



Las Flores Middle School
25682 Antonio Parkway
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688
949-589-6543 Fax 949-589-9286



Dear Parent/Guardian,

LFMS Bears together create a safe and kind community where students and staff are positive and respectful, display integrity & dependability, and are engaged. This month we are starting a new topic of the Second Step curriculum: Bullying Prevention. Your student is learning to recognize bullying, whether it is happening to themselves or another student. They will also be learning about the power students have as bystander and how they can be an ally to their peers. We are focusing on what students can do about bullying so every student can be happy and safe at school.

We are making a conscious effort to define bullying for our students. Bullying is when one or more people repeatedly harm, harass, intimidate or exclude others. Bullying is unfair and one-sided. We will remind students harming means both physically and emotionally. Bullying is intentional. Our counseling team will also be highlighting the difference between having a conflict with a peer and a bullying situation.

Each grade level will be learning about the Bystander Power but each grade will have a different lesson. Sixth graders will learn how to recognize bullying. Seventh graders will learn how to respond to bullying and in April they will take a closer look at cyberbullying. Eighth graders will be taking a closer look at bullying within friendships.

We are focused on creating a safe learning environment. We would like to work with you to make this happen. There are several warning signs that could indicate your child is experiencing bullying at school. Please be on the alert for:

- Damaged or missing clothes, books or other belongings
- Unexpected bruises, cuts, or scratches
- Few or no friends to spend time with
- Fear of going to school
- Fear of riding the bus or walking to school
- An unexpected drop in grades
- Unusual moodiness, depression or anxiety
- Frequent headaches or stomachaches
- Loss of appetite
- Trouble sleeping

If you suspect your student is being bullied or become aware of a bullying situation. Please reach out and contact us or Text-a-Tip to (949) 682-5365.

If you have any questions about the program, please do not hesitate to contact me for more information. Thank you for supporting your student in learning the skills that will lead to success in school and in life. Make sure to join www.secondstep.org (with the activation keys as listed below) to watch videos about the Second Step program and get information about what your student is learning.

Make sure to Copy/Paste as there are spaces within the activation keys.

6th Grade - **SSP6 FAMI LY12** 7th Grade - **SSP7 FAMI LY23** 8th Grade – **SSP8 FAMI LY34**

Sincerely,

Alexis Goddard, M.S., P.P.S
LFMS School Counselor