 **IN THE CLASSROOM**

This week, [third grade] began a Roam Around the Ancient World block, and the first place we’re visiting is ancient China. We’re learning about their rich and beautiful language, culture, and contributions to the world.

We started with the Mandarin character for "ting" ("listen"), which is made up of five parts: ear (hear), eye (see), mind (think), heart (feel), and undivided attention. Native English speakers often don’t know the difference between "hear" and "listen", but how wonderful for native Mandarin speakers that when they learn the character, they also learn what it MEANS to listen.

**SPANISH VERSE**

Exciting news! Ms. Eneida Sweringen, our beloved Spanish teacher, will be saying the school verse every Wednesday morning for the rest of the school year. If you are interested in learning more about our Spanish program, check out the PowerPoint attached to this post that was presented at the last BOCC meeting.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE CORNER**

In January's Social Justice Corner, we discussed how "wisdom" is acknowledging that we don’t know everything and that we need to be open to learning new things. Now let's consider wisdom from a different angle: Who holds wisdom? What does a wise person look like? When was the last time you sought wisdom from someone whose racial identity was different than your own?

True wisdom can only come from exposure to diverse perspectives. Diversity is not only necessary to better understand our community and the world at large, but it also makes learning so much more interesting. We recommend you seek out the following teachers in your quest for wisdom: Layla Saad, Ali Meders-Knight, Jennine Capo Crucet, Helen Zia, and Tim Wise.

**FAIRYTALE FORUM LAST FRIDAY**

Last Friday afternoon, Daniel Parker joined Blue Oak Charter School via Zoom to discuss the use of Fairytales in the lower grades and Kindergarten. More information about Daniel Parker and his credentials can be found in previous ParentSquare posts.

This forum was recorded and will be made available to the Blue Oak community soon. Keep an eye out on ParentSquare for the video link and more details later this week.

“**When you talk, you are only repeating what you already know. But if you listen, you may learn something new.”** – Dalai Lama