

Forest Ranch Charter School

November 2012



November 2 – Elective Day
November 6 – PTP Meeting at 3PM
November 7 – 5/6 field trip, Hands on Lab
November 8 – 1/2 field trip, Gold Nugget Museum
November 9 – Assembly at 8:30AM
November 9 – BIG EVENT at the BIG ROOM
November 12 – Veterans Day, No School
November 16 – Electives Day
November 19 – 25 – Thanksgiving Vacation
No School
November 27 – PBS Meeting at 3PM
November 30 – Assembly at 8:30AM
November 30 – Crazy Sock Day
December 4 – 3/4 field trip, Gateway Museum
December 4 – PTP Meeting at 2:45PM
December 7 – Electives Day
December 14 – Electives Day

Director's Report

Dear Forest Ranch Charter Families,

As we settle into fall, the students have been enjoying stories and reading. School Literacy Night (October 11) included many engaging reading and writing opportunities. Our first Reading Party was a great success with over sixty students attending. We had some medieval fun dragon-style. There were riddles, snacks, dragon visits, and a short story. Please keep your children reading; our next party will be here soon.

The PTP is working with Teacher's Book Connection to set up a Book Faire toward the end of November. We want to get books circulating before Winter Break. The Book Faire will have a selection of teacher and student choices as well as award winning books. I hope you will have time to come look through the selections.

Our LifeSkill for this month is Effort. Please help your child work toward this goal at home and encourage their continued positive efforts at school.

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

Kindergarten – Gabe S, April G
Grade 1 – Emerson S, Quinn A, Sydney H
Grade 2 – Kaylee M
Grade 3 – Hyannie F, Elyjah J, Trinity M
Grade 4 – Cali B
Grades 5 & 6 – Frank C, Addison T

The BIG EVENT at the BIG ROOM Dinner/Auction Fundraiser

Tickets are almost gone for the BIG EVENT of the year. Friday November 9 the Forest Ranch Charter School and the Forest Ranch Fire Safe Council are hosting a dinner/auction at the Sierra Nevada Big Room. There will be live and silent auctions (imagine tax deductible shopping), beer tasting, wine sampling, great food and dancing to live music by both the Higgy Lerner Jazz Band and the Rippin' Fifths. Check with the office or on our website to get your tickets before it is too late.

After School Sports Fun

Monday November 26th is the first day of our Baseball rotation in after school sports. Don't miss out on the fun and teamwork as we learn and play together. For a signup sheet, contact Terry in the office or visit <http://www.forestranchcharter.org/after-school-sports.html>.

STAR Test Results Are In

Congratulations are in order for all our hard-working students. We are proud to share the news that our standardized tests scores (STAR) increased for the third year in a row. The State of California set a goal of 800 API for schools. Our 2011-12 score is 866, which is up 15 points from last year. Thank you to all our parents and students for helping us continue to improve and grow. See our website for more detailed information on our scoring and the scores for other schools in the area.

Student Council News

Mustache Day was a great success. Many fabulous mustaches were seen on campus. Ms. Matoes' class had the most mustaches. We hope they did not get their mustaches in their popsicles. The next Spirit Day is Crazy Sock Day. On November 30th wear your craziest socks and show your FRCS spirit.



Canned Food Drive - Student council is running a canned food drive for the benefit of the Jesus Center from now until December 21st. Please send in non-perishable food to support our community.

Annie B's Successful Again

The check came in the mail the other day from the Annie B's Community Campaign. Once again we are very pleased at the support from our families and our community members. We received over \$11,000 from this fundraising event which will help pay for our new classrooms. Many thanks to all of you who donated!

Community News

The Forest Ranch Community Association is hosting a talk about Wild Medicinal Plants of the Foothills during their General Meeting on Thursday November 15 at 7PM at the Community Center. Join them in learning from Anasuya Basil about the plants that grow and thrive in our area.

PTP News

Christmas Canteens – The PTP has the perfect Christmas gifts for the proud FRCS student. Kleen Kanteens with our Fox logo are on sale for \$18 each. Ask in the office.

Chocolate Bars – Your favorite chocolate bars will soon be available once again. If you would like to have a box of them at your business or event for sale contact a PTP officer or the office to make those arrangements. As always, they will be for sale at Zavaterro's. Half the price of the candy bar directly supports the PTP.

FRCS Post Office Looking for Donations

Do you have some stamp-style stickers, envelopes, or writing paper taking up space? Our campus postal service is looking for supplies. Our very official-looking postal workers pick up and deliver mail weekly between the various offices and classrooms. Donations may be left with the office.

Photo of the Month

Mrs. Bodney's students spent an afternoon loving their campus in October. We love the joy they put into sweeping the blacktop and picking up trash. Thanks folks!



Heard Around Campus

The kindergarten class is finishing up a unit on North America and will be moving on to the continent of Europe. We will connect the two continents with a lesson on pilgrims right before Thanksgiving break. We will also be doing a mini unit on apples and the fall season. We will have an apple taste test and graph our results. Kindergarteners will learn about adjectives as we write a poem describing apples. Assessments for report cards are coming up next week, so be sure your kindergartener is well rested and fed every morning before school next week!

First and second graders are busy getting ready for our Pioneer Night on November 7. Students are sewing, baking, folk dancing, and constructing their pioneer town in preparation for the big night. They also anticipate their field trip to the Gold Nugget Museum on November 9, where they will experience a one-room school house like those from pioneer times.

The third and fourth graders are almost ready to present their continent pop-up books and scary stories. We will soon be starting Literature Circles with a focus on mysteries. In math, we have completed subtraction and are moving on to multiplication. Please continue to practice addition, subtraction, and multiplication facts with your children at home. Check your child's homework binder for games to practice math facts. All you need is a deck of cards. Remember to work on real world applications using money as well.

The fifth and sixth graders conducted an experiment with an egg representing a cell, and are beginning to learn about human body systems. Students are writing creative stories inspired by the very peculiar book The Mysteries of Harris Burdick. They are perfect for the Halloween season. On Halloween we had a Dead Verbs ceremony, complete with tombstones. Students are reading in literature circles and finishing a real world math project planning a 10-day international trip! We calculated the cost of various trips to France, New Zealand, Greece, Peru, and more!

The Attendance Race

Mrs. Jimmerson's class is taking an early lead. Can the others catch her class? Each week the winning class is very proud as they claim their extra recess time! Keep an eye on the graph below to see where your classroom stands.

Halloween Spirit

The Halloween Parade was great fun and the Dancing Elective students put on a very entertaining Ghost Buster's Dance. Dead verbs were discussed and mourned by several students.

