

STUDENT LIFE



KIRK O' THE VALLEY

~ A SCHOOL COMMUNITY SINCE 1961 ~

How Kirk Students Can Spring into Green

Although the weather has been a bit temperamental these last few weeks, it's hard not to notice that Spring is definitely in the air. Flowers are blooming, baseball season is upon us, daylight saving time gives us longer days to spend having fun outside. Easter is around the corner, and Earth Day reminds us all to think of what we are doing to help the Earth and be green (not just on St. Patrick's Day) all year long! There are lots of ways we can contribute to a greener world. We can plant flowers or even a tree in our homes just as some classes have done at school. One class took a trip to *The Tree People* where they learned about conservation, sustainability, and how to save and protect our environment with trees. They even got a tree to take and plant at home! You and your family can visit *Tree People* too, hike and enjoy the serenity of the trees, so that you can be renewed and inspired to protect trees as well. Another easy way we can be green as a student community is by recycling. After doing homework or artwork, we can set aside scrap paper to use for the future, or if the drawing simply doesn't make the cut, you can throw it in the paper recycling versus the regular trash. You can recycle your printer cartridges by bringing them to Staples or Costco and even get rewards for it. Crayola has a marker recycling program called ColorCycle where you can send your old markers, but it's on hold for now because of Covid but something to keep in mind. The second graders have a nifty way of recycling little things around the house by using them every week on Engineering Tuesday, when they build something new and amazing using all the bits and pieces! The last and probably easiest way to spring into green right now is to simply take your socks and shoes off and plant your feet into some lush green grass. Sometimes, that's the best way to appreciate and enjoy the Earth and ground ourselves to it. Happy Spring!

DIY LIFE



Easter Peeps S'mores Dip

Ingredients

- Butter or Crisco for greasing
- 3 cups (18 ounces) semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 18 Peeps marshmallow bunnies
- Graham crackers and Pretzels for dipping

Instructions:

Preheat the oven to 450 degrees F. Place oven rack in the middle of the oven. Place a spoonful of Crisco or pat of butter on a paper towel and grease the baking dish.

Pour the chocolate chips in the baking dish and spread evenly. Arrange the Peeps bunnies on top.

Place the baking dish in the oven, keeping an eye on the Peeps. Bake until the Peeps start to brown lightly, puff up big, and start to crack, about 6 to 7 minutes. Try not to over-brown the Peeps!

Serve warm with graham crackers and pretzels, or any other dippers you prefer.

GAMES LIFE



Word Search grid with a list of words to find:

- Rainbow
- Pot of Gold
- Irish Blessing
- Shamrocks
- Leprechaun
- Saint Patrick
- Lucky
- Clover
- March
- Corned Beef
- Erin Go Bragh
- Green

Spring Funnies That Will Make You Giggle

- Does February like March? No but April May
- Why is everyone so tired on April 1st? Because they just finished a long 31-day March!
- What season is best to go on a trampoline? Spring-time
- What do you get when you plant kisses? Tulips
- Why did the farmer bury his money? To make his soil rich!
- When is the most impossible time to plant flowers? When you haven't botany.
- What falls but never gets hurt? The rain
- What is the chick's favorite vegetable? Eggplants
- What type of bird should you never take to the bank? A robin
- Why is the letter A like a flower? The B comes after it!
- Knock, knock! Who's there? Beezer. Beezer who? Beezer buzzing, it must be spring.
- Knock, knock! Who's there? Rover! Rover who? Rover the rainbow!



FAMILY LIFE

Talking to Kids About Women's History

March is Women's History Month, and while many of our kids will be learning about strong women in the classroom, there's no reason why we can't expand upon those lessons at home.

Women's history shouldn't be limited to what's already been published and celebrated in textbooks. This month provides the perfect opportunity to talk about the powerful contributions of strong women within our own families and communities. The dinner table is a great place to get the conversation started.

Try asking your kids:

- Who are some female role models that you look up to?
- Why do you think there's a Women's History Month when there isn't a Men's History Month?

This month is also a great time to talk about the history of women in your own family. In our house, we'll be discussing the great grandma who learned to play piano by ear as a child so she could entertain guests in her parents' basement speakeasy, and the other great grandma who co-founded a free graffiti removal service in the LA area in the 1980s.

The Los Angeles Public Library has some fantastic features dedicated to historical women, including an online lecture called "Women in Skateboarding: Past, Present and Future." Visit www.lapl.org/womens-history to see the whole roundup.

Lastly, I encourage all of us to take a moment to celebrate the incredible female leadership within our own Kirk community.

KIRK LIFE

Ms. Idolor, Kirk O' The Valley's second-grade teacher joined our community in 2021. With over twenty years of teaching experience under her belt, Ms. Idolor believes in teaching children to love learning by encouraging them to have a growth mindset. Every child can achieve amazing outcomes, when they believe in themselves.

Her inspiration to become a teacher began when her daughter was about to start preschool. Along with a few good friends, she decided to homeschool their children and her love of teaching turned into a career when her daughter began the first grade.

When she's not in the classroom, you can find her outdoors working in her garden, walking her dog, hiking, going to the beach, and taking road trips up the California coast.

Welcome to Kirk, Ms. Idolor!

PTF LIFE

And, the winner is...OTTY!

Thanks to our students, teachers and staff for participating in the Kirk mascot naming contest. Otty's name was revealed during the March 2022 elementary school assembly, the first in-person school assembly in two years. It was a fun surprise for all when Otty joined the assembly and did the Kirk cheer with The Wizard of Oz cast. Thanks to PTF Board members Jenny Grebow and Sam Macdonald for coordinating the naming contest.



Mark your calendars! The PTF has two great events planned to celebrate Kirk O' The Valley being a school community since 1961. The 60th Anniversary milestone festivities include the 2022 Fun Run and Trike-a-thon on March 25 and the Kirk Gala - Casino Royale* celebration at the Hilton Hotel in Woodland Hills on April 30. Both events are fundraisers to support our students' and to ensure an extraordinary education at Kirk O' The Valley. Visit PTF.KirkSchool.org for up-to-date information. *For adults only.

