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### Heritage Oak Revolutionizes History

Walking through the 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes on October 23, 2006, at Heritage Oak Private School in Yorba Linda, was like traveling back into time. The students were dressed up as miniature versions of George Washington, Betsy Ross, Ben Franklin and other historical figures. Just like a page from their history books, they took the stage for a fantastic adventure as they “Walked through the American Revolution”.

This interactive journey was created for students to have fun while learning about the dawn of this country. The entire event was hosted by Mr. Drew Wheeler, of California Weekly Explorer Inc. This company provided an amazing field trip that came right to the school!

In this spirited presentation the enthusiastic students acted out battle scenes and became experts on the history of the American Revolution. They memorized definitions of key words or phrases like “Proclamation” and “Declaratory Act”. The students actually became a part of history instead of simply reading about it in a textbook. They were set up into three teams; the Redcoats, the White Tories and the Blue Rebels. When answers to questions were correct and in complete sentences, team points were scored.

In addition, the students practiced and researched their historical character, created authentic costumes, and memorized speeches. One of the highlights of the program was when Drew would acknowledge a student who was being especially respectful and attentive to “Go for the Glory”. A siren would sound, lights would flash, and the chosen student would run to pick a lollipop out of the replica of the Liberty Bell. If the bottom of the lollipop was gold, that team received extra points.

At the end of the performance voices were raised with the singing of “Yankee Doodle”, a tribute to the Colonists declaring their Independence from Great Britain. This is one history lesson that these students will never forget!

Heritage Oak is a traditional school appealing to parents who are seeing a proven curriculum and a safe, nurturing environment. Community awareness, academic achievement, and family values are just part of a 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.