

# Forest Ranch Charter School

## October 2014



October 2 – Hands on Lab field trip (Jimenez)  
October 3 – Assembly at 8:30AM  
October 7 – Gateway Science Museum field trip (Matoes and Jimenez)  
October 9 – Bidwell Park trip (Ball/Stearns)  
October 9 – Burrito Dinner Fundraiser at the Forest Ranch Community Assoc.  
October 10 – No School, Parent-Teacher conf  
October 13 – Picture Day  
October 13 – Laxson field trip (Ball/Stearns)  
October 14 – Gateway Science Museum field trip (Copp/McNulty)  
October 14 – PTP meeting at 3PM  
October 16 – TJ Farms field trip (Palmarini)  
October 16 – Safety Committee meeting, 3PM  
October 17 – Electives Day  
October 18 – Full Moon Festival  
October 23 – Wellness Committee meeting, 3PM  
October 24 – Electives Day  
October 24 – Patrick Ranch trip (Ball/Stearns)  
October 27 – CUSD Turkey Feast  
October 30 – Halloween Parade at 8:30AM  
October 30 – Laxson field trip (Palmarini)

### From the Director

Dear Forest Ranch Charter Families,

Fall is here and we are enjoying the cooler weather. Lots of things are happening on campus this year and it has been a treat to have our small group of 7<sup>th</sup> graders. They are wonderful leaders and role models on campus. What a marvelous decision it was to expand our school to include them.

Committees are forming for various reasons and we would love to have your help. We have the Safety Committee, the Wellness Committee, and the School Advisory Committee. All three need parents sitting on them – that means you! Dates and times are listed on page 3 of this newsletter. Please join in.

The Safety Committee is involved with reviewing accidents and incidents to discover if there are things we could do to reduce or eliminate the hazards we face. Additionally, improvements are identified, prioritized, and recommendations made for the consideration of the school board. If you have experience with safety or concerns about safety, this is the committee for you.

The Wellness Committee concerns itself with nutrition and physical fitness. Our garden is expanding and nutrition education is a large component of our curriculum. Look around during recess and you can see that our kids are pretty fit. However, the Wellness Committee is tasked with measuring our successes and failures in this area, identifying ways to improve, and making recommendations for the consideration of the school board. If wellness is an area of passion for you, please join.

The School Advisory Committee is all about educational vision and goals. We are currently rechartering and we have our new accountability plan measures to keep an eye on. This committee will focus on these items, bringing more ideas to stakeholder and board meetings for future goals so that we can continue to improve and grow over time.

*Christia Marasco*

## LifeSkill Heroes

Each month classrooms designate LifeSkill winners. These are students that demonstrate mastery of the specific skill awarded. In August and September the following students were recognized for their behavior: Cali B, Michelle D, Zayn R, Finn M, Michael D, McKenna L, Wyatt M, Jackson K, Kaylee M, Stuart H, Allie W, Laura W, Helena C, Leif H, Landon S, Lia B, Trinity K, Ashley S, Lucy B, Gabe S, Jori G, Rodney M, Evan T, Sybil H, Madeline H, Siena B, Elyjah K, Hayley J, Kylie M, Charlie D, Quinn A, Lakai S, Eunavae S, Sabrina H, and Ashley B.

The October lifeskill is courage. Webster's Dictionary defines courage as the mental or moral strength to venture, persevere, and withstand danger, fear, or difficulty. Can you think of a time you demonstrated courage? What types of activities require your courage?

## Community Events

**Burrito Feast** – Our PTP is hosting a Burrito Feast at the Forest Ranch Community Association on October 9<sup>th</sup> from 4PM to 8PM. Come enjoy dinner at the center or take home dinner to the family. Proceeds will benefit the Community Association and the Trinity Morris Recovery Fund.

**Patrick Ranch Autumn Fest** – October 5<sup>th</sup> through the 26<sup>th</sup> visitors to the Patrick Ranch Museum will find a pumpkin patch, hayrides, a petting zoo, scarecrow contest and more. Call 342-4359 for hours and special events.



**Nord Country School Harvest Festival** – October 4<sup>th</sup> from 10AM to 3PM is the Nord School Harvest Festival. Come watch the horse drawn farm equipment, enter the pie eating contest, or just have a quiet lunch under the oak trees. This is a fun day for kids.

## After School Sports



October brings soccer to after school sports. Soccer begins on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Families can sign up for Tuesdays, Thursdays or Tuesdays and Thursdays. The program is fee-based but scholarships are available. Visit our website at <http://www.forestranchcharter.org/after-school-sports.html> for the sign-up sheet or contact the office for scholarship information.

## PTP News

**Full Moon Festival** – Join us for a scary-good time on October 18 from 6 to 8:30PM. There will be a cake walk, limbo contest, a haunted house, a fortune teller, a costume photo booth, face painting, and crafts. There will also be food and dancing.

**Book Fair** – Save the date and the Christmas Shopping for our Scholastic Book Fair scheduled for November 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers will be needed for staffing. Please let us know if you can help.



**Box Tops** – We're "Diving Deep" into Box Tops this year! Last year the school raised \$375. Our goal this year is to raise \$500! But we can't do it without your help. Collect those Box Tops as often as you can from products such as Ziploc, Betty Crocker, General Mills and many more. Have your child complete the Box Tops collection sheet or put all Box Tops in a baggie marked with your child's name. Return to Mrs. Stearns or the Box Tops basket in the office. There will be a Top Box Tops winner each month which will be recognized at our monthly assembly. The Top Winner for the month of September was 1st grader Sammy Horn!

## Committee Meetings

**Safety Committee** – October 16<sup>th</sup> at 3PM we will hold a Safety Committee meeting. The safety committee reviews accidents and incidents, discusses safety issues on campus, and makes recommendations to the staff and Board for safety plans and improvements. Please join and share your thoughts.

**Wellness Committee** – October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3PM is the date for the Wellness Committee meeting. Please contact the school office if you have an interest in joining this committee. The Wellness Committee reviews the Wellness Policy, food and physical fitness on campus, and makes recommendations to the Board regarding compliance and changes needed. We would love to have your input and help.

**School Advisory Council** – The School Advisory Council will hold its first meeting of the year on November 6<sup>th</sup> at 3PM. This vital group works closely with Ms. Marasco regarding the educational direction and vision of the school. Goals identified recently for both our accountability plan and our rechartering will be a focus for this group.

## Student Writing

From classroom journalist Emilee Baugh

In class we have been learning about hydration. We weighed pineapple and apples before dehydrating them. Then we weighed them afterwards. We were shocked at the results! Originally, the pineapple weighed 32.3 oz. and the apples weighed 46.15 oz. Afterwards, the pineapple was only 6.15 oz. and the apples were 7.7 oz. That means the pineapple lost 26.15 oz. of water and the apples lost 38.45 oz. Can you believe it?

We have also been enjoying art this year. Our teachers took pictures of us. We used

the photographs to make self portraits. After that we colored them and wrote about what we were excited to be learning this year.

For Kyra's birthday P.E. we played capture the flag. We used a football strategy to win the game. We passed the flag to Hayden. Then Hayden passed to Zeb, and Zeb passed it to me. I ran my little heart out to score the point for our team! Soon, it was time to go back into class.



## Heard About Campus

Kindergarteners are leaving on a continental journey. Beginning with North America they will study what makes a community, exploring different jobs and roles people play. Guest speakers will visit and share about their jobs and how they contribute to our community.

Where in the world are the 1st and 2nd graders? That's exactly what they are trying to figure out as they explore the greater world around them! They are starting to explore where they live compared to their state, their country, their continent, and the world. They are learning the 7 continents and oceans through a creative story and song. Students will also be studying basic map skills, exploring cardinal directions, legends and keys, and making their own maps. They will conclude this mini-unit by going on a



topographic hike in Bidwell Park to test their geography skills!

The third and fourth graders ended their nutrition studies by sampling delicious foods purchased during the Farmer's Market field trip and then prepared by volunteer parents (thank you!). Their next field trip is to the Chico Cemetary and the Gateway Science Museum where they will be learning about local pioneers who influenced this community and local agriculture. We live in such an amazing area.

Our fifth grade classroom is established and it is time to dig in! We are looking forward to going to Gateway Science Museum on October 7. We will be able to tie in what we already learned as we explore the exhibits, "Eat Well, Play Well, Modern Farming, and Patterns on the Land." We continue to enjoy our book, Holes. Students are working hard to create a time line of important events, analyze characters, and respond in depth to the text. On National Punctuation Day we were inspired by the book, Punctuation Takes a Vacation. Students are creating comic strips, starring punctuation marks as the characters. Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) is guiding our discovery of water on Earth through hands on activities, real world connections, and physical education! It makes learning science exciting and meaningful! Fifth graders will have to be courageous as they present their United State region projects and share their Halloween inspired stories with their classmates.

In our 6/7th grade class we are finishing up our real world math projects on a historical point of interest on the eastern side of the U.S. Students enjoyed reading The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton as well as attending a live performance of "The Outsiders" at the Blue Room. They are now writing a compare and contrast paper based on the play vs. the novel. A study of the 5 regions of Native Americans is happening in 6th grade while the 7th graders are beginning a study of Mayans, Aztecs and Incas.



In science 6th grade is diving deep into water. We began with the hike of our local water shed, Big Chico Creek, and are now moving from watershed to the water cycle and then to weather. The 7th grade has moved from a study in science on cell theory to eukaryotic cells and cell differentiation. In P.E. we have run over 100 miles thus far on our hypothetical run to Santa Fe, New Mexico. Whew! Great job students, you are amazing!



Q: What do you get when you cross Bambi with a ghost?

A: Bamboo!

Two monsters went to a party. Suddenly one said to the other, "A lady just rolled her eyes at me. What should I do?"



"Be a gentleman and roll them back to her."