



## ~ Alder Grove News ~

December 2010



### From The Director:

It's hard to believe that another school year is almost half over!

It has been five years since Alder Grove Charter School opened its doors to about 130 students. We now have about 250 enrolled students. Charters are granted for five years at a time, meaning we are at the stage where we need to have our charter renewed by the authorizing district, South Bay Union School District. As required by law, the South Bay District will hold a public hearing set for January 13 at 7:00 p.m. at the Pine Hill School to discuss renewal of our charter. Look for confirmation of this date and location in the January newsletter or check with your CT if you would like to attend to show your support for Alder Grove Charter School.

Here's a great site I recently came across that has tons of information about all kinds of things:

[http://www.si.edu/Encyclopedia\\_SI/](http://www.si.edu/Encyclopedia_SI/)

Please check the enclosed schedule of onsite classes and sign up information for second semester. Classes fill up fast, so please get your enrollment paperwork turned in soon.

We will be closed from December 20-January 1, 2011. Whatever your religious beliefs, I hope that you and your loved ones enjoy time together relaxing this holiday season!

~Jenni Allen San Giovanni

### School Pictures Have Arrived!

All who had their students photographed on Picture Day (Nov. 1st) may choose what they would like to purchase from the packages that LifeTouch sent to us. Prices are from \$12.00 to \$44.00 for the entire package.

Come by the office at 433 M St. to take a look and decide if you want to purchase them - or ask your CT to bring the package to you, then have them return the unwanted photos plus cash or check asap. The Student ID cards will be sent to us some time in the middle of December.



Come see  
Alder Grove's  
**Holiday Performance**  
featuring  
The Alder Grove Choir,  
Group A Drama class,  
and on-site classes  
will be performing!

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Wednesday,  
December 15th  
6:00 p.m.  
at the Eureka First Baptist Church,  
corner of E St. and Del Norte.



- Leadership Meeting on Friday, December 3rd, 2:15 p.m., F & Sonoma site.
- Governance Council Meeting on Monday, December 13th, 6:30 p.m., 433 M St.
- Leadership Meeting on Friday, January 7th, 2:15, F & Sonoma site.

Reminder:

Field trip at the Natural History Museum in Arcata.  
Tuesday, December 7th from noon to 1:30 p.m.. Call  
the office to sign up! 268-0854



### HIGH SCHOOL P.E. ACTIVITY

Machine work-out at Eureka Healthsport

Friday, December 3rd

11:00 - 12:00 p.m.

A personal trainer will meet with the students and discuss the proper way to use the machines. Then the students will have the remainder of time to work out on the machines, while the trainers help students with their form while using the machines.

The cost is \$5.00 for students without Healthsport memberships. Any non-members need to sign a Youth Waiver and Behavior Guidelines form, and also have their parent/guardian signature.

There is space for 12 students, so please call Ruth at the office to reserve a space: 268-0854.

-Randi

### Holiday Gift-Making Gathering

Friday, Dec. 17th

2:00-4:00 p.m.

Sonoma and F.

Alder Grove will be hosting an afternoon of  
fun holiday gift making!

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!**

*Winter break will be from Monday, Dec 20th through Dec. 31st*

### Science Fair Excitement From A Mom!

"Oh, boyoboyoboy! We have been waiting for the Science Fair opportunity for more than a year, now, and Jenni's announcement that it is finally a possibility has gotten everyone in the family fired up.

Our son, in spite of his parents' strong leanings toward peace and non-violence, has big plans for building his own trebuchet. That's an old-fashioned term for a catapult, for those unfamiliar with medieval weapons. He states that he'll be doing physics calculations to see what the relationship between the weights, arm length and the shot distance attained will be. Our daughter, in spite of being female through and through, also intends to build her own trebuchet. Ray, the mechanical-brain Dad, will be supplying all the gizmos and doodads for this project.

Both kids want to also do a project on something living, possibly the glowworms that live in our nearby redwood forest or on the effects of chlorine on plants. Angela, aka Chemical Mom, will be helping out with some research sections of these plans. Otherwise, if we can come up with a source of tuning forks, oscilloscopes or pH papers, we've got a few other ideas on some simple but elegant experiments to try.

Our ideas have come largely from two sources: first, the neighborhood we live in, and second, the Libraries of Humboldt County and AGCS. A partial list of the recently found library books that have so fired our imaginations is:

100 Award-Winning Science Fair Projects, by G. Vecchione, Sterling, 2001.

Engineering for Every Kid, J. VanCleave, 2007, Wiley  
Sure-To-Win Science Fair Projects, J. Rhatigan, Sterling, 2001  
Engineering the City, M. Levy et al., Chicago Review Press, 2000

201 Awesome, Magical, Bizarre etc. Experiments, J VanCleave, Wiley & Sons, 1994.

Guide to More of the Best Science Fair Projects, J. VanCleave, Wiley & Sons, 2000.

Besides these references, there are gobs of on-line places to aid and abet the science fair enthusiast in all of us. Try googling Science Fair Projects and go from there. The rules and regulations for Humboldt County can be found at:  
(Help out here, I can't locate your url.)"

-Angela Koken  
Governance Council Member



**Our Science Fair will be coming in mid-February!**

The county Science Fair will be March 16th through 18th. Entries for the county fair must be submitted by March 1st.