



~Alder Grove News ~

March 2015, 2nd Edition

From the Director ~

Spring is right around the corner, with daffodils blooming, sunny afternoons and a lot happening at school!

SBAC Smarter Balanced (SBAC) testing will be April 14th to 24th. Schedules for your student should be arriving via mail soon. Students can earn a prize by completing the practice test and a brief worksheet that you can get from your CT. Practice tests as well as other important information about the test and scoring can be found at: <http://www.smarterbalanced.org/practice-test/>

Please remember to check with your CT before signing up for community classes or placing orders to make sure the educational funds are available. We will stop placing curriculum and material orders on April 6. Please talk to your CT about your students' curricular needs for the end of the year as well as the beginning of next year.

Make sure to check this newsletter as well as the calendar included for lots of fun and interesting activities coming up for you and your students!

Alder Grove would not be what it is without the wonderful teachers, students, parents and staff members who make this school such a wonderful educational option. As the school year quietly draws to a close, I'd like to thank them all. The dedication and care that I see exhibited by teachers and staff every day is overwhelming and I feel truly blessed and grateful to be a part of it.

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

Jenni Allen-SanGiovanni
Director
jenni@aldergrovecharter.org

College and Career:

If you are a business owner or work for a company interested in providing students opportunities to volunteer, job shadow or earn work experience through an internship, please contact Jen Burtram at jen.burtram@aldergrovecharter.org

Governance Council Members Needed!

Alder Grove will have two or more vacant Governance Council seats at the end of this school year. The Governance Council is the equivalent of a School Board. If you are interested in being on the Governance Council, please contact Jenifer Doane at 268-0854 for more information. No experience necessary.

School Leadership Team Meetings

Our School Leadership Team meets once a month. This group is comprised of teachers and parents and works more on daily operational issues than the Governance Council. They are responsible for developing and reviewing mandated plans, interviewing new staff members, developing and recommending new policies and more. If you are interested in becoming a member or just finding out more, please plan to attend the next meeting, **Friday March 27 @ 11:00 a.m.**

Local Control Funding Formula

Join us for an information session on the state's new funding model, the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) on **March 6 at 1:00** in the computer lab. This is your opportunity to find out about and offer feedback on Alder Grove's goals as outlined in the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP).

Reminders!!

Box Tops For Education: Due to office lobby by Feb. 27th

Spring Break: Monday, April 6th through Friday, April 10th—NO SCHOOL

Smarter Balance Testing: April 14th-April 17th & April 20th-April 24th—NO ONSITE CLASSES

STAR Science Testing—April 27th through April 30th.
Onsite classes resume.

Thank You!

...to Tyler Roney & his family and to Alan Agapinan from McKinleyville for donating and bringing all of those nice desk chairs from their church to our school!

...to the Humboldt Wildlife Care Center (HWCC) for presenting four live birds of prey to our on-site Group B Science classes in February. HWCC volunteers brought in a western screech owl, a great-horned owl, a spotted owl, and a peregrine falcon. We learned three things we can do to help preserve these amazing wild animals:



1. Do not throw food out of cars. Small animals are attracted to the food on the roadside and in turn attract predatory birds that might dive in front of moving vehicles.

2. Check trees and bushes for bird nests before chopping them down. 3. Pick up fishing line if you find it, and dispose of it. This helps to eliminate the risk to animals that might get entangled in it.

-Elizabeth Who



Maddie with Carson, the peregrine falcon.

...to Bounce-A-Palooza at the Bayshore Mall for donating bounce passes to Alder Grove Charter School Students a second year in a row! Your passes are a great incentive to kids receiving reading academic support.

-Sunshine Lee



Congratulations to our Spelling Bee Champions!

For Elementary Grades:

Merlin Newcomb and Hazel Baker!!

For Junior High Grades:

Maya Hergenrader and Addison Childs

They get to go on to the Regionals!

The Elementary Regional Spelling Bee will be held at Cutten School on Friday, **February 27th** at 9:00 a.m.

The Junior High Regional Spelling Bee will be held at Kneeland School on **Thursday, March 5th** at 4:15 p.m.

STUDENT ARTISTS!! SHOW YOUR ART IN OUR STUDENT GALLERY!!

Alder Grove has a beautiful new student art gallery!!!

The gallery is located in the school's lobby.

Come check it out if you haven't had a chance yet!!

Student art is displayed for one month, so we are always looking for new art!!

Do you have some art that you would like to share??

We would love to see it! Talk to your CT or email kathy.yeager@aldergrovecharter.org about showing your art!!

Call for photos!



Grade 8 Promotion and Grade 12 Graduates

will have special pages in the yearbook! Please send in a picture or send a request to yearbook@aldergrovecharter.org and we'll take one at school!

Thank you for continuing to submit pictures from field trips! If you have pics of students reading, working on projects or participating in extra curricular activities, we'd love to include them! (4H, Karate, Gymnastics, Music etc.)

Please send all pictures to yearbook@aldergrovecharter.org

***A warm welcome to Khris Iversen!!
She is our new Instructional Aide!***

Health and Dental Records:

Please keep us posted with your student's latest immunizations. All students 7th-12th grades should have their Tdap vaccinations or a Waiver signed by a medical professional. (You should get a head start now for your 6th graders!)

If any of your students have had immunizations since you have signed previous Waiver Forms, please let us know.

Oral Health Assessment Forms for all Kindergarteners and 1st graders are due to our office in May.

You can have your medical professional fax us the latest records. Our fax number is: 707-268-0813.

Thank You!

-Ruth

Congrats to our CT Cedar Smith for winning the Clam Beach Run again this year!!



SMARTER BALANCED PRACTICE!!!

I am pleased to announce the availability of the Smarter Balanced Practice Tests. Smarter Balanced is the system of academic tests that replaces STAR testing beginning this spring, April 14th - 24th.

The Smarter Balanced tests will be taken on computers, and the Practice Tests provide a good idea of what the new tests will look like. The Practice Tests are available for everyone to use and are on our website. There is a Practice Test for each of grades 3 through 8 and grade 11 in both English—language arts and math. Each Practice Test has about 30 questions, as well as an answer key.

I encourage you to explore the Practice Tests with your child and discuss them with each other. We would also like your child to complete the Practice Test Worksheet while completing both tests. Your CT has copies of this Practice Test Worksheet. After completing the Worksheet, please give it to your teacher, and they will turn it in for a prize!!

Your child will be able to use the Practice Tests on our school computers or at home!

Thank You,
Debbie Lammers
School Coordinator

Saturday, March 7, 2015 Parent Conference Day Alder Grove Charter School on the onsite stage Learning, Fun, and Door Prizes!



9:30-10:00	Coffee, bagels, and Math Curriculum share table
10:00-11:15	Aimee, Jana, Stefanie: <i>Critical Thinking Skills/ Common Core Math</i>
11:15-11:30	Break
11:30-1:00	Julie : <i>Poetry Potluck - Teach your Children to Write Poetry</i> - a tool for self-expression and self esteem - help build general writing skills
1:00-1:45	Catered Mexican Lunch
1:45-3:15	Elizabeth: <i>Unit Studies and Flip Books</i> <i>Theme and Project-Based Learning</i>
3:15-3:30	Survey and closing

Free childcare will be provided on site. Ami Brusca will be presenting a Children's Herbal Craft Workshop for children enrolled in childcare. Children will be provided snacks, but please bring a sack lunch, jacket, and walking shoes.

APRIL 25, 9:00-3:00 p.m.—Kim Sutton, *Creative Mathematics.*

MAY 13, 1:15—2:45p—Calleagh Ferrara, *Planning for Next Year*

Save the date!!

Alder Grove's Musical Theater Production

Murder at Crooked House

Friday, May 15th at 7:00 p.m.

at the Eureka High School Auditorium

See next month's newsletter for more information!



For Grades K-6:

Blue Ox Millworks & Historic Park

1 X Street, Eureka
Thursday, March 19th
1:00—3:00 p.m.
Grades K-6
\$5.00 Cash



Mad River Hatchery

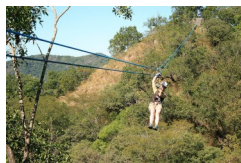
1660 Hatchery Rd., Blue Lake, CA
Thursday, April 2nd
1:00—2:00 p.m.
Grades K-6



Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary

569 S G St, Arcata, CA 95521
Thursday May 7, 2015
10-11:30 am
Grades K-6
Free!

Students will break into groups and have a general tour of the Marsh and natural history of the Marsh. There is



Field Trips!

For Grades 6-12:

March Field Trip Blue Lake Roller-Skating Rink Wednesday, March 18th Grades 6-12, \$5.00

On Wednesday, March 18th, from 3:30-5:30 PM, 6th-12th grade students are invited to come and roller skate at the Blue Lake Roller Rink, 310 S. Railroad Street. The cost of the trip is \$5 per student and can be paid for by using the student's budget or by paying privately with cash. Private payments must be submitted when the student signs up for the trip. There will be 25 student spots available. To sign up for the trip the parent must fill out and sign the required form that is located at Ruth's desk at our school's front office. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Terri Tripp at: 407-8196 or by email:

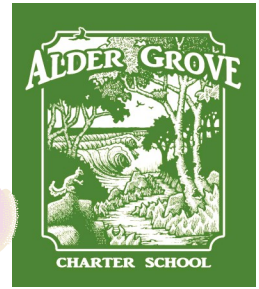
terri.tripp@aldergrovecharter.org

-Terri



April Field Trip Zip Line/Ropes Course, Leggett, CA Wednesday, April 1st, 10:00—4:00 Grades 6-12, \$42.00

On April 1st, students in 6th-12th grade will have an opportunity to do the zip line and ropes course with the Mendocino Adventure Ropes Course in Leggett, CA : "The ropes course is a series of activities between ground level and 40 feet in the air while 'on-belay,' a technique used to 'hold' the climber. Our reflective approach offers the participant personal success both physically and emotionally as they 'choose their level of challenge.' Ropes Courses are used as an aid in personal development and group development, resulting in learned skills such as: cooperation, self-confidence, trust, problem solving, body-awareness, teamwork, insightfulness, and compassion." This trip will include the zip line where students will climb and launch off a platform in a large redwood tree. The cost of the trip, due to the grant, is \$42 per student. This fee can be paid for using the student's budget or with a check made out to MARC or cash in a labeled envelope (if the student is out of budget and needs to pay privately). There will only be 20 spots for this trip. To sign up for the trip, students and parents will need to come in and fill out the required forms and include a check or cash, if the student needs to pay privately. If a student needs to cancel, he/she will need to call the school before 3PM on Monday, March 30th. The forms and sign-up sheet will be available at the Ruth's desk in the front office of our school. The trip will go from 10am to 4pm. The Course is located behind Leggett School and is about 1½ hours South of Eureka. We will meet in the school parking lot at 10:00. Students should get picked up there at 4 PM. I will leave directions with the packets, if needed. If a student needs a ride or if a parent is willing to transport other students, please let me know. Students attending need to wear clothes appropriate for climbing and should bring lunch, snacks, and water for themselves. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Terri Tripp at: 407-8196 or by email: terri.tripp@aldergrovecharter.org

March 2015



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3	4	5 4:00 p.m.—Jr. High Regional Spelling Bee at Kneeland School	6 1:00 p.m.—LCFF meeting in computer lab (see front page)	7 9:30–3:30 p.m. Parent Confer- ence Day at AGCS—sign up at front desk
8  Daylight Saving Time Begins	9 6:30 p.m.— Governance Council meeting	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 	18 3:30—Blue Lake Roller Rink Field Trip, Grades 6-12 \$5.00	19 1:00–3:00p—Blue Ox Millworks field trip, Grades K-6th \$5.00	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 11:00—Leadership Meeting	28
29	30	31				