



**Carnelian Tiger representing the House of Carnelian at the 2020 House Rally*

LA CIMA CHARTER SCHOOL • MARCH 2021

MARCH MEMORIES

CLIMB HIGH CHRONICLES

A MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL BELLE

Dear La Cima Family,

PREPARATION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY:

The 21st century skills movement is not a new paradigm shift. It has been around for about ten years. Instead of focusing on the “Three Rs” (reading, writing, arithmetic) of old we are shifting to preparing scholars for global competition.

The “four Cs” (communicators, creators, critical thinkers, and collaborators) are needed to face today’s challenges. The development of critical thinking skills is an ongoing theme for learning at La Cima. We do not attend school in order to memorize math facts and the spellings of numerous words. Critical thinking is a valued skill for all students. There is one obvious claim of education- one cannot learn well without thinking well. All scholars need to be able to analyze, interpret, monitor accuracy, and use reasoning to solve problems. Deep thinking leads to higher levels of concentration and improved thought processing. Critical thinking demands that the learner be both creative and master academic standards in order to generate and judge products of thought. Students may research a topic through reading or personal experiences created in school and at home. They will then synthesize information, make comparisons and draw conclusions. They will communicate their findings using well-chosen modes to share their outcomes based on the evidence collected.

Learning mathematics to support the development of 21st century skills requires problem solving experiences that go beyond rote memorization. At La Cima, we are committed to providing those experiences and choosing the curricular tools that support this endeavor.

We will share more with you about the curriculum changes in the near future.

PROFICIENCY AND GROWTH:

At La Cima we monitor scholars’ progress toward proficiency and measure growth. Proficiency is achievement on grade level based on the content standards for English Language Arts and mathematics. Growth is the degree of movement towards or beyond proficiency.

Our instructional team gathers data every day about how scholars are performing. Be sure to inquire about your scholars' proficiency and growth for this past trimester.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH REFLECTIONS:

Thank you for your support and commitment to our amazing virtual Black History Month celebration. It was so joyful to see mothers and daughters dance to the beat of the djembe drum as led by our very talented, Mr. Babacar M'Baye! We enjoyed stories from African-American authors with African-American characters. We checked our own black history knowledge during our trivia night. I extend a special thank you and appreciation to the members of La Cima's black history month committee: Ms. Joseph, Mr. Babacar, and Coach Sullivan. Ms. Ware exhibited exceptional and relentless leadership of the team in seeing this experience of black excellent through to its end!

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Be sure to make reading to and with your child a part of a daily routine. The statistics make it clear that this makes all the difference when achieving admissions to post-graduate institutions. Let us prepare today for a successful tomorrow.

I truly miss seeing our scholars in person and I look forward to the day we return safely to in-person instruction. Until then please stay safe, wash your hands and wear a mask.

ALL THE BEST,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Letta Belle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

PRINCIPAL BELLE



TIPS ON HOW TO CELEBRATE WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH:



READ A BOOK ABOUT HISTORICAL FEMALE FIGURES

Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History, for example, profiles women who managed to be fearless trailblazers in a world that didn't accept them, while Women in Science—50 Fearless Pioneers Who Changed the World features the women in science who have been criminally forgotten.

MAKE A CRAFT

Make an astronaut helmet to honor Mae C. Jemison (the site says Sally Ride, but why pass up an opportunity to teach your child about the first black female in space, too!). Create paper airplanes for Amelia Earhart, a corn husk doll for Laura Ingalls Wilder or draw self-portraits in honor of Frida Kahlo.

SEND THANK YOU NOTES TO THE STRONG WOMEN IN YOUR LIFE

Sit down with your kids and write a list of the strong women in their lives; then write out the qualities that make them strong. If your children are having a hard time, try suggesting adjectives—the idea is to get them thinking about why they love women (or, if they're too little for all that, a simple "thank you" will do).

READING AWARENESS MONTH

This month we welcome parents as reading partners (PARP). Look out for invitations to read to your child(ren's) class(es)!

READ IN DIFFERENT WAYS

Switching up the reading methods help the story stick! Some of the different ways to read include having the children read the book out loud or taking turns reading (I read a page, the child reads a page, etc.). You can also build a fort together and then read books inside!

DRESS UP AS FAVORITE BOOK CHARACTERS

Help your child pick out some clothes or accessories to dress up as a favorite book character, or even as a character from a brand new book that you've just read together. The possibilities are endless!

SURPRISE YOUR KIDS WITH A NEW BOOK OR TWO

You can either take them to the store and let them choose their own, or you can surprise them with a new book that you picked out!



SPECIAL MOMENTS SHARED DURING OUR BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

At La Cima, we continue to celebrate and honor the Black voice by featuring photos of our scholars and staff from last year's Black History Month Celebration! Alongside the lessons of Black history, it's also critical to honor the resilience, creativity, and vitality of Black people in the face of inequity and violence, past and present. What better way than to use this month and every month as a practice for creating a world for our scholars that demands displays of Black joy all year-round? During the rest of this year, we urge our families to take time to engage in new conversations, research Black owned brands to support, and continue to learn about the struggles and perseverance of the Black community as well as the revolutionary act of Black joy.



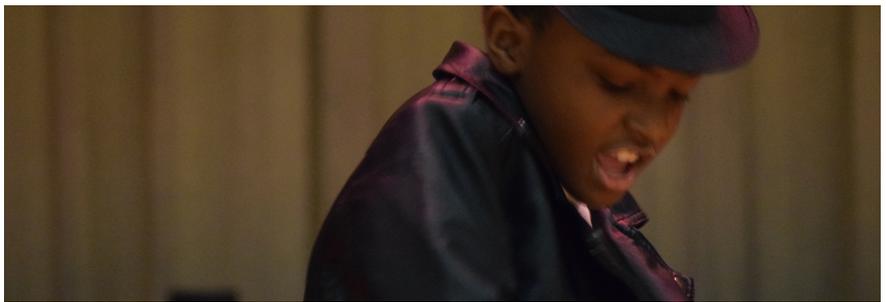
OUR LA CIMA OUR WORLD (WINTER CONCERT)



HARLEM RENAISSANCE MUSICAL PERFORMANCE



WEST AFRICAN DANCE & DRUMMING EXPERIENCE



FOR THE CULTURE TALENT SHOW

LIVE BLACK HISTORY MUSEUM



Let's keep making great memories La Cima Family!

MARCH 2020

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

1 LET'S CELEBRATE WOMEN'S HISTORY// READING AWARENESS MONTH!!

2 Today we honor ANGELA DAVIS! Research the contributions of this political activist!

3 Today we honor SHIRIN EBADI! Research the contributions of this human rights activist!

4 Today we honor HAWA ABDI! Research the contributions of this human rights activist!

5 Today we honor BERTA CACERES! Research the contributions of this Honduran activist!

6 Today we honor TEGLA LOROUPE! Research the contributions of this world athlete and activist!

7 Prepare for another week of literacy by reading for 20 minutes!

8 CHALLENGE: Write a poem about all things that are GREEN!

9 Today we honor CHARLENE TETERS! Research the contributions of this Native American artist and educator!

10 Today we honor BERTA CACERES! Research the contributions of this Honduran activist!

11 Today we honor TEGLA LOROUPE! Research the contributions of this world athlete and activist!

12 Today we honor HAWA ABDI! Research the contributions of this human rights activist!

13 Prepare for another week of literacy by reading for 20 minutes!

14 ELA Interim Assessment

15 Half Day of classes

16 Today we honor CHARLENE TETERS! Research the contributions of this Native American artist and educator!

17 Today we honor BERTA CACERES! Research the contributions of this Honduran activist!

18 Today we honor TEGLA LOROUPE! Research the contributions of this world athlete and activist!

19 Prepare for another week of literacy by reading for 20 minutes!

20 Math Interim Assessment

21 NO SCHOOL: Classes resume on Monday, March 22nd

22 Today we honor CHARLENE TETERS! Research the contributions of this Native American artist and educator!

23 Today we honor BERTA CACERES! Research the contributions of this Honduran activist!

24 Today we honor TEGLA LOROUPE! Research the contributions of this world athlete and activist!

25 Prepare for another week of literacy by reading for 20 minutes!

26 Today we honor LELY HAYSLIP! Research the contributions of this Vietnamese-American activist!

27 Today we honor AUDRE LORDE! Research the contributions of this civil rights activist!

28 Today we honor TEGLA LOROUPE! Research the contributions of this world athlete and activist!

29 Today we honor BERTA CACERES! Research the contributions of this Honduran activist!

30 Today we honor CHARLENE TETERS! Research the contributions of this Native American artist and educator!

31 Today we honor AUDRE LORDE! Research the contributions of this civil rights activist!