

Forest Ranch Charter School

May 2013



May 1 – Family BBQ hosted by CUSD Nutrition
May 1 – Young Author’s Day
May 3 – Assembly at 8:30AM
May 3 – Sock Hop from 6:30-8PM
May 9 – Safety Committee Meeting at 3PM
May 10 – Jog-a-Thon
May 10 – Field Trip, 5/6 class to Big Bad Musical
May 10 – Electives Day
May 14 – PTP Meeting at 3PM
May 17 – Assembly at 8:30AM
May 17, 18 – Spring Musical at Community Center
May 21 – Field Trip, 5/6 class to BCCER
May 23 – Open House, Spring Concert, Bike Raffle
May 24 – Electives Day
May 27 – Memorial Day, No School
May 28 – PBS Meeting at 3PM
May 31 – Assembly at 8:30AM, Skittles Spirit Day
June 3 – Field Trip, 5/6 Bike in the Park
June 4 – Teacher Swap Day, Science Discovery Day
June 6 – LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

From the Director

Dear Forest Ranch Charter Families,

The days of filling in bubbles are coming to an end. The bubbles have had a pretty good run. They have been in use since well before I was in school, and that was a while ago. As a paper-and-pencil person I will miss them. But time marches on and the State of California is moving toward an adaptive, computer-based testing model, similar to our current Scantron testing system. This new model will adjust itself according to the answers students give. If a student gives a wrong answer to a question then the next question will be easier; if a student gives a correct answer the next question will be harder. This will continue until the true knowledge of the student is known or they reach the outer parameters of the test.

The fact that this testing system is so dependent upon technology poses some challenges for FRCS. We are embarking on a Technology Initiative with a two-year plan which will fully support our student’s technology needs to give them the best chance of success possible (see Consensus on page 4). We hope that many of you will join us in this effort to improve our technology infrastructure.

The new testing method is being enacted in concert with a new set of curriculum standards. The Common Core State Standards were adopted by the State of California and are being implemented in conjunction with the new testing system. Students and families will begin seeing some changes in school work, testing, and report cards in response to these standards changes. If you have any questions, concerns, or wish to have more in depth knowledge about this subject please let me know. I would love to discuss this with you anytime.

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 March was Common Sense. Teachers nominated students from each class that they felt best represented this LifeSkill during the month. Congratulations to our March heroes:

Mrs. Palmarini – Jori G, Kwan J, Roxy M
Mrs. Stearns – Elissa A, Jessi W, Kyra V
Mr. Ball – Dylan H, Mason M
Mrs. McNulty – McKenna L, Hayden B
Ms. Matoes – Austin M, Alice B
Mrs. Jimmerson – Hailey F, Mason W

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>.

PTP News

Keep those Box Tops and Labels for Education coming! We just got a nice check from the Box Tops folks – that is always such a nice surprise. We are having our year end push to meet our Box Tops goal, so make sure to send what you have before the end of May.



Spring Musical 2013

Smoke-breathing dragons, magically dancing mops and brooms, mischievous fairies, beautiful princesses and charming princes – these things and more can be found at the FRCS production of Sleeping Beauty. There will be three performances held at the Forest Ranch Community Center. The dates and times are Friday May 17th at 7PM and Saturday May 18th at 2PM and 7PM. Tickets are available in the office.

Jokes from Gavin F.

What do you get when you cross a snowman and a vampire? Frostbite!

Why can't your nose be 12 inches long? Because then it would be a foot!



Let's Go To the Hop

Kick off your shoes, put on your poodle skirt, and join us at the Sock Hop on May 3rd at 6:30PM. There will be good music, dancing, games, and food for an evening of old fashioned fun.

Community Events

Forest Ranch Women's Club – Saturday May 4th the Forest Ranch Women's Club is hosting a Women's Art Show at the Community Center from 11AM to 1PM. The variety of artistic talent in this community is overwhelming – join us!

2nd Annual Oroville 5k River Run – The City of Oroville and Butte County Office of Education are co-sponsoring a 5k run on Saturday May 18th as a fundraiser to help the youth of Oroville. For more information, visit <http://underthesunevents.org/oroville-river-run-5k/>.

Open House and Spring Concert

Open House is a chance for our students and teachers to share what they are most proud of with families. This event will start at 5:30 with **dinner available** from our hard-working PTP volunteers. The Spring Concert will follow at 6:45. The concert will feature singing and dancing as well as our marvelous school band. Stick around after the concert for a **dessert potluck**. The bike raffle will be held during a brief break in the concert, so make sure your ticket purchases are made prior to sitting down for the concert. Sincere thanks to Northern California National Bank and the Company 24 Fire Volunteers for donating these bikes for our raffle.



Student Council News

Jump-Rope-for-Heart – Alice Bigham was our top fundraiser for this event – great job Alice. Because of everyone’s efforts the American Heart Association has presented FRCS with a certificate to purchase some PE equipment – congrats!

Second Annual Jog-a-Thon – The second annual FRCS Jog-a-Thon is scheduled for the morning of May 10th. We are looking for parent volunteers and donations of healthy snacks. Fill out those pledge sheets! Funds raised will be dedicated to supporting our fine arts program.

Super Hero Day – Things were very heroic on campus on Friday April 26th. Super Heroes ranged from the traditional (think Batman) to the heart-wrenching (one young lady was Good-Decision-Maker-Lady who

helps young people the world over make appropriate choices and decisions). Thanks to families for working with their kiddos to create heroes and costumes.



Look for more Super Hero photos on page 4.

Consumer Confidence Report

Forest Ranch Charter School is served by a water well. The quality and safety of our water is tested at least monthly and audited by Butte County Department of Public Health. Annually, we produce a Consumer Confidence Report regarding the quality and safety of the water used on campus. For the 2012 report, please visit <http://www.forestranchcharter.org/facility-information.html>. Paper copies may be requested from the office at 891-3154.

Heard Around Campus

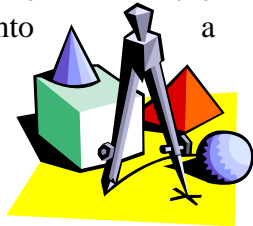
Kindergartener’s are heading for the rainforests of South America. Ask your student about symmetry and butterflies. Look forward to seeing the results of a very messy but fun butterfly art project using glue and food coloring.



Where are the Wild Things? In the first and second grades! Students are wrapping up the year with our exciting animal units. Students are researching an animal of their choice, writing reports, and creating dioramas. The

grand finale will be a play exploring animal biomes – habitat, habitat, got to have a habitat.

Third and fourth graders are jumping into Geometry, learning about perimeter, area and volume. Mothers beware – art projects are underway for your special day and for the Silver Dollar Fair. Students will become book publishers this month; choosing their best writing masterpieces from the year and transforming it into a hard cover, typed book. Look for some great things coming home soon from these classrooms.



Beans in a baggie? Geometrical towns? Pointillism? It must be 5th/6th grade! Summer gardening is kicking off with germinating beans in baggies. Real world math projects include designing a geometrical town and then transforming it from 2D to 3D. George Seurat is inspiring works of art and nature scenes with poetry. Come visit us during Open House to see our creativity.



Consensus

Have you ever tried to gain consensus among a divergent group of people? If so, you understand the thrill of achieving it. We recently had that experience with our Board, the PTP, the Student Council, and the Staff. We all agreed that our technology needs are a primary area of improvement for the next two years. The next two years see the phase in of a technology-dependent testing system adopted by the State of California which will replace the current STAR testing system. Upgrades to our current infrastructure are desperately needed in order to support this new testing system.

There are three fundraisers running right now to support technology: the bike raffle happening during the Spring Concert, the Spring Musical which usually supports another local organization as a service project, and a direct mail campaign to supportive community members and businesses. This is a critical area of need for FRCS as schools become more and more technology/internet dependent. Please support these fundraisers if you can and if you have other suggestions or ways to help, please do not hesitate to contact us!

Dress Code Reminder

As the weather warms, please remember we have a very sunny campus. Wear clothing that covers shoulders, midriffs, and thighs. Sunhats are encouraged when outside but please remember to take them off when indoors. We also have a bumper crop of clover this year, wear shoes that have closed toes to protect from bee stings. As always, high heels are discouraged as we are very active during PE and recess times. Thank you.