



ALTA-DUTCH FLAT SCHOOL DISTRICT

December 2017 Bear Tracks

Hello parents and families--

The holiday spirit has appeared quickly with our first dusting of snow this week. It was exciting to see the light blanket of snow upon our return from the Thanksgiving break. After spending the holiday with family in 90 degree SoCal weather, it was really nice to come home to the change of seasons.

December will be a month that will be very busy for everyone. As part of our commitment to the LCAP (local control and accountability plan), we will be administering The California Healthy Kids Survey for grades 5th-8th grade. This voluntary survey will be an anonymous, multiple choice survey which will be administered in class. It will take approximately 45 minutes. The data that is gathered will help us identify student needs and a better understanding of our school environment. Also, we will have a parent survey that is available. This survey is an opportunity for you to share your opinions in a multiple choice question and answer format. The surveys for both students and parents are available for your review on our school's website www.alta.k12.ca.us.


With the winter here and the potential for large amounts of snow overnight, the same routine of communication that has been used in the past will be implemented (*School Messenger Automated Phone Message, Website Update, and School's Answering Machine updated by 6:30 A.M.*) Please listen to the entire message when the phone rings from the school. We may have school start at 9:15am, which we will call 'Late Start Snow Days'. A later start time may help families that need to dig-out and get to school on time. We will still end school at the normal 2:30pm. If you need to drop your student off at school after 8:00 am as usual on a 'Late Start Snow Day', please know that we will have staff available to supervise until the 9:15 start time.

The school year is going quickly and the students have done well in the classroom and interacting with their peers. Please continue to support your students with encouragement for academic success through listening and asking questions when needed. Also, leadership on campus starts with students being responsible for their actions. Please continue to reinforce good decisions and to work through problems with others by communicating in a positive manner.

Thank you for all your support,

Mr. Wells 
Superintendent/Principal

December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				8 th Grade CHS Link Presentation 1:30	Bookmobile	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
*Please note Basketball practices (Two Tuesdays have been switched to Mondays)	<u>Candygrams on sale during lunch - Dec. 13th</u> Basketball Practice 2:30 Art Club 2:30 Future Falcons (8 th grade) @ CHS 6:30 P.M.	No Basketball Girl Scouts 2:30	PARENTS' CLUB 2:30 Leadership – 2:30 Chess Club – 2:30	Basketball Practice	Bookmobile Spirit Assembly 8:40 Dress Up Theme: SANTA HATS or Alta Bear Wear	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Basketball Practice 2:30 Art Club 2:30	5 th /6 th Grade Field Trip- Underground Sacramento No Basketball Girl Scouts 2:30	Last day to buy candygrams Chess Club 2:30 Leadership 2:30 BOARD MEETING 6:00	SOUP KITCHEN HOLIDAY NIGHT	Candygrams Delivered 15 Bookmobile MINIMUM DAY – Noon Dismissal for all. No Cub Club Available	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Winter Break – No School	Winter Break – No School	Winter Break – No School	Winter Break – No School	Bookmobile Winter Break – No School	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	 <i>Merry Christmas</i>	Winter Break – No School	Winter Break – No School	Winter Break – No School	Bookmobile Winter Break – No School	
31	Winter Break – No School	Classes Resume – January 2 nd				



Candy Grams

The leadership students will be selling candy grams December 4th—13th during lunch for \$1.00. These candy grams will be delivered to students on Friday, Dec. 15th. *Parents, please see Tracy in the office if you would like to surprise your student and send them one.*

Six Flags Read to Succeed Program for K-6th Grade Students

As a heads up, students in K-6 will be receiving a student reading log. Students who log six hours of reading will receive a FREE admission ticket that is valid at the Six Flags Theme park in Vallejo during the summer of 2018. All reading logs must be turned in to the office by February 23rd. This gives you a lot of time to complete the reading requirement since it is after school reading and not homework reading. Have fun and read away!

Parents' Club



A big thank you to everyone who contributed food, worked in the kitchen, served, and cleaned up for our annual school-wide Thanksgiving feast!! We love this tradition. Our next Parents' Club meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 6th at 2:30 P.M. We would love to have your input. Mark your calendar to attend the **SOUP KITCHEN/HOLIDAY NIGHT** on the evening of December 14th. More details to follow.



Mark your calendar for Winter Break

Friday, December 15th is a minimum day with all students being dismissed at noon and there will be **NO cub club afterschool care.**

Monday, December 18—Monday, January 1st will be no school due to winter break. Classes will resume on Tuesday, January 2, 2018.

Box Tops for Education



Check that cereal box, Ziploc baggie box, the bottom of the Kleenex box, the soup can and all sorts of products before you toss the package out since there probably is a General Mills Box Top for Education coupon. Clip that out and send to the office in a baggie with your child's name. There is a classroom competition happening and we need lots of box tops! Check out their website at www.btfec.com and enter contests and print coupons.



FIRST TRIMESTER AWARDS

Principal's List (3.8 – 4.0 GPA)

Miranda Ricks

Serena Bailey, Harrison McDonnell, Trinity Vernon-Cole

Kaylie Alden, Presley Barker, Noah Feavearyear, Carter Stetler

Gloria Bailey, Elisa Barber, Milas Ellison, Hudson McDonnell, Savannah Nevells, Katie Walker

Rodney Arashi, Brooke Lenz, Nate Mitchell, Delia Pullman, Eva Saunders, Emmercyn Stetler

Honor Roll (3.0 – 3.79 GPA)

Josh Cook, Keely LaBarbera

Cooper Best, Marty Lowenstein

Richard Barth, Elise Bye, DeAndre Howard, Persephone VanDenburg, Isabella Volpe

Landon Holt, Aidan Owen, Justin Tate

Rowan Elster, Alina Guzman, Lily Samp, Blaine Saunders

Perfect Attendance (August 16 – November 3, 2017 – First Trimester)

McGuire Davis

Serena Bailey, Cooper Best, Jacob Cook, Jeremiah Cook, Brody Elster, Arthur Kernacs, Marty Lowenstein, Clayton O'Leary, Anthony Tejada

Richard Barth, Madison Cantu, Noah Feavearyear, Isabella Volpe

Gloria Bailey, Hudson McDonnell

Brooke Lenz, Austin Samuelson

Robyn Barth, Jo-Jo Cook, Wesley Ellison, Cadon Harris

Kurt Peterson, Kian Rawlins, Isabella Williams

Victor Bailey, Carter Harris, Hadley McDonnell

Patrick Hazen, Troyken Hazen, Dylan Lenz, Shane Rawlins, Wyatt Williams

MRS. SIBLEY

K i n d e r g a r t e n

Language Arts

In language arts we are starting to read phonetically, by sounding out three letter words such as cat, mat, fat, fan, pan, am, an, and sap. Once your child learns the sounds to *a, b, c, d, f, h, m, n, p, s,* and *t*, have them build words. Please be sure to continue practicing sight words nightly to reinforce solid reading skills.

Singing

Kindergarten is getting excited about their stage debut in "Christmas around the World." Please join us for our festive evening with a holiday show followed by our "Soup Kitchen" on December 14. Kindergarten will be performing two songs, "Jingle Bells" and "Up on the House Top." Please also enjoy carols sung by the other classes, plan to stay for a bottomless bowl of soup and a surprise appearance of a special guest.

Math

- *Writing Numbers: 11 - 16
- *Introduction to addition
- *Creating ABB patterns with sound and movement
- * Introduction of tens and ones
- *Sharing a whole by separating it into two equal parts
- *Counting by 10's to 50
- *Identifying fewer, least, more and most with graphs

Alphabet Fun Fact

The 26 letters of the English alphabet make up more than 40 distinct sounds. Since there are a lot more sounds than letters, many letters have different pronunciations, e.g. the **C** in **cool** sounds different than the **C** in **city**.



See the snowballs,
One, two, three
That make a snowman
Just for me!
~ Author Unknown

Math at Home

Here is a fun activity you can do to help your child practice the math he or she is learning in school.

*Make price tags using amounts such as 20¢, 50¢, 4¢, 2¢, etc., and put them on kitchen items or small toys. Allow your child to use dimes and pennies to "purchase" these items.

Mrs. Fejes' 1st and 2nd grade

Turkey in the Barnyard

Turkey in the barnyard,
What does he say?
Gobble, gobble, gobble, gobble,
Gobble all the day.

Turkey on the table,
What do I say?
Yummy, yummy, yummy, yummy,
Yum all day.

Turkey in my tummy,
What do I say?
I ate too much--Thanksgiving Day!



Language Arts:

1st grade: A Cupcake Party/From Seed to Pumpkin/At Home in the Ocean (Final Blends, Words with Short u, Articles, Informative Writing, Words with th, Proper Nouns)

2nd grade: Jellies:The Life of Jellyfish/Click, Clack, Moo (Verbs, Contractions, Informative Writing, Suffixes -er and -est, Compound Sentences)

Math:

1st grade: Making a model to add or subtract, Using related facts to find unknown numbers, Identifying related facts, Using more than one way to make numbers to 20, Identifying expressions of equal value

2nd grade: Adding 3 and 4 numbers, Using a number sentence to solve an addition problem, Adding 2-digit numbers, Breaking apart addends to add 2-digit numbers, Deciding whether a sum is greater than or less than 100.

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

- *The Story of the First Thanksgiving*
- *Veteran's Day*
- *Inventions*

Congratulations on a wonderful performance 1st and 2nd graders! I am so proud of you! XO Mrs. Fejes

3rd and 4th Grade

Our fast paced November included a trip to PG&E and the Alta Power House where Avery taught the students about electrical and canal safety and how electricity is made using hydroelectric power. We also did a whirlwind field trip to Weimar Water, Auburn Journal, Mongolian BBQ and Cal Fire in Auburn. I've been interested in seeing the treatment plant for years, but the fact it's partially owned by the Fejes and our tour was led by a Stetler cousin made it all the more special. We hit the front page of the Auburn Journal after touring their facility. Kuddos goes out to Cal Fire who allowed all the students to sit in their fire engine and one of the nurses showed us the rescue helicopter. How cool is that!

November's book report is due this Friday, December 1. However, no fear because December's book report is covered in class. We're reading "Island of the Blue Dolphin" to finish out the calendar year. This fictional novel beautifully describes the life of Native Americans living on an island off the coast of California hundreds of years ago.

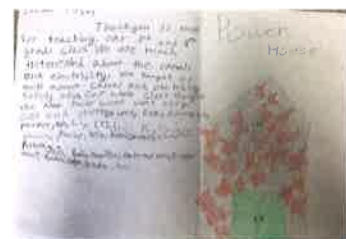
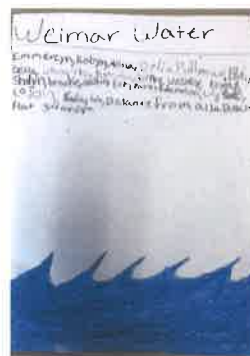
In Math, the 3rd graders are expanding their knowledge in multiplication. They are learning about associative and distributive property of multiplication. The fourth graders are easily grasping the concept of division with remainders.

November we finished the early California unit in Social Studies. They learned that in 1821 Mexico won its independence and ruled Alta California for a time. We will do a cumulative fun cooking project which includes the spices the European's desired. Look for the assignment the first week in December.

We're starting Life Science with both groups. We'll focus on the food chain, microorganisms, and plants.

A huge thanks to Mrs. Rosenquist for teaching our class square dancing. It's a pleasure to bring this fun activity back to Alta. The students will perform square dancing at the Christmas Night on December 14. Don't miss it!

We have some creative students writing Thank you cards



CAL FIRE STATION TEN

Thank you for everything you taught us. It means a lot to us. Thank you for letting us see the helicopter and fire engine.

Blaney Wells,
Delia, Blaine,
May, Emily,
Parker, Lily,
Rowan, Chevelle,
Rohan, Alina, Robby, Walt,
Austin, Brooke, Shalyn, Kung,
Caden

YOU ARE AMAZING!

Kadie Hamilton



That old school bell was ringing ding ding ding. We also liked the fire engine. The Helicopter was really cool we wish we could be there. Thank you for showing us the inside of the Helicopter and the fire engine. Also thank you for us spraying the fire hose.



made:
Rodrigo, Rowan, Austin, Nato, Caden,
Jamar, Parker, Chevelle, Kallie, Jade,
Shalyn, Brooke, Ben, Blaine, Delia, Robby,
Emerson, Alina, Lily, Debra, Jade, Kacie



Fifth and Sixth Grade

Time seems to be whipping by way too fast! Thanksgiving is now in the past, and we're looking forward to Winter Break and the holidays. We will be having a school-wide performance on December 14, and the fifth and sixth grade students are hard at work learning Christmas carols in a foreign language. So much fun learning to make sounds we've never made before!

Here's what else is going on:

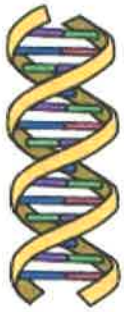
Math: Sixth graders continue to learn valuable algebraic skills as they move on to Dividing and Building Expressions. Fifth grade has finished their work on Decimal Calculation and are starting their work on Adding and Subtracting Fractions with Unlike Denominators.

Language Arts: Both grades did fantastic work on their research reports. They were so interesting to read that grading them was a true pleasure. The next writing assignment will be an opinion essay with a focus on elaboration, and it will be due December 15, right before Winter Break.

Science: Our next chapter is Interactions at Plate Boundaries. The more exciting news is that there will be a field trip to see Underground Sacramento and the Automobile Museum on December 12. Underground Sacramento ties into our future chapter on weather.

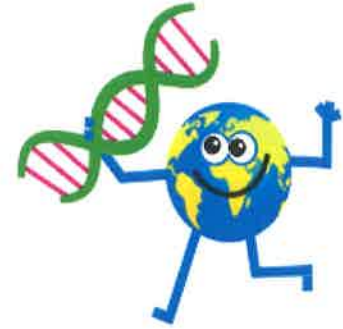
Social Studies: The students got off to a great start on their new chapter, Cultures Meet, by researching and reporting on explorers. I'm sure Mrs. Brown has some interesting activities lined up.





- = Adenine
- = Thymine
- = Cytosine
- = Guanine
- = Phosphate backbone

DNA



Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Sibley *Seventh and Eighth Grade*

3-D DNA Models

Seventh and eighth grade are taking life science this year and will be creating 3-D models of DNA (Deoxyribonucleic Acid) next month. These models need to contain a double helix that is a representation of the basic building blocks of the genetic blueprint for the reproduction of life. Picture creating a minimum of an eight runged ladder that contains a twist, the twisting strands then need to be composed of sugars and phosphate groups and the four nitrogenous bases of adenine, thymine, guanine and cytosine (ladder rungs). These junior highers will take on this challenge and come up with some creative strategies to get the models to not only twist, but to look fashionable and hold together. Fun Fact: If all of the DNA in the human body were unwound, it would reach to the moon and back six thousand times.

Language Arts

Our class has read hundreds of books so far this year! Who will be the first student to meet the 40-Book Challenge? We have started *A Christmas Carol*. Although the language will be challenging at times, the message will be clear according to Scrooge, "I will honor Christmas in my heart and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, Present, and Future." To help get into the Christmas spirit the students are working in groups to create a children's story to share and read to their kindergarten buddies.

Social Studies

Looking ahead junior high will be studying all things Constitution when they return in January.

Don't Tread on Me! Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death!
No Taxation without Representation! American Revolution and all the causes that led up to it.



Junior High



Mathematics Extra Credit due December

Ms. Speedi wants to build her dream house and would like you to design it. According to local zoning laws, she is limited to a one-story house with a maximum area of 1,000 square feet. (This is the maximum area of the floor.) She also has some personal requirements for this house:

- *There must be two bedrooms with a combined area of at least 250 square feet.*
 - *There should be at least one bathroom near the bedrooms.*
 - *The living room cannot be smaller than 200 square feet.*
 - *The kitchen must be at least 220 square feet.*
 - *The building costs are cheaper when the entire structure is rectangular. Therefore, make the overall shape of Ms. Speedi's house a rectangle.*
- a. *Design a possible layout of Ms. Speedi's dream house. Make sure your design meets the zoning law (with a maximum area of 1,000 square feet) and Ms. Speedi's personal requirements.*
- b. *On graph paper, draw a scaled blueprint of Ms. Speedi's house. Provide details that help others understand your design like the front door, windows, and interior doors. Add furniture if you like.*
- c. *What are the benefits of your design over others? What are the drawbacks? What assumptions did you make for your design? Did you need to make any difficult decisions?*
- *Attached work: Include all your work and notes. Your scratch work is important because it is a record of your thinking. Do not throw anything away.*

Alta-Dutch Flat School Lunch Menu

December 2017

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				1 Cheeseburger Celery Sticks Carrots Apple
4 Mini Corn Dogs French Fries Applesauce	5 Pepperoni Stuffed Pizza Salad Frozen Strawberries	6 Mac & Cheese Broccoli Fruit Mix Lemon Dinosaur	7 Cheese Enchilada Refried Beans Corn Mandarin	8 BBQ Rib Sandwich Celery Sticks Carrots Potato Wedges Apple
11 Bean & Cheese Burrito Baby Carrots Salsa Cup Sliced Peaches	12 French Bread Pizza Salad Banana	13 Chicken Crinkle Potatoes Green Beans Applesauce Cup Lemon Dinosaur	14 Taquitos Corn Black Beans Orange	15 Cheeseburger Celery Sticks Potato Wedges Apple <u>MINIMUM DAY</u>
18 Winter Break- No School	19 Winter Break- No School	20 Winter Break- No School	21 Winter Break- No School	22 Winter Break- No School
25 Winter Break- No School Merry Christmas	26 Winter Break- No School	27 Winter Break- No School	28 Winter Break- No School	29 Winter Break- No School

Alta-Dutch Flat School District
BEAR TRACKS
P.O. Box 958
Alta, CA 95701

There is a donation barrel in the school office if you wish to donate a new unwrapped toy for the Chips Kids Toy drive for the holidays.

