

Dear Las Lomas Families,

The transition for third grade students from Las Lomas to La Entrada is exciting. A variety of activities are planned in order to smooth the way for students and parents. A panel of students and faculty from La Entrada will visit all 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes on Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. This panel describes what students can expect at La Entrada and answers students' questions. That evening there is an orientation for parents at 7:00 pm. Principal Potts and members of the 4<sup>th</sup> grade team will present more detailed information about curriculum, schedules and special activities. On Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, our third grade classes will visit La Entrada. They will tour the campus and have a sweet treat before returning to Las Lomas. Principal Potts also offers tours for incoming parents; contact their office for more information about tours. There is more detailed information about these events in today's *Roar*. Feel free to contact Principal Potts if you have questions about the transition. Having watched hundreds of children make this move to the "big school", including my own, I can reassure you that it will all be just fine!

The following article is about one of our support programs for English Learners. We are very fortunate to have this class available for students who are limited-English proficient. Please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Montre if you have questions. There is also information on the district's webpage under English Learners.

Until next time,

Sue Sartor

### **What is The Language Lab?**

Las Lomas has a special classroom just for English Language Learners. Located in room 19, the Language Lab provides intensive English Language Development (ELD) lessons for all K-3 students who are working toward acquiring English proficiency.

Nearly 60 children attend our ELD program and speak native languages which include Korean, Spanish, Japanese, Mandarin, French, Tongan, Danish, Swedish, Italian, Farsi and Finnish. We are a very international school community!

Teaching in the Language Lab is ELD teacher, Nikki Montre. Working alongside her are bilingual paraeducators Olivia Betancourth (Spanish), and Grete Santucci (Norwegian). Together they provide leveled small group instruction designed especially to meet the needs of English learners. Correlating with new ELD standards, the lessons focus on listening, speaking, reading and writing. Developing vocabulary and oral language skills are high priorities.

Our Language Lab provides a warm and friendly educational setting where English learners strengthen their English skills, make new friends, and learn alongside other

language learners. It is one of the many important support programs here at Las Lomas which help our students to thrive and succeed both socially and academically.