



Bel Aire Website

**C**ollaborative • **L**earners • **E**mpathetic • **A**ssessment-Capable • **R**esilient



Dear Bel Aire Families:

Thank you all for all you contribute to the well-being of Bel Aire School and staff. We appreciate all that you do: PTA chairs, Foundation staff and chairs, classroom volunteers, lunch and Lunch Bunch volunteers, Peter Pan volunteers, hospitality (thank you for all the treats!), everyone that smiles and says a friendly greeting, and anyone that contributes in any way to the care and keeping of the staff and students. You all contribute to the health, happiness, and sanity of our Bel Aire community.

Have a safe, happy and restorative winter break. See you all in January!

The Bel Aire Staff

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### A NOTE FROM MS. CALA

We continue to regularly talk about C.L.E.A.R. at Bel Aire. For example, individual classrooms rotate as our Monday Morning Meeting “host” and choose a theme related to *Collaboration*, *Learning*, *Empathy*, *Assessment-Capability*, or *Resilience*. Prior to the meeting, the hosting classroom engages in conversations about the meaning of the theme, and then students collaborate to create a poster to share with the school. The poster is printed in our tech department and revealed at the meeting. Hosting students take turns commenting on the poster, and then the poster goes up in the classroom and in the library for the remainder of the school year.

As we enter the year 2020, please take a moment to check in with your students about their understanding of the C.L.E.A.R. theme for the year.

Below are some examples of questions parents can ask their children to start a conversation.

### Collaboration Questions

- Who are some classmates with whom you work well? Why do you think it is easy to work with that person?
- What makes it challenging to work with other students?
- When you are working well with your peers, what are you doing? What are you not doing? What are they doing?
- How does it feel when you work with others to create or do something?
- Why do you think it is important to learn to work well with others?
- What have you done to support another student's learning?

### Learning Questions

- What are some of the strategies you use when you feel **stuck**, or you don't know what to do?
- What are some **strategies** you'd like to start using? Can we brainstorm some together?
- Who are some classmates you would describe as **good learners**? What do they do? What strategies do they use?
- What is something you **worked hard** to learn today? this week? this year?
- What **questions** did you ask today?
- What do you do when you make an **error**? How do you feel when you make an error?
- What **risks** have you taken?
- What **goals** have you set for yourself as a learner? What new goals could you set for January?

### Empathy Questions

- What does empathy mean to you?
- Can you **think of a time** that was hard for you (socially or academically)? Did anyone step in to help or provide companionship? How did that feel?
- Can you think of a time that you noticed another student struggling? Did you step in to **help** or provide **companionship**? How did that feel?

### Assessment-Capability Questions

- What **feedback** did you seek today? What feedback did you receive?
- What **progress** have you made in your learning? How do you know?
- What was one of your **learning targets** today? Did you get there? How do you know? What do you need to do to get there?
- What is **success criteria**? How do you know when you meet it?

### Resiliency Questions

- What are some of your **strengths**? How can you use them when something is hard?
- What are some ways you have demonstrated **courage**?
- How can we use **humor** in difficult situations?
- What do you think it means to have **perspective** in a challenging situation?
- What are some ways we can **manage our feelings** when we're upset?
- How do you feel when **overcome** an obstacle?
- What are a few things about which you are **grateful**?
- Do you think **perfection** is possible? Are some people perfect?
- Do you think it's helpful to **blame** others?
- What do you think it means to **accept** what you can't change?
- Do you think everyone experiences **setbacks** as a normal part of life?

Keep in mind that we regularly use this language with students so even though these questions might seem a bit sophisticated for 3rd through 5th graders, they can do it!

Sincerely,

**Lexie Cala**

Principal, Bel Aire Elementary

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**UPCOMING DATES**

- December 20 | No Bake Bake Sale
- December 23 -January 6 | NO SCHOOL - Winter Recess
- Tuesday, January 7 | First Day Back

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## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SPC MEMBERS

Thank you again for all of the heartfelt submissions for our Strategic Planning Collaborative. There was an unusually large pool of highly qualified applicants from which to choose this year.

Please welcome the following new members to this year's Collaborative:

- Allison Hart
- Chuck Hornbrook
- Carolina Martinez
- Valeria Pinna
- Jacob Riley
- Jennifer Wang

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### Don't Forget to Contact the Office

Please remember to contact the school office whenever your child will not be present for the start of school at 8:00am.

Medical, dental, ortho, injury, and religious holidays are excused reasons to be late or absent, but you must notify the school office in order to be excused.

Unexplained absences are tardies are marked unexcused until we receive clarification.



**BEL AIRE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** PTA



## FROM THE BEL AIRE PTA

Thank you Bel Aire Families!

This holiday season we are thankful to our Bel Aire families for all the giving and participation this school year! A big thank you for supporting Adopt A Family of Marin Holiday Program. Adopt A Family works to prevent homelessness and promote stability for Marin families throughout the year. Your support of the Holiday Program made this holiday season so much brighter for ten families in Marin County. Thank you for making an impact!

[From RUSD PTA](#)

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## THE FOUNDATION FOR REED SCHOOLS



Backstage at the Winter Concert - the Music program is supported by the Foundation for Reed Schools.

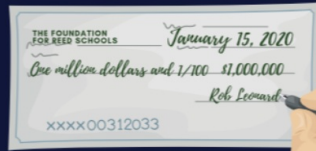
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BEL AIRE SCHOOL

*we are:*

# C.L.E.A.R.

COLLABORATIVE • LEARNERS • EMPATHETIC  
ASSESSMENT-CAPABLE • RESILIENT

2019



2020

**C**ollaborative • **L**earners • **E**mpathetic • **A**ssessment-Capable • **R**esilient