

BELLA MENTE NEWSLETTER

Updated Weekly

January 4, 2026

Dear Bella Mente Families:

Happy New Year! As we welcome the start of a new year, we would like to take a moment to thank you for your continued partnership and support. Your involvement and encouragement play an important role in helping our students grow, learn, and succeed.

The beginning of a new year is a time for reflection and renewed energy. We are excited about the opportunities ahead and remain committed to providing a safe, supportive, and engaging learning environment for every student. Together, we will continue to build on our successes and help our students reach their full potential—academically, socially, and emotionally.

Thank you for the trust you place in our school and for the many ways you support our staff and community. We look forward to working closely with you in the months ahead and celebrating our students' progress along the way.

We wish all of our families a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year.

Should you need assistance before students return on Wednesday, January 7th, our Front Office is open from 8:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 6th.

Please see reminders below about Drop Off locations:

| Drop Off “Kiss/Hug and Go” Location is: | |
|---|----------|
| HERE | NOT HERE |



Also, please:

- Do not drop off students on Huff St. near the exit gate. The Huff St. exit is not a school entry point. With cars exiting, it is not safe for our students to walk in front of moving cars.
- Do not stop your car at the entry gate to campus. Move all the way forward. If you are late or not, when you stop your car, get out, and walk your child to the gate or the Front Office to sign your child in, you are stopping the flow of traffic behind you and making cars go around an empty car, causing unnecessary frustration to other drivers.



Lost and Found is located in the Health Office.

Please check during school office hours 7:30 am-3:45 pm.

We highly recommend that you write your child's name on the clothing tag so we can return the clothing to your child.

Upcoming Virtual Cooking Class with Mr. Wagner!

Do you enjoy cooking? Mr. Wagner will be hosting Virtual Cooking Classes! The cooking dates are below:

- 01/14/26
- 02/11/26
- 03/11/26
- 04/08/26
- 05/16/26

Upcoming Events:

| Date | Event | Time |
|--------------------|--|--|
| Wednesday 1.7.26 | Students return | 8:15 a.m. |
| Wednesday, 1.13.26 | End of Semester 1 | |
| Thursday, 1.15.26 | Coffee Mingle at the Gazebo | 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. |
| Monday, 1.19.26 | MLK Day, No School | MLK Day, No School |
| Tuesday, 1.20.26 | Hearing/Vision Screenings for selected students and grade levels | All Day |
| Wednesday, 1.21.26 | Hearing/Vision Screenings for selected students and grade levels | All Day |
| Thursday, 1.22.26 | Grade 5 Rawhide Ranch Field Trip | 8:00 a.m. - 5:15 p.m. |
| Wednesday, 1.28.26 | Minimum Day: Staff Development | Dismissal at: 11:45: Primary 12:10: Grades 1-8 |
| Thursday, 1.29.26 | School Spelling Bee | 9:45 a.m. in the MPR; families of spellers welcome to attend |
| Thursday, 1.29.26 | Middle School Honor Roll Assembly | 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. |
| Friday, 1.30.26 | Spirit Day: Dress Like a Staff Member | All Day |

After-School Enrichment Programs

If you have any questions, please contact Anthony Beaver, Community Outreach Director at abeaver@bellamentecharter.org or 760-621-8948 EXT. 310 regarding our updated and upcoming amazing after-school activities:

- **Mondays (No class on January 5 and 19; February 16):**
 - **Gymnastics 2:50-3:50 TK-2 MPR:**
 - Students learn foundational skills such as rolls, handstands, bridges, balance basics, flexibility, and coordination—all while celebrating milestones along the way. Whether it's a first cartwheel or mastering new tricks, we build confidence through progress and joy through movement!
 - Lower Elementary YOGA, 3:10-3:50, in Room 221, October-January
 - Good News club, 3:15-4:45, in Room 206
- **Tuesdays:**
 - Karate, 2:50-4:15 in the MPR: Year round
- **Thursdays (No class on February 19; March 12):**
 - **ART Adventures, 2:50-3:50 TK-3rd, in the MPR:**
 - Scholars explore color, texture, layering, and artistic self-expression through imaginative projects. Each student will create their own mini art portfolio, filled with personal masterpieces that showcase growth, creativity, and artistic voice!
- **Fridays (No class on February 20; March 13):**
 - **STEAM Explorers, 2:50-3:50 for K-3rd, in the MPR:**
 - Get ready for bubbling experiments, volcanoes, potions, design challenges, playful explosions, cause-and-effect discovery, and BIG excitement! Lessons build week-to-week so students always feel capable, curious, and proud of what they create! Expect classic after-class comments like... *"Can I have a lab coat for Christmas?"* (A scientifically verified good sign.)

INDEPENDENT STUDY



Independent Study

When your child is absent from school, please complete an Independent Study Contract. The Bella team will help you enroll and provide students with the appropriate resources to keep up with class work.

Email: IS@bellamentecharter.org to learn more!

PARENT VOLUNTEERS



Parent Volunteers

Interested in volunteering on campus? Returning volunteers must complete all forms and online training to be an active volunteer during our school year. For more information, please contact Anthony Beaver at abeaver@bellamentecharter.org.

Brighter Bites

Distribution is on Thursday, January 22nd. Please sign up in the Front Office if you are interested in receiving free boxes of vegetables and other food items.

Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

Happy New Year from your PTA! We are always welcoming new members. Join us through the link to stay informed. Participate as little or as much as you'd like. Volunteering is not required!

<https://jointotem.com/ca/vista/bella-mente-leopards-pta>

Warmly,

Bella Mente Academy

PTA
Leopards