

# Forest Ranch Charter School

## January 2013



January 11 – Electives Day  
January 11 – Intent to Re Enroll Forms go home  
January 18 – Assembly at 8:30AM  
January 21 – Martin Luther King Day, No School  
January 24 – Field Trip, 3/4 to Laxson  
January 25 – Open Enrollment Begins for 2013/14  
January 25 – New Electives Begin Today  
January 25 – Crazy Hair Day  
January 25 – Movie Night from 5-7PM  
January 29 – PBS Meeting at 3PM  
January 31 – K and 5/6 field trip to Laxson  
February 1 – Assembly at 8:30AM  
February 5 – 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School  
February 6 – Family Math Night  
February 7 – Field Trip, 5/6 to Laxson  
February 8 – Electives Day  
February 8 – Open Enrollment Ends  
February 11 – Lottery Held for 13/14 Placements  
February 11 – Woodstock's Pizza Fundraiser

### Director's Report

Dear Forest Ranch Charter Families,

Welcome to 2013 at Forest Ranch Charter School. It's always exciting beginning the New Year! Teachers have worked hard to create enriching curriculum and engaging new activities for our second half of the year. This is the time to evaluate how we are doing and make positive changes to help our students really grasp challenging concepts, igniting their enthusiasm for learning.

Families make all the difference in education. A strong partnership between parents and teachers can help students make greater strides in both cognitive and social development. Being aware of units your child is studying so that you can discuss and extend learning at home is one way to participate. Other ways include: daily reading with your child, practice of math facts, working in the classroom, being involved in school learning events (Math Night, Young Author's Day, etc.) and keeping open lines of communication with your child's teacher.

We are always happy to provide support and materials for use at home. This is the time of year when we survey students and families to find ways to improve our program and better meet the needs of your students. We do this now, rather than the end of the year, so that we can make necessary changes while your child is still in that class. Please contact myself or your child's teacher to find out ways to become more involved in your child's education or let us know your ideas. Help us out by answering all surveys that are sent home. We appreciate your support and want to know what you think!

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

Kindergarten – Anna P, Bandie P  
Grade 1 – Dane M, Mailey F  
Grade 2 – Erik R, Lydia B  
Grade 3 – Alice B, Wyatt M, Jake W  
Grade 4 – Nathan W  
Grades 5 & 6 – Stephanie B, Elisia T

## Kindergarten Registration and Open Enrollment

Intent to ReEnroll Forms went home on Friday January 11<sup>th</sup>. The timely return of this form ensures that your student(s) will be able to continue attending FRCS. Please make sure to return this form prior to the due date of February 8<sup>th</sup> at 3PM.

Help us fill our kindergarten for next year. Spread the word about the wonderful opportunities here at FRCS and encourage others with students entering kindergarteners next year to explore the options available here. Tours are available upon request or on a drop in basis.

All the necessary forms for enrollment or reenrollment are available through the office or on our website at <http://www.forestranchcharter.org/registration.html>.

## Homework Club Schedule Change

Beginning on January 14<sup>th</sup>, Homework Club will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays instead of Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Homework Club is free to FRCS students and is supervised by Ms. Matoes in her classroom. Homework Club starts right after school and ends at 3:45. Students not picked up by 3:45 will then transfer into our paid aftercare program with Mrs. Wattenberg.

## Student Council News

**Crazy Hair Day** – Crazy Hair Day is scheduled for January 25<sup>th</sup>. This is a really entertaining spirit day. We can't wait to see the styles invented by our families.

**Movie Night** – Student council is hosting a movie night on January 25<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 7:00. The movie choice is Finding Nemo. Bring pillows, blankets and a smile.

**Canned Food Drive** – The canned food drive ended on December 21<sup>st</sup>. Over three hundred cans of food were donated to the Jesus Center. Thanks to all our generous families for helping with this effort.

## Community News

The Forest Ranch Community Association is hosting their annual Chili and Corn Bread Cook Off on January 19th at 5:45PM at the Community Center. This free event is tons of fun. Bring an entry or just enjoy the entries of others.

## FRCS Board Approves Junior High

The survey says – junior high is coming to Forest Ranch! Family input was very helpful in assisting out Board of Directors in making their decision last month. In 2013-14 we will have a 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> classroom and in

2014-15 we will have a 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> classroom. We are looking forward to implementing this change and seeing a little more of some of our students.

### **Morning Movement in Jeopardy**

Please help us keep Morning Movement rolling! We have a number of students coming to school at the end of Morning Movement or even later. There is a concern that having this fitness program is creating a pattern of late behavior for many families. Many students benefit from stretching and exercising prior to the start of the academic day. Late arrivals are disruptive to everyone.

Habitual tardy arrivals to school are reportable to the Butte County Truancy Officer just like habitual unexcused absences. While we appreciate the difficulty of getting going on these dark mornings, punctuality and responsibility are LifeSkills we encourage in our students. Please help model this behavior by ensuring your students arrive to school on time. Save our Morning Movement program.

### **Foxes in the News**

Special mention goes out to sixth-grader Shariann H. She had a birthday party at Cal Skate and asked for donations to support the Butte Humane Society instead of presents. She donated over \$300! Way to go, Shariann! To see Shariann on the news, visit <http://www.knvn.com/content/localnews/story/12-Year-Old-Gives-Back/yWcA0hIIZkSnmg04WvCUKQ.csp>.

### **Chico Science Fair in March**

The Science Fair is quickly approaching. We have lots of very strong science students at FRCS. We encourage our families to support their student's science interests with a project entered in the fair. For more

information or applications ask in the office or visit <http://www.ecst.csuchico.edu/csf/>.

### **Family Math Night**

February 6<sup>th</sup> is Family Math Night at FRCS. This is a very fun event with math games and puzzles for all ages. Save the date and join us, either helping out with the various tables or bringing your whole family to play.

### **Heard Around Campus**

Kindergarteners are beginning their exploration of the north and south poles. As we study the arctic region and Antarctica, we will learn about polar bears and penguins and why their paths never cross. We will also take a look at the beautiful northern lights and do a pastel art project showing the arctic light show through the eyes of a kindergartener.

There's a storm brewing in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades. We are starting our new weather unit. For the next 6 weeks, we will be studying how to be a meteorologist while learning about earth and physical science concepts. In math, 1<sup>st</sup> graders will start time and measurement while 2<sup>nd</sup> graders will start multiplication and division.

The third and fourth graders are anxiously awaiting the arrival of 24 crawdads for their life/science unit. We will be observing their structure, behaviors and habitats. In history, students are researching a California Native American tribe, reporting on their culture, food, shelters and more.

The fifth and sixth graders are exploring U.S. historical fiction in literature circles. In physical science: the elements! Math is all about angle aerobics and geometry. The class is also working on a persuasive letter to the Ellen Show requesting help with playground improvements for our school.