## From the Desk of Maríbel Zubieta Díaz.....

As Ms. Jolliff reminds the children each morning during announcements, "It costs us nothing to be kind, but it means everything."

Kindness is a process. We teach our children from a very early age to say thank you, I am sorry, May I help you, and, at first, it is something they do because they're being told. As they grow, they learn step by step that kindness is more than that. It is a sense of caring about yourself and others. It's a sense of being honest without being hurtful. It is a sense of generosity, of empathy, a sense of looking at the good in others. It's a sense of pride for being part of the force that makes this world better.

Conchita is a kind place. It is based on the philosophy of a woman that believed in integrity, ethics, honesty, and kindness.

I have always known and lived that feeling, but it became more evident when I lost my little dog, Trini, in a vicious attack by another dog. The outpouring of concern and love is helping me see the beauty and KINDNESS in people's hearts.

I am fortunate and proud to lead the CEA family. I learn much from my conversations with parents and the innocence and wisdom of our children.

I thank you all.

Markel g. fis