



## ~ Alder Grove News ~

October 2011

### From the Director:

Statewide results of spring STAR testing are out and our scores show mixed results. The API (Academic Performance Index) for Alder Grove increased significantly from 694 to 720. The goal set by the state for us was 700. This is great news as it shows that our students have been working hard on mastering state standards. Unfortunately, the percentage of our students to reach proficient or above is not as high as the federal government has mandated and we have been classified as a Program Improvement School. You should have all received a letter explaining what that means.

I'd like to welcome new staff members. **Erin Wishneff** is teaching our onsite Spanish classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. In addition to offering Spanish 1, 2 and 3 at the high school level, we have added junior high Spanish class. New music teacher **Hilson Parker** joins our Friday classes teaching beginning band and intermediate orchestra. **Patty Niko** is our new classroom aide on Mondays and Wednesdays. **Lei Hou** is teaching a Mandarin Chinese class for students in grade K-6 on Friday mornings. Please join me in welcoming these new additions to our staff.

The academic support program is going strong this year with Accelerated Math, Reading Support using Phono-graphix, and Step up to Writing. All of these programs have been highly recommended and have shown high levels of success. We are fortunate to have a dedicated, caring staff. Celeste, Wayne, Wendy and Jen have all been working hard to ensure that all of our students get the help and support the need.

Check this newsletter for more information about the Math Fair on **Monday October 3, Game Night Wednesday October 5 and Halloween party and parade October 31.**

~Jenni Allen-SanGiovanni

### Volunteer Needed:

#### Leadership Team Member

- \* Enthusiastic
- \* Help lead our school
- \* 1-2 hrs per month
- \* Chocolate Lover
- \* Call our office for details



Next Meeting: Monday, October 24th at 10:30  
at 5th & M Sts.

### California High School Exit Exam

#### Attention 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> 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 November tests are for all 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students who have never taken the CAHSEE and for those students that 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 November 1st (language arts) AND Wednesday November 2nd (math)**

**LOCATION: 5<sup>th</sup> and M (5<sup>th</sup> Street Entrance)**

### SAT NEWS

#### SAT Testing Dates Fall 2011:

*November 5th (register by Oct 7th)*

*December 3rd (register by Nov 8th)*

Register online at <http://sat.collegeboard.com/home>

**LOCATION: Eureka High School Testing Center**

**FEE: \$47.00**

**Students usually take the SAT the spring of their junior year and often repeat taking the test the fall of their senior year. The SAT website mentioned above offers a full-length FREE practice test for students. For more information, call 1-888-SAT-HELP.**

**Alder Grove's SAT code is 051238.**

# Happy Halloween!



Join us for the Alder Grove

Halloween Party and Parade!

**Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup> 2011**

Party at 10-11:30am

Costume Parade To the park at 11:30

**Alder Grove school site at F and Sonoma.**

**This is a family event where parents and kids get to enjoy this festive morning together.**

**Come in costume, play some games, parade to the park and have some fun.**

**Bring a lunch and picnic at the park after the parade.**

*Interested in helping out with the Halloween festivities by offering a fun game, spooky surprise, helping with the parade or by setting up and/or cleaning up?*

*Come to the planning meeting:*

*Friday, October 14th, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.*

**at the F and Sonoma site or contact [Idyath@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Idyath@sbcglobal.net).**

**Thanks! ~Idyath**

## ***Want to connect with other Alder Grove parents and kids outside of school?***

Join the NEW online AGCS group at [www.Uptous.com](http://www.Uptous.com) where we can organize activities (like a beach or park day), share a group calendar, share photos, send individual and group emails, enlist and manage volunteers (such as for the Halloween party), advertise garage sales, and more.

If you are interested in joining, please send your email address to: [Idyath@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Idyath@sbcglobal.net) and I will send you an invitation. It is free and *only* open to families, teachers and staff within the Alder Grove Charter School. Let's connect the Alder Grove community!

***Thanks! Idyath Yassemi -AG Parent***



# Field Trips!!



October:

## North Coast Co-Op's 25th Annual Pumpkin Patch

When: Tuesday, October 4th, 11:00 a.m.

Where: Paul Giuntoli's farm on Mad River Rd,  
Arcata Bottoms

Call Alder Grove Charter's office to sign up: 268-0854

Directions: Hwy 101 to Giuntoli Lane/Janes Rd. Go west. Turn right onto Heinden Rd. Turn left on to Miller Lane. Turn right on to Mad River Rd. Continue past the 90 degree turn in the road and the patch is the first driveway on the right. Cars will be directed to park in a field.

November:

## Natural History Museum: "Rocking Detectives"

When: Tuesday, November 8th , 1pm

Cost: \$1.00

(comes out of student budget-all other family is free)

Please call the school office to reserve a spot!

707-268-0854

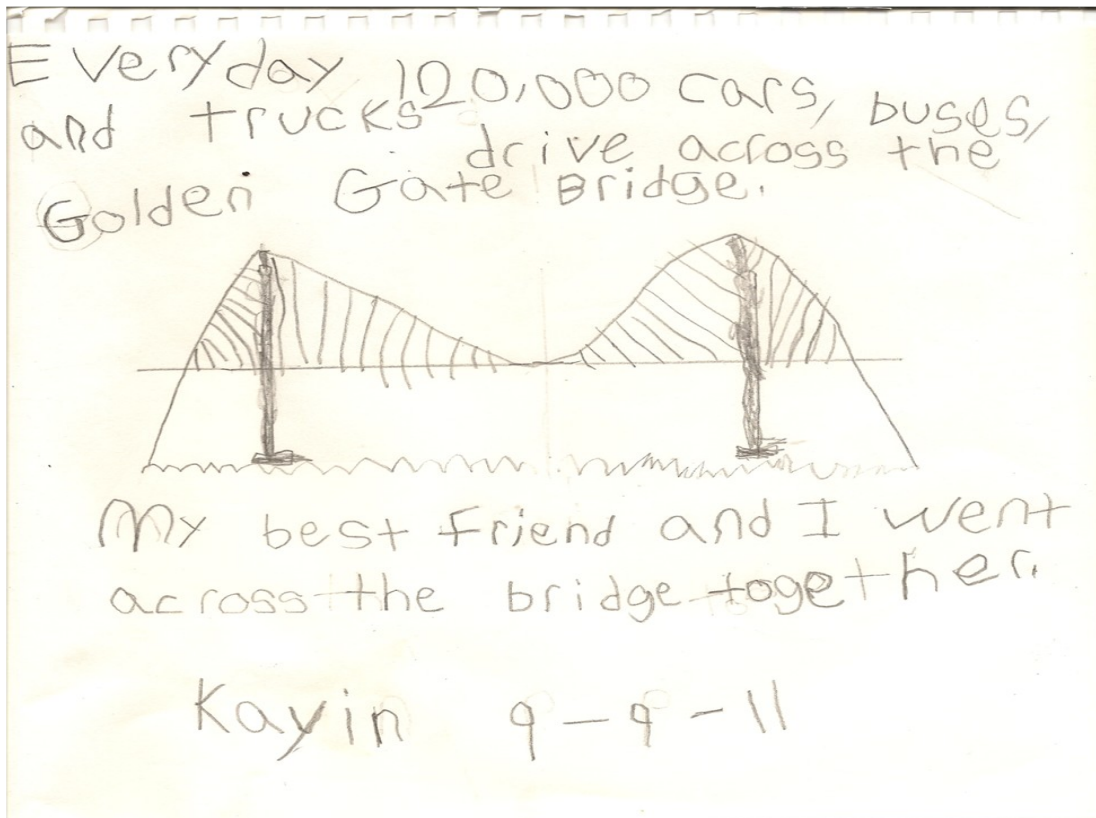
Museum Website: <http://www.humboldt.edu/natmus/>

Directions: The Natural History Museum is located in Wells Fargo Hall at 1315 G Street in Arcata.

The cross street is 13th street.



# Art BOX



-by Kayin Kloberdanz, 1st Grade, Alder Grove Charter School

## Mark Your Calendar!!

Parent Workshop: *Ideas for Helping Struggling Students*

**Friday, November 4th, 11:30 - 12:30 p.m.**

at the Main Office, 433 M St., Eureka  
707-268-0854



## Alder Grove Game Night

When: **Wednesday, October 5th, 5:00 - 8:00 pm**

Where: Alder Grove classroom site, Sonoma & F  
in the Fireside room

Cost: Suggested donation \$1

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## Open Mic Night



When: **Wednesday, November 16th, 6 PM - 8**

Where: Alder Grove classroom site, Sonoma & F in  
the Fireside room

What to bring: Yourself and anything you might need  
if you want to perform

Cost: Suggested donation \$1

There Will Be No On-Site Classes On The Following Dates

Due To Holidays:

November 11, November 21-25, December 19-January 2,  
January 16, February 20-24, April 9-13

## Notebooking

One of our parents, **Stephanie Brown**, discovered a wonderful link by Jeannie Fulbright called "Notebooking: Creativity With A Purpose". One of the quotes from this article:

"Have your child create a notebook page after he/she:

- Reads a chapter from a textbook,
- Completes a book,
- Watches an educational video,
- Goes on a field trip,
- Visits an Internet site."

To find out more visit, [www.jeanniefulbright.com](http://www.jeanniefulbright.com).

(Thanks, Sunshine Lee!)

## Write On, Humboldt!

Redwood Writing Project

Invites Community Members, Families, and Students to a  
Humboldt County Celebration  
of the

**National Day Of Writing**

**Thursday, October 20th, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.**

Eureka Public Library Community Meeting Room

Featuring a Writing Workshop with Dan Levinson, California  
Poet in the School, and Poetry Readings by Redwood Writing  
Project's young writers. This is free but space is limited so RSVP  
at [www.redwoodwp.org](http://www.redwoodwp.org) or call 707-826-5109

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## Conscious Parenting

Please join us on **December 9th at 2:00 p.m.** for a presentation on 'Conscious Parenting' by Diana Nunes Mizer. Diana will focus her talk on parenting junior and senior high children.

Check next month's newsletter for more information.

[consciousparentingsolutions.com](http://consciousparentingsolutions.com)

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## Box Top Program

Alder Grove has officially joined the Box Tops Program! Start collecting any Box Tops Coupons today to benefit our school! We earn 10 cents for each Box Top redeemed for up to \$20,000!

Alder Grove can use the money for anything it wants: Computers, books, playground equipment, classroom parties and more! Our 2011/2012 goal is \$1,000.00! So start saving your box tops to turn in to Alder Grove Charter School!

More details will be posted soon.

From The Resource Center:

*Thank you to Amy & Robert Spallino and to Takasha Young for their generous donation of books and manipulatives to the school!*

## OFFICE STAFF/HOURS

Director: Jenni Allen-San Giovanni  
Administrator Assistant/Registrar: Jenifer Doane  
Secretary: Ruth Baker  
Resource Center/Vendor Relations: Sarah Garrett  
School Coordinator: Debbie Lammers

The office is open **Monday through Friday 8:30 - 4:30**  
(excluding school holidays)

**However, your teachers are  
your 1st point of contact for any questions!**

# Online Safety

It's wise to take an active role in protecting your children from Internet predators and sexually explicit materials online. To do that:

- Become computer literate and learn how to block objectionable material.
- Keep the computer in a common area, not in individual bedrooms, where you can watch and monitor its use.
- Share an email account with your child so you can monitor messages.
- Bookmark children's favorite sites for easy access.
- Spend time online together to teach your children appropriate online behavior.
- Forbid your child from entering private chat rooms; block them with safety features provided by your Internet service provider or with special filtering software. Be aware that posting messages to chat rooms reveals a user's email address to others.
- Monitor your credit card and phone bills for unfamiliar account charges.
- Find out what, if any, online protection is offered by your child's school, after-school center, friends' homes, or any place where kids could use a computer without your supervision.
- Take your child seriously if he or she reports an uncomfortable online exchange.
- Forward copies of obscene or threatening messages you or your children get to your Internet service provider.
- Call the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at (800) 843-5678 if you're aware of the transmission, use, or viewing of child pornography online. Contact your local law enforcement agency or the FBI if your child has received child pornography via the Internet.

Many sites use "cookies", devices that track specific information about the user, such as name, email address, and shopping preferences. Cookies can be disabled. Ask your Internet service provider for more information.



## Basic Rules

Set up some simple rules for your kids to follow while they're using the Internet, such as:

- Follow the rules you set, as well as those set by your Internet service provider.
- Never trade personal photographs in the mail or scanned photographs over the Internet.
- Never reveal personal information, such as address, phone number, or school name or location. Use only a screen name. Never agree to meet anyone from a chat room in person.
- Never respond to a threatening email or message.
- Always tell a parent about any communication or conversation that was scary.
- If your child has a new "friend", insist on being "introduced" online to that friend.

## Warning Signs

Warning signs of a child being targeted by an online predator include spending long hours online, especially at night, phone calls from people you don't know, or unsolicited gifts arriving in the mail. If your child suddenly turns off the computer when you walk into the room, ask why and monitor computer time more closely. Withdrawal from family life and reluctance to discuss online activities are other signs to watch for.

Contact your local law enforcement agency or the FBI if your child has received pornography via the Internet or has been the target of an online sex offender.

Taking an active role in your child's Internet activities will help ensure that they benefit from the wealth of valuable information it offers without being exposed to any potential.

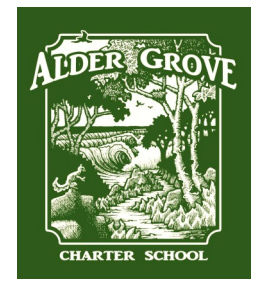
*Adopted from Kids Health: Internet Safety*  
[http://kidshealth.org/parent/positive/family/net\\_safety.html#](http://kidshealth.org/parent/positive/family/net_safety.html#)

### How to Talk so Kids Will Listen

Come and join the discussion with parents and teachers who have utilized the strategies in this classic book on Friday afternoon January 20, 2012 from 3:00 to 4:30 at the Sonoma and F Streets site. More information to come, but if you'd like to prepare for the discussion, get a copy of the book, available in all used bookstores and start reading!

*How to Talk So Kids Will Listen & Listen So Kids Will Talk*  
By Adele Faber

# October 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Math Fair - 10:00am - Noon, F & Sonoma 	4 North Coast Co- Op's Pumpkin Patch Field Trip - 11:00am 	5 Game Night! F & Sonoma, 5:00 - 8:00p.m.	6	7 Deadline to register for SAT tests	8
9	10 Governance Council Meeting - 6:30 pm, 5th & M St. 	11	12	13	14 Halloween Planning: 10:30- 11:30am  End of Learning Record #2 	15
16	17	18	19	20 National Day of Writing - Eureka Library 6 - 7:30pm 	21	22
23	24 Leadership Meeting - 10:30 am 	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Halloween ! Party 10-11:30am, F & Sonoma 	Nov. 1 High School Exit Exam - 9:30a to Noon, Lang. Arts		Start thinking about your Science Project for the Science Fair coming in February!	 (try to find me each month - I'll be hiding somewhere different each month in the newsletter!)	