



MUSTANG TALES

Ferndale Elementary School

Volume 6, Issue 1

December, 2008

Principal's Message

It's hard to believe that December is here already, and Christmas is around the corner. Where does the time go? I have heard from my parents that time flies faster as your kids get older, and I am beginning to believe them. With three kids at the Elementary School and one at Ferndale High, we are busy at home.

Of course, we have been busy at school, as well, as you can see from this newsletter. Things are moving along smoothly, but we are all looking forward to a break.

December is a busy time for families, and I hope our two week break from school will provide you an opportunity to slow down and spend some quality time with your loved ones. All of us need a break from time to time, so take advantage of this opportunity and do something you have been meaning to do but never have the time - RELAX!

Have a wonderful holiday and a Happy New Year!

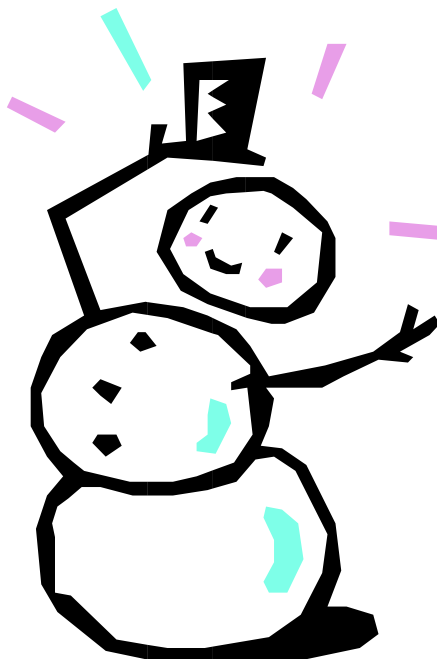
Construction Update

After several months of delays, it looks like we will have our summer construction project completed by the end of December. The project included the removal of our

old cast-iron radiators, installation of new heaters, and a complete renovation of our school kitchen. The classrooms were ready by the start of school and in October our heaters became functional.

The main delay was caused by the ventilation in the kitchen (located in the lower floor and exits out the roof), although there were numerous other issues associated with renovating old buildings, such as old wiring, dry rot, etc. These issues have all been addressed, and now cooking hot lunches.

The renovation project has made many improvements in our school. Stop by and take a look at our newly renovated kitchen, classrooms, and hallway. (See pictures on page 3.)



Happy Holidays!



Dates to Remember

- Dec. 16th - Parent Club Mtg. 7:00 p.m.
- Dec. 18th - Winter Concert, 9:00am and 6:00pm
- Dec. 19th - Early release, 1:00 p.m.
- Dec. 22 - Jan. 3 - Winter Break
- Jan. 5th - Return to School
- Jan. 9th - Aerial Predators Assembly @ 8:45 am
- Jan 14th - School Board Mtg. 7:00 p.m.
- Jan. 19th - No School - M.L. King Day
- Jan. 20th - Parent Club, 7:00 p.m.
- Jan 21st - School Site Council
- Jan. 23rd - End of 2nd Quarter

Site Council and Parent Club Officers

SSC Parent Members

Beth Foster—President
Kristie Christiansen—V.P.
Nicole Melendy-Franks—Sec
James Rose
Danielle Howell

SSC Staff Members

Nancy Bergenske
Gaylene Dudal
Leanne McCulloch
Julia Schrick
Paul Meyers

Parent Club Board Members

Shelley Bower—President
Lisa McWaters—V.P.
Laurie Guggenbickler—Sec.
Tammy Forsell—Treasurer





ART IN THE OFFICE September—Tracy Dittes

The photographs of Tracy Dittes feature images of Ferndale’s beauty. As a Ferndale resident, Tracy enjoys the natural countryside and is fascinated with capturing light on the land. She is interested in sharing qualities like beauty and peacefulness she finds representative of Humboldt County life.

Returning to photography after a very serious car accident in 2007, Tracy shares here a small part of the amazing world of Ferndale that we are surrounded by daily and often overlook.

Please enjoy! Tracy hopes that these images inspire you to look around and to see what you find beautiful in your world.



ART IN THE OFFICE October—Emily Silver



Northern California artist Emily Silver received her MFA in painting at San Francisco Art Institute in 2007. Her paintings have been exhibited nationally, including solo shows at The Painting Center in New York City, the Metro Gallery in Reno, Nevada, and the Morris Graves Museum of Art in Eureka, California. She is a 2006 recipient of a Cadogan Fellowship from the San Francisco Foundation, as well as, a Kosciuszko Foundation Scholarship in 2005. In 2003 she received a fellowship from Wolf Kahn to attend the Vermont Studio Center. She received her BA in Art (Visual Design), with Distinction, from Stanford. Currently she teaches drawing and painting at College of the Redwoods in Eureka, California, maintains her studio in Ferndale, and divides her time between here and Nevada, where desert experiences provide inspiration for her paintings.

ART IN THE OFFICE November—Lois Keller

These pieces of ceramic art work are part of a series of plates, and “reverse plates” showing women doing ordinary tasks. Landscapes and animals are other favorite subjects of mine. I also make 3-D sculptures out of concrete, as well as, clay in my Ferndale studio, located at 375 A Main Street, Ferndale.





ART IN THE OFFICE December—Shawn Griggs

Shawn Griggs, a native Californian, has been creating art for 20 plus years. Since receiving a degree in Studio/Graphic Arts from Humboldt State University in 1994, Shawn has become proficient in illustration, graphic design, watercolors, and most recently, oil painting. Besides painting, Shawn is also an avid Humboldt County surfer with a hunger for travel. Both the north coast and experiences abroad supply Shawn with the bulk of his imagery and each painting has a story behind it. This love for the coast combined with his application of color and design, result in bold, colorful paintings that are pleasing to the eye.



Day-Maker Mural—Designed by Shawn Griggs and Painted by Students in the Day-Maker Club

The Day-Maker Club mural was designed by local artist Shawn Griggs and painted by the students in the Day-Maker Club. It is big! It measures 28' x 8', and will be installed in the primary hallway outside of the school



Kitchen Remodel Completed

The kitchen is finally completed and hot lunches began on December 15, selling 149 pizza lunches to students.





1st Quarter Honor Roll

5th Grade

Amelia Armas
Blaine Becksted
Evan Broberg
Abby Cox
Andrew Cutler
Kalynn Farley
Spencer Fulton
Emma Gomes
Mason Gossien
Kendall McBride
Victoria Meyer
Lacey Nichols
Lee O'Reilly
Sarah Richardson
Cassidy Rocha
Juan Sanchez
Lane Sotomayor
Coleman Sturdevant
Grant Van Emmerik
Andres Villalvazo
Lily Wagner

6th Grade

Madilyn Adams
Irene Alvarado
Makhi Bessingpas-Hamor
Trevor Brockoff
Kyle Burns
Brooke-Ann Busick
Anthony Ceffalo
Corabelle Esmailian

Kenton Goldsby
Janelle Guggenbickler
Alex Jones
Sasha Lekas
Shilo Martella
Chase Richardson
Oliver Stoops
Zachary Tashian
Julie Urbach

7th Grade

Maci Branstetter
Britton Bugbee
Kyle Chambers
Heather Cutler
Taryn DeMille
Jake Dixon
Peyton Durrett
Caroline Evans
Anna Gomes
Andrea Guggenbickler
Ani Gurnee
Lacey Herrera
Russ Jackson
Kendra Losa
Hayden Osterman
Zach Rocha
Tristen Sano
Miriam Thompson
Isaak Townsend
Madison Walpole

8th Grade

Kaylee Armstrong
Terris Becker
Catherine Boers
Clarissa Ceffalo
Anna Evans
Jordan Farley
Joey Fuller
Danielle Hansen
Quinn Hildebrand
Jacoby Hughes
Julia Kirby
Kayla Leonardo
Yoemi Lopez
Kaycee Mela
Kelsey Meyers
Kelly O'Day
Tyler O'Reilly
Madison Parker
Cambria Peronne
Cohyn Phillis
Kenzie Schafer
Layne Stephens
Grady Titus
Tenaya Urbach
Hunter Van Emmerik
Kaden Zanone

In September, FES received a \$36.43 donation from Target's REDcards (VISA) program. Parents with Target REDcards can designate FES and we receive 1% of your purchases. To learn more about this program, visit www.target.com/tcoe.

2008 Volleyball Rosters

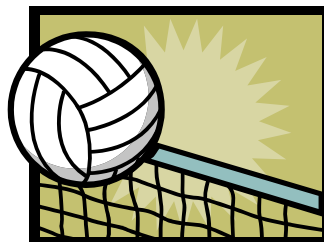
Ferdale Elementary School 8th Grade

1. Anna Evans	# 3
2. Dillon Polasek	# 6
3. Quinn Hildebrand-Thompson	# 8
4. Kelsey Meyers	# 9
5. Madison Parker	# 11
6. Jordan Farley	# 12
7. Kaycee Mela	# 13
8. Julia Kirby	# 15

9. Kayla Leonardo # 16

10. Kaylee Armstrong # 20

Head Coach: David Haller



Ferdale Elementary School 7th Grade

1. Anna Gomes	# 1
2. Ani Gurnee	# 2
3. Maci Branstetter	# 4
4. Nicole Vollmer	# 5
5. Taryn Demille	# 7
6. Nicole Lannom	# 10

Head Coach: Gaylene Dudal



New AR Program

We are excited to announce that, with the support of the School Site Council, we have expanded our Accelerated Reader (AR) Program. With the purchase of AR Enterprise, we've gone from having less than 4,000 quizzes to well over 100,000! The database is updated weekly, adding new quizzes as they become available. Our students now have virtually an unlimited choice of quizzes available to them. Books from school, home, public libraries, book stores and book orders are more than likely will have Accelerated Reader quizzes.

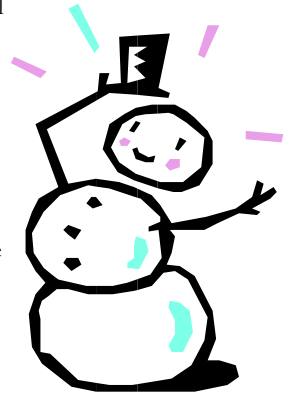
In addition, some of the new features included in AR Enterprise are:

- Vocabulary quizzes are reviewed throughout the year (Currently 10,000 quizzes)

- Voice recorded quizzes for special needs students (Currently 3,600 quizzes)
- Quizzes in Spanish (Currently 7,000 quizzes)
- Literacy skills quizzes for higher-level thinking (Currently 800 quizzes)

Checking for quiz availability is easy! Visit our school website www.ferndalek12.org/fes and click Accelerated Reader Quiz List, or go directly to www.arbookfind.com to access AR "BookFinder." At AR "BookFinder," you can search for available quizzes, find interest levels, book levels, and points. The site also includes an advanced search feature, as well as, a guide for parents.

We plan to add the Home Connect feature within the next couple of months. With this component, parents will be able to log in from home and get information on quizzes that their child has taken, points earned and average book reading levels. If you have any questions on the new AR program please feel free to ask your child's teacher or give Leanne McCulloch a call at 786-5322.



Keep on Readin'!

More Library News

Keyboarding Help—If your child (or you) need a little extra practice keyboarding, you'll find help on our website. We've added links to several different typing tutorials and tests. Just go to our website, from the home (or index) page click on "Classroom Links," then click on "Typing Tests"

More Donations—Many thanks to the Brower family (Bruce, Sue, Vanessa, and Brandon) for donating funds for us to purchase more of the popular books from the "Bone" series, as well as, "Geronimo Stilton" books.

Coffee Fundraiser

The seventh grade class will be selling coffee from Humboldt Bay Coffee Company for the remainder of the year to raise funds for the 2010 8th grade trip. All coffee packages are 12 ounces and may be ordered whole bean or ground.

The coffee is \$10 per bag. Contact Cindy Losa at 725-5852 or 845-5190. Your support is appreciated!



FES Recycling Program

The FES Parent Club has made arrangements with Eel River Disposal and Recovery Center for FES to become a beneficiary at their local recycling center. When you bring your recycling to Eel River, you can donate to FES Parent Club by giving our name or our number— "112." Your donation will benefit our students!



Girls' Basketball Rosters

FES 5th Grade Girls' Basketball Team –

- | | |
|---------------------|------|
| 1. Emma Gomes | # 1 |
| 2. Jacey Regan | # 3 |
| 3. Kendall McBride | # 5 |
| 4. Sarah Richardson | # 11 |
| 5. Taylor Miranda | # 14 |
| 6. Victoria Meyer | # 23 |
| 7. Lacey Nichols | # 32 |
| 8. Lily Wagner | # 33 |

Head Coach: Greg Gomes

FES 6th Grade Girls' Basketball Team

- | | |
|-------------------------|------|
| 1. Janelle Gugenbickler | # 1 |
| 2. Sasha Lekas | # 2 |
| 3. Adriana Catana | # 5 |
| 4. Phoebe Ruggles | # 11 |
| 5. Julie Urbach | # 15 |
| 6. Brook Ann Busick | # 21 |
| 7. Berenice Roman | # 23 |
| 8. Sadie Scales | # 32 |
| 9. Madi Adams | # 14 |

Head Coach: Stacey Jewell

FES 7th/8th Grade Girls' Basketball Team

- | | |
|-------------------------|------|
| 1. Andrea Guggenbickler | # 2 |
| 2. Alondra Estrada | # 4 |
| 3. Anna Evans | # 5 |
| 4. Taryn Demille | # 10 |
| 5. Johali Lopez | # 12 |
| 6. Clarissa Ceffalo | # 13 |
| 7. Jordan Farley | # 14 |
| 8. Danielle Hansen | # 15 |
| 9. Kayla Leonardo | # 20 |
| 10. Kendra Losa | # 21 |
| 11. Maci Branstetter | # 23 |
| 12. Kaylee Armstrong | # 25 |
| 13. Heather Cutler | # 32 |
| 14. Sadie Rayl | # 33 |

Head Coach: Kristie & Trevor Christiansen



An Ounce of Prevention...Kills Germs (or Infectious Diseases at School) By Lynne Mahoney, School Nurse

Infectious diseases are diseases which can pass from one person to another and are caused by germs such as bacteria, viruses and parasites. Some can be quite serious while others are more of a nuisance. At some point, most children will have an infectious illness. Following are some common questions parents and care providers may have. Please contact your child's teacher if your child is out of school due to an illness.

What can I do to help my child avoid getting or spreading an illness?

The best defense against infections is a strong immune system. To boost a body's resistance get plenty of rest, eat well, exercise regularly and drink plenty of fluids.

- Teach your child the importance of washing their hands often and well. Use soap and water and rub hands together for 20 seconds before rinsing. Help children learn to always wash before eating and after going to the bathroom. This simple measure can help prevent everything from colds to the flu, diarrhea, and skin infections.
- Teach children to cover a sneeze or cough with a tissue which is then thrown away or to cough or sneeze into their arm (rather than on their hand).
- Teach your child not to share personal items or clothing such as combs, hats, uniforms, helmets, coats or towels.
- Keep your child up to date on immunizations.
- At school keep personal clothes like jackets in individual cubbies.
- Cover skin wounds with a clean dry bandage until healed.
- When a skin infection is present launder clothes, towels and bedding in detergent and hot water followed by using the "hot" setting on the dryer.

When should I keep my child home from school when he or she seems sick?

Frequently, a parent or care provider will notice something is not quite right with a child's health before knowing exactly what illness a child has. To give children ample opportunity to rest and recover when sick and to decrease the spread of illnesses please keep your child home from school if he/she is experiencing any of the following symptoms:

- Fever
- Diarrhea
- Uncontrolled coughing
- Sore throat or difficulty swallowing
- Unusual spots on the skin or a rash with fever or behavior changes
- Vomiting
- Extreme tiredness
- Green and or yellow nasal discharge
- Blood or mucous in stool

Remember, your presence and comfort or that of a trusted adult will go a long way in helping your child feel better when they do get sick. The above information is not comprehensive and is intended only to assist in awareness of possible symptoms and prevention of common infectious illnesses. Always contact your health care provider if you have questions about your child's health.





Kindergarten Shares Thanksgiving Meal Together



Each year, the Kindergarten class enjoys a Thanksgiving lunch together. The meal is made by students and parents, with assistance from the teachers, and consists of “stone soup,” corn bread, and pumpkin pie. This year the weather cooperated and the students had a beautiful day to share their special lunch together.



Puppet Show Entertains and Educates Students

Ferndale Elementary School’s new school counselor, Kacie Cordia, helps Froggie solve his problem by teaching him to speak out and be assertive. The Quack and Wabbit Puppet Theatre performed on November 13th to students in Kindergarten through 3rd grade. Students enjoyed the creative songs and learned anti-bullying skills.

Chamber Readers—On Friday, December 12th, the Chamber Readers performed two shows to students in K-3 and 4-6. The Chamber Readers are a nonprofit reader’s theater company in Humboldt County, that has promoted reading and literature since 1975. Chamber Readers performs each year in nearly every public school in the county. The Chamber Readers style is based on script reading and the suggestive power of language as each story is read and acted out. The Chamber Readers use mime and movement rather than a set and props.



Fundraising Banner Installed

To help raise funds for our new 5th grade basketball teams, several local businesses and families contributed \$100 to have their name placed on a new banner in the gym for the current school year. Each year their sponsorship can be renewed for \$100. A multi-year option is available at a lesser amount. For more information on how you can participate in this annual fundraiser, please contact the FES Athletic Director, Rex Rigney, at 786-5300.



Ferndale Elementary School

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Kids are our business.

Love and Logic Parent Education Classes

A very special thank you goes to our FES Parent Club for sponsoring the Love and Logic classes presented by Ronda Evans. The classes have been well attended and much appreciated from the participants. Classes averaged over 20 parents each week, with some weeks as high as 28. Thank you!

Healthy Kids Humboldt—Healthy Families

Dear Humboldt County Parent,

Last week, Healthy Kids Humboldt learned that the Healthy Families program is strongly considering an enrollment freeze starting December 18 due to lack of state funds.

If your children are enrolled in Healthy Families make sure you pay your monthly fees on time or your child will be disenrolled and put at the bottom of the wait list. Also, you must file your annual eligibility renewal correctly and on time. Healthy Kids Humboldt staff can help you with this. Call 442-6066 to make an appointment.

There still is time to enroll your child in Healthy Families before the enrollment freeze goes into effect. Below are the gross monthly income limits. For instance, if the total number in your family is 4 and your child is age 8, your gross monthly income would need to be between \$1,768-\$4,417 monthly to be eligible. If you think you might be eligible, call **Healthy Kids Humboldt at 442-6066** for an appointment. Their schedule is filling up, so make the call today to ensure you get in before the deadline.

Healthy Families Gross Income Guidelines

Family Size	Child Age 0 to 1 Healthy Families	Child Age 1 thru 5 Healthy Families	Child Age 6 thru 18 Healthy Families
1	\$1,735 - \$2,167	\$1,154 - \$2,167	\$868 - \$2,167
2	\$2,335 - \$2,917	\$1,553 - \$2,917	\$1,168 - \$2,917
3	\$2,935 - \$3,667	\$1,952 - \$3,667	\$1,468 - \$3,667
4	\$3,535 - \$4,417	\$2,351 - \$4,417	\$1,768 - \$4,417
5	\$4,135 - \$5,167	\$2,750 - \$5,167	\$2,068 - \$5,167
6	\$4,735 - \$5,917	\$3,149 - \$5,917	\$2,368 - \$5,917