



~ Alder Grove News ~

February 2012

From the Director:

It's hard to believe that our sixth school year is more than half over! The end of semester performance held January 13 was a huge success! Thanks to all the teachers, students and parents who made it such a wonderful event. I'm always impressed to see the time and hard work that goes into making these performances so special.

As we continue to refine the Academic Support Program in order to assist all students to achieve grade level standards mastery, I'd like to thank the parents who have been regularly bringing their children to these services. I realize it is not always easy for homeschooling families to make a commitment like this and it is appreciated! We have found that students with regular attendance are increasing scores, especially with the Math Exit Exam. I'd also like to thank Celeste DuBose for tirelessly reviewing all assessments and determining which students would benefit from the Academic Support Program. Thanks also to Jen DeSwarte, Wayne Moulton, Wendy Schulze and Sunshine Lee, who are all working hard to deliver these services!

As you think about orders for the rest of the year, please keep in mind that the educational items you request must support new learning, and they must adhere to the California State Content Standards for the student for whom the materials are being purchased. Be prepared to give your CT complete ordering information, including the name of the item, the item number or ISBN, the price, and the vendor from which the item is to be ordered. You can expect your order to be placed within 7 days of your CT's receipt of complete ordering information from you. When the order arrives from the vendor, usually within 4 weeks, your CT will deliver it to you at the next regularly scheduled learning record meeting, unless it is deemed critical that the student have it immediately. **The cut off date for placing orders this year will be April 6, 2012.** This date gives time for the order to arrive and be used before the end of the school year, May 24, 2012.

As always, I welcome your ideas, comments, and input on our program. Please do not hesitate to contact me for any reason.

~Jenni Allen-SanGiovanni, Director,
aldergrove@sbcglobal.net

K-2nd Grade Workshops Cancelled

The Wednesday morning Academic Support Language Arts and Math Workshops by Sunshine Lee have been cancelled for the rest of the school year due to lack of enrollment. You may mark your calendars for next year when they will be offered for 6-8 weeks at the beginning of the school year. ~Sunshine Lee

California High School Exit Exam

Attention 10th and 12th Grade Students!

As you are aware, in order to receive a High School Diploma in the State of California, you must pass both parts of the California High School Exit Exam. The February tests are for **all** 10th grade students and 12th graders who have not passed one or both parts of the test. The tests are un-timed allowing the students as much time as possible to complete the tests.

DAYS: Tuesday **February 7th** (language arts) AND
Wednesday **February 8th** (math)

LOCATION: Main office (5th & M) – 5th Street entrance

TIME: 9:30-12:00am both days

Graduation Ceremonies



for Eighth and Twelfth grade students
will be held

Wednesday May 23, 2012

at the Humboldt Grange,
5845 Humboldt Hill Rd., Eureka

The eighth grade ceremony will be at 3:00 p.m.
and the senior ceremony will be at 5:30 p.m

We would like to encourage all graduating students to perform during the ceremony. Appropriate performances include playing an instrument, singing or reciting an original poem. If you are interested in helping with set up or performing, please call Jenifer at the office, 268-0854.

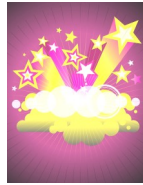
STAR WRITING TEST

4th and 7th Grade Students

All 4th and 7th graders are required to participate in a state mandated writing assessment. This is part of the regular STAR testing we do in April; however, this particular assessment is given earlier. Our 4th and 7th grade students will be taking the writing assessment on **Tuesday March 6th** at the main office (5th & M) in Eureka. Further information on this writing assessment will be mailed to all families at the end of the month; however, if you have questions regarding the writing portion of the STAR test, please call the office or check the California Department of Education's website: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sr/resources.asp>

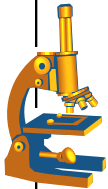
Sincerely,

Deborah C. Lammers
School Coordinator



It's the time of year for the Science Fair!

The Alder Grove Science Fair will be
March 9th, from 1 - 3:00 p.m.
at the 5th & M location.



Students whose projects follow specific protocol will have the opportunity to present their experiments the following week at the Humboldt County Science Fair at HSU. Any students who are interested in participating in the Alder Grove or Humboldt County Science Fair should contact Kathy Yeager at kyeager.aldergrove@gmail.com Entry forms for the Humboldt County Science Fair are due to Kathy Yeager by no later than **Feb 17th**.

PRACTICE TEST

We will be offering test practice sessions for all students this year. During these one hour sessions we will discuss test taking strategies, look at testing formats, and do some sample questions. Students will also have the opportunity to have all testing related questions answered. This is especially valuable for second grade students or others who have never participated in mandated testing.

Please bring your students to the
5th and M Street location
on the following days and times:

Friday, March 23rd:

7th Graders = 11:30 - 12:30 pm.
8th Graders = 12:45 - 1:45 p.m.
9th - 11th Graders = 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Friday, March 30th:

2nd Graders = 11:30 - 12:30 p.m.
3rd & 4th Graders = 12:45 - 1:45 p.m.
5th & 6th Graders = 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

*Please call the Alder Grove office to sign up for
this event - 268-0854*

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SCHOLARSHIPS

ATTENTION 12TH GRADERS!!!

The Beta Sigma Phi Humboldt County Council Scholarship Fund offers a \$400 scholarship to a relative of a current member of Humboldt County Council's Beta Sigma Phi. **Deadline is May 1st**. Applications are available through Alder Grove.

Questions regarding this scholarship can be directed to Debbie Lammers, School Coordinator, Alder Grove Charter School or Nancy Holmes McPartland, Scholarship Chair: 4nancy@janssenlaw.com

The Redwood Region Audubon Society is having various contests for students K - Grade 12:

-Writing Contest for Grades 4-12 on "What Nature Means To Me". Deadline by **March 19th**.

-Science Fair Awards - \$50.00 to be awarded to the best project related to wetlands, sponsored by the Friends of the Arcata Marsh. \$50.00 to be awarded to the best project related to birds or their habitat, sponsored by Redwood Region Audubon Society.

-Art Contest at Godwit Days, co-sponsored by Friends of the Arcata Marsh. \$550.00 to be awarded. There are several guidelines, so if interested you may read the rules at 433 M St. in Eureka or call Ruth at 268-0854. Must have entries by March 23.





Field Trips!!



Bien Padre ~

Tour a local business:

Watch tortillas and chips being made,
and sample the goods!

Tuesday, February 28

11:30 a.m.

1459 Railroad Ave, Eureka, CA

(next to Costco near the back entrance.)

Reserve spots by calling the office before

Friday, **February 18** at 4pm

268-0854

Kuniko ~

"Magical Mask, Mime, and Music of Japan"

Thursday, March 15

1:00 p.m.

Arcata Playhouse,
1251 9th St., Arcata

Tickets \$4 per person

Must reserve spot by bringing

exact cash to the school by

Friday, February 24th

PE Activity for 7th - 12th Graders:

Bike Rides on The Hammond Trail



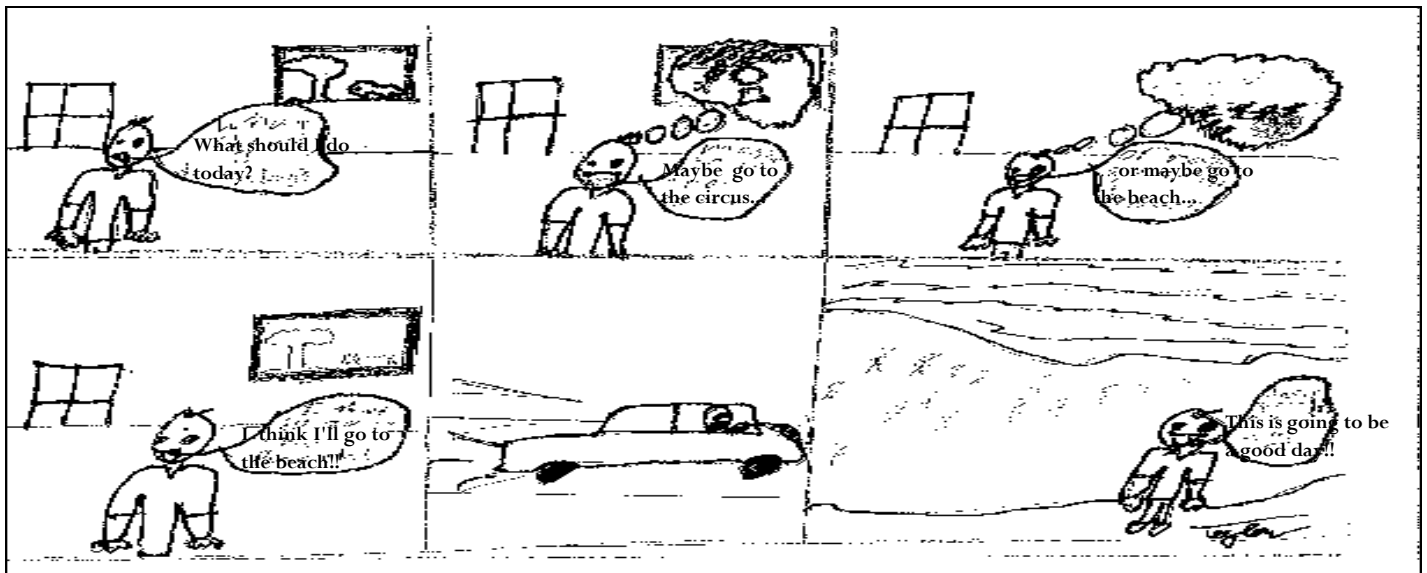
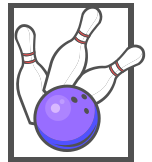
Wednesday, February 29, 2012

11:00 - 12:00 noon

Randi can bring a FEW bikes to the trail, but would like students to
ride or have bikes brought to the Hammond Trail.

Meet at Hiller Park in the parking lot at 11:00 a.m.

Randi would like a head count for students who are interested in the PE Activity for March which will be at the **Harbor Lanes Bowling Alley in Eureka on March 28th**. The last day for sign-ups is March 14th. Call 268-0854 between 11a.m. and 4:30p.m.



~by Taylor Luken

MATH-ATTITUDE

I've talked with many homeschooling moms over the years and a lot of us have felt that our attitude has affected our children's ability to achieve their potential in math. What is a homeschooling mother to do if she really doesn't like math? How can you promote math in your home?

1. Keep any negative opinions to yourself.

Even if you don't like math and don't think you were ever any good at it, your child doesn't need to know!

2. Teach math first.

Many home-school families lead their homeschooling day with their favorite subjects...literature, history, science, art, etc. Math gets taught later and may even be "tabled" for the next day. Promote math by putting it first and never skipping this vital subject.

3. Teach math at least an hour each day.

Put out your kitchen timer so that everyone knows what an hour of math feels like. You may be surprised to find that you've been short-changing your math time!

4. Teach math using variety.

Just like you do with your language arts instruction, vary the activities and resources you use to help give your student vital math skills. Each hour of instruction should contain 3 or 4 activities – paper and pencil, timed "tests," games (online or board games), making math models, manipulatives, mental math, or word problems.

5. Learn with your child.

Take the opportunity to deeply understand the math your child is learning. Do some problem sets yourself and think about why the process works to solve the problem. Come to the math lab if you have questions about particular skills or concepts, and have them answered by our Math teacher, every Monday and Wednesday from 1:00-2:00 at the 5th and M location.

Just by taking the time to read this article, you've already helped promote math instruction in your home!

~ Jenni

Volunteer Needed:
Leadership Team Member

Our next meeting is
Mon., Feb 13th @ 10:30 a.m.,
5th & M St.

- * Enthusiastic
- * Want to help lead our school
- * 1-2 hrs per month
- * Chocolate Lover
- * Call our office for complete "job" description, 268-0854



Fun With Our Student Council at
F & Sonoma

Game Night!

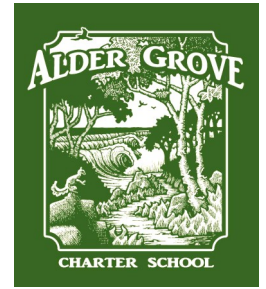
Thursday, February 9th
4 - 7:00 p.m.



Open Mic. Night!

Thursday, March 15th
6 - 9:00 p.m.

February 2012



Sun

Mon









Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1	2  Groundhog Day	3	4
5	6	7  H. S. Exit Exams - 10th & 12th gr.	8	9	10 (end of Learning Record #6)	11
12	13  Leadership Meeting - 10:30, 5th & M (beginning of Learning Record #7) Governance Council Meeting, 6:30p	14 Valentine's Day 	15	16	17	18
19	20 President's Holiday - No School 	21	22	23	24	25 
26	27	28  Field Trip to Bien Padre, 11:30 a.m. Spelling Bee, F&Sonoma, Rm 12 4 - 9th grades, 3pm	29  Bike Ride on Hammond Trail, 7-12 gr, 11a - noon			