

Forest Ranch Charter School

May 2014



May 2 – Assembly at 8:30AM
May 2 – Jog-a-Thon Kick Off
May 2 – Sock Hop
May 6 thru 9 – Shady Creek field trip (6th grade)
May 8 – Hands on Lab field trip (McNulty)
May 9 – Last Day of Electives
May 14 – Chinese Temple field trip (5th/6th)
May 14 – PTP Meeting at 3PM
May 15 – Woodstocks Pizza Night Fundraiser
May 16 – Science Discovery Day
May 20 – Board of Directors meeting, 6PM
May 22 – Open House / Spring Concert
May 23 – Jog-a-Thon
May 23 – Sports Day
May 26 – No School
May 27 – Reading Log Party
May 27 – PBS Meeting at 3PM
May 28 – Shasta Caverns field trip (3rd/4th)
May 29 – Safety Committee Meeting at 3PM
June 3 – CUSD Family BBQ lunch

From the Director

Dear Forest Ranch Charter Families,

We are wrapping up the new Smarter Balanced Field Test and things have moved along smoothly. Most of the students have moved through the testing patiently and have tried their best. This new test is a significant shift from how we have assessed students in the past. Students are required to think on a much deeper level, not just recall information. They must provide evidence from multiple sources, be adept at using technology and provide lengthy typed answers to many of the problems. We will continue to create classroom curriculum that will allow them to be more competent in these areas. That being said, some of our students still struggle with basic concepts and are not ready to tackle having things mixed together on a computer-based test quite yet. We will continue to provide rigorous but supportive instruction to help these students meet the changing demands of education, and eventually the workforce, while still honoring the pace and the methods by which they learn best. Please feel free to share with me any observations your children have shared with you or thoughts you have about the new testing. As always, I welcome your feedback.

On another note, we have greatly appreciated the increased response we have received on the Family Surveys this year. Sorry about the few glitches. We have made note of what they were and will work to improve next year. I look forward to seeing all of you at our end of the year events.

Christia Marasco

LifeSkill Heroes

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

The LifeSkills for February and March were Caring and Perseverance. Teachers chose the following students whom they felt best represent these traits on campus:

Caring

Kindergarten – Allie W, Jackson R
First Grade – April G, Kaden M
Second Grade – Jesse H, Sydney H
Third Grade – Erik R, Ariana Colove
Fourth Grade – Avari A
Fifth Grade – Cali B, Diego R-B
Sixth Grade – Zane A

Perseverance

Kindergarten – Ember R, Eunavae S
First Grade – Jacob S, Anna P, Emily W
Second Grade – Liberty M
Third Grade – Kaitlyn C, Clayton F
Fourth Grade – Hayden B
Fifth Grade – Sara W, Emma A
Sixth Grade – Sebastian P

The LifeSkill for May is **Flexibility**. Can you roll with the changes that come your way or do you get upset when things don't go exactly as planned? Bring an example to share.

Community Events

Lions Meals from the Heart – Come to the Forest Ranch Community Center on Saturday May 31st from 5PM to 6:30PM. This is the venue and date for the Meals from the Heart dinner hosted by the Lions Club. Join the Lions for good company and a free, hot meal. All are welcome! For more information, call 345-5399.

Poetry is like a ...

The fifth/sixth graders wrote simile poems for Young Authors Day. Here are a few to share:

The Sky by SamD.

The sky is like a blue ocean
The sky is like an endless backdrop
The sky is like a minor space
The sky is like a playground
The sky is as beautiful as a rainbow
The sky is as suspenseful as a test score
The sky is like a fading sheet
The sky is like a long reflection

Simile Poem by Zane A.

A planet is like a marble,
With unknown depths that go beyond the eye.

Water is like a crystal gem,
You can view the water but you can't see them.

A tree is like a hotel,
With many species renting rooms.

The sun is like a heater in the sky,
Heating planets on high.

Friends by Hailey F.

*A friend is like another hand
A friend is like a teacher
A friend is like a beautiful flower
A friend is like a cup of coffee that keeps me
awake
A friend is like a pair of eyes that go with me
everywhere
A friend is like sour candy
A friend is like a bottle of perfume
A friend is like the end of every book that
leaves you hanging.*

Parent Representative Election

After serving two terms on the Board of Directors, Lisa Speegle (2008-2011 and 2011-2014) will not be running for a third term as a Parent Representative. Chantel Walker, parent of two FRCS students, submitted a Statement of Interest in the position. Look for ballots coming home soon to formalize the vote on this position. Being an FRCS Board of Directors member is a rewarding experience. We are looking forward to another great year of thoughtful governance from our board members.

Talent Show Was Great!



The 2014 FRCS Talent Show was held in April. Quite a variety of talent was presented. Talents ranged from guitar acts

(Love Me Tender no less) to pogo sticking (look Ma, no hands). Singing talents were very impressive as were gymnasts and dancers. Thanks to all who participated and to the hard-working stage hands that held it all together.



Student Government Update

Jog-a-Thon – May 23rd is the date for the Jog A-Thon hosted by Student Government. Kick off will be on May 2nd. Look for pledge sheets coming home. Please help our school raise money for a running track by pledging to this cause.

Sports Day – May 23rd is Sports Day. Wear your favorite jersey and come prepared to play hard.

Woodstock's Pizza Fundraiser Night

Please join us, or grab some takeout, at Woodstock's Pizza on Thursday, May 15th between 5 and 8PM. Present the fundraiser flyer, coming home soon, when making your purchases and FRCS will get a percentage of their profit for the evening.

Consumer Confidence Report

Our campus drinking water supply comes from a water well located on our campus. The quality of this water is highly monitored. We have a water system operator who takes monthly samples and issues a Consumer Confidence Report regarding the quality and constituents of our water annually. If you are interested in reading this report, please visit our facilities page on our website at <http://www.forestranchcharter.org/facility-information.html>.

Chico Unified Nutrition Services Family BBQ Lunch

Come have lunch with your student on Tuesday, June 3rd. CUSD will be hosting a hamburger/hot dog BBQ with all the fixins. Pricing for students is \$2.60 (FRPM applies) and \$3.50 for adults. Please let us know to expect you so that we have enough yummy stuff for everyone. Lunch will be served between 11:45 until 12:30.

Skate Night Fun

If you weren't there, you missed a good time. FRCS took over CalSkate and had a really great party in April. Several alumni joined us; it was wonderful to see them again. Thanks to everyone who came out to have a great time raising money for the school.



Heard About Campus

Kindergarteners have had a lot of fun learning all about metamorphosis and the life cycle of the butterfly. We began by reading The Hungry Caterpillar, by Eric Carle, followed by a new song about the stages of development from egg to butterfly. Included in this unit was a lesson on symmetry. The kids had fun finding the lines of symmetry on everything from chairs, playground equipment and even on themselves. Students then made some beautiful butterfly art that included all the life cycle stages they learned about.

The Famous Exceptional People Museum is officially closed for the season for the 1st and 2nd graders. They learned so much by researching exceptional people from the 80s and creating their living museum presentation. Next up...spring is alive, because life cycles have arrived! Our kiddos will be busy experiencing the life cycles of plants around our school: frogs, butterflies, and much more! We will conclude this unit with a study trip to Turtle Bay Aquarium to see what we've learned and to keep learning more!

The 3rd and 4th graders will be donning their lab coats as they become Scientists of the Day. Each student will be demonstrating an experiment and explaining the science behind it. Our Young Authors have been publishing original hard cover books. A special thanks to Quadco Printing for their very generous donation of paper for this important project. Math projects include real-world fractions, geometric aerobics, and cooperative group transformations.

Mrs. D.J.'s class is exiting Ancient Greece and moving onward to Ancient China. A research paper on an Ancient Chinese invention and how it affects our world today is on the horizon, as well as a visit to the Chinese Temple in Oroville on May 14th. Our 6th graders and I will head to Shady Creek Nature Camp from May 6th through May 9th. We are also learning the many layers of our earth's resources and energy in Science. Wow! It's May! It's been an amazing year thus far; we will finish strong and send our 6th graders on to 7th grade with fond memories and an excellent foundation.

Music Festival 2014

Saturday May 31st is the day to remember. Do not miss out on the chance to support our music and arts program, hear some great bands, eat some great food, visit with some great folks, and have some great fun. We look forward to seeing all our families and all their friends so that we can continue to offer our wonderful programs for our students. Don't miss out on the fun!

Open House / Spring Concert

The fun begins at 5:30 with dinner for sale by the PTP folks. Open House will be held from 6PM until 6:45PM. Each classroom will have very special things to share with our families. Then the final treat of the evening, our Spring Concert, starts at 7PM and will run about one hour. We look forward to seeing you then.