

TUTOR NEWS

SERVING ELEMENTARY STUDENTS
IN THE CLAREMONT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

February 2018

Arlene Pirolo, Editor

No school and no tutoring on Feb. 12th and Feb. 19th.
Tutor Training # 7 is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 9th; # 8 is scheduled for Feb. 23rd.
Urgent need for additional tutoring during the college students' breaks and new semesters:
Feb. 1st – Feb. 16th. Contact your Site Supervisors if you can tutor an extra day or two and/or
BRING a FRIEND during this critical period!

From Our Program Director By Jan Creasey



It is interesting and awesome how many people volunteer with CLASP. Did you know, that during any given week, over 180 high school, college, and community tutors mentor students and help with homework? In addition to volunteer tutors who work directly with children two hours a week, CLASP has many, many volunteers who work behind-the-scenes. Twenty-four community members serve on the CLASP Board. Ten committees, including Budget, Tutor Recruitment/Support, Program Support, Publicity, and Development, have members working to increase funding, write newsletters, make recommendations, and evaluate the program. In addition, countless others in our community know of CLASP and promote this organization at book club meetings, walks in the morning, or classes during the day.

CLASP benefits from all of these volunteer efforts, continuing and new. During the next few weeks, if you see an unfamiliar volunteer at your site, give it a go and say Hello! For a new tutor, the first day of volunteering can be a bit confusing: What do I do? Where do I sit? How do I start? What did I sign up for? As an experienced tutor, you can help. Just say give it a go and say Hello! to help them get started and to make them feel welcome.

Each site has a variation of the board that shows the student-tutor pairings for the day. Take a look at it with the new tutor, help them find the student folders, and grab a seat. As the controlled-chaos of the first few minutes subsides, you can explain how the hour works and what they can do to help. Show them the Tutor Record sheet. Just skimming it gives a roadmap of what happens: The student finds the homework, shares the packet or agenda with the tutor, and they make a plan. Tutoring begins and the hour is quickly over.

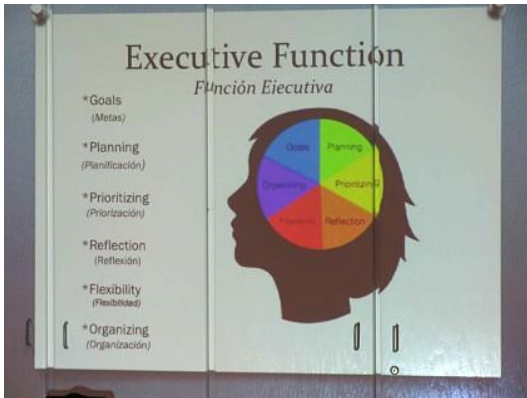
Over the next few weeks, as college students begin their spring semester, CLASP traditionally welcomes new tutors to each site. Give it a go and say Hello! Your outreach will help new tutors get settled and started, and is very much appreciated.

Tutor Trainings



On Friday, January 19th, **Amber Verdi**, Director, Special Education with the Claremont Unified School District led a full house session on “Homework: How to Get-It-Done.”

During CLASP, we tutor the children recommended by teachers as those needing extra help to complete their homework. They might need more explanation. They might need more time. They might need one-on-one help to organize their work and make a plan for the work to be completed. Amber suggested ways to help with all of this.



Help children learn to set goals, make a plan, prioritize, reflect, be flexible, and organize their homework.



Amber instructed tutors on Executive Functions that children need to learn to be successful with their homework and in their lives.

On Friday, February 9th, **Michelle Wishner**, the Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) from Sumner Elementary School, will present an introduction of the CUSD K-6 English-Language Arts program, **Wonders**. This program is new to both students and teachers, and it will be helpful for us to see what reading instruction looks like and sample the homework assignments students will bring to CLASP.

Hopefully, you've been attending these wonderful Tutor Training sessions. If you haven't been, we welcome you to begin attending. We know you'll be pleased with the information you'll gain.

Always check your email for information about additional up-coming training sessions. Sessions are held on Fridays at CPC from 3:30 pm – 4:30+ pm.



Kay Held, CLASP's Featured Tutor of the Month



Kay Held was born in Pomona and grew up in San Dimas and La Verne. She received her BA from La Verne College (before it became University of La Verne) and then earned a Master's in Education from Cal Poly, Pomona.

Kay taught in San Mateo for two years and in Azusa Unified for 33 years – 27 years teaching middle school science and six years teaching at the elementary school level.

Kay and her husband, **Paul Held**, have been married for 45 years. They met at Pilgrim Pines, a church camp in Yucaipa, where they were both on staff one summer. They have lived in Claremont nearly 40 years and have one daughter who lives in Pasadena.

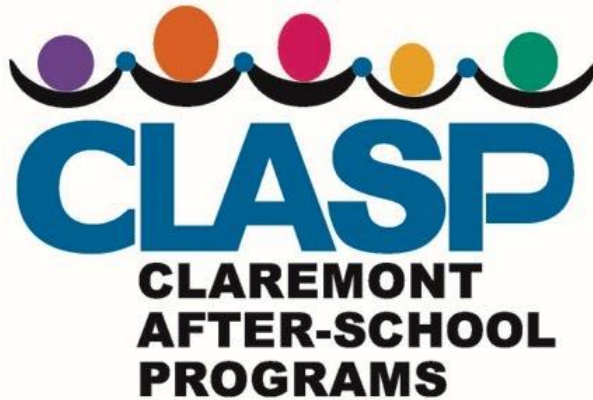
Kay joined CLASP a couple of years ago when she retired. She says, "It was time to give up my career as an educator, but I didn't want to give up teaching altogether." She further shares her experience saying, "I enjoy being with the students and helping them find those, 'Aha' moments. I learn as much as they do or more. It's always a challenge to find a way to help someone understand a concept. I share my experience about CLASP with other adults and hope my enthusiasm will motivate them to become CLASP tutors." [THANK YOU, KAY!]

In addition to tutoring, Kay is active with Claremont UCC church, participates in Pilgrim Pacers (a group of racewalkers), and she is a knitter and a reader. She also enjoys playing golf once a week with a group called Sandtrappers. She says she loves the camaraderie of the other women as well as being outdoors.

When asked to share a memorable experience she's had with CLASP, Kay told this story. "One time I was tutoring a student who was looking for something in his backpack and a huge amount of candy kept coming out. I couldn't believe how much candy he had, so I asked him about it. He said that his teacher was letting him and his friends have a party the following day to celebrate their identity. They were so troubled by all the negative statements in the news about their ethnicity that the boys had gone to their teacher to see if they could make a statement about who they are, and that they are good people."

She continues about her story, "I loved that he took the time to talk about this with his teacher and was also very impressed that she helped them to do something positive that meant something to the boys. I know this story isn't about me and a student, but it was something that reminded me about how what we hear and say can impact children in such a powerful way, negatively or positively."

Kay's listening to and caring about her students demonstrates her ongoing concern for helping children learn, grow, and become better people. According to **Lauren Cassatt**, CPC's Site Supervisor, "Kay also has a handle on one of our more challenging students." CLASP is very fortunate to have Kay as part of the tutoring community, and we hope she is successful in recruiting others, like herself, to become tutors. GO KAY!



CLASP Needs Your Help!

We are looking for volunteers who want to make a difference in the lives of Claremont elementary school children. Can you volunteer for two hours during one afternoon per week?

You will be a friend and tutor for children who need help in order to complete their homework and develop their skills. You may choose from five community sites serving either K - 3rd or 4th - 6th grade students.

Please join over 200 volunteers (including members of the community, college, and high school students), so that we can serve more children in need this year.

For more information, please contact:

Marit Warren, CLASP Tutor Coordinator
909-450-1079, office@clasp4kids.org
Jan Creasey, Program Director
909-204-0127

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Bring a Friend/Double Up



CLASP needs extra tutors during the weeks of January 16th through February 16th. With the new semester, many of our college students, either haven't started classes yet or won't be continuing to tutor with CLASP.

So . . .

If you are able, will you tutor an additional day during these weeks?

Could you bring a friend to tutor with you one day during these weeks?

We know you don't need a prize, but if you **Bring a Friend** or **Double Up** during these weeks, your name will be entered in a raffle - just to show how much we appreciate you! The prize will be something great!

This is Your Newsletter

Please submit articles, photos (with names), jokes, activities, anecdotes, stories, events, or anything else that might be of interest to tutors to **Arlene Pirolo**, Editor, either via email a.pirolo@verizon.net or text messages (909) 560-3671.



Kids' Korner

CPC kids filled out a questionnaire about their holidays. Here are the questions they were asked and some of their more interesting responses.

1. What was the best gift you gave to someone else? What made it special?



Diana: I gave my cousin a stuffed animal, and it was so special because she was smiling.



Emilio: I gave my brother a shirt with his favorite plane, and it was special because he wants to be a pilot.

2. What was the most exciting thing you did during the break?



Daniel: I gave my family members a hug and a thank you. I spent time with my mom and helped her.



Nallely: I went shopping for candy and piñatas for my baby sister's first birthday.

3. My favorite holiday food I had over break was...



Emilio: My mom's famous pasta.



Carlos: I have my mom.

4. This will be the best year ever because...



Chelsea and Annelise: We go to CLASP, and CLASP is fun!

5. In 2018 I want to get better at...



Daniel: Math, writing, and being nice.



Adan: Math, listening, focus, cleaning, school, and sports.

Jezenia Martinez, Art Recreation Leader, led a New Year Rocket making activity at all five sites. Students made straw rockets and decorated them with their wish for the new year. Here are a few.

GS's Rocketeers



- Roberto:** I have a dream to get a Ferrari.
- Kevin:** I have a dream to get a lot of Kit Kat candy.
- Frazier:** I have a dream to go to school to get friends.
- Alondra:** I have a dream to go to school to be a teacher when I grow up.
- Adrian:** I have a dream to get a motorcycle someday.



Israel: Cooking, especially sushi.

CVA's Rocketeers



Adrian, CVA, decorated his rocket with an "OMG" sticker!

CVA Kids' responses to various post-break and holiday questions...



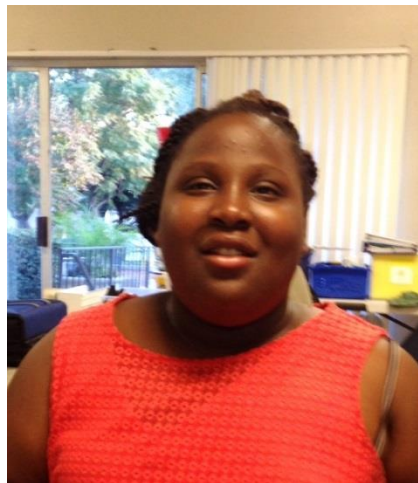
Benafsha shared what she knew about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "He fought for black people to have the same rights as white people."



Idris told us what he did over the break. "Mostly everyday I did nothing. Just chilling out."



Siyar told us what he did over the break. "I went to play with my cousins, I got chocolate, a Monster Truck and Play Dough Bars."



Nikarlla's New Year's Resolution, "To be nicer to my brother and sister."



Important Way to Help CLASP!

Every time you shop at Amazon you can help CLASP earn money.

- First, Sign on to **Smile.Amazon.com**
- Then register and select “**Claremont-After-School Programs**” as your charity of choice.
- After that, all you have to do is make your purchases at Smile.Amazon.com and a portion of your purchase amount will go to CLASP.

Don't forget the critical step...don't just sign in to Amazon, but go to **Smile.Amazon.com**

Protect Everyone's Health

If your student is coughing or sneezing or displaying any other symptoms of illness, ask your Supervisor for masks for both you and your student to wear. Your Supervisor will determine if the student should be sent home, or he/she will find a way/place for the student to rest until the session is over. Also, be sure to use hand sanitizer liberally!



Drivers Needed

If you are available to help transport other tutors to your or their sites, please contact your Site Supervisor and fill out the Driver Information Form. Your help in this regard will help to ensure that there are enough tutors for all our students.



Staff and Site Information

Blaisdell Park

440 S. College Ave.
Mon, Thurs, 3:00 – 5:00 pm
Wed, 2:00 – 4:00pm
Grades 4 – 6

Site Supervisor

Cheryl Palmer-Bird
909-367-8034
cpalmerbird@gmail.com

Claremont Presbyterian Church

1111 N. Mountain Ave.
Mon, Tues, Thurs, 3:00 – 5:00 pm
Grades 4 – 6

Lauren Cassatt
970-379-1299
lcassatt@mac.com

Claremont Village Apartments

965 W. Arrow Hwy.
Tues, Wed, Thurs, 3:15 – 5:15 pm
Grades 1 – 6

Jim Keith
909-451-1913
jim.keith9@verizon.net

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

1700 N. Towne Ave.
Mon, Tues, 3:00 – 5:00 pm
Wed, 1:30 – 3:30pm
Grades 1 – 3

Cristina Moreno
909-518-7950
cristina_moreno5@yahoo.com

Wheeler Park

626 Vista Dr.
Mon, Tues, Thurs, 2:35 – 4:35 pm
Grades 1 – 3

Maria Martinez
909-630-4140
msanjuanamartinez@yahoo.com

Program Director

Jan Creasey
909-204-0127 (cell)
909-624-9174 (home)
clasp.office@gmail.com

Tutor Coordinator

Marit Warren
909-450-1079 (cell)
office@clasp4kids.org

Office Assistant

Sandy Fenton
909-736-7457 (cell)
clasp.assistant@gmail.com

CLASP | 2017-2018 CALENDAR



AUGUST '17						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

28-31 CLASP Enrollment
30 1st Day CUSD

FEBRUARY '18						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

9 Tutor Training #7
12 Lincoln's Day/No CLASP
19 President's Day/ No CLASP
23 Tutor Training #8

SEPTEMBER '17						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

1, 5-8 CLASP Enrollment
11-14 Welcome Back Tutor meetings
18 CLASP begins
22 Tutor Training #1

MARCH '18						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

9 Tutor Training #9

OCTOBER '17						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

6 Tutor Training #2
20 Tutor Training #3

APRIL '18						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

2-6 Spring Break/No CLASP
13 Tutor Training #10

NOVEMBER '17						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

1 No CUSD/No CLASP
3 Tutor Training #4
10 Veteran's Day/ No CLASP
20-24 Thanksgiving/No CLASP

MAY '18						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

2 Volunteer Dinner
17 CLASP last day

DECEMBER '17						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

8 Tutor Training #5
18-29 Winter Break/No CLASP

JUNE '18						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

14 Last day CUSD

JANUARY '18						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

1-15 Winter Break/No CLASP
16 CLASP resumes
19 Tutor Training #6

JULY '18						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
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