



Western Sierra Charter Schools Mountain Home School Charter

JANUARY 2016 NEWSLETTER

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Happy New Year!

777 W. Shaw Ave.
Fresno, CA 93704
559-248-0471
559-248-0482 fax

Thank you for allowing us to serve you!

Reminders for both school resource centers:

Attendance Month 5 Due: December 17th

December Holiday Break: Dec. 21~Jan. 1—MHSC Closed

CONGRATULATIONS MHSC MATH TEAM

Mountain Home School participated in the Madera County Math Tournament on Friday, November 6th. There were 19 math teams that competed in the event. Our team placed 1st in the relay race, 3rd in circuit training, and 2nd overall. We are so proud of everyone! Congratulations!



Pictured left to right:

Abby Lodge, Gabby Lazarcheff, Josh Johnson, Emma Hagen, Daniel Martinez and Radley Roybal

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8th Grade Catalina Trip

Deposits Due:

\$60 due Jan. 8

MHS Oakhurst Classes, Semester 2

Begins January 5th ~ Please note the slight start & end times!

TUESDAY CLASSES:

12:45-2:00 IEW for 3/4th Science for 8th Writing for 6/7th
2:15-3:30 Legos for 3rd **Art for 1st & 7th Writing for 8th

**Art for 1st graders will meet each Tuesday from Jan. 5th through Feb. 9th

**Art for 7th graders will meet each Tuesday from Feb. 23 through April 5th

WEDNESDAY CLASSES:

12:45-2:00 Engineering for 1st/2nd Constitution for 8th
2:15-3:30 Academic Pentathlon Choir for 4th-8th **Flat Stanley—Mar. 31

THURSDAY CLASSES:

12:45-2:00 Variety for K ROV
2:15-3:30 Math for 6th-8th ROV Book Club

**Ski Program at Badger Pass on Mondays begins Jan. 11th
if instructors are found!**

Friday P.E. days will resume April 1st!



Smile and Say "CHEESE" ~ Picture Make-up Day!

Michael Jones Photography will be here to take pictures of all MHS and GHS students who were unable to have their picture taken in October. Packets or individual prints will be available for purchase. We encourage ALL students to take a picture on the following date so they will be a part of our yearbook that comes out in the Spring.

Thursday, January 14th between 10:00-12:00

**PARENT GROUP meets the first Tuesday of
each month! Time: 12:45-2:00**



MHS Fresno Classes, Semester 2

- K-6 Choose Monday OR Wednesday, NOT BOTH
- Class Size Limit – 14 Students
- 7-8 Classes, Tuesdays/Thursdays (except choir, Mondays)
- [Class schedule will be mailed separately & posted on website](#)

MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS, Grades K-6

A.M. CLASSES, K-6 – THEME: Spiders and Insects – Choose Mon. OR Wed.

K-2 Variety: Mrs. Den Hartog

Students will participate in thematic science lessons using music, poetry, literature, factual information, writing, creative movement, roll play, art, and Music Fundamentals with Mrs. Gonzales.

3-4/5-6 Writing, Literature, Technology: Mondays – Mrs. Ganzenhuber / Wednesdays – Mrs. Souza

Students will read and write factual information about spiders and insects. Technology (Chromebooks) will be incorporated into the lessons for research and paragraph writing. Students will also be taught to sketch and label a variety of spiders and insects, noting similarities and differences.

3-4/5-6 Science: Mrs. Hirata

Students will be learning about the exciting world of arthropods! Hands-on activities will be done to better understand spiders, mealworms, and more! This class will go hand-in-hand with 3rd/4th Grade Variety Class and 5th/6th Variety Class.

K-2/3-6 Music Fundamentals: Mrs. Gonzales (Will not follow the theme)

Lessons will be hands-on and interactive. Students will learn to read music notation on the staff which includes the names of lines, spaces, and notes and the types of notes (quarter, half, whole, etc.). Instruction will also include reading rhythmic notation (how to count the music and keep a beat), ear training to identify pitch, and singing. A variety of rhythm instruments will be used.

LUNCH – All Students – 11:45 to 12:30 Families may eat in the large classroom. Students/Families must provide their own lunches. Parents should plan to supervise their own children.

P.M. CLASSES for Grades 4-6

Art: Mondays - Lynne Lane / Wednesday – Michael McGough

ASL (American Sign Language): Mondays – Kym Yrulegui (a continuation class-can't accept new students)

Spanish (Immersion): Wednesdays – Martha Gaviria (This class is a continuation but can accept new students.)

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS, Grades 7-8

7-8 Spanish: Tuesdays – Mrs. Gaviria

7-8 Art: Tuesdays with Michael McGough

7-12 Writing/Composition 1: Tuesdays – Mrs. Souza

7-8 ASL: Thursdays – Mrs. Yrulegui

7-8 STEM Engineering: Thursdays – Mrs. Hirata

7th and 8th Graders will use the engineering process to plan, build, and revise designs. Students will be working in teams to create model insulated homes while learning about solar energy.

6-8 Math: Tuesdays and Thursdays – Mrs. Dixon

NOTE: 6-12 Choir: Wednesdays – Emily Dixon – 6th Graders may enroll in Choir AND Music Fundamentals.

FIELD TRIPS



Fresno State Farm & Planetarium



Western Sierra Charter School will be taking a field trip to CSU Fresno to explore the planetarium and tour the farm. Two different shows to choose from will be available for Mountain Home students at the planetarium. Trip Through Space (9:30) is geared toward younger students (K-4th) while Black Holes is more for upper grades (5th-8th). You are welcome to pick whichever topic is most interesting to your family at the time you sign-up! When you are not viewing your show at the planetarium you will have the opportunity to tour the Fresno State farm and market. We have reserved the park next to the farm for a picnic lunch afterwards.

When: Friday, January 22

9:15-11:30 Planetarium & Farm Tour

11:30-12:30 lunch at the park

Where: Meet at the Downing Planetarium at 9:15

5320 N Maple Ave, Fresno, CA 93710

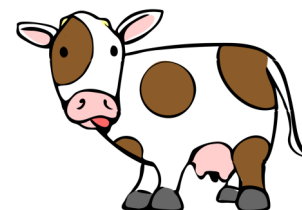
Cost: \$5.50/student (Includes cost of farm tour and planetarium show)

\$3.50/parent (No charge to parents for the farm tour)

Payment is due at time of sign-up. **Sign-up deadline is January 8th.**

Contact Brook Hirata with any questions.

Hilmar Cheese Company



Join us for a fun and educational field trip to learn how cheese (and ice cream) are made! *A maximum of 150 in our group

When: Friday, February 5

Time: 11:00 Tour begins! (Please arrive to meet us at the entrance at 10:45)

Duration: 1-1/2 hour tour which will include an Ice Cream Making experience!

Where: 9001 Lander Ave, Hilmar, CA 95324 **from Oakhurst: plan on almost a 2 hour Drive; 1-1/2 hour drive from Fresno

Cost: **FREE FOR K-Adult** - however, if siblings attend, there will be a \$3.00 charge for the ice cream making activity—paid directly by the parent at the tour!

Deadline: Sign-ups will be closed after Friday, January 22nd! *Organizer: Mindy Klang

~ OAKHURST FAMILIES ~



Book Club- 2nd Semester

Our Book Club will read and discuss selections from a variety of genres. Project assignments will be given to enhance discussion, highlight literary quality and focus personal points of interest. We have 3 remaining classes, meeting once a month. 3rd/4th grade club will meet Thursday, January 7th, at 2:15 – 3:30. We will discuss the current selection, The Mouse and the Motorcycle and A Mouse Called. 5/6th grade club will meet Thursday, January 14th, at 2:15-3:30. We will discuss, From the Mixed up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler. The 7th/8th grade club will meet Thursday, January 21st, at 2:15-3:30. We'll discuss, White Fang. If you're new to the club, please come to my office to pick up the class schedule, the book selection and accompanying assignment. Call Kathi @ 642-1422 # 103 with questions.



CONSTITUTION CLASS SIGN-UP

This 10-week class will be taught by John Rumohr and Kathi Bales. The intention of this class is to introduce you to the history of how our unique Constitution was born, the thinking of the men who conceived it, and the impact it had on American citizens. Students will be required to orally present two assignments: A “passport” interview, and A “Founding Fathers” research report.

Ski Program Update!

We are hopeful for a much better ski season this year! By now I should have received all of the registration information from those interested in participating in the 2016 ski season program. If you want to be involved but have not yet turned in your paperwork please contact John as soon as you can. **We are still in need of volunteers**, especially instructors for both ski and snowboarding. Please let me know if you think you would be able to help during the Monday ski days we have scheduled. This great program depends on volunteer instructors to work! Thank you to those of you who have signed up! Finally, there is a tentative instructor training day planned for December 18th. This event will let you know all about the program and prepare you to teach student groups. It is especially valuable for new instructors. Please contact John at jrumohr@wscsfamily.org. Thank you and hope to see you at Badger Pass in January.

PEACH BLOSSOM

It is that time of year to be thinking about registering for the Peach Blossom Festival. It is a wonderful opportunity for your elementary kids to gain knowledge and appreciation of literature through oral interpretation. We will have ten openings for students doing individual, pairs, or group presentations. ***Sign-ups begin now and continue through January 15.*** So start selecting your poems, sign up, and reserve March 10th for the annual Peach Blossom Festival at Fresno State!! If you have questions, contact Joanne Cable.



~ FRESNO FAMILIES ~



Smile and Say "CHEESE" ~ Picture Make-up Day!

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Tuesday, January 12th between 10:00-12:00



SKI DAY AT CHINA PEAK



Come join us for an exciting family ski day at China Peak! The price for students includes a lift ticket, rental gear, and lessons from a trained instructor. Students will have the opportunity to choose between skiing and snowboarding and receive lessons at their skill level (Intermediate and advanced skiers/snowboarders are also welcome!).



Grades: K-12

When: Friday, February 26th at 9:45. Students will meet on the hill and receive all rental gear at 10:00. Lessons will begin at 11:00.



Where: China Peak Mountain Resort

59265 Hwy 168

Lakeshore, CA 93634



Cost for Students: \$30 (Includes lesson, rental gear, and lesson)

Cost for Adults: \$59 (Includes lift ticket and rental gear)



Adults are welcome and encouraged to ski/snowboard as well! We encourage you to ski/snowboard with your son or daughter once their lessons are over.



*Please contact Brook Hirata if you are interested in being a chaperone for a ski group. We will need a few parents who are comfortable on the hill to accompany our students during the lessons.



Contacts

To contact a staff member by phone in Oakhurst, dial 559-642-1422 and press the extension number for the person you wish to contact.

To contact a staff member by phone in Fresno, dial 559-248-0471 and press the extension number for the person you wish to contact.

Executive Director

Michael Cox Ext. 102

Principal/Charter Teacher

Mindy Klang Ext. 104

Technology Coordinator/Charter Teacher

Eric Hagen Ext. 107

Administrative Secretary

Cheryl Wilhite Ext. 100

Oakhurst Site

Charter Teachers

Kathi Bales Ext. 103

Kim Meeks Ext. 105

John Rumohr Ext. 106

Denise Cudd Ext. 110

Renee Johnson Ext. 111

Amanda Patterson Ext. 109

Joanne Cable Ext. 120

Librarian

Michele Williams Ext. 112

Custodian

Ramon Mendoza Ext. 113

Speech

Sara Williams Ext. 123

Fresno Site

Charter Teachers

Brook Hirata (Bullock) Ext. 204

Margaret DenHartog Ext. 207

Stephanie Ganzenhuber Ext. 209

Marcia Souza Ext. 208

Receptionist

Marianne Lord Ext. 200

MHS Fresno Math Teacher

Mindy Dixon Ext. 206

8th grade Catalina Fundraiser!

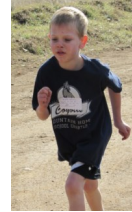


We are raffling off a brand new Apple iWatch on Dec. 16th. \$1/ticket or \$5/7 tickets Tickets can be purchased directly from Mindy Klang!

CROSSCOUNTRY



Our Cross Country team has been doing well! We have participated in three meets and all of our runners have run hard and finished strong. Our last meet is on December 11 in Yosemite Lakes Park. Please contact Amanda Patterson if you are interested in participating. Thank you again to all of the families who have participated. Great Job!



A special thank you to the Magdelano family who donated cinnamon rolls to help raise funds for the 8th grade Catalina trip at our First Annual Turkey Trot! Also thank you to the AMAZING Glacier High School students who helped run the score table. We could not have done it without your help!

