

ALTA-DUTCH FLAT SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2017 BEAR TRACKS

A note from your Principal

Hello Parents and Families--



This has been a great start to the school year and I am delighted to be a part of the Alta-Dutch Flat community. Just these last 2 weeks we have had students compete in cross-country events, travel to science camp at Marin Headlands and many have gone on other school field trips. It was so cool having the Colfax High School percussion line on campus for Halloween. They did a performance that most won't forget for a long time!

The students, parents, teachers, staff, and community are such an integral part of this school which helps to make it function so well everyday. The community spirit and sense of pride that everyone has is refreshing and continues to make everyday a great day to be a Bear at Alta-Dutch Flat School !!

I would like to thank all the parents who have been gracious with their time this school year. From being a part of Parent's club, to organizing events and simply volunteering, your efforts are recognized and valued immensely. The time that you devote to our school is appreciated.



Thank you for taking a few minutes of your time to have conversations with me over the first few months of school. I am so impressed with every parent and family member that I have met. Your commitment to all the children at our school is impressive!

As Fall takes its place in our daily lives, I want to remind everyone to dress warm for school. We want healthy students who are alert and ready to learn. Attendance at school is critical for academic success. Please make sure all students are getting plenty of sleep at night and staying healthy. As you know very well, wet days will be here soon. Please make sure your students shoes and socks are dried before they leave home everyday.

You have done such a great job in communicating with me. Please know that I have an open door for you and will make time to talk as needed. This is a very special place and this year has started fast and we are in full stride!

Mike

November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Leadership – 11:25 Chess Club – 2:30 Parents' Club Mtg 2:30 Board Meeting 6:00	2 7/8 th Grade – Incline Village Field Trip	3 End of First Trimester Bookmobile	4
5 Daylight Savings Time Ends 	6 3 rd /4 th Grade Field Trip to Auburn Art Club 2:30	7 Girl Scouts 2:30	8 Leadership – 11:25 Chess Club – 2:30	9 Report Cards Mailed	10 Veterans Day Holiday – No School	11
12	13 Art Club 2:30	14 Girl Scouts 2:30	15 *Spirit/Awards Assembly 8:40 Sports Dress Up Theme Leadership – 11:25 Chess Club – 2:30	16 8 th Grade Fundraiser RIB DINNER 5:30 – 7:00	17 Bookmobile	18
19	20 Art Club 2:30	21 School-wide Thanksgiving Feast MINIMUM DAY Noon Dismissal	22 Admissions Day Holiday – No School	23  Thanksgiving Holiday – No School	24 Thanksgiving Holiday – No school	25
26	27 Art Club 2:30	28 Girl Scouts 2:30	29 Leadership – 11:25 Chess Club – 2:30	30	*Cross Country will be recognized at the Spirit Assembly on November 15 th along with Principal's List and Honor Roll.	

RIB DINNER

The Alta-Dutch Flat School
Eighth Grade Class

Presents

THE ANNUAL RIB DINNER

Pie/Silent Auction

Featuring the Monte Vista Inn's
World Famous Ribs!

at the Alta-Dutch Flat School

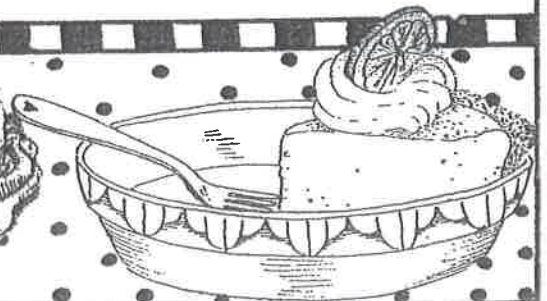
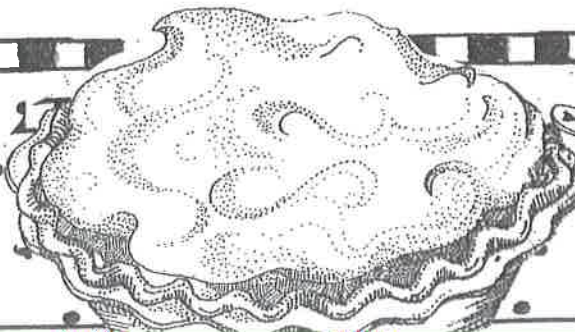
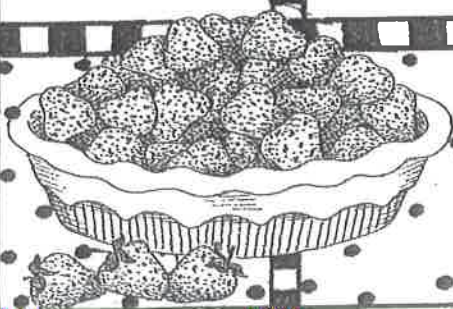
Thursday, November 16, 2017
from 5:30 – 7:00 P.M.

Ribs, Beans, Potato Salad, & Bread
Lemonade & Coffee

Tickets @ the school office

Pre-Sale Adults \$15.00
Pre-Sale K-8th Students \$10.00

*If we don't sell out before the event (which we usually do),
we will have limited tickets at the door for \$20.00.*





- **Report Cards:** The end of the first trimester is Friday, November 3rd. Report cards will be mailed home to all parents on Thursday, November 9th. Check out the mailbox!
- **Daylight Savings Ends:** Turn your clocks back one hour when you go to bed on Saturday, November 4th!

- **Veteran's Day Holiday:** No School on Friday, November 10th in honor of Veteran's Day
- **Spirit Assembly:** Students are encouraged to dress up in sports attire on Wednesday, November 15th for our spirit dress up theme. Classrooms will earn spirit points. At our monthly assembly, students will be honored for Cross Country participation, Principal's List and Honor Roll. You are welcome to attend at 8:40 A.M.
- **Rib Dinner:** Our 8th graders are selling tickets for the well-known Monte Vista Inn Rib Dinner. Don't miss out on this fun evening. Come support our students and enjoy a great meal thanks to the Wardwell Family. Keely LaBarbera is an 8th grader and this may be the last time this event is sponsored by the Monte Vista Inn! Adult tickets are \$15.00 and K-8th grade students are \$10.00. Invite your neighbors and friends.
- **BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION** – With all the holiday baking that takes place during the next few months, don't forget to clip General Mills Box Tops for Education and turn them into the office. 10 cents a box top adds up quickly. The Auburn Symphony assembly in February has been scheduled thanks to Box Tops donations.
- **SNOW DAYS** – Winter is coming. Make sure the office has your current phone number so the automated phone system will call your home or cell to inform you if we are closing school for the day due to snowy conditions. We are also considering the possibility of delayed starts as well. Recordings will also be left on our answering machine if school is cancelled for the day as well as social media outlets.



Kindergarten with Mrs. Sibley

SNAPS to Students and Families

Special SNAPS go out to each of you. Working with these delightful, ready to learn students is such a pleasure. Thank you families for having them to school on time and providing us with so much support. Watching kindergarten grow each day academically and socially warms my heart and makes me grateful to have such a fabulous job.

Language Arts

Read, read, read! Remember the importance of reading 20 minutes daily with your child. Reading aloud is the best way to help children develop word mastery and grammatical understanding, which form the basis for learning how to read. Reading with your child makes a great difference in adulthood and is correlated with early acquisition of words. Shared picture book reading offers a powerful way to prepare children for competent literacy skills. So keep up your READING!

Bishops Pumpkin Farm

This year's trip was extra special. Not only did our eighth grade class join in on the fun, but nearly every kindergartener was accompanied by family for a day filled with a train ride, a hayride, pumpkins, the Three Little Pigs Nutrition Show, and apple cider.

Mathematics

Numbers: 1-10
Patterns: AB, ABC, ABB
Sorting and Classifying
Comparing Numbers - equal, greater, less

Social Studies

Fire Safety
Harvest and Pumpkins
Fall and Changing Leaves
Nocturnal Animals

Music

This year we are extremely fortunate to have our very own music docent. Evelyn's mother, Angela Roland, is joining us two Wednesdays each month to share wonderful musical experiences including singing, conducting, viewing videos of orchestras and playing simple musical instruments. The CHS Drumline that joined us for our Halloween parade was an inspiration.



Mrs. Fejes' 1st and 2nd grade

A Funny Pumpkin Face

I made a funny pumpkin face,
For everyone to see.
It looked so very big and cross,
It even frightened me!



Language Arts:

1st grade: How Animals Communicate/A Musical Day (Blends with r, Informative Writing, Commas in a Series, Statements, Blends with l)

2nd grade: The Ugly Vegetables/Super Storms (Double Consonants and ck, Proper Nouns, Homophones, Verbs, Digraphs, Compound Words)

Math:

1st grade: Changing the order of addends to add, Counting on to add 1, 2, or 3, Doubles Facts, Adding 10, Adding three numbers, Using addition strategies and drawings to solve addition word problems

2nd grade: Adding three addends, Double Facts, Make a 10 to find the sum, Skip counting, Addition and Subtraction facts, Representing subtraction problems using a number sentence

Other Happenings in 1st and 2nd grade.....

- Amber Oaks
- Statue of Liberty
- Fire Prevention and Red Ribbon week
- Fall Festival and Halloween



Third/Fourth Graders



FIELD TRIPS: Big News! We enjoyed a fabulous day learning about hydroelectricity at the PG&E office and Alta Powerhouse last Friday. Avery, an operator at PG&E always makes the trip fun.

Monday, November 6th is our next field trip. Our first stop is Weimar Water, a water treatment plant, and then the Auburn Journal. Next we will sit for a delicious meal at Mongolian BBQ and finally see the Cal Fire facility in Auburn.

READING: The class read two novels and wrote book reports for each. The students savored both My Father's Dragon and Frindle. Next month, the students read on their own again. Please help your child find an interesting chapter book to read! The next book report will be due November 30th. We're using the same format. Since the students practiced writing the same type of report twice this month, their book reports should be easier. Practice makes perfect!

MATH: Both groups finished Chapter 2. (Three chapters completed this year.) 3rd grade started an introduction to multiplication. Practice and quiz your children on multiplication and division facts while driving in the car. The 4th graders are expanding on their multiplication skills. They are working on multiplying multiple digit numbers with multiple digit numbers. Yikes! I think

SOCIAL STUDIES We're studying early James Cook, Hernando Cortes, Sir conquistadors. The students have notes on 9 explorers using a Google assignment. The children are learning the Europeans made in the Americas. One of the good benefits was the many spices they introduced. Each student will research a different spice and part of their presentation will prepare a recipe using that spice.

A BIG THANKS! Usually I don't mention Physical Fitness, but Square Dancing is now our Thursday activity. Mrs Rosenquist, the former 4th grade teacher is teaching the students all the basic moves and dances. The students are loving it!



explorers to California such as Francis Drake and other already researched and took Classroom about the impact





6th Grade
ROCKS

As we wrap up the first trimester of the school year, I find it hard to believe the year is one-third over. This has been a great trimester, with everyone working hard and supporting each other.

Language Arts:

We are in the middle of reading *The Cay* right now, which is one of my favorite books for this age level. Be sure to ask your student about it - they are all very excited to see how it ends. They are doing comprehension projects as we go along, and they have created some pictures that show where parts of the story take place and which characters are involved. Please come see them on our hallway bulletin board. Once we finish the reading unit, we will watch a movie version and see which the students prefer.

We have been using Chromebooks several times a week, and the students love using them. Mrs. Brown and I both have set up "Google Classrooms" and post assignments there a few times a week. It's so nice having computers in the classroom for students to use in addition to the Computer Lab. Students will be writing a research report shortly using their Chromebooks.

Math:

Fifth graders are bravely tackling calculations with decimal numbers. We are currently working multiplying decimal number. Next up will be division with decimal numbers.

Sixth graders completed their unit on fraction, decimal, and percent conversions, and they are now working with ratios.

Science:

We are wrapping up a chapter on the different types of energy and will shortly begin delving into plate tectonics. The students will be learning about how the seven continents came to be where they are located. So interesting!

Social Studies with Mrs. Brown:

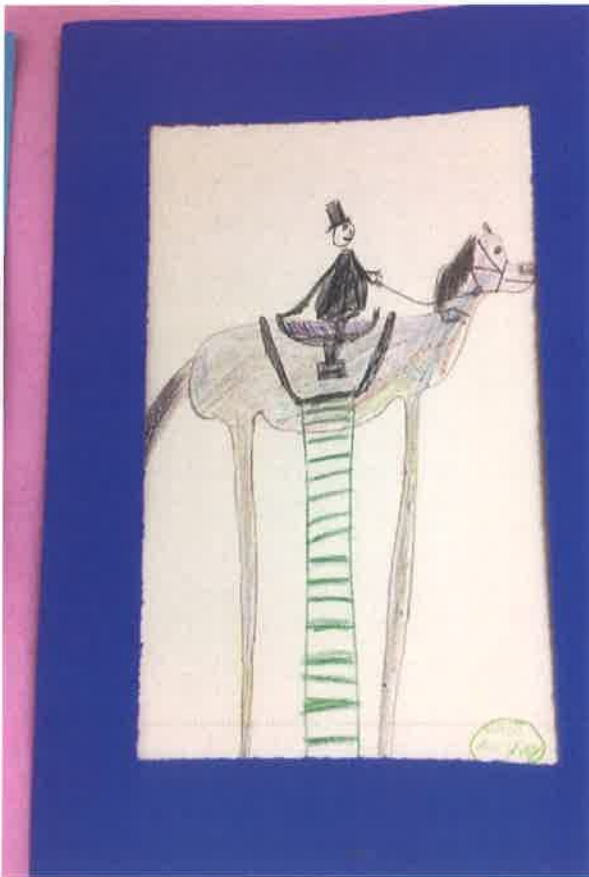
The class is wrapping up a chapter on American Indians. Ask your child about the many ways native peoples used the buffalo. They will be starting a chapter on the Age of Exploration shortly.

We have some artists in the classroom...Check out their fun idioms.

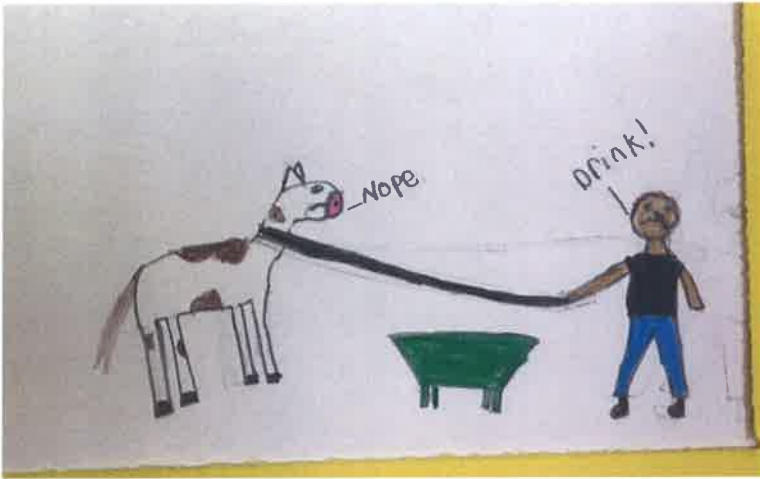
"Seeing eye to eye."



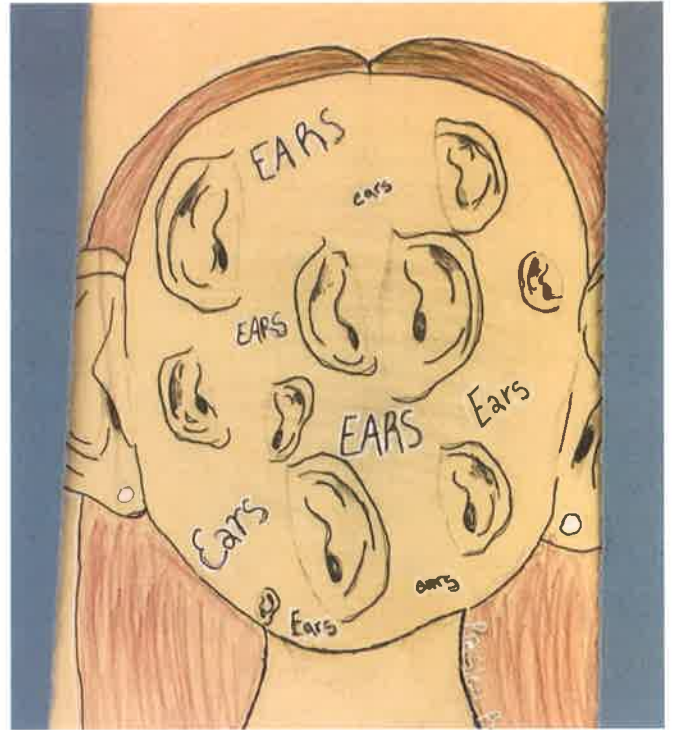
"Get off your high horse."



"It's raining cats and dogs."



"You can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink."



I'm all ears

"A bull in a china shop"



Happy Thanksgiving!

Junior High with Mrs. Sibley and Mrs. Brown

Language Arts: We have been working on essential elements of a story, including the story arc, point of view, type of conflict, and figurative language. Everyone is now working on writing their own narrative, using figurative language and a clear story arc.



LOOKING FOR A GOOD CONVERSATION STARTER AT DINNER? ASK ABOUT THE TOPIC FOR ARTICLE OF THE WEEK!



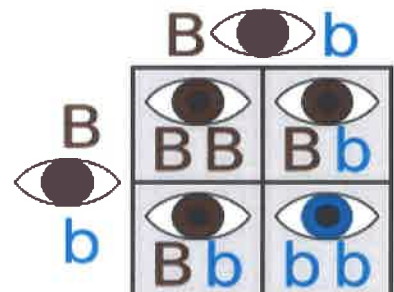
Social Studies: We are in the midst of the American Revolution and the principles behind the Declaration of Independence. I've moved the study of the Constitution to January so we will hit it hard when we return from vacation.



**WE'VE READ 308 BOOKS THIS YEAR!
SERENA BAILEY HAS ALREADY MET THE 40 BOOK CHALLENGE!**

Math: Your child has math homework nearly every night. It is important that you set a space and time aside for homework completion. Support your child by asking questions, looking over completed work, and emphasizing that schoolwork is a priority. The Homework Help website provides a variety of complete solutions, hints, and answers. Some problems refer back to other similar problems. The website is designed to assist students to be able to do the problems but not necessarily do the problems for them. Encourage your child to take advantage of this fabulous resource.

Science: Studying the characteristics of inheritance through genetics, students find themselves with a solid understanding of the differences between Phenotypes (observable traits such as eye color) and Genotypes (allele combinations of dominant and recessive traits such as dominant homozygous BB brown eyes, heterozygous Bb brown eyes, and recessive homozygous bb blue eyes). Students have become familiar with using Punnett squares like the one shown below to demonstrate their understanding of all possible outcomes of inheritance.





Thanksgiving Feast

Our annual school-wide Thanksgiving Feast is planned for Tuesday, November 21st, 2017. This is an annual Parents' Club tradition where the students all sit down together and eat a home-cooked meal in the cafeteria. In order to make this event successful again, we need your help. Please let us know if you would be willing to:

_____ Kitchen help on the day of the feast

_____ Donate a turkey (cooked and delivered to the school by 10:00 AM)

_____ Donate 5-10 pounds of potatoes – They will be cooked here at school

_____ Donate Can of Olives

_____ Donate Box of Stove Top Stuffing

_____ Donate bag of rolls

_____ Donate pumpkin pie, apple pie or cookies



Please bring these items to the school office by Friday, November 17th so we can plan our shopping needs accordingly.

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Questions: Contact Victoria Best or Maribel McDonnell or call the school office at 389-8283.