

Dear Las Lomas Families,

April is almost here and we are on the fast track! There are so many exciting activities planned in the next several weeks, be sure to keep a close eye on the *Lion's Roar* and website calendar so you don't miss out on anything!

**The Staff Appreciation Luncheon** is this Friday, April 3 at 11:45 in Cano Hall. Parent volunteers are welcome to come. This event will allow teachers and parents to enjoy a good meal together and thank one another for all that goes on at Las Lomas during the year. I hope you can join us!

**Third-to-fourth grade transition** activities start on Wednesday, April 1, when a panel of expert students, teachers and administrators come to third grade classes to share information and answer questions. That evening, parents may attend a presentation at La Entrada to learn more. On Thursday all third grade students will travel to La Entrada for a tour. The third and fourth grade teachers work collaboratively to ease the transition "jitters" for both students and parents. See more details in this edition of the *Roar*.

**Incoming Kindergarten** students will enjoy the Round-Up at the end of the month. If you know families with children who will be eligible for kindergarten in the fall, encourage them to register their child in the office and attend this event. There is a parent orientation scheduled for the evening of April 28 in Cano Hall. Our Kindergarten teachers have prepared a wonderful, detailed presentation. I look forward to meeting some of our new incoming class of students on May 1st!

As you know, the **teachers are focused on learning** and implementing the Writing Workshop instructional model. Coaches from the Teacher's College Reading and Writing Project at Columbia University will be on site for a week at each campus in April to work directly with our teachers. Implementing a new instructional model takes time for teachers to meet, discuss, learn and plan together. As a result, there will be days when the teachers are out of the classroom to focus on these important initiatives. Teachers make sure that the substitutes have clear plans to carry on instruction in the classroom. District staff has worked diligently this past year to recruit and interview substitutes in order to have quality education continue in the teacher's absence. Your children directly benefit from the time teachers spend collaborating together.

As you can see, there is never a dull moment at Las Lomas! Thank you to all of you who help making all of these events and activities possible.

Until next time,

Sue Sartor  
Principal