



The Wonderland Post

**FRIENDS OF
WONDERLAND
MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER**

by Caprice Crane

← ISSUE 01 →

• LAUREL CANYON • CA •

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THAT'S A WRAP ON ANNUAL GIVING!!!

We know you heard your FOW leaders when they said we have the best community, but it truly bears repeating. The FOW annual giving campaign just wrapped up, and through your generosity and the bonus of matching donations, the school raised \$619,645. This. Is. Huge. This is what helps Wonderland bridge the gap between what the school can afford and what it truly requires to offer the well-rounded education our children deserve. This is how our school pays for our amazing TAs, music and art classes, our full-time librarian, Ms. Myrtle and, of course, the very popular Coach Evan. These funds go directly toward providing resources, programs, and opportunities that may not otherwise be available due to limited LAUSD budgets -- things like updated technology, new playground equipment, extracurricular activities, and beautification opportunities (like the Native Planting Day we just had). But not only did you all rise to the occasion to help your kiddos do the same, you raised even MORE funding than we got last year (\$45,475 more)! What sets Wonderland Elementary apart is you. Your generous contributions directly enrich the educational and socio-emotional journey of every child in our community. Thank you for making a lasting difference. And speaking of making a lasting difference, FOW is paying for...

New Turf, Who Dis?

Did you hear? The Coyote Circle got a makeover! FOW brought in Earth Design to install a new, clean, environmentally friendly turf over break. This SYNLAWN® turf not only has a "Class A" anti-fire rating and stays 20% cooler than similar artificial turf products, but it's also way healthier for our kids! Many turfs include PFAS (polyfluoroalkyl substances), sometimes referred to as the "forever chemical." These can remain in the environment without ever breaking down over time. SYNLAWN® products have no detectable PFAS, which was the biggest deal in choosing which one we put in. The kiddos have returned from Thanksgiving break to a brand-new play area where they can stay healthy as they howl into new adventures. The Coyote Circle really needed a refresh so this is super exciting. Just let it be known: It wasn't the teachers' fault. And it wasn't the students' fault. It was the asphalt!

From the Ground Up



One of the PTA's core standing committees is From The Ground Up. And through generous donations from FOW, and under the guidance of canyon gem, Elaine Kim, we brought in 50 native plants from the Theodore Payne Foundation for Campus Beautification Day. These plants will not only grow to provide natural coverage at our gates, they'll save water, combat climate change, and provide habitat for our very important pollinators. Wonderland families were all invited to participate, and the kids showed up in droves throughout the day. Blending joy with conservation, the kids carefully helped water and plant the new plants, turning the Wonderland exterior into a lively ecosystem. These kids will have a sense of pride for years to come when they pass by and can say, "I planted that tree!"

ESSEN- TIALIST CORNER



Did you know that Wonderland is one of the few LAUSD elementary schools to have a full-time librarian? Our Marvelous Ms. Myrtle partners with teachers to inspire a love of reading in all of our students. Fun Fact: Ms. Myrtle has a 26 year-old daughter who went to Wonderland too!

The PTA Needs YOU!

In case you haven't heard, your \$14 membership fees contribute to hosting events like the Back-to-School BBQ, Saturday Playground, & Wicked Wonderland! Well, we have more exciting things planned for the rest of the year (Did someone say Valentine's Dance?) but we haven't yet met our membership goals! The simple act of joining truly does make a difference. Please sign up today so we can continue to enrich your kids this school year.