



LEOPARD INC.

Spring Into March

March marks a season of growth, renewal, and new possibilities.

Just as spring brings fresh beginnings, this time of year offers students an opportunity to reflect on their progress, set new goals, and continue building confidence in their learning.

Educational research shows that when students recognize their growth and stay motivated, they are more likely to develop resilience and long-term success. As we move into the final stretch of the school year, we encourage our students and families to embrace challenges, stay curious, and continue striving for excellence.

Did You Know?

- Research shows increased daylight in the spring months is linked to improved mood and student motivation.
- Studies suggest that exposure to natural light can support better concentration and academic engagement.
- Educational research indicates that setting new goals mid semester can improve student persistence and performance.
- Spring is often associated with renewed energy, making March a great time for students to refocus and finish the school year strong!

ISSUE #08

MARCH 2026

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MESSAGE FROM OUR OFFICE MANAGER, RAISA RAMIREZ

Celebrating Student Growth: Summative ELPAC Completion

Earlier this month, our students participated in the Summative ELPAC (English Language Proficiency Assessments for California). This annual assessment helps us understand how well students are developing their English listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills.

The results from this assessment will help guide instruction and ensure students continue to receive the support they need to grow and succeed. Families will receive their child's individual score report once it becomes available.

We are so proud of the effort our students put into showing what they've learned!

Did You Know?

- The English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC) was first administered in 2018, replacing the former California English Language Development Test (CELDT).
 - The ELPAC was developed to better align with California's updated California English Language Development Standards, which focus on how students use language in real academic settings.
 - The California Department of Education introduced the ELPAC to provide a more comprehensive and meaningful way to measure English learners' progress in listening, speaking, reading, and writing.
 - Since its launch, the ELPAC has helped schools across California better support multilingual learners and guide instruction based on students' language development needs.
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Women Who Opened Doors to Education



Tsuda Umeka

Why she matters:

Tsuda Umeko was a Japanese educator who helped transform women's education in Japan during the late 1800s. She was one of the first Japanese women sent to study in the United States and later founded what is now Tsuda University in 1900.

She believed that women deserved access to high quality education and worked to create opportunities for girls and women in Japan when those opportunities were extremely limited.

Her work helped shape modern education for women in Japan and continues to influence education today.

Tsuda Umeko helped open doors for women's education in Japan at a time when few opportunities existed. Her belief in access, equity, and opportunity reminds us that education has the power to transform lives across cultures and generations.



María Montessori

Why she matters:

Maria Montessori was an Italian physician, educator, and innovator who transformed how we think about teaching and learning.

Born in 1870, she became one of the first female physicians in Italy at a time when very few women were allowed to pursue higher education. Her medical background led her to closely observe how children learn, which ultimately shaped her educational philosophy.

Montessori developed the Montessori Method, a child centered approach that emphasizes independence, hands on learning, and respect for a child's natural development. Instead of traditional teacher led instruction, Montessori classrooms allow students to explore, make choices, and learn at their own pace.



Mary McLeod Bethune

Why she matters:

Mary McLeod Bethune was an educator, leader, and advocate who believed education was the key to opportunity and empowerment. Born in 1875 in South Carolina to formerly enslaved parents, Bethune understood firsthand the power of education to change lives. She was the only child in her family to attend school, and that experience inspired her lifelong commitment to expanding educational opportunities for others.

In 1904, Bethune founded the Daytona Educational and Industrial Training School for Negro Girls in Florida with just \$1.50, five students, and a deep belief in the importance of education. Her school eventually grew and later merged with another institution to become Bethune-Cookman University, which continues to serve students today.

Bethune's influence extended beyond the classroom. She served as an advisor to U.S. presidents and founded organizations that promoted educational equity and leadership opportunities. Her work helped shape educational access and opportunity for students across the country.

April at a Glance



Spring Break

Thursday, April 2nd to Friday, April 10th

Minimum Days (Wednesdays @ 1:30PM)

April 1st , 15th , 22nd , 29th

Israel Independence Day Celebration

Thursday, April 23rd

As we move forward into the coming weeks, we remain focused on supporting student growth, celebrating achievements, and strengthening our school community. Research shows that students are more motivated and engaged when they recognize their progress and set meaningful goals, particularly during the second half of the school year (Hattie, 2009). Additionally, celebrating student accomplishments has been linked to increased confidence and continued academic engagement (Dweck, 2006).

Strong partnerships between families and schools also play a critical role in student success. Studies consistently show that when families remain actively involved in their child's education, students demonstrate higher achievement, improved attendance, and stronger motivation (Hill & Tyson, 2009). As we continue through the spring months, we look forward to supporting our students' continued growth, celebrating milestones, and working together to ensure a successful finish to the school year. Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to our school community.
