

Forest Ranch Charter School

January 2012



January 6 – Assembly at 8:30AM
January 6 – PTP meeting at 2:45PM
January 12 – Board meeting at 6PM
January 13 – Electives Day
January 13 – Intent to ReEnroll forms go home
January 16 – MLK Day, No School
January 17 – PTP meeting at 2:45PM
January 19 – Family Math Night, 6-7:30PM
January 20 – Assembly at 8:30AM
January 26 – Woodstocks Pizza Fundraiser
Between 5:30 and 8:30PM
January 27 – Electives Day, Teacher Swap Day
January 30 – Open Enrollment for 2012-13 begins
February 3 – Assembly at 8:30AM
February 3 – PTP meeting at 2:45PM
February 7, 8 – Sutters Fort field trip, Matoes
February 9 – Board meeting at 6PM
February 10 – Electives Day
February 10 – Open Enrollment ends
February 10 – Father/Daughter Dance

Director's Report

Welcome back!! What a wonderful winter break. I hope all of your families enjoyed the holidays and time together as much as mine did. It was slow starting up the first morning but I feel like staff and students are all back on board and ready to get learning and playing.

Students are still anxiously awaiting snow. We have a phone tree system in place and always notify families as soon as possible if we have a need to close school. It is critical that we always have current contact information for both parents (if child lives at two homes) so that we can reach you in case of emergency. In addition, we alert local news and radio stations of intended school closure. (KHSL-TV 343-1212 and KPAY/KHSL/KMXI radio 345-6397)

Our LifeSkill for this month is Resourcefulness. Please discuss what this means with your child and help them think of ways they can practice this throughout the month. Remind them that Resourcefulness also includes independence and taking greater responsibility for themselves.

Math Night is quickly approaching. This is a great event for the whole family. We will have fun math challenges for preschoolers to school agers. There might even be a challenge for mom and dad! I hope to see all of you there. If you have an interesting math activity you would like to share please let me know ASAP.

Christia

LifeSkill Heroes – Cooperation

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

Kindergarten – Mailey F, Dylan H

1st/2nd (Bodney) – Emma D, Landon C

1st/2nd (Stearns) – Jessilyn S, Austin M

3rd/4th – Sarah S, Diego B

5th/6th – Dylan B, Nichole W

New Car Seat Law

A new car seat law took effect on January 1st which not only affects families, but it affects our field trip transportation abilities. The new law contains language open to interpretation regarding seat belt fit and who really needs to be in a booster. Please visit <http://www.ci.gonzales.ca.us/cms-assets/documents/42020-836349.faq-newcarseat-boosterlaw.pdf> for details and FAQs.

Next week the FRCS Board will discuss this new law and determine what the school policy will be regarding field trip transportation. Most likely more students will be needing boosters than have in the past. If you have a booster that you can donate to the school we will be collecting them. Look for more information soon about this law and its effect on our field trips.

Open Enrollment Begins

Enrollment for the 2012-13 school year begins in January. On January 13 the Intent-to-ReEnroll forms will be sent home with students. These forms must be returned to the school office by January 30 to guarantee placement for a returning student. As we are now full and maintaining waiting lists in some classes this is really important!

January 30 starts our open enrollment for new students including kindergarteners. Siblings of current students have priority so be sure to indicate that your incoming student has a currently enrolled sibling on the form. Spread the word to friends and family that they should apply to attend FRCS before February 10 for their best chance of getting in the school. All necessary forms are available on the FRCS website.

Student Council News

Canned Food Drive – the canned food drive was a great success. One hundred seventy nine cans of food were donated by FRCS to the Jesus Center. Thanks to all whom donated and hearty congratulations to Ms. Jimmerson's class for donating the most cans of food!

January Spirit Day - The Spirit Day for January will be Teacher Swap Day. Come to school ready for surprises on January 27th as you will not have your regular teacher.

Cardio-Fair – Student Council is looking for parent volunteers to help organize a Cardio Fair including a Jump-Rope-for-Hearth-A-Thon at the end of January. Please contact Ms. Jimmerson, the Student Council advisor, if you can help out on this one.

FRCS Offering Breakfast

Breakfast is now available for purchase and is served during snack recess. The same folks who prepare our wonderful healthy lunches are providing the breakfast as well. The cost for breakfast is \$1.75 and it is available for free to qualifying families.

Nutrition Payment System Changes

OrderLunches is the company which has been providing the ordering and payment system for our nutrition program. This will cease at the end of January. Until February, please continue placing orders for breakfast and lunch online through OrderLunches.

Next week, February menus will be posted on our FRCS website. If you need a paper menu sent home please let the office know this. Payment can be made via cash or check through the FRCS office or via PayPal on the website. Orders cannot be placed online beginning in February – they will need to be communicated to the office on paper or emailed to lunch@forestranchcharter.org. Bear with us during this transition – we will do everything we can to make sure your kids are well fed.

Heard Around Campus

Our first and second grade classes are traveling back to study the Ancient Greeks! Students will design a newspaper reporting on their discoveries about Greek Civilization and its influence on modern society. The unit will culminate with a real Olympic tournament on campus!

Ms. Matoes' third and fourth graders are benefiting from her family this month. Lisa's uncle and aunt from Alaska (now living in Oregon) came to help in the classroom during the science lab on the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill, which happened in Prince William Sound, Alaska. Lisa's Uncle George is sharing his experience and enthusiasm to teach us how to memorize and recite poetry. The class really loves having family and community members give of their time.

Students in Ms. Jimmerson's fifth/sixth grade class are reading historical fiction novels that tie into Ancient Egyptian social studies. Ask your student questions about Geometry and Angle Aerobics.

Ms. Matoes' Class Still in First, For Now

Ms. Jimmerson's fifth graders had 100% attendance in month five, bringing that class even closer to Ms. Matoes' class. Can they keep it up? Can your class catch them? See chart below.

