

Forest Ranch Charter School

September 2013



September 2 - Labor Day, No School

September 5 – Back to School Night

September 6 – Assembly, 8:30AM

September 7 – Fireman’s BBQ, Downtown FR
11AM until 3PM

September 9 – Homework Club begins today

September 10 – Sports Club begins today

September 12 – PTP Meeting/Family Picnic
6PM at Wildwood Park

September 13 – Electives Day

September 17 – Constitution Day

September 17 – FRCS Board Meeting, 6PM

September 20 – Parent Conferences, No School

September 24 – Punctuation Day

September 24 – Field Trip, Gateway Museum

September 24 – PBS Meeting, 3PM

September 25 – Field Trip, Beauty & The Beast

September 27 – Electives Day

October 3 – Field Trip, Hands on Lab

October 4 – Assembly, 8:30AM

October 4 – Field Trip, Hands on Lab

From the Director

Dear Forest Ranch Charter Families,

Welcome Back! Our school theme this year is “Be Courageous, Create the World around You”. We have had a great first two weeks. Students are very excited about our expanded Music Program and new Outdoor Education and Art classes. Last week the students met Mrs. Kopp, who will be teaching Outdoor Education and GATE, and Mrs. Schildhauer, our new Art Teacher.

Kristine Copp brings with her many years of teaching and science experience to share with our students. Cynthia Schildhauer has been teaching art for many years and has been involved in many large student art projects in Butte County. Please introduce yourself when you see them on campus.

On another note, PTP is working very hard to keep our Full Moon Festival running. The same people have been putting it on for many years and need a break. If you are able to help coordinate please let us know ASAP. If we are unable to find help with coordination we will be unable to continue the event.

I have enjoyed spending time with all of your children the last two weeks and look forward to an engaging year of learning with them. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to better support your family. We are interested in your input. All of us working together will create a healthier community for our children.

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 August was Friendship. Teachers will nominate students from each class that they felt best represent this skill and the winners will be announced at the September assembly.



The LifeSkill for September will be Creativity. How many different types and styles of creativity can you think of? Have some brainstorming sessions with your child in September; see how creative you can be.

Back to School Night

September 5th is Back to School Night. This is a student-free evening for teachers and parents to learn about each other and plan their partnership for the school year. K-2 classrooms are open from 5:30-6:15. From 6:45-7:30 3rd through 6th classrooms are open. Between 6:15 and 6:45 will be a general information discussion. We look forward to seeing all of you there.

Homework Club

Homework Club starts on Monday, September 9th. This free program is an extension of our After School Care Program, held on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 2:45 until 3:45 to assist students with homework. Students must have a current After School Program registration on file. Students not picked up on time from Homework Club will transition to the fee-based After School Program.

Annie B's is Back

The North Valley Community Foundation is once again supporting the Annie B's Community Drive. This is a very important fundraiser for FRCS and constitutes a significant portion of our fundraising for the year. Please see the donation letter and form attached. Donate if you can and share this information with grandparents, aunts, uncles, the lady next door, etc. To donate online see our website at <http://www.forestranchcharter.org/annie-bs-campaign.html>.

Yummy Green Beans

The start of this school year was the most rewarding ever. Students were so excited about how well the courtyard garden grew over the summer. One kiddo started out with "what is a green bean" and ended with "that was yummy, can I have another". We can't wait to get started on the next planned garden expansion and more yumminess.



After School Sports

September 10th is the first day of Fall After School Sports. Basketball is the first rotation. Sport begins after school and ends at 4:30. Students not picked up at 4:30 will transition to the After School Care Program. Check with the office for Registration info.

Fireman's BBQ

The Company 24 Volunteer's are a very important part of the Forest Ranch community. In addition to the obvious fire protection, they also respond to medical and other emergency calls. We rely on them for safety support for the school. Please support our fire fighter's and attend the Fireman's BBQ on Saturday, September 7th from 11AM until 3PM. There will be hamburgers and hot dogs, a live auction, raffles, desserts for sale, and fun things for the kids to do.

Full Moon Festival Planning

October is just around the corner and we need help. The PTP works very hard every year to



create a wonderful, safe Halloween event for our students. We are looking for more help in planning and executing this adventurous evening. Join us for a planning session and family picnic at Wildwood Park on September 12th at 6PM. FRCS alumni will be on hand to watch kids while parents strategize and discuss festival plans.

September is Attendance Month

Chronic absence in kindergarten and first grade, defined as missing 10 percent of a school year for any reason, is associated with lower levels of third grade reading, higher levels of suspension, and lower academic achievement in middle school. By middle and high school, chronic absence is a critical early warning sign that a student might drop out. Regular attendance helps students succeed in school and is an essential future employment skill.

September is Attendance Month. One of our goals is to help our students become the best citizens they can be. Setting a pattern of regular attendance and avoid chronic absences is a great first step. We encourage an ongoing conversation with families experiencing attendance challenges.

Heard Around Campus

Kindergartners start the year with a unit called "All about Me!" They learn what makes them unique and what they have in common with their new friends. They share favorite colors, foods, and animals. They learn a poem and a little about measurement as everyone gets to see how tall they are compared to a real, giant sunflower.

Are you smarter than a first or second grader? We start our first unit of the year learning how our brains and bodies make us healthy, happy, and smart! We look at how our body systems work together, ways to keep healthy, and how different parts of our brain control everything. We also explore multiple intelligences and find out how we each learn best!

The third and fourth graders have Math on the Menu. The fictitious Rosada Family has enlisted the help of our students to make decisions regarding their family-owned restaurant. Check on their progress with your student. Cooking and baking are wonderful ways to use real world math at home – especially fractions!

The fifth and sixth graders dig in! An exploration of "What is History" and early man includes a Museum in a Box containing prehistoric skulls. Further digging on campus may reveal ancient archeological sites to identify and excavate. These and other adventures will be part of our year-long journey "Back to the Future", traveling a historical timeline of discovery.



“It is the first day of school - are you sure I am too young for Kindergarten?” Sarah R.

PTP News

Family Picnic/Meeting – Join us for a family picnic and PTP meeting at Wildwood Park, September 12th, at 6PM. The Full Moon Festival and the Fall Festival Burrito Sales are the primary topics on the agenda. FRCS alumni will be available to watch over little ones so that parents may relax and participate in the planning meeting.

Bounce House/Crafts Table – visit the PTP volunteers at the Fireman’s BBQ on September 7th from 11AM until 3PM. They will be hosting fun events for kids during the event.

Bulbs are Back – look for fall bulb sale information coming home in September. This wonderful fundraiser helps PTP help our school throughout the year while beautifying yards across the country.

Teacher Challenge during Assembly

Mrs. Stearns came up with a creative way to add some excitement to our school assemblies – teacher competitions. During the August assembly Mrs. DJ and Mrs. McNulty strapped paper plates to their heads, trying to catch tortillas being tossed by 2 students. It was hilarious! We wonder, who will compete in September and what will the challenge be?

