

Forest Ranch Charter School

November 2011



November 3 – 3rd/4th field trip
Gold Nugget Museum

November 4 – Assembly at 8:30AM

November 4 – PTP Meeting at 2:45PM

November 10 – 5th/6th field trip to SF

November 10 – FRCS Board Meeting, 6PM

November 11 – Veteran’s Day, No School

November 15 – PTP Meeting at 2:45PM

November 16 – Picture Retake Day

November 17 – Wellness Committee Mtg, 7PM

November 18 – Electives Day

November 18 – 5th/6th field trip, Hands on Lab

November 18 – All School Skate, Cal Skate 3:30

November 21 through 25 – Thanksgiving Vacation

November 28 – PTP Book Faire begins

December 2 – Assembly at 8:30AM

December 2 – PTP Meeting at 2:45PM

December 3 – PTP Gift Wrap and Babysit Day
10AM until 2PM

December 7 – 5th/6th field trip, Redding

December 9 – Electives Day

Director’s Report

We are enjoying an eventful fall and are still reeling a bit from the Halloween fun. Last Friday we kicked off our Reading Program with a visit from a local teacher’s band. They were awesome! I really appreciated them fitting us into their busy schedules. They performed many kid friendly songs and our students joined in singing a few of their own! We will be starting our collection of reading journals/logs this week. Students who turn in their weekly logs will be able to earn entrance to our fun character parties and be entered into weekly drawings for free books.

The Student Council and I are working hard to eradicate bullying and unkind behavior from campus. We are developing a team of mentors who can help other students with problems. We also have a Bully Box where students can submit concerns or ideas. Please get involved by helping your child keep up their end of the pledge (a pledge was sent home to students in grades 1-6 last week; a special kindergarten pledge will go out shortly). If we all work together we can make our school a nicer place.

Christia

Wellness Policy Committee

Do you have a background in fitness or nutrition? Are you concerned about the fitness and wellness of our students? FRCS is forming a committee to assist with framing a Wellness Program in compliance with our lunch program funding. We need parents, community members, students and staff to join the committee and determine guidelines for our school relating to food/health on campus. Please contact the office if you are willing to help or have input on this subject. We will have our first meeting on November 17 at 7:00PM.

FRCS Says Thank You Annie B's

The FRCS Community has amazed us once again. Donations to the Forest Ranch Charter School during the 2011 North Valley Community Foundation Annie B's Campaign totaled \$16,683.46. Over 50 donors contributed varying amounts to make this year's fundraising drive a huge success. We are very grateful for each and every donation. Thank you!

LifeSkill Heroes – Initiative

The LifeSkill for September was Initiative. Teachers nominated students from each class that they felt best represented this LifeSkill during the month. The heroes for Initiative are:

Kindergarten – Delainey L, Jackson K

1st/2nd (Bodney) – Breonna H, Ashley B

1st/2nd (Stearns) – Mason M, Abigail R

3rd/4th – Mason W, Hailey F

5th/6th – Kalisa B, Noelle J

Spaghetti Feed Fundraiser

The Lions Spaghetti Feed Fundraiser that was scheduled for November 5 has been postponed. Look for more information on a new date soon.

Parent-Teacher Partnership (PTP)

October was a busy month for the FRCS PTP. Thank you to all the hard-working volunteers, parents, and supporters of PTP efforts! The Fall Bulb fundraiser was a huge success, raising approximately \$1700 in support of the school. The tasty burritos sold during the Downtown Forest Ranch Fall Festival brought in another \$550 in profit. A

night of Full Moon Festival fun brings the total to almost \$3000 for the month. All PTP funds are used to directly support our students and our school. If you are not already part of this rewarding effort, please join us at an upcoming meeting (see www.forestranchcharter.org for dates) or contact Terry to get on the PTP email list to keep updated on volunteering for future events.

Heard Around Campus

Kindergarten is traveling to Europe. They will be studying the differences and similarities between here and there. These comparisons will be made looking at fairy and folk tales, Pilgrim immigration and Native American traditions. A community volunteer will be coming to class to share Native foods, games and stories which will lead to further discussion about Thanksgiving traditions in the US.

Our 1st and 2nd graders have made it to America! During Immigration Simulation, our students sailed across the ocean and felt hope and anxiousness like immigrants of long ago as they caught their first glimpse of the Statue of Liberty. We are wrapping up our immigration unit by constructing heritage books and sharing family trees. November brings a unit on Fairy Tales including reading many fairy tales, writing friendly letters, comparing fairy tales, dealing with characters, setting, plot, and even some re-enactments.

The 3rd and 4th graders already spent time enjoying fairy tales and fractured fairy tales. The play "Into the Woods" was a great kick off for this unit. Some students wrote comic book summaries for their books and while others worked on comparing and contrasting fairy tales. Students will also be writing their own fairy tales with a twist. On Halloween students enjoyed sharing their

super super-hero stories, where the main character has super powers to make a difference in the world. They even illustrated their neatly written or typed final copies. Parent volunteers have been wonderful in helping students during Language Art centers highlighting typing, listening, and cursive skills. It is so nice to be able to read with a group and still have the rest of the class engaged and able to get the help they need.

The 5th and 6th graders are discovering expository writing by writing directions on how draw a student's original monster picture, and then giving the directions to another class to draw it! Wonder how well that will go? Ahoy! Crews are preparing to board the Balclutha by practicing knot tying, sailor vocabulary, bell time, and leadership skills. Student created recipes are resulting in nutritious and delicious fraction smoothies. Try some at home! A visit to the CSU Museum of Anthropology to measure and observe early human skulls led to the question, "Who was Lucy?"

Ms. Matoes' Class Moves into First

Kindergarten had taken an early lead in Month 1 of this year. Month 2 has Ms. Matoes' 3rd/4th grade class taking a decisive jump ahead, placing them securely in first position, for now. Can your class catch them? See chart below.

Bus Route Change

Don't be left standing in the Park and Ride lot wondering where the bus is. As of Monday November 7 there will be a change in our route. The Park and Ride stop, due to parent complaints, is being replaced with the gym parking lot at Marsh Junior High. This parking area is located in the southwest corner of the Marsh campus. Times for pick up and drop off will remain the same. Please remember to use extreme courtesy for Marsh parents as we are visitors on their site. Show them how fabulous FRCS families are!

