

Challenger News

Keeping Parents and Campuses Connected

September 2017



Welcome to Challenger School's 2017–2018 School Year!

We are excited to begin another year of learning and fun. To our new students, parents, and staff: welcome! And to our returnees: welcome back!

Our Mission

is to prepare children to become self-reliant, productive individuals;

to teach them to think, speak, and write with clarity, precision, and independence;

to lead them to recognize and value their individuality and unalienable rights;

and to inspire them to embrace challenge and find joy and self-worth through achievement.

September at a Glance

- **August 31**
Parent Workshop (PS)*
- **September 4**
Labor Day—No School
- **September 5–7**
Evening for Parents (K–G8)*
- **September 9**
Challenger Emergency Notification System Testing
- **September 13**
Washington, D.C., Parent Meeting* (G8)
- **September 22**
Student Council Elections
- **September 28–29**
Western Days (PS–K)



CHALLENGER
SCHOOL

* Parents are encouraged to attend

Facts, Fun, and Information!

This newsletter is a great resource to help you stay abreast of upcoming curriculum events and student achievements.

In addition to this newsletter, K–8 students receive an insert called Classroom News, which offers academic classroom information for parents.

Preschool parents receive the Fun Facts insert, which explains what children will be focusing on and suggests activities that you can do at home.

To stay updated and informed, keep an eye on Facebook and our website at ChallengerSchool.com, and watch for the occasional notice that we'll send home!



Enrichment Classes

Be sure to take advantage of the enrichment classes offered during Extended Classtime at your campus. There is no additional charge beyond Extended Classtime tuition for many of these classes; however, some programs offering specialized content may require additional fees. A drop-in fee applies for students who are not signed up for Extended Classtime.

Classes are available for students in kindergarten through eighth grade and vary by campus. In past years, offerings have ranged from sports to drama to foreign languages and beyond. First semester classes begin soon.

Evening for Parents (K–8)

Please make plans to attend our Evening for Parents this month. This special event is designed to promote a positive working relationship between you and your child's teacher for the benefit of your child.



During the evening, you will visit your child's classroom, where teachers will present important information about your child's class and answer questions you may have. Look for an invitation with dates and times.

Eighth Grade Washington, D.C., Trip

All parents of eighth graders are invited to an informational meeting on Wednesday, September 13. You'll be able to learn about the plans for this year's trip to our nation's capital. An invitation with additional details will be coming home with your student.

Emergency Notifications— Keep Us Updated!

Earlier this year, you received a form listing contact information you've supplied to us. This form provides a way for you to update your information. (Of course, you may visit your campus office to make updates any time.)

In the event of a campus evacuation, emergency, or unexpected closure, Challenger will use an automatic notification system to inform your contacts via email, text, and automated voice messages.

For example, should Challenger need to evacuate your child's campus, an emergency notification would alert you to the evacuation and give instructions for where and how to pick up your child. As more information became available, additional notifications would go out. Your reply would let us know that you received the message and have accepted responsibility for your child.

The automatic notification system allows us to communicate far more quickly and consistently than we could with individual phone calls from staff. To ensure you receive important notifications, **please make sure your contact information is current.** We plan to perform a test of the system in early September.

Important Dates

Mark your calendars now for our two main breaks during the school year. Challenger will not be in session during the dates listed below:

Winter Break

December 18–January 1

All Regions

Spring Break

March 12–16

TX

March 26–30

ID, NV

April 2–6

CA, UT

Back to School



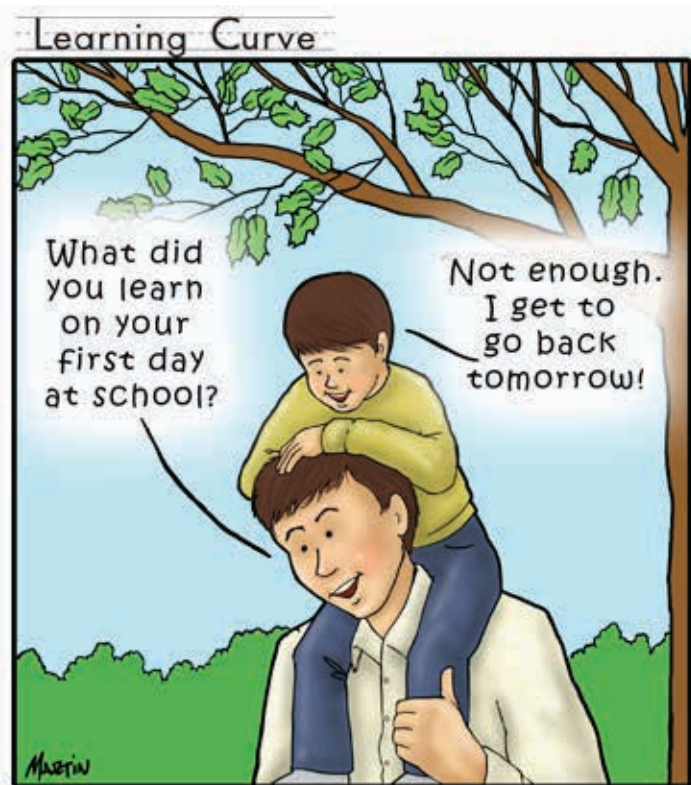
Challenger students are ready for a new year of learning and fun.

Fitness Challenge (1–8)

Students in first through eighth grade will participate this school year in the Challenger Physical Fitness Program.

Physical fitness training will start next month in five events: curl-ups, the shuttle run, the endurance run, arm strength, and the sit and reach.

Students who achieve the qualifying standards in all events during official testing will receive a Physical Fitness Award at the end of the year.



DAR Essay Contest (5–8)

Students in fifth through eighth grade will soon receive information about the national American History Essay Contest sponsored by the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR).

This annual contest provides Challenger students the opportunity to refine their writing, research, and creativity skills.



The topic for this year's essay is "World War I: Remembering the War to End All Wars."

Specific guidelines will be distributed in class. Challenger students have traditionally done very well in this contest at the local, state, and national levels.

Constitution Day and Patriot Day (K–8)

Patriot Day—September 11
Constitution Day—September 17

Challenger elementary students will commemorate these two special days with an assembly this month.

As our students understand and respect man's unalienable rights, they begin to develop values that will help them to think for themselves and cherish the liberties secured for them by the Founding Fathers.

Remember, full dress uniform is required for assembly days.



Student Council Elections

Students in fifth through eighth grade will vote to select the 2017–2018 student council for their campus. Those who wish to run for student council offices should request candidate applications from their teachers.



Preschool

Parent Workshop

Don't miss our Parent Workshop at 7 p.m. on Thursday, August 31. Your support and implementation of Challenger's learning and behavior techniques will help maximize your child's learning and development.



Challenger preschoolers have fun while learning skills and developing self-reliance.

Beginning This Year Report

We are so excited to see your child's progress! The "Beginning This Year" report will come home in early October. You will see your child's skill level at the outset of his preschool year and look ahead to all he will learn.

Logo for Home Use

If you are interested in purchasing the Terrapin Logo 4.0 program used in Challenger computer classes or Terrapin Logo/Web, visit the company's website at www2.terrabinlogo.com.

Call your campus for a discount code you can use to save on your purchase at checkout.

Programming in Logo or Pascal is never required as homework, however.

Western Day (PS-K)

We enjoy the historic American culture of the Old West in this celebration during the month of September.

To get into a western mood, preschool students may come to school dressed as cowboys and cowgirls. Kindergartners may accessorize their uniforms with bandanas, belts, cowboy boots, and hats. (But leave the six-shooters back at the ranch, please.)

Our young cowpokes will sing campfire songs, "spin yarns," and do other activities centered around America's Old West heritage.

We reckon that students will have a rootin'-tootin' good time!



Preschoolers and kindergartners will have some boot-scootin' fun while learning about Old West culture at Western Day.

Uniform Information

Visit ScholarWear.com to see store locations and hours and to shop and place orders. California customers can call ScholarWear at (408) 973-1701; all other regions may call (801) 565-WEAR. Refer to the School Uniform Policy for details.

To ensure that your child's uniform pieces remain crisp and new-looking throughout the duration of this school year, ScholarWear.com also offers information on caring for uniforms.

