



# Bryant Ranch Tuesday Letter

A National Blue Ribbon and California Distinguished School



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December 6, 2011  
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**Physical Fitness is important in PYLUSD...** We are very proud of the physical education program in Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District. Not only do we focus on academics but healthy lifestyles and wellness as well. The district program is based on the California State Framework and is designed to provide experiences in movement which will enhance physical, mental, and social/emotional well-being of **every** student. The goals of the program include: *movement skill and knowledge, self-image and personal development, and social development*. Our students receive 180 minutes every two weeks with instruction in movement exploration, basic motor skills, physical fitness/wellness, cooperative games, active games and lead ups to traditional sports. Wellness themes are also incorporated. Each year 5<sup>th</sup> grade students are measured on their progress. I am very proud of the students and staff at Bryant Ranch for promoting physical education. **Mr. Burwell** and his instructional aide, **Mrs. Crone**, are awesome! Here are the results from last year's class:

### Overall Summary of Results Physical Fitness Test

Additional info can be found at the CDE Physical Fitness Test web page. Scores are based on class of 2011. HFZ indicates Healthy Fitness Zone.

Physical Fitness Area	Total Tested in Grade 5	Number of Grade 5 students in HFZ	% of Grade 5 students in HFZ	% of Grade 5 students in needs improvement	% of Grade 5 students in needs improvement - high risk
Aerobic Capacity	148	124	83.8%	14.9%	1.3%
Body Composition	148	118	79.7%	16.2%	4.1%
Abdominal Strength	148	141	95.3%	4.7%	N/A
Trunk Extension Strength	148	148	100%	0	N/A
Upper Body Strength	148	130	87.8%	12.2%	N/A
Flexibility	148	123	83.1%	16.9%	N/A

As evidenced by the chart, 80% or more of our students are in the Healthy Fitness Zone in all areas. Way to stay healthy and fit for learning!☺

**Data-Driven...** Sometimes people ask “Why are we so data-driven these days in schools?” In the past decade there has been a lot of talk about “failing schools” in the public and educators want to be accountable for the great progress we have made. So with an abundance of information out there, we find it important to share data of all kinds with you for several reasons. Using data can make an enormous difference in school reform efforts by helping schools see how to improve school processes and student learning (which is the KEY ☺). Here are just a few of the things that data helps us do:

- Replace hunches with facts concerning what changes are needed
- Facilitate a clear understanding of the gaps between where the school is and where they want to be
- Identify the root causes for gaps so the school can solve the problem and not just treat the symptom
- Understand the impact of processes on the student population
- Assess needs to target services on important issues
- Provide information to eliminate ineffective practices
- Ensure the effective and efficient uses of dollars
- Generate answers for the community
- Continuously improve all aspects of the learning organization

The Bryant Ranch staff has been on the “cutting edge” of data-driven instruction for many years. We are always finding ways to improve our school and student learning.

**PTA's Penguin Patch Holiday Gift Shoppe** – This Tuesday-Thursday, December 6-8, students will have the opportunity to experience the holiday season with an educational, fun and exciting opportunity during their morning and lunch recess times. Parent volunteers will assist children with their holiday shopping, working within each child's individual budget, to help teach them the spirit of giving.



## *Be sure to mark your calendars . . .*

Tues-Thurs Dec. 6-8 9:45-1 p.m. Penguin Patch Holiday Gift Shoppe  
 Thursday Dec. 8 2:30-4 p.m. *Cinderella* practice in the Multiuse Room  
 Friday Dec. 9 PTA Staff Holiday Luncheon in the Multiuse Room  
 after lunch Accelerated Reader Celebration for all students who have met their AR goals

Mon-Fri Dec. 12-16 ***Student Valet Team B*** – Marissa Doria, Cole Voge, Kyle Hunt, Meera Shenoda, Madison Cusick, Vivian Boukhalil, Sarah Ruggles, Carol Boghdadi  
 Wednesday Dec. 14 8:30-11:30 3<sup>rd</sup> grade field trip to Yorba Linda Library  
 Thursday Dec. 15 10:30-11 a.m. Kindergarten Eagles and Owls Holiday Performance in the Multiuse Room  
 2:30-4 p.m. *Cinderella* practice in the Multiuse Room

**Mon-Fri Dec. 19 - Jan. 2 Winter Break – No School**  
**Mon-Fri Dec. 19 - 23 Child Care Open 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.**  
**Mon-Fri Dec. 26 - Jan. 2 Child Care Closed**



**Tuesday Jan. 3 Back to School**  
 all day Art Masters Assemblies for 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grades  
 2:30-3:30 Art Masters Inservice for parents and teachers – Multiuse Room  
 Thursday Jan. 5 2:30-4 p.m. *Cinderella* practice in the Multiuse Room  
 Mon-Fri Jan. 9-13 Second Trimester Progress Reports go home this week  
 Wednesday Jan. 10 6:30-8:30 p.m. Project Read Phonology Parent Training at the ESC, 4999 Casa Loma Ave., YL  
 Thursday Jan. 12 9 a.m. PTA Meeting – All are welcome!  
 8:30-10:30 5<sup>th</sup> grade assemblies with Ben Franklin  
 2:30-4 p.m. *Cinderella* practice in the Multiuse Room  
 Friday Jan. 13 all day PTA Jog-A-Thon Assemblies (Jog-A-Thon day is Friday, February 10, 2012)  
**Monday Jan. 16 NO SCHOOL – Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday – Child Care will be closed**  
 Thursday Jan. 19 Superintendent Dr. Dennis Smith visiting classrooms  
 2:30-4 p.m. *Cinderella* practice in the Multiuse Room  
 6-7 p.m. ELAC Meeting #2  
 Friday Jan. 20 Crazy Hat Day!  
 Assistant Superintendent Mrs. Candy Plahy visiting classrooms  
 Thursday Jan. 26 9:50-10:30 This is your first opportunity to attend the 60 Brag Card Storybook Garden.  
 Please turn in your Brag Cards (pre-counted and marked for this event) to the office by Fri., 1/20/12  
 2:30-4 p.m. *Cinderella* practice in the Multiuse Room



**\$1 Holiday Grams are a fun way to wish teachers, staff and friends**  
***Happy Holidays!***  
**Blank forms are still available in the school office. Delivery of the Holiday Grams will be on Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.**

### **The First Box Top Competition Ends December 16**

As of today **Fourth Grade** is leading the grade level competition, and the following individual classes are in the lead:

Kindergarten	<b>Ms. Langsdale</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> grade	<b>Mrs. Jones</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> grade	<b>Ms. Cruse</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> grade	<b>Mrs. Platt</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> grade	<b>Ms. McClain</b>
5 <sup>th</sup> grade	<b>Mrs. Smith</b>



The class counts are very close but there is still time. At the end of the collection period, the grade level with the most Box Tops will receive a 10 minute longer lunch recess and the winning class per grade level will receive ice cream! Be sure to turn in Box Tops to your class box, but if turned into the office, be sure to label your baggie with your teacher's name.