

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Uschi De Rose

(714) 524-1350 ext. 111

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ASTRO CAMP

Fifty Heritage Oak fifth grade students and their Chaperones had an opportunity to travel to Idyllwild to visit Astrocamp. After the camp orientation and a tour of the dorms, students dove right into the wonderful science classes offered at this camp; Micro-gravity for some and Atmosphere & Gases or Initiatives for others.

In Micro-gravity, the students built a satellite completely underwater, using only hand signals as a means of communication. In Atmosphere & Gases, the students learned about the different properties of gas and tasted frozen potato chips! In Initiatives, students learned teamwork and cooperation.

In addition to all the exciting science experiments, students enjoyed a Night Hike, a Telescope viewing, the zipline and the Sky coaster. Sharing this experience with 200 other fifth graders from schools all over California was definitely the most important experience, giving students the opportunity to step outside their comfort zone and gain a feeling of independence.

Heritage Oak students also had a chance to meet students from Mc Dowell Elementary in Laguna Hills, which is a Meritas sister school, allowing students to now put a name with a face when they visit them via video conferencing. It was a great adventure for all.

Heritage Oak is a traditional school appealing to parents who are seeking a proven curriculum and a safe, nurturing environment. Community awareness, academic achievement, and family values are part of its program that focuses on the development of the whole child.

The U.S. Department of Education bestowed its highest honor upon Heritage Oak when it awarded the school the 1998-1999 "Blue Ribbon" award. The "Blue Ribbon", our Nations most prestigious education award, distinguishes Heritage Oak for its excellence in leadership, teaching, curriculum, student achievement, parent involvement, and community support.