

Forest Ranch Charter School

April 2013



April 1 – NO SCHOOL

April 4 – Field Trip, 5th/6th to Hands on Lab

April 5 – Assembly at 8:30AM

April 5 – All School Skate from 3:00-5:30

April 6 – Children’s Faire in Chico, 10AM-2PM

April 9 – After School Sports begins

April 12 – Electives Day

April 12 – National DEAR Day

April 15-18 – Field Trip, 6th to Shady Creek

April 16 – Field Trip, 1st/2nd to Sacramento Zoo

April 16 – PTP Meeting at 3PM

April 19 – Assembly at 8:30AM

April 22 – Earth Day Celebration

April 26 – Electives Day

April 26 – Super Hero Day

April 30 – PTP Meeting at 3PM

May 1 – Family BBQ hosted by CUSD Nutrition

May 3 – Assembly at 8:30AM

May 10 – Electives Day

Director’s Report

Dear Forest Ranch Charter Families,

My family was able to take a few days to enjoy the emerging spring weather and the tide pools. It was fun to slow down and spend some time exploring together. I hope all of your families were able to relax and have some fun learning together over the break. Often, time off to play, read, hang out, and just get out into the larger world helps to re-ignite “the spark” needed for greater learning. Students and teachers have returned refreshed and ready to focus on our last trimester.

For the last trimester we are focused on intervention/support services, attendance, and recruitment of new students for next year. Our minimum attendance percentage is 94.5%. We are currently at 94.19%. This represents a startling loss of over **\$24,000** in funding. Attendance is critical for our revenue stream and for our student’s success. It is very hard for children to learn if they are missing chunks of content and practice time. Everyone can help by making sure you keep ill children home so as not to spread infection, and planning vacations and other family events outside of school hours. I am confident with flu season behind us we can reach 94.5% and meet our academic and budgetary goals. Attendance is critical to our student’s success and for adequate funding to support school operations. Please help us make this happen!

As the weather is changing from day to day please remember to have your child dress appropriately. Sandals are allowed on warm days but students must have closed toed shoes for P.E. and active games.

Christia

LifeSkill Heroes

At FRCS we encourage our students to model and emulate positive traits. These LifeSkills are rewarded on a monthly basis during our assemblies and the winning students are displayed on the Heroes wall in the school office.

The LifeSkill for February was Problem Solving. Teachers nominated students from each class that they felt best represented this LifeSkill during the month. Congratulations to our February heroes:

Kindergarten – Emily W, Sophie H
Grade 1 – Annekah R, Luke B, Jesse H
Grade 2 – Ashley B
Grade 3 – Emma D, Abbey B
Grade 4 – Nathan W, Abigail O
Grades 5 & 6 – Knox H, Kayla C

STAR Testing in April and May

April and May are STAR testing months. While these tests are an important diagnostic tool for our school, they can be very stressful for some students. If your student seems overly concerned about testing, please let us know so that we can attempt to reduce their anxiety. Students test better if they are confident and relaxed.

After School Sports is Back

Tuesday April 9th marks the beginning of Spring After School Sports. The first rotation is baseball, which will run on Tuesdays and Thursdays from April 9th through April 25th. Basketball will start on April 30th and end on May 16th. Soccer will begin on May 21st and end June 5th. Contact the office or visit our website at <http://www.forestranchcharter.org/after-school-sports.html> for the sign up form. If cost is a problem for your family we have scholarships available.

Quote of the Month

The other day we had a former student visit the school. Out on the playground she asked some of the older students, “who are the popular kids”. After exchanging some puzzled looks, one of our students finally answered her. She said, “This is a small school, everyone is popular”. What a proud moment that was for everyone on campus.

Fox Fund Helps

We say it all the time, but can't say it enough – thank you to all of you who support our school with your time, your money, or both. We have been able to purchase some extra instructional materials this year due to our families that give to the Fox Fund. These donations go directly to classrooms and are much appreciated. To find out how to sign up for the Fox Fund, please ask the office for the form or visit the Fox Fund page on our website at <http://www.forestranchcharter.org/fox-fund.html>.

Parent Representatives Needed

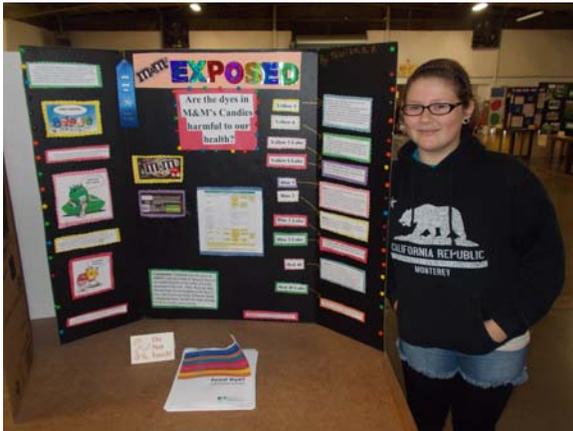
The FRCS Board of Directors has an upcoming election on June 3rd for two parent representative positions. This three-year commitment is vital to the growth and success of our school. For more information and the Statement of Interest form, please contact the office or visit the Board of Directors page on our website at <http://www.forestranchcharter.org/board-of-directors.html>.

Butte County Spelling Bee

Congratulations to Avia and Sophie for participating in the Butte County Spelling Bee. Sophie made it to the 3rd round and Avia was amongst the top ten spellers. We are very proud of you both!

Chico Science Fair

Congratulations to everyone from FRCS who entered the science fair. Sydney H and Shariann H both received first place awards for their entries. Ms. Matoes class, Dylan H and Krysta C earned second place awards for their entries. Also with placing entries were Mrs. McNulty's class, Mason W & Knox H, Addison T & Sebastian P, Kayla C & Sarah S, Madilyn S, Hailey F, Stephanie B, Kalisa B, and Elisia T. Great science!



Student Council News

Super Hero Day – The spirit day for April is Super Hero Day. Show your school pride and come to school dressed as your favorite Super Hero on Friday April 26th.

Backward Day – Did you know – when you wear a hoodie sweatshirt backward the hood makes a very handy pouch? Did you know – when your jacket is zipped up in back it is really hard to get out of it without help? These things and more were learned around here on Backward Day.

Second Annual Jog-a-Thon – The student council is beginning to plan their second annual jog-a-thon. If you can help, please contact Mrs. Jimmerson by mid-April.

PTP News

50's Sock Hop – The PTP is sponsoring a '50's Sock Hop which will be hosted by Mrs. McNulty and Ms. Matoes. This family event is scheduled for May 3rd from 6:30-8:00 PM. Very soon, a note will go home asking how you can help. Keep an eye out!

The Great Egg Drop

While the day was dreary, spirits were not. Company 24 showed up with their engines and eggs were dropped amid many shouts of encouragement. A few messes were made but most seemed to survive.



Heard Around Campus

Kindergarteners began a unit on Asia this week. We will explore cultural differences and similarities as we learn about countries such as China and India. Students will also learn all about panda bears and tigers, and have fun with a unit on measurement as we take a look at Mount Everest.

The 1st and 2nd graders are wrapping up their economics unit with commercials of the new "businesses" they started. We are also exploring hands-on producers and consumers by visiting Round Table Pizza and a local grocery store. Up next is the exciting world of the animal kingdom! The Sacramento Zoo will kick off our last major

unit of the year and students will get to pick an animal to research for an animal report.

The 3rd and 4th graders are learning about fractions using creative art and real world applications. Fractions are all around us – help them by pointing things out at home or around town. Recorder Karate – ask your student what belt level they have achieved. Different colored belts are earned as they learn the eight different songs assigned. Don't let them forget recorders at home!

The 5th and 6th graders had a yummy time celebrating Pi Day on 3/14. We recited numbers of Pi, read Sir Cumference and the Dragon on Pi, measured the circumference of various homemade "pies" from the class, made pi necklaces, read about the history of pi, and (of course) enjoyed eating some delicious pie! Students have been learning about weather and have written diamante and haiku weather inspired poems. We also made borax snowflakes in science lab. Students will be creating their very own weather broadcast and mini tornado in a bottle.

The Attendance Race

Ms. Matoes has caught up with Ms. Jimmerson! Will Mrs. McNulty catch them both? Will Mr. Ball make a surprise dash? Stay tuned!

