# THE ADVENTURES OF DOCTOR CHESS



## DOCTOR CHESS

LOGICAL WORLD TOUR



2022

#### CHESS CLASS

Beginners: This class will take students from zero knowledge to being able to play chess.

Intermediates: You know how to play. Now learn how to win! You will learn and practice the strategies and tactics necessary for success in the opening, middle game, and end game. Problem solving, tournament play, and logical lectures will be part of the "thrills, chills, and drills".

#### FOOTBALL SCIENCE

This class will show students how football is played, stressing strategy and teamwork. Students will learn the roles of the individual players and how they function as a team, learn the chalkboard language of the X's and O's, how to diagram plays and quarterback a team. Students will walk through drills and plays without physical contact.

#### COMIC BOOK CREATOR

Words and Pictures! Students will learn the fundamentals of drawing action figures and writing matching scripts to be able to create their own comic books. At the same time, Logic, Good Reasoning, and Planning will be stressed as the foundation to being a successful Comic Book Creator.

#### **ARCHAEOLOGY**

In this archaeological adventure, Doctor Chess will introduce students to the artifacts of the Ancient Mesopotamians and the original (1840's) archaeologists who discovered them. Students will also take part in an archaeological dig, learn a cuneiform language, decipher and create clay tablets. Bring your shovels!

#### ANCIENT EMPIRE LANGUAGES

Ancient Empire Languages will prepare students for their future foreign language requirements by introducing them to four classic languages from the past. Egyptian Hieroglyphics! Mesopotamian Cuneiform! Koine Greek! Roman Empire Latin! *Ipso Facto!* 

#### LOGIC/DEBATE

This hands-on-workshop will show students how to construct strong arguments and detect weak ones. Then, we'll show you how to navigate through a formal debate.

SUBJECTS: Logic, Propositions, Indicators, Premises, Conclusions, Arguments, Fallacies, Debate, Opening Statements, Cross Examination, Rebuttal, Closing Statements.

#### **USA CONSTITUTION**

ARTICLE II: THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

It's a Presidential Election Year! Using home school materials from 1828, Doctor Chess reveals the true function and powers of the president of the United States. This class also takes a look at the amendments that have shaped the presidency throughout the centuries. We'll also follow the current presidential/state election.

#### PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

This hands-on-workshop will teach future legislators how to navigate through a formal meeting. Students will learn how to moderate meetings by introducing, seconding, amending, debating, and approving motions and resolutions.

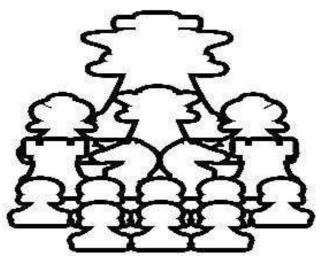
#### MOCK TRIAL DRAMA

Students are the actors in this simulated court room drama! Get ready for Middle and High School (and Life!) with Doctor Chess' Mock Trial at the elementary school level.

Doctor Chess
www.DoctorChess.com
DoctorChess@DoctorChess.com
Robert M Holland, Director@DoctorChess.com

### DOCTOR CHESS PROGRAM LOCATIONS

| 2016                 | School Year | 2018                      |  |
|----------------------|-------------|---------------------------|--|
| Organization         | Program     | Sites                     |  |
| Lucia Mar USD        | Parents     | Shell Beach Elementary    |  |
|                      |             | Chess, Archaeology        |  |
| Lucia Mar USD        | G.A.T.E.    | Grover Beach Elementary   |  |
|                      |             | Chess                     |  |
| San Luis Coastal USD | Parents     | Bellevue-Santa Fe Charter |  |
|                      |             | Chess, Archaeology        |  |
| San Luis Coastal USD | Parents     | Teach Elementary School   |  |
|                      |             | Chess                     |  |
| Santa Maria Bonita   | SMBSD       | Battles Elementary School |  |
| School District      |             | Chess                     |  |
| Arroyo Grande        | Parents     | Elm/Ash Community Center  |  |
| Recreation Services  |             | Chess/Logic/Debate        |  |
| Strategic Saturdays  | Parents     | Arroyo Grande             |  |
|                      |             | Chess/Logic/Debate        |  |



DOCTOR CHESS

WWW.DOCTORCHESS.COM

DOCTORCHESS@DOCTORCHESS.COM

#### THE SANTA MARIA SUN



#### **School Scene**

#### Chess Lessons Now Being Offered At Battles Elementary -BY JAMIE GUISTA

On March 24, Battles Elementary School began offering a new addition to its after-school activities: Chess. The lessons are being held from 2:45 to 4 pm, every Tuesday for nine weeks and will be taught by author and chess instructor Doctor Chess. Director Robert M Holland recalled that Doctor Chess began learning chess himself when he realized the similarities chess shared with football. He was a football guy.

"The pawns are the linemen, the king is the quarterback; you go and get the quarterback," said Doctor Chess. He began mixing chess with teaching actual academia. Doctor Chess was an elementary school teacher in the '80s, and he knew chess would reinforce the other subjects. He took the curriculum from other subjects and created his own curriculum for chess. He also drew upon his experience with football training camps. He runs his classes more like a football clinic. Students learn how to move the different pieces through drills. Then, once they master the individual pieces, they move onto all the pieces on the board. His lessons are called Episodes. His subjects of Chess, Archaeology, Logic, Debate, U.S. Constitution, Ancient Languages are Adventures. His *Logical* World Tour is always in motion.

As Holland became more enticed by the game, he met Doctor Chess, and he implemented Doctor Chess into his teaching and wrote several books based on the persona. The character's story parallels his own: Doctor Chess was on his way to being a quarterback in college but had a horrific knee injury in high school. He then found himself being shown chess as he recovered, and gravitated toward it because it reminded him of football. Now he's a classroom quarterback (teacher) getting the ball (knowledge) to the open receiver (mind). Every day *is* the Super Bowl! "In the books, he is met with resistance because the forces of evil don't want smart citizens or kids," Holland said. His favorite quote from Doctor Chess is, "If we all think, we all win".

Doctor Chess has been teaching chess at Central Coast elementary schools, from Paso Robles to Santa Ynez, for 20 years. State budget cuts and gasoline prices have contributed to having more "local gigs". Now, he's coming back to Santa Maria. What initiated the move? Ask him about The Adventure of The Red Tee Shirt.

Carlee Gruver, principal of Battles Elementary, is one of the factors behind Doctor Chess' move to Battles. "My son has been attending the Doctor Chess Program at Shell Beach Elementary since kindergarten, and it has been wonderful for my own child. One of my goals when I became a principal was that they [Battle's students] had the same opportunities as the children in my home," Gruver said. "It has really helped with my son's critical thinking skills and has made him excited about chess. He is not a very sports-oriented child, and it gives him companionship without it being sports identified."

Holland stresses that chess is another form of learning and can help children with math and science because the game itself is about solving ultimate story problems. "The No. 1 thing about chess is that it promotes logic. I like to think of chess as being futuristic because you have to make plans. You have to correctly connect (logic) different aspects of the game in order to produce a victory," Holland said. "It is an unlimited reservoir of lessons that you can do for your lifetime," Doctor Chess added.

Doctor Chess teaches classes to the general public on Saturdays at the First United Methodist Church in Arroyo Grande for \$7 per student and \$3 for each additional sibling. For more information, or to have him come to your school, contact him at DoctorChess@DoctorChess.com.

"If we all think, we all win." -Doctor Chess

VOL.1

SPECIAL PULLOUT SECTION

VO 1

## DOCTOR CHESS' STUDENTS DIG NEW ARCHAEOLOGY CLASS!

Educational Superhero Brings Classroom Adventures To Kids In A Single Bound! - by Brandi Stansbury

Enigmatic characters and superheroes inspire children and make their young lives exciting. Fortunately, the Central Coast has its own *educational* superhero- Doctor Chess.

For more than seven years, Doctor Chess has been teaching chess, promoting what he calls "a timeless classic" throughout schools in the county. Chess lessons are taught once a week at eight different schools on the Central Coast. "Doctor Chess' class is always one of my first classes to fill," said Julie Dunn, director of the San Gabriel Elementary G.A.T.E. Program. "The kids just really love him. I always get positive feedback from the parents and the students about Doctor Chess. He's become an idol."

#### New Archaeology Class

Along with chess programs, Doctor Chess has also started an archaeology program called *Clay Tablet Mystery*, which incorporates ancient cuneiform writing on clay tablets. Doctor Chess is very excited about this portion of his teaching. Clay Tablet Mystery is currently in full swing with a group of homeschooled children in Arroyo Grande.

"The lecture part of the program is about ancient worlds. I like to teach rare subjects-the Assyrians, Babylonians, and Persians. I wanted to teach what their ancient form of writing was, cuneiform clay tablets." Clay Tablet Mystery is a Trilogy of Episodes. Episode One is digging for clay tablets. Episode Two is decoding clay tablets. Episode Three is duplicating clay tablets. After students make their clay tablets, Doctor Chess buries and/or hides them around the Central Coast and so begins a sort of treasure hunt for the students.

At this point, Doctor Chess introduces Sherlock Holmes into Clay Tablet Mystery. "[Sherlock Holmes] is very big in the world of Doctor Chess- logic and reasoning feeds right into chess and archaeology. I like to introduce students to "the man" when it comes to logic. So, I give them Sherlock Holmes style clues, based on his adventures, to where the clay tablets are hidden. Another option to digging up clay tablets at students' schools is going from secret location to secret location to pick up clues. They go on my web site and make their way (mountain climbing, hidden passages, etc.) through *Cyber Archeology*. "

Doctor Chess is well loved and admired by his students, who find pleasure in his clandestine activities. Making school more exciting for children is no small task for Doctor Chess, and he is constantly touring the county working with students with the energy and determination that would make Spiderman proud.

Doctor Chess Adventures can be booked at www.DoctorChess.com via DoctorChess@DoctorChess.com.

## Times Press Recorder FRIDAY MARCH 8, 2013

## DOCTOR CHESS TEACHES ART OF ARGUING TO YOUNG STUDENTS

By April Charlton / Senior Staff Writer

Most students are told by their teachers not to argue with one another in class. But, that's not the case at Shell Beach Elementary School, where a group of 21 young students are encouraged to engage in arguments every Friday afternoon. "Teachers will be heard to say, 'Stop arguing and get busy," said Robert Holland, director of the Doctor Chess Program. "Doctor Chess says, 'Get busy and *start* arguing!" For more than a decade, Doctor Chess has been teaching the classic two-player strategy game of chess at schools throughout the county. Most recently, he began teaching a 16-week, two-session Logic/Debate class at Shell Beach Elementary, where students in fourth through sixth grades are learning the art of critical thinking while enjoying themselves at the same time. "Debate is really fun," 10-year-old Keyan Patel said. "It's a little challenging, but it's easy, too."

During the first eight-week session of the class, which ends later this month, the students are learning about logic — the study of "correct connections" — and how to properly structure a strong argument. "I think debate will help me out," Keyan said. He added that Doctor Chess is a great teacher and he's excited to begin the second half of the class after spring break, when the students will get to use their newly learned arguing skills. Students will debate with one another during the second session. Asked whether such young students can grasp the fairly technical aspects of debating, Holland replied with an emphatic, "Yes." "Doctor Chess has the unique ability to make complicated stuff simple and fun," Holland said. Doctor Chess starts the class by taking the students outside to run a few football plays before heading back to the classroom, where they get busy talking about the structure of a debate. The outdoor exercises show Doctor Chess' students how football plays are really just like arguments. "Football is debate on a field," Holland said. "Chess is debate on a board." Sixthgrader Andrew Ketelaar said he is enjoying the Logic/Debate class and, thus far, his favorite part has been learning how to construct a good argument. The 11-year-old wants to be a lawyer when he grows up and plans to participate in the county's Mock Trial competitions when he starts middle school next year. "(Doctor Chess) is a really good teacher," Andrew said, adding he thinks other kids his age would also enjoy the class and would recommend taking it, to other students. "I'm learning to be a good arguer." Doctor Chess believes teaching young students how to effectively argue — debate — helps prepare them to be more successful in their future studies as well as their adult lives. "Students are future voters, candidates and/or decision makers," he said. "The first debate takes place in your mind. You must first persuade yourself before you can persuade others. If we all think, we all win."

The Logic/Debate class is part of a larger program on Fridays at Shell Beach Elementary to promote the arts in education, said Principal Sammie Cervantez. "We are the only school in the Lucia Mar (Unified) School District to offer students this opportunity," Cervantez said, adding the unique program is funded through donations from parents and the community.

Doctor Chess' Logic/Debate class is available to other schools, private groups and individuals. You can contact him at DoctorChess@DoctorChess.com.

"In a republican nation, whose citizens are to be led by reason and persuasion and not by force, the art of reasoning becomes of the first importance" -Jefferson

## The Literary Adventures of Poctor Chess

LITTLE PAWNY

"Once a pawn, in time..."

PAPERBACK

## The World's First Chess Fairy Tale

CESTICS
CANNANCE
OF COSTOR (SIES)

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**HALCYON, CA** – He has been called an "educational superhero" and "the ultimate delivery system for logic, strategy and fun." With a non-traditional teaching style that is at once enjoyable and effective, he has become the most celebrated chess teacher on California's central coast.

Now, Doctor Chess is bringing his expertise and contagiously fun outlook on the game of chess to the youngest of readers with "The World's First Chess Fairy Tale," *Little Pawny*. In *Little Pawny*, the title character finds himself being picked on by the bigger, stronger chess pieces, who have become lazy and boastful. With a conceited Queen who is always looking into her mirror, Rooks who constantly brag about their strength, and self-centered Knights who are focused only on their ability to jump, the Land of Chess is in turmoil. "The Kingdom of Light is no longer a team," writes Doctor Chess. "But when the Evil Kingdom of Darkness invades, all the chess pieces are challenged to do their best! Can the chess pieces work together in time to save their kingdom? Which kingdom will fall? And can a 'puny' little pawn help at all?" Doctor Chess weaves together a delightful fairy tale that both asks and answers these questions, all the while teaching kids a few valuable lessons.

Written not only to introduce children to the different chess pieces and their roles in the game, *Little Pawny* also teaches them about the importance of teamwork. Using chess as a storyboard, Doctor Chess shows how the pride of a few can lead to the downfall of many, and how sacrifice always triumphs over selfishness. With its simple, easy-to-read-and-enjoy format, even young children have no problem understanding the expertly intertwined themes of cooperation and solidarity.

-AuthorHouse Publishers

"Good Logic always."-Doctor Chess

WHAT THEY ARE SAYING ABOUT...

## DOCTOR CHESS

"I would say that Doctor Chess, as far as the Boys and Girls Club is concerned, is very dedicated to teaching chess to kids who have not had the opportunity to play chess before. Doctor Chess has been very good to us."

-Moyses Muguira (Boys and Girls Club Director)

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He's the best chess player I have ever met. He's a very cool teacher."
-Daniel Phillips (Home School Student)

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"Doctor Chess' class is always one of my first classes to fill. The kids just really love him. I always get positive feedback from the parents and the students about Doctor Chess. He has become an idol."

-Julie Dunn (GATE Director, San Gabriel Elementary)

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"He likes kids. He's funny. I'm learning more about the Middle East."
-Mitchel Erikson (Student)

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"The kids just become mesmerized with chess and with him. He actually is larger than life. He gets to know the kids, taps into their strengths and uses their strengths to teach them. He lives and breathes what he teaches."

-Betsy Schaefer (Teacher/Parent, Bellevue Santa Fe Charter School)

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"Clay Tablet Mystery was a lot of fun. We got to decode cuneiform from the BC era. He is a very good teacher and a very funny teacher. We got to make clay tablets and then find them."
-Emily Cardoza (Branch Elementary Student)

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"Splendid" - William Preston, (Professor of Geography, Cal Poly)

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"It's way too much fun." -Brandi Franklin (Teenage Student)



### MISSION STATEMENT

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|   | What is a hero?                    |   |                                      |
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