



# Blount's Busy Bee Bulletin

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## Gladstone Elementary

### Spring Squeeze

Before our field trip on Wednesday we learned a little bit about the history of La Verne. Did you know that it was originally populated by Spaniards, Ignacio Palomares and Ricardo Vejar? The land was named Rancho San José. A entrepreneur named Lord bought a lot of the property after the deaths of both original landowners. The town was called Lordsburg after this man and later renamed La Verne after Lord's death in 1917.

Our Spring Squeeze field trip was at Heritage Park. We saw one of the original houses in La Verne which dates back to the 1880s. We planted a Johnny Jump-up plant in half of an empty orange rind, went on a short truck tour, and saw some sweet farm animals (turkeys, chickens, goats, and a pig). We all had a great time. We will be learning more about the impact of citrus production in La Verne and San Dimas soon. How many of you have some kind of citrus label as a decoration in your home?

Thank you to our parent volunteers who were able to join us: Mrs. Allison, Mrs. Cervantes, Mrs. Ibañez, Mr. Palpant, and Mr. Reynoso.

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#### Special points of interest:

- *Raffle Question*
- *Math Update*
- *Curriculum Snapshot*
- *Developmental Assets*

## Accelerated Reader Update

So far, our class total for the number of  
words read is. . .

6,054,216!

Keep reading! You all got this! :)

March  
Madness Challenge:  
40% of Your Goal  
&  
85% Accuracy or  
Higher. :)

# St. Patrick's Day

In honor of St. Patrick's Day, we continued a Room 7 tradition by taking a survey of the kindergarten classes, two first grade classes, and Mrs. Cardeno's class (K-2). We asked them if they believed in leprechauns. Prior to visiting the classrooms, students in each family group were given a role. The communicator told the surveyed class what the survey was all about. The counter asked the students to raise their hands for each choice and counted the votes. The recorder recorded the information for each choice and the reporter shared the information with the rest of our class after the groups returned. Students practiced their roles before we went to the classrooms so they knew exactly what to do. As the reporter shared the information, Mrs. Blount recorded the data on a chart. Once we had all the information, we found the range, mode, and median for each category (Yes, No, Maybe). **Most everyone surveyed overwhelmingly believe that leprechauns exist.** It was a great lesson working on our math skills and working cooperatively in a group. As a follow-up, our class is writing about our own opinions of the existence of leprechauns, and we will do our final copy on our Chromebooks.

At lunchtime on Thursday we had potato (yam) races, White sweet potatoes vs. red sweet potatoes. The potato that went the farthest won that leg of the race. A little more than half of the group predicted that the red sweet potato would win the most races. The students kept track of which potato won each race. Afterwards, we discussed the results and came up with some conclusions. The white sweet potato won four times and the red sweet potato won three times. (There were three ties.). The white sweet potato did weigh a bit more than the other one. Some of the variables that may have affected each race were the rate at which the students let go of the potato and the sweet potato's indentations. The red sweet potato had quite a bump.

The students were given special leprechaun names and we called each other by those names all day long! We played "Would You Rather" throughout the day, and used Irish sayings when we could.

We ended our special day with shamrock cookies. Yum! We also received a treat that reminded us of "something" at the end of a rainbow. Fun!!



## Art

Our art project for the last two weeks was coloring a shamrock using different tones/shades of green. Students could use any combination of the following: markers, crayons, colored pencils, construction crayons, and color sticks. The end result is a pleasing shamrock with patterns of green. The shamrock can be seen as three clovers or six halves with individual patterns. Math is everywhere! :)

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# A Chip Off the Old Potato

This week our St. Patrick's Day related experiment centered around a potato. When the end of a potato is put in a solution of sugar water, it will float as water is more dense (heavier) than the potato. What will happen to the potato if plain water is slowly poured into the container? The potato floated between the two solutions. The potato is lighter than the sugar water, but heavier than the plain water! The plain water was colored with green food coloring so that we could tell the difference between the two. We decided to keep the potato in the solution to see how long it would continue to float. As of this writing the potato is still floating! This was a fun experiment to review the scientific method.

## Some Irish Fun!

**Q: Why would you never iron a four-leaf clover?**

**A: You shouldn't press your luck!**

**Q: When is an Irish potato not an Irish potato?**

**A: When it is a french fry!**



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Newsletter Raffle Question: Week of March 14, 2022

\*Turn in this form on/before March 25, 2022.

Did you enjoy the Spring Squeeze or St. Patrick's Day better?

Write at least two sentences explaining your opinion. Show your editing marks, too.

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Child's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_