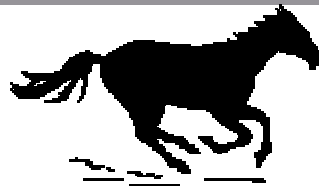


# Mustang Tales

➤➤➤ Ferndale Elementary School



April 2010

## Important Dates:

- \* April 19-23 Parent Conferences and Kindergarten Registration  
1:00 p.m. release all week
- \* April 20 Family Literacy Night at 6:30 pm (Bilingual) Ages 0-5
- \* April 25 Garden Work Day
- \* May 5—Day of the Teacher
- \* May 7—Cinco de Mayo School Fiesta
- \* May 8, 10-11:30a.m.— Kindergarten Orientation
- \* May 10-14—STAR Testing
- \* May 12—School Board Meeting
- \* May 15—Cinco de Mayo Town Fiesta
- \* May 18 @ 6:30pm —Parent Club Meeting at Pizza Co.
- \* May 19 @ 3:45—School Site Council Meeting
- \* May 21—Maypole at 9am for FES, Dance Exhibition 10-11:15
- \* May 25-28—8th Grade Trip
- \* May 25 6-7pm - Beach Party for ages 0-5 (Pre-K)
- \* May 31—Memorial Day, No School
- \* June 9—School Board Meeting
- \* June 17—Last day of school, 1:00pm dismissal, Graduation 7:30pm at Belotti Hall

**It's Official! Ferndale Elementary School is a  
2010 California Distinguished School!  
Congratulations to the students and staff!**

## Principal's Message—Time for Change

Spring is my favorite time of year because it represents new life, growth and rejuvenation. The season brings change, and with it, new challenges and new opportunities.

By now, you have all become aware of my new job next year as the new superintendent/principal of South Bay Union School District. I have been moved by the many accolades I have received in the last couple of weeks by parents, students, and staff. I know my pursuit for a new career opportunity caught some of you by surprise, and I have appreciated your understanding of my desire to seek new challenges. We have a good program here at Ferndale Elementary School, and I am sure that the district will find good leaders to keep things running smoothly. I will miss working here next year, but I will still be around. My kids will still attend Ferndale Elementary School and Ferndale High School, so I'll still be involved as a parent and community member.



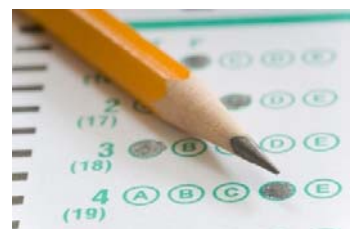
It is better to be loved than feared.  
—African Proverb

## STAR Testing

The fourth quarter of school is probably the most important of the year and it is important to stay focused. Now is the time for students to really kick it into gear academically. Students are working toward mastery of the state standards and maintaining a high grade point average. State Testing and Reporting (STAR) is set to begin on May 10<sup>th</sup>. As always, teachers are working hard to prepare students to excel on the STAR and to demonstrate their growth academically.

The state has prepared many excellent resources for parents related to the STAR. One of the best resources is a new site that the California Department of Education developed last year. This new site can be found at: <http://www.starsamplequestions.org/>. The site has sample test questions that are available online so that students and parents can become familiar with the format and level of difficulty at each grade level. Sample test questions include the standards being assessed, questions as they appeared on the tests, and their related proficiency levels, correct answers to questions, and the percent of students that answered the questions correctly.

The information will help parents and students to understand how children are performing and will identify areas where children need additional help.



## Art in the Office—Leon Porter

"I have lived in Humboldt County for 66 years, and have been making photographs for about ten or eleven years. It has been a large part of my life ever since I started taking photo classes at the College of the Redwoods. I am mainly into outdoor photography, and I enjoy taking pictures of flowers. I believe that I have photographed Fernbridge more than anyone else! People are probably my least enjoyable to photograph. You can never take a picture of a person as they see themselves!"




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"I always prefer to believe the best of everybody – it saves so much trouble."

— Rudyard Kipling

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## Kiwanis of Ferndale Donates \$2,000 for Reading Express Program

On behalf of the students at Ferndale Elementary School, we want to shout out a big "Thank You" to the Kiwanis Club of Ferndale for their generous donation of \$2,000 for the Reading Express program.



The Reading Express program was developed to encourage reading in young children by giving them their

very own books that they can keep in their homes. These funds are used to purchase books for every child in grades K-3 every month, ten times a year. By the end of the third grade, students at Ferndale Elementary would have had the opportunity to select 40 books for their bedroom library.



Rylee Ridenour getting a book from Mr. Meyers

## FES Student Council—Spring Semester, 2010

What is a volunteer?

A person that performs or offers to perform a service of his or her own free will.

Student Council Representatives are volunteers. They attend an 8:05 am meeting every Wednesday to discuss school issues. Many of their activities involve service to our school or the community. They perform a beach cleanup twice a year at Centerville Beach, once in the fall & once in the spring.

### Student Representatives

Teacher	Representatives
3 Bugenig	Makenzie Renner Olivia Gervin
3 Hirsch	Jacob Basler Jasa Sisemore
4 Currier	Kenzy Allardice Jaron Leonardo
4/5 Fisk-Becker	Brandon Brazil Maddie Gossien
5/6 Busick	Owen Durrett, Blane Zanone

Teacher	Representatives
6 Adams	Brad Martin Abby Cox
7/8 Dudal	Anna Gomes, Adam Forsell
7/8 Haller	Kenton Goldsby Heather Cutler

### Officers

President	Anna Gomes
Vice-President	Heather Cutler
Secretary	Maddie Gossien

## Students Organize Fundraiser for Humboldt Helps Haiti

In March 2010, a fundraiser was organized by Ferndale Elementary School Student Council and the Ferndale High School ASB to raise money for amputee victims resulting from the January 2010, magnitude 7.0 earthquake in Haiti. This volunteer effort was organized by students, and turned out to be a great cooperative effort!

THANK YOU to everyone that helped make MARCH FOR HAITI in Humboldt a GREAT SUCCESS! It is estimated that the fundraiser brought in over \$2800.

A group of local doctors, health care workers, and volunteers, known as Humboldt Helps Haiti, will use money raised in Ferndale to go toward the construction of a prosthetics lab, where artificial limbs are made for amputee victims of the January earthquake. Haitians will be trained to produce the limbs and run the lab.



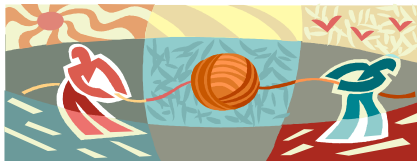
## “Tea Party” at FES

Mrs. Fisk-Becker’s students were studying the American Revolution last week and her students recreated their own “Tea Party” as a culminating activity. Unlike the Boston Tea Party, students dressed up for the occasion. Students brought a plate and saucer and enjoyed tea, cream puffs, and other pastry items. However, the class did participate in some fun and creative activities to simulate life as a Colonist. Cade Dixon, a fifth grade student, was interviewed about the learning activity. To better understand the causes of the revolutionary war,

he said that students were divided into groups of Loyalists and Colonists. The 4<sup>th</sup> graders were Loyalists and the 5<sup>th</sup> graders were Colonists. To illustrate the Quartering Act, Cade stated that Mrs. Fisk-Becker liked what Kendra had in her lunch, so she took her lunch and her desk just like the British soldiers would just take over the Colonist’s homes. Cade stated that, “Kendra had to sit in a chair at our group with a clip board for the entire day.” “Back then,” he continued, “the Colonists would have to give the British soldiers a bed and feed them

whenever they demanded it.” Students were also made to use their “dog bones” to pay for paper to represent the Stamp Act. Cade Dixon stated that the activities helped him learn because he could experience what it was like for the Colonists, how angry it made them, and why they fought with the British for independence.

**No taxation without representation!**



“Whenever we do the best we can, we never know what miracle is wrought in our life, or in the life of another.” – Helen Keller



Brandt Throssel drinking his tea.

## New Students at FES for 2009-10

### Grade 1

Bryce Bell  
Dylan Gurney

### Grade 2

Hunter Bell  
Marek Clancy  
Tristen Martin

### Grade 3

Matthew Green  
Ben Wilma  
Kylee Killion  
Jessica Kuykendall



"What we see  
depends on what we  
look for." - John  
Lubbock

### Grade 4

Desirae Barrios  
Victoria Juarez  
Dakota Weaver

### Grade 5

Kasey Detrick  
Ryan Earley  
Olivia Wilma  
Rachel Wilma

### Grade 6

McKenzie Buchanan  
Bradly Martin  
Lucciano Pichulo  
Tyler Vanderpool  
Kyle Isaacs  
Ryan Isaacs

### Grade 7

Austin Detrick  
Trevor Earley  
Andrew East  
Glen Jones  
Noah Sears

### Grade 8

Gage Imperiale  
Shaylynn Lenardo  
Hannah Pichulo  
Annelise Vollmer

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"Nearly all men  
can stand  
adversity, but if  
you want to test a  
man's character,  
give him power."

—Abraham Lincoln

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## Spelling Bee Winners

Eel River Valley Spelling Bee  
2010 Winners:

### **Elementary Division:**

1st: Taylor Murray, Hydesville School  
2nd: Angel Schneider-Reuter, Fortuna  
Middle School  
3rd: Natalie Pedicino, Hydesville  
School

### **Junior High Division:**

1st: Cleone Abrams, Scotia School

2nd: Alex Jones, Ferndale Elementary  
3rd: Mitch McCombs, Fortuna Middle  
School

Photo on right: Congratulations to  
Alexander Jones who tied for second  
in the Humboldt County Spelling Bee  
competition on March 27<sup>th</sup>. Alex is  
second person in two years to reach  
the county level. Last year, Catherine  
Boers represented Ferndale Element-  
ary School. We are proud of you, Alex!



## Healthy Kids Humboldt

Healthy Kids Humboldt has  
moved to 2nd Street in Old  
Town Eureka (cross streets are  
D and E Streets). If your child  
needs medical and dental insur-  
ance, call 442-6066. Healthy  
Kids Humboldt will help you  
complete the required paper-  
work and apply for low or no  
cost health insurance for your  
child so he/she can go to the



doctor and dentist, get medi-  
cine, eye glasses and have the

cost of emergency room visits  
covered. This help is free and  
confidential!

Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to  
5:00 p.m.



## Family Literacy Night –April 20 at 6:30 p.m.

READING is POWER !

Yes, reading matters to us.

Family Literacy Night is an evening devoted to promoting reading for preschool aged children.

When: April 20 - 6:00-7:00 pm at Ferndale Elementary School in the two Kindergarten rooms. Please feel free to bring your preschool aged children from 1 day to 5 years of age.

Señora McCulloch will do a presentation in English & Spanish on the importance of reading to your preschool aged children. There will be a book giveaway to those attending.

For more information:  
786-5324 / 786-9668 / 599-7138  
Señora McCulloch

Sponsored by FIRST FIVE HUMBOLDT

*¡Leer es poder!  
Si, la lectura nos importa.  
una noche para promover la lectura  
para los niños de un día hasta los 5  
años*

*20 de abril - 6:00-7:00 de la tarde  
Ferndale Elementary School - las dos  
salones del Kinder  
Pueden traer sus hijos/as de un día  
hasta los 5 años de edad.*

*Señora McCulloch estará en el salón del kinder presentando un curso en inglés y español acerca de la importancia de la lectura en la vida de los niños pre-escolares. También ella va a repartir libros a los que estén presentes.*

para más información:  
786-5324 / 786-9668 / 599-7138  
Señora McCulloch

patrocinado por FIRST FIVE HUMBOLDT



Reading is Power!

## Cinco de Mayo is in Full Swing

Señora McCulloch has been holding Mexican Folkloric dance practices every day except Wed. & Sun. since the beginning of March. There are students in grades K-II participating this year, with dances from seven different Mexican states. Dancers will wear authentic traditional costumes when they perform on three dates in May:

\*\* 21st annual Cinco de Mayo FIESTA -

Fri. May 7 - 10:30-1:00pm for FES students & staff

\*\* 12 th annual Cinco de Mayo FIESTA -  
Sat. May 15 - for the community of Ferndale & its visitors  
11:00am - Main St. parade  
12:00-3:00pm - Mexican Folkloric dances, live Mariachi music, & delicious Mexican food Belotti Hall Humboldt County Fairgrounds

\*\* 9th annual May-pole - Fri. May 21 - 9:00am for FES students & staff Dance Exhibition for visiting Humboldt County Schools - 10:00 - 11:15am



Don't miss the "TOWN FIESTA" - the students are very excited about this upcoming event!

## Chickenpox

FES has had several parents report that their student come down with Chickenpox. If you suspect your child may have the chickenpox, please do not send him or her to school and see your pediatrician to confirm. Because chickenpox is highly contagious, please notify the school of your child's condition.

Information from [www.kidshealth.org](http://www.kidshealth.org): Chickenpox is a common illness among kids, particularly those under age 12. An itchy rash of spots that look like blisters can appear all over the body

and be accompanied by flu-like symptoms. Symptoms usually go away without treatment, but because the infection is very contagious, an infected child should stay home and rest until the symptoms are gone.

Chickenpox is caused by the varicella-zoster virus (VZV). Kids can be protected from VZV by getting the chickenpox (varicella) vaccine, usually between the ages of 12 to 15 months. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) also recommends a booster shot at 4 to 6 years old for

further protection. The CDC also recommends that people 13 years of age and older who have never had chickenpox or received the chickenpox vaccine get two doses of the vaccine at least 28 days apart.

A person usually has only one episode of chickenpox, but VZV can lie dormant within the body and cause a different type of skin eruption later in life called shingles. Getting the chickenpox vaccine significantly lowers kids' chances of getting chickenpox, but they might still develop shingles later in life.



## Library News

### Yearbook & DVD Pictures

Parent volunteer Amy Gomes along with Mrs. McCulloch are trying to put together a yearbook and yearend DVD for the Jr. High. For this to happen, we need a variety of quality pictures.

Currently, we need pictures of the following:

- Baby pictures of 8th grade students\* (if you haven't already turned yours in)
- 7th Grade girls' volleyball & basketball pictures Jr. High dance pictures.

- Pictures from activities you would like to see included

Bring the pictures to Mrs. (Leanne) McCulloch or email them to her at: [lmc@humboldt.k12.ca.us](mailto:lmc@humboldt.k12.ca.us)

\*We want to include each 8th grade student in the DVD!

### Home Connect

The Home Connect component of Accelerated Reader is available again. Renaissance Home Connect gives parents and students a snapshot of

the student's reading progress, including average percent correct on quizzes, number of points earned, and ATOS book level. You'll need your child's user name and password to access this information.

To log in to Renaissance Home Connect Website:

<http://www.ferndaleusd.k12.ca.us/RenaissanceServer/HomeConnect/Login.aspx>

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**The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails."**

- William Arthur Ward.

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## Soroptimist of the Eel River Valley Donate Books

Soroptimist of Eel River Valley Donations/Librarian Appreciation Breakfast:

*Taj Mahal*, Caroline Arnold  
*Milly & the Macy's Parade*, Shana Corey  
*Mama Played Baseball*, David A. Adler  
*Vinne & Abraham*, Dawn FitzGerald  
*Pacahontas: Princess of the New World*  
 Kathleen Krull  
*Do Princesses Scrape Their Knees?*  
 Carmela LaVigna Coyle  
*The Other Side*, Jacqueline Woodson



Leanne McCulloch holds up her new book, *The Other Side*.

## More News:

### Foggy Bottoms Results

Over 70 students signed up for races on March 14th. Blaine Becksted placed 12<sup>th</sup> out of 907 runners in his age group with a two-mile time of 12:25.

Team Ferndale placed 2<sup>nd</sup> for Boys 10 and under (out of 19 teams) and 6<sup>th</sup> for girls 10 and under (out of 19 teams). Good job, runners!

### Summer School Cancelled

Due to the reduction in funds from the state, the Ferndale Unified School District will not hold summer school this summer .

### FES Parent Club

The Parent Club Flower Bulb Sale brought in over \$900 in profit for the FES Parent Club.



**"Muddy waters let stand will clear."**  
 - Chinese proverb



## Mrs. Currier's Class Eats Grasshoppers!

Grasshoppers! Mrs. Currier, 4th grade teacher at Ferndale Elementary School, had a class reward day last week that included a movie and grasshoppers! Mrs. Currier purchased the fried grasshoppers from Hong's Thai Food on Main Street in Fortuna. After convincing Mr. Meyers to eat one first, Mrs. Currier ate one. Then, she encouraged students to try one. Several students braved eating them, and most found them tasty and remarkably pleasant to eat.



Jackson Wagner



Oliver Herrera



Mrs. Currier

## Field Trip to Matias' Restaurant, by Hailey Dolcini and Jesse Barrer

In March, Mrs. Fisk-Becker's 4th/5th grade class went to Matias Restaurant in Ferndale to practice our Spanish from Spanish class and to eat. ¡La comida es deliciosa! Pepe, the owner, and his son, Fernando, who is in our class, played the guitar and sang for us. La música es fabulosa. ¡Muchas gracias a Matias Restaurant por un buen tiempo! We had fun practicing

our Español and dining on delicious food! Thank you, Matias Restaurant!



L to R: Cade Dixon, Jesse Barrer, Jaylin Grandy, and Fernando Matias.

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**"You must manage yourself before you can lead someone else."**

**-Zig Ziglar**

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## Third Grade Play—Tall Tales



Vanessa Frost as Annie Christmas



L2R: Kyleer Becksted as Pecos Bill, Morgan Melendy as Paul Bunyan, and Kevin Farley as John Henry.



Riley Shinn as a Cow-tone



Kenton Chambers as Johnny Appleseed



Ferndale Elementary School

164 Shaw Avenue  
Ferndale, ca 95536

Office: 707-786-5300

Fax: 707-786-4284

mustangtales@suddenlink.net

Kids are our business

Download a copy of MT at:  
[www.ferndalek12.org/fes](http://www.ferndalek12.org/fes)

**YOU'RE INVITED!**  
**GARDEN WORK-PARTY DAY**  
**Sunday, April 25 at 1:00pm**

**Help us construct our raised beds and fill them with soil!**  
**Call the school office if you can help—786-5300**

### Spring Clean Up a Success!



Our annual Spring BBQ and Clean Up Day was a huge success. After days of rain, the weather broke and we had a fabulous day. The reason for having a clean up day is to promote service to the community and we try to coincide with Cesar Chavez Day. The FES Parent Club provides free hamburgers and hot dogs for every student, and in return students are asked to work at cleaning up an area of the school. Each class designates an area to clean, and together with their teacher and parent volunteers, spend an hour or more working on their area. We try to reinforce the concept that many

hands make light work. In the end, we have beautified our school campus and the students can take pride in their work. Our cooks for the day were Ted Walters, Dean Petersen, and Dar-



ren Hansen. Volunteers helping serve the food included Danielle Petersen, Tammy Forsell, Penny Richardson, Nicole Franks, Susan Petersen, and

Leah Berti. Many other parent volunteers worked with their students during the clean up day, including Glen and Gayle Giamo, Karen Hansen, and Greg Foster. There are probably others that I have forgotten to mention, as well. Thank you to everyone who helped to make this a great day of community service for our school grounds.

