



ELEMENTARY VALIANT NEWS

MEET Mrs. De Leon

Mrs. De Leon is our new **2A teacher!** A mother of two, she's dealt with it all, from teaching kindergarten in the Philippines, her home country, to preschool all the way up to sixth grade from her time in North Carolina and, now, California! Although she's experienced many different grade levels. Mrs. De Leon's favorite group to work with are the little ones! They're fun, energetic, and oh-so-cute! When she has free time, Mrs. De Leon enjoys spending time with her

family, watching movies, and reading adventure and romance books. **"The community has been so welcoming,"** -she tells us about her experience at SG. **"Whenever I don't know where to go, someone helps and shows me."** She says she loves her class! Let's give a warm welcome to Mrs. De Leon in 2A!



MEET Mr. Hampton

Mr. Hampton is our new **elementary music teacher!** When he started to play music he, originally didn't want his trombone, but as he said, **"Practice makes permanent!"** He is all about music, whether it's practicing, playing, or producing music. When he was learning music and practicing his skills, he was handed a CD album of Joseph Alessi. As soon he had heard the music, he said it was **"like hearing gold"**. Mr. Hampton found St. Genevieve in an endearing way, wanting a fulltime job in music where he can have fun at playing music. When he saw one



our students passionate to play, he knew that SG was the place for him. Mr. Hampton is part of the bands **Luke Carlsen** and **The Fresh Rhythm!** You can sometimes find Mr. Hampton playing rocket league or disco golf. Mr. Hampton's favorite food he's tasted are picanha steak from Brazil, jamaican jerk chicken, and haggis from Scotland! Let's welcome Mr. Hampton to SG!

MEET Ms. Li

Ms. Li is our new **7B homeroom teacher and middle school math teacher!** Since the first day of Ms. Li's student life in China, she had fallen in love with teaching and taken inspiration from the wonderful teachers in her community like her mother, her first ever teacher, and our very own, Mr. Gulsoy! **When she was a student at SG, Mr. Gulsoy motivated Ms. Li and inspired her career to flourish.** Ms. Li has earned her Masters Degree in teaching, and prefers to get to know her students through teaching and learning with them. A fun fact about Ms. Li is that her favorite food in China is hot pot, in Michigan, s'mores, and in California, Mr. Hyke's burritos! Her favorite holiday is also Chinese New Year!



MEET Mrs. Gomez



Mrs. Gomez is our new **1B homeroom teacher!** She is a mother of two children who attends Saint Genevieve as well, and she was previously our preschool director! She already has experience

in teaching because, funny enough, she mentored teachers how to work with children! She sure is the expert! Mrs. Gomez loves make adjustments to help lots of children; she's even learned sign language! She grew up in the tropical state of Hawaii, and moved here to California. She likes to take vacations in colder climates such as Anchorage, Alaska! Mrs. Gomez enjoys a delicious plate of various different Asian cuisines. She's continuing her **journey** and **legacy** in teaching and parenting in SG. Let's welcome to the elementary, **Mrs. Gomez!**



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Guest Speaker: Ruby Javed

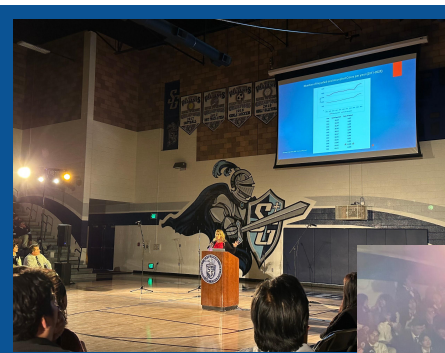
“One pill can kill.”

“He was hanging out with the wrong crowd,” says Ruby Javed, telling the story of her childhood and how losing her brother to substance abuse affected her and continues to leave a lasting impact on her today.

“Grieving comes with **the loss of anything close to your heart**... it’s not easy at all, but **it’s a part of life, and it’s something you’ll always have to deal with.**” Ruby Javed tells the students, substance abuse is one of the leading factors in young adult, teenage, child, and even infant death. From teens being pressured by their “friends” into taking drugs, or children accidentally consuming drugs that are left out in the open, in Ruby’s words, “drug deaths are overtaking the nation, [...] and this is happening so fast that we can’t even keep up.”

Illegally-produced fentanyl is one of the quickest killers of all drugs, and drug overdose deaths have become more dangerously prominent. According to Ms. Javed, it only takes **0.2 milligrams** of fentanyl to suffer possibly fatal consequences, and when fentanyl is mixed with other chemical compounds, it may only take **0.02 milligrams** of consumption to **kill someone**. To make matters worse, fentanyl is often hidden, mixed in with other drugs, and made to look like prescription fentanyl or colorful candy.

50% of accidental deaths are at the hands of drugs and alcohol. Fentanyl distributions have caused more deaths, especially in teenagers, than ever before and continue to be on the rise, as fentanyl can be disguised as real prescription drugs, pills, and even candy.



Fentanyl has been severely on the rise since 2013 and is **one of the most fatal drugs** as of now. Ruby Javed’s job

is to investigate sudden, violent, or strange deaths, such as supposed natural causes after being found at home, where the deceased has not been seen by a physician within twenty days prior. She mentions having been met with many cases in this year alone of **teenagers overdosing and even infants dying** from accidental substance abuse. However, to combat fentanyl and other drug deaths, it’s crucial that we **educate the children and teens of today, spread awareness, and always keep our guard up.**

All Ace! Whoo!

To kick off the start of sports season, both A teams for **A Flag Football** and **Girls A Volleyball** won their first game! Great job out there Valiants! Girls A team’s first game was a two-set **win** home game. Flag Football’s first game was an away game with the **winning** score of 27-6. Let’s keep up the amazing work Valiants! Make sure to support any of the A and B team’s game by either wishing them luck or attending a home game with your parent! With good sportsmanship and a Valiant attitude, let’s start and finish this season strong. **Go Valiants!**



Picture taken of the A Flag Football and Girls Volleyball team.



Hollywood Bowl

On September thirteenth, our seventh through twelfth grade students proudly wore their “**I Love My Life**” theme shirts and went to the **Hollywood Bowl**! They represented St. Genevieve by being on their best behavior, bonded with their **family homerooms**, and of course, had fun! From **Making You Think** to events such as these, students have the chance to bond with their older or younger peers, which helps us to “**come in unity**”, as Mr. Horn likes to say! The performance



was packed, with thousands of people gathered to watch the incredibly talented **Jacob Collier**, whose debut song is one titled “**Djesse**”. Our seventh graders were especially excited, as it was their first time attending! SG already cannot wait for next year’s trip!