



## Important Dates

1/1-1/5: Winter Break

1/8 6 PM: PTA Meeting

1/12 11:30-12:30: Garden Club Meeting

\*adult must accompany student

1/15: Martin Luther King Day- No School

1/16: Dining Out: Cronies

1/22-1/26: Kindness Week

1/26 11:30-12:30: Garden Club Meeting

\*adult must accompany student

1/29: Teacher In-service Day - No School

2/5 6 PM: PTA Meeting

2/13: Dining out: Chipotle

2/16: Lincoln's birthday- No School

2/19: Presidents' Day- No School

2/23-3/1: Scholastic Book Fair

3/1-3/28: Read-A-Thon

3/1: Movie Night -Sherwood Forrest

3/4 6 PM: PTA Meeting

## Principal's Message

Happy New Year Serra Families!

We hope you all had a wonderful Winter Break and are ready for the greatness that 2024 will bring. A new year gives us an opportunity to reflect on years past and create new goals.

We hope you will work with your student to create a learning goal and a heart goal: How will you grow your brain? How will you grow your heart? My brain goal this year is to read more books. Last year I read 23 books and this year my goal is to read 25.

Hope to see you soon.

Mrs. Belitski

## President's Corner

Happy New Year Serra families! Thank you all for your support with fundraisers, donations, and volunteering the first few months of the school year. We have some fun programs, activities, field trips, and assemblies planned for the spring because of all the support and contributions! If you would like to help out with any of these events we would love to have you at our PTA meetings. They happen the first Monday of every month at 6pm. Hope to see you there!

### Executive Board:

Nicole Hagy, PTA President; Kristyn Meyer, Treasurer; Emily Dalton, Secretary; Michelle Brown, Parliamentarian; Erin Ueltschi, 5th grade chair

Contact your PTA at: [juniperoserrapta@outlook.com](mailto:juniperoserrapta@outlook.com) or visit [juniperoserrapta.org](http://juniperoserrapta.org)





# Program Updates



**Garden Club:** Garden Club meets every other Friday from 11:30-12:30 outside of room 7. Students should bring their lunches and a willingness to get their hands dirty! They must also have an adult present. Our next meeting is Friday, January 12th.

Current garden happenings: Garden club members met on Saturday, November 11th to build a garden box for Mr. Willis's 4th grade class. Students learned how to use woodworking tools to make the dream of a box a reality. Mr. Willis's class will begin planting in January for spring herbs and vegetables. During club meetings, we have been busy getting the garden ready for cooler winter temperatures by removing dying plants and sowing seeds for new growth. By January, students should be able to see the beginnings of chard, carrots, lettuce, and sweet potatoes.

Questions? Contact Laura Dixon at [Jserragardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:Jserragardenclub@gmail.com)

**Reflections:** Congratulations to the following participants whose Reflections projects advanced to the county level! These students will find out if they are advancing to State Level on January 9th:

Ella Thompson	Beckett Snelgrove
Maddux Halamicek	Owen Meyer
Isabella Valencia	Zoey Zych
Zoey Hagy	Katherine Madden
Parker Czerwinski	Zoey Pennington
Aaliyah Arriaga	

**Leadership:** Leadership is open to 5th grade students who wish to demonstrate the Guidelines for Success for all students and who have completed an application process. Contact Mrs. Belitski with any questions: [Anna.Belitski@venturausd.org](mailto:Anna.Belitski@venturausd.org)

**Noteables:** Directed by Ms. Heidi House, this is a free, non-audition choir open to students in grades 1-5. Participating students must commit to weekly rehearsals in preparation for their spring concert at Ventura High School. Further information about joining spring choir will be forthcoming. Contact Ms. Heidi with questions: [Heidi.house@venturausd.org](mailto:Heidi.house@venturausd.org)





# Dining Out

Take a break from cooking and support our school's PTA! Thanks to your support we earned over \$2000 with dining out fundraisers last year! Please join us at this year's local business Dining Out fundraisers.



## JUNIPERO SERRA DINING OUT FUNDRAISER

JANUARY 16TH, 2024  
FROM 9AM-8PM  
2855 JOHNSON DR VENTURA  
CRONIES WILL DONATE 20% BACK TO  
OUR SCHOOL PTA

# Yearbook News

Yearbooks are on sale! Hardcover books are \$25, and if you would like to include a "Hip-hip Hooray" for your student, please include an additional \$5. Order forms will be sent home with your student but will also be available in the office. The deadline for orders is Friday, April 12th.

Do you have photos of Serra programs or events? Please submit them to the yearbook at:  
[Juniperoserrayearbook@gmail.com](mailto:Juniperoserrayearbook@gmail.com)

# Fun Run Update

We had a very fun and successful Fun Run! The students enjoyed running "Under the Sea" and put their all into it even with the windy weather. Thanks to all your help and donations we raised over \$26,000! And congratulations to Mrs. Witt's class who came out on top with over \$3,000 raised. This earned them a chance to silly string Mrs. Belitski, woo hoo! Thank you again for supporting J. Serra students!

# The PTA needs YOU!

- Membership is only \$10 annually.
- Participation in meetings is encouraged but optional.
- Parents, family, community members, and teachers are all eligible to join!
- Visit [juniperoserrapta.org](http://juniperoserrapta.org) or scan the QR code below to join.



