

Forest Ranch Charter School

March 2016



March 7 – Field Trip, Fire Pals (Stearns, Ball)

March 8 – PTP Meeting, 3PM

March 8 – Music Festival Meeting, 6PM

March 9 – PI Day

March 10, 11 – Sutter’s Fort field trip

March 11 – Electives Day

March 14 thru 18 – Spring Break, No School

March 22 – FRCS Board Meeting, 5PM

March 25 – Staff Development Day, No School

March 28 – Travel Day, No School

March 29 – LCAP Town Hall Meeting, 3PM

March 31, April 1 – Balclutha field trip

April 1 – Assembly at 8:30AM

April 7 – Safety Committee Meeting, 3PM

April 12 – PTP Meeting, 3PM

April 15 – Jump-and-Jog-a-Thon

April 15 – Electives Day

April 22 – Earth Day

April 22 – Sacramento Zoo field trip

From the Director

Dear Forest Ranch Charter Families,

This week we enjoyed a celebration of reading in honor of Dr. Seuss Day. School Spelling Bee winners also participated in the county Spelling Bee. I’d like to congratulate our school Spelling Bee winners; Zane A. and Forrest F. in Jr. High, Cole B. and Emmalee A. in 4th – 6th grade.

We continue to wait for our high speed internet. At this time the estimated completion is late April to early May. We are crossing our fingers it will be in place for state testing but have been working on a back-up plan just in case this doesn’t happen. While this has been discouraging, we have been sharing bandwidth and finding creative ways to still use technology in our classrooms.

Our LCAP journey continues. We will have a Town Hall meeting to discuss progress and future goals on March 29 at 3PM. This meeting is open to Forest Ranch Charter families, faculty, staff and the greater Forest Ranch community. I hope to see many of you there.

Thank you,

Christia Marasco

LifeSkill Heroes

The following students were recognized for their outstanding use of LifeSkills:



Bodee O, Fred S, Makena W, Helena C, Kaleb A, Alee O, Cason P, Bethany H, Lupe H, Ruby W, Jacob S, Stella B, Aurora C, Jake W, Avari A, Tyler P, Charlie D, Karlee O

Great Job! You folks are super stars!

PTP News

Family Spaghetti Bingo Fun Night – Due to concerns about bad weather, Bingo Night is postponed until April 30th.

After School Sports

March 22 is the first day for our soccer rotation in after school sports. Look for baseball beginning April 12 and basketball beginning May 3. Sign up sheets are available in the office or online. Come play with us!

Community News

Chico Kite Day – Bring your favorite kite to the Community Park on 20th Street in Chico for Chico Kite Day. Event held from 12PM to 4PM.

Meals from the Heart – Come to the Forest Ranch Community Center on Friday, March 25th for Meals from the Heart dinner. Event from 5:30 to 7PM.

Monte Carlo Night – This adult-only event will be held at the Forest Ranch Community Center on Saturday, March 19th from 7 to 10PM. This fundraiser for the Community Association is tons of fun, gamble the night away with funny money and buy crazy white elephant items.

Student Government News



50's Day – Fifties Day was a great adventure. Mr. Philippi's class won the stuffed poodle trophy.

Pi Day – Student government is gearing up for Pi Day on March 9th this year. While we realize that Pi Day is really March 14th, that is Spring Break and we need to celebrate on March 9th for those going to Sutter's Fort on the 10th and 11th.

Backward Day – Put your clothes on backward or make up some strange way to be backward on Thursday, March 24th.

The Internet and Social Media

The internet and social media can enrich student's lives and open new venues for learning. It can also be risky and challenging for families to keep up with the new trends. The following is a list of online resources that can help busy parents stay in charge.

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/> is a great site that was originally developed to assist parents in choosing appropriate television, movies, and video games for their child. Now, it also has many articles and reviews on cyberbullying, social media, assorted apps, and even smart phones.

Another valuable source of information on cyberbullying is the government site, www.stopbullying.gov/. In addition, the American Academy of Pediatrics has a site called www.safetynet.aap.org/ It provides many links to parent resources surrounding social media and their children.

Transportation Manager / Bus Driver

We are considering bringing our transportation services in-house IF we can find the right person to manage the transportation program and drive the bus. Please visit our employment page at <http://www.forestranchcharter.org/employment-volunteering.html> for a complete job description.

Dr Seuss Day Fun



Mountain Music Festival Planning Time

Come join us for a planning meeting on Tuesday, March 8th at 6PM. The music festival is fun and it is a vital piece of our fundraising budget. Save the date – Saturday, June 4th to come enjoy good food, music, and company while supporting your school. Also, looking for great raffle prizes and donations. Flyers and donation letters will be coming your way.

Demeter and Persephone in Room 4



Heard About Campus

Kindergarteners enjoyed an imaginary "airplane ride" from Antarctica to Asia. They are now exploring cultural differences and similarities between the United States and several countries in Asia. Kindergarteners will also learn about animals such as panda bears and have fun with a unit on measurement as we take a look at Mount Everest. We will also work on sequencing and re-telling a story after we read The Paper Crane, by Molly Bang. For this activity, students will have to tell the main events in the beginning, middle and end of the story and illustrate their re-telling of the story. We will also have fun with origami as we make a boat and a flower. Kindergarteners were treated to stories and to a little taste of Asia this week when a parent, who'd travelled there, shared some of her experiences and brought in rice with soy and curry sauce!

The 1st and 2nd Graders are now into the Heroes Unit. We are learning all about people from the past and in the present that have impacted and changed our world. In Science, we have started our Geology Unit. The kids have been bringing in rocks and we have enjoyed discovering all the different types. We have also been working hard in the last few weeks in the school garden and other gardening areas, and have begun Spring plantings.

Oh Pioneers! Wagons are getting loaded, gear packed, and costumes pressed in readiness for our overnight adventure to Sutter's Fort. Third and fourth graders are learning all about California history up to the Gold Rush. Various mining methods and their impact on the environment are being discussed. Additionally, students will be dyeing their hand-spun wool yarn in preparation for wearing it at the fort. Thank you to our amazing parents who are helping to plan this trip and run the numerous stations.

Fifth grade is going full sail into the Third Trimester. Speaking of full sail, we are preparing for our big field trip to the S.S. Balclutha at the end of March. This will be one of the culminating events of our year. We will begin crew assignment training next week. In class we have left fractions and have made the transition into decimals. We will begin two books about growing up and working through adversity. To help get into the spirit of the Balclutha, we will read *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle* by Avi. This is a wonderful book and worth reading if you want a fun escape at home. The second is *Holes* which is also a funny read.

Mrs. DJ's 6th grade is leaving Greece and looking forward to our journey along the Silk Road in Ancient China. Students will be immersed in their culture and geography, write expository essays on an ancient Chinese invention, and study the philosophy and moral code of Confucius. Science will cover the workings of a cell and cellular regeneration.

We are marching into March in room 10. Seventh and eighth graders are reading some of the most famous poems written, by poets such as Longfellow, Whitman, Frost, and Hughes. Then we will write original poems in multiple styles. We will be reading historical fiction novels including: An Acquaintance with Darkness and Across Five Aprils. We will also be researching biographical information for an essay on the life of Mark Twain. This will lead us into understanding his experiences that directly related to writing the book Tom Sawyer. In science this month we will cover atomic structure and isotopes. Math concepts are concentrating on basic trigonometry theories as well as recognizing and defining variables in word problems. Social studies content will be completing westward expansion and manifest destiny, leading up to the causes of the Civil War.

Chico Science Fair

Congratulations to our hard-working science students. The following students received special awards at the Chico Science Fair: Avery H (CA Native Plant Society and Gateway Science Museum Awards), Sydney H (Valene Smith Museum of Anthropology and Omicron Theta Epsilon Awards), Sabrina H (CSU, Chico Society of Physics Students Award), Lucy B (CSU, Chico College of Natural Sciences Award), Emma D (American Society for Microbiology Student Chapter Award), and Forrest F (CSU, Chico Society of Physics Students Award). We are so proud of all of you!

