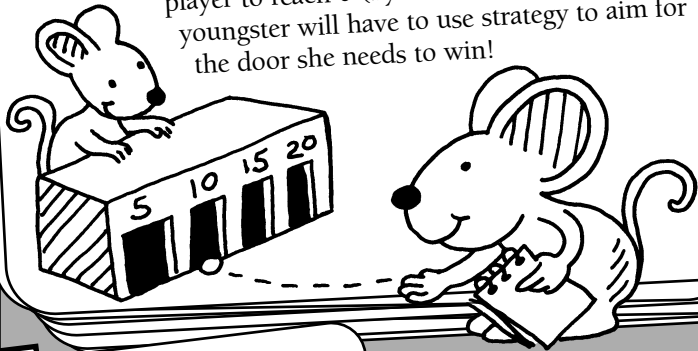
SUBTRACTION Marble mania

Open doors with this game of subtraction.

Ingredients: cardboard box, scissors, marker, marble or small ball, pencil, paper

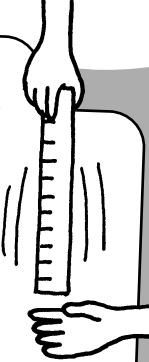
Cut four “doors” in one side of a cardboard box, making each narrower than the one before it. Then, have your child write a number—5, 10, 15, or 20—above each door. (The highest number goes above the narrowest door.)

Each player starts with 100 points. From about 1 foot away, take turns trying to roll the marble through any door. If you get it through, subtract its number from your score. The first player to reach 0 (by exact count) wins. Your youngster will have to use strategy to aim for the door she needs to win!



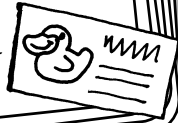
SCIENCE

How quickly can your youngster’s brain signal her muscles to react? She’ll find out with this experiment. Dangle a ruler above her outstretched hand. Let go, and have her catch it between her thumb and forefinger. Which number did she grab? Repeat a few times. How does her *reaction time* change?



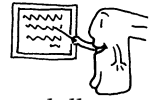
CREATIVITY

Encourage your child to create his own business card. He could dream up a name for a company he would like to own (Elliot’s Toy Store). Then, he can cut a small rectangle from construction paper and write in the name. Suggest he design a corporate logo and add a street address, phone number, and website address.



LEADERSHIP

Put your child in charge of a family meeting. Tasks like writing an agenda and moderating the discussion can build leadership skills. Point out that good leaders seek input from others. She might ask family members for agenda suggestions, for example.



FAIRNESS

Choose a favorite game. But instead of playing the usual way, let your youngster pick a rule to ignore, perhaps taking turns. Play the game without that rule. Then, talk about how rules make the game fair for everyone—and more fun!



CONTROLLING ANGER

This simple trick can help head off angry feelings. Together, think of a special word, such as “kangaroo.” When someone starts to get angry, say the word aloud. It will be a signal for him to take a deep breath and calm down.



READING

Enjoy this reading activity the next time you and your youngster are in the car, on a walk, or riding a bus. Ahead of time, write down a list of street names and road signs (Stop, Yield, One Way). When she spots one, she crosses it off. Try to get all of them before you return home.



Congratulations!

We finished _____ activities together on this poster.

Signed (parent or adult family member)

Signed (child)

LANGUAGE

Many common words have been shortened from other words. Examples: fridge for refrigerator, demo for demonstration, burger for hamburger. How many can you and your child think of? He’ll realize that he hears or uses many of them every day—and get a sense of how language evolves.

