

# GUARDIANS OF THE ASTROGALAXY

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2017**

Monday, September 18 <b>Character</b>	Picture Make-ups DELAC Meeting 8:30-10:30
Tuesday, September 19 <b>Achievement</b>	
Wednesday, September 20 <b>Respect</b>	Modified Bell Schedule Parent Leader Workshop 8:30-11:30 Department Meeting
Thursday, September 21 <b>Responsibility</b>	Parent Meeting 8:30 & 6:00  Cuidate-2:35  Guardians of the Galaxy Movie 2:45-5:00
Friday, September 22 <b>The CARR Way</b>	Student Free Day  Teachers: Duty Day or Day Off

It's hard to believe we are already looking at the end of our first 6 week grading period. Each grading period is a check up for our students and for ourselves, and I am looking forward to seeing how we can continue to support our staff and students. Thank you for supporting our students and school in providing your input and suggestions. As a result of your feedback, Athletic Director Rivera and I worked out a plan that will ensure that our students will be able to



Sun Spotters

participate in all sports this school year. The compromise for preserving all coaches and sports was that we would have a short season for each. I am relieved that our students will be able to continue to participate in this meaningful extracurricular activity. Another feedback suggestion was the idea of bringing teachers together once a week to share a meal. With the two lunch schedules and our teachers' commitment to our students, many of you are working through your lunches and we are not taking the time to bond with colleagues.

Perhaps we can continue to consider how to implement this idea in a way that will work for as many teachers as possible. Lastly, a teacher volunteered ideas regarding how to

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dissuade students from acting out in class and taking learning time from the other students. This is a concern that we have all had at one time or another. Thank you for all of the feedback.

In the pictures featured here we have students working with a sophisticated technical tool called a Sun spotter. Jill Magruder asked for this great tool for our students through Donor's Choose. Our students are very fortunate to have such dedicated teachers. Jill always goes out of her way to come up with engaging lessons to keep her students' interest peaked and working hard. I also wanted to take an opportunity to let you know what was discussed in the 6th Grade Assemblies. While the students might feel that we are being tough on them and that our consequences seem punitive, we are holding our students to a high standard because we care about them. I talked to our kids about what the American Dream is and how it takes hard work and dedication to reach the goals they might have. I also showed them an Eric Thomas video called "The Grind Don't Stop". Eric Thomas, a motivational speaker, explains to the viewer that all men are created equal, but that some work harder than others. He also talks about grinding and continuing to do your best whether you are rich, poor, struggling or successful. The difference between himself and another person is that he never stopped struggling and keeps on working hard. Griselda and I also shared our stories about our struggles, including my retention in 5th grade and Griselda's difficulty as an EL student. I feel that the students really connected to the information that we shared and that it is the beginning of a positive change in our students' mindsets. While students will be staying after school for extra math review, I believe they understand why and will have more motivation to progress. Links:

[6th Grade Assembly Presentation](#)  
[Eric Thomas "The Grind Don't Stop"](#)

Please find below a few words from our new staff member, Kristi Almanzar.

My name is Kristi Almanzar and I am the new Support Teacher here at Carr Intermediate. I graduated from Cal State Fullerton with a Bachelor's in Child and Adolescent Studies. In addition, I hold a Multiple Subject Credential, as well as a Master's in Education. This is my 13<sup>th</sup> year teaching and I am excited to begin it at the secondary level. I have taught grades K-8, at some point, but primarily at the elementary level. Though I enjoy teaching elementary students, I also enjoy teaching and connecting with young adolescents and am excited for this new venture. Lastly, I have a 21 year old daughter who is



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currently studying Child Development and wants to pursue a career in teaching. I have a strong passion for teaching and it has trickled its way down to my daughter, which makes me proud. I am ready for a successful and productive year here at Carr.

Kristi will be working with our 6<sup>th</sup> grade Physical Education teachers supporting them in our efforts to have our students read and write two days a week through their P.E. classes. Kristi is very experienced in helping students to develop their reading skills. She will use diagnostic tests to identify weaknesses and provide additional targeted interventions through small group instruction. I am very happy and pleased that Kristi has joined the Carr Family. Please help me in welcoming her. She will be working out of room 508.