



# Maple Creek School News

## Maple Creek Students to Perform



Please mark your calendars: Friday, Dec. 19, 2014 at 1 PM.

Plan to be entertained by a performance of this classic holiday book. Watch the Grinch transform from a holiday-hater to the star of **the Who's festivities.**

Immediately following the performance, we will have our own holiday party. If you would like to contribute treats for this party, please contact Gwen.

Volume 3, Issue 4

Dec. 2014

Toys for Tots is looking for homes in need of brand new toys to go under the Christmas tree. The school has vouchers for parents who wish to participate. For more information, please contact Wendy as soon as possible.

*From the Desk of Gwen Neu:*

### Stepping Out of the Classroom Adds to the Value of Education

We began the year here at Maple Creek School developing a tight-knit community in which all members are valued and appreciated and assisted as needed. We have woven the idea of community through our study of Ancient Egypt, production of performances, and making of a delicious community **soup that we shared with our families and even a local sheriff's deputy.**

When we put our books and computers aside and head into town or even to the nearby stream, we see community in action on a grander scale. I love taking our students on field trips because of the opportunities for learning these trips provide. The kids meet various community members, learn about the roles they play in the businesses they serve; they learn about skills and knowledge they will need as they grow and become part of the larger community; and they practice using their self-control as they sometimes have to wait patiently and share in the conversation in a polite manner. Sometimes they even have to learn to deal with less than perfect moments and to be **flexible when events don't quite work out as planned.**

On the next few pages, you can read about the awesome adventures of **Maple Creek School's students. We thank all those who made these trips possible, especially Dan "the Bus Driver Man" Orlandi. We couldn't get over the mountain without him.**



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## Community Studies Continue With Tours of Los Bagels and the Eureka Co-op

By Jaylenne Harris

Maple Creek School students went to the Eureka Co-op and Los Bagels to learn about their community. They went to Los Bagels on November 21, 2014 and North Coast COOP on December 3, 2014.

The students started to learn about communities on the first day of school. They learned about the roles people play in communities. They also learned about how businesses help and why there are rules. As part of these studies, they went to two businesses in person.

First, the kids went to Los Bagels in Arcata, California. The owner is Jewish and Mexican, so he wanted to have both of his cultures in his shop. He offers bagels, which are a Jewish food and "dead bread," which honors the Mexican tradition of Day of the Dead. The tour guide showed us the equipment used to make the bagels. There was a mixer that mixes the bagel dough. There was a worker, and he hand-made the bagels. The kids watched him shaped slugs. When the tour was over, they got free bagels and cream cheese, and it was nice of the business to give them to its visitors.

A few days later, the students visited the North Coast Co-op's **Eureka store**. The tour guide told the kids that they have 26 farms to supply the produce the store sells. She showed them some cool equipment, such as the peanut grinder. She put fresh peanuts in the grinder and ran the



machine. She gave the students the ground peanuts, which was peanut butter. The she showed them a lot of refrigerators and freezers. The students got to go inside them. They were cold! The co-op has a kitchen, and the students might take a cooking class there.

I wonder what Maple Creek School students will learn about next.

# Bounce-a-Palooza Provides Physical Education Opportunities

By Shawn Giuntini

Maple Creek School students went on a field trip to Bounce-a-Palooza to celebrate **Aviva's birthday. Aviva turned five years old, and going on a field trip for her birthday was like a party with her school friends.**

I thought the bounce houses were like PE because bouncing got my heart rate up, and climbing the rope was like building my muscular endurance. We practiced using our self-control by not going down the slide head-first and taking turns by not cutting in line.

It was fun bouncing on this really cool field trip.







## Students Visit the Eureka Branch of the Humboldt County Library

By Shyanna Giuntini

The students at Maple Creek School went to the Eureka branch of the Humboldt County Library on December 3, 2014. They had fun looking at books, playing games, and just hanging out.

The 6th graders are doing a History Day project. They went to the Humboldt Room to **get more information about their topic. They didn't have much luck because they didn't have** enough information to give the librarian. Then they tried to get e-books on their tablets, but **they didn't have much luck with this either. The librarian couldn't load the web page, and the tablets didn't get the Wi-Fi.**

In the end, the 6th graders got to check out books. Yay!!!

The Youngers played computer games and played with toys and puzzles. They looked at and checked out books, too. They said they had lots of fun.

After the field trip, they went home; well, almost. When the kids got on the bus, Dan the Bus Driver Man tried to start it, but a loud buzzer went off. Dan pulled the wire to the buzzer to make it stop, but when he tried to start the bus, **the bus wouldn't let him!**

Dan the Bus Driver Man turned into Dan the Van Driver Man until the bus was fixed two days later.

December 3, 2014 was a long, exciting day.



## Maple Creek School Students Watch Salmon Spawning

By Rachel McGaughey

Maple Creek School students went on a walking field trip to Boulder Creek to see the salmon spawning. They walked in a single file line. Bill was in the front; Hilary was in the back; and Gwen was everywhere. This was the safe way to stay out of the way of cars.

When they got to the bridge, they looked down at the salmon swimming up the stream. It looked hard for the fish. The kids saw a fish floating upside down because it was dead. The students learned when fish lay their eggs, they die.

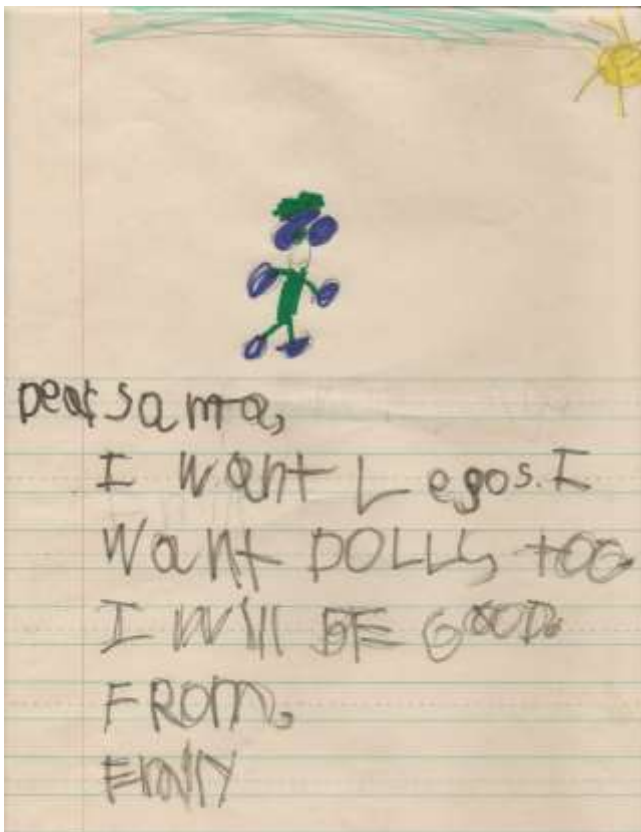
They got tired of looking from the bridge, so they walked to the creek bank. The kids watched the salmon, staying away from the water. They watched the salmon making a redd (nest). The salmon parents covered the eggs with gravel. The kids watched the salmon jumping the rapids, too.

They loved seeing the fish.





Letters to Santa



# Humboldt County Library Schedule of Events for Dec. 2014

Taken from: <http://humboldt.gov.org/calendar.aspx?CID=27,24,25,39,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35>

<b>December 2014</b>						
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>01</b>	<b>02</b> <a href="#">3:00 pm Fortuna Library, Grandparents &amp; Books</a>  <a href="#">3:00 pm Fortuna Library, Grandparents &amp; Books</a>	<b>03</b> <a href="#">6:30 p.m., Eureka Library, Pajama Storytime: Night Lights</a>  <a href="#">Garberville Library Storytime</a>	<b>04</b> <a href="#">1:00 p.m., Native American Tales: Storytelling by Jacqueline Letalien</a>  <a href="#">4:00 - 8:00 p.m. McKinleyville Library, Friends of the Library Holiday Book Sale</a>  <a href="#">6:00 p.m. McKinleyville, Cuéntame un Cuento / Share a Story in Spanish</a>	<b>05</b> <a href="#">10:00 a.m. Storytime at Eureka Main Library</a>  <a href="#">11:00 a.m. Eureka Library, Baby Read &amp; Grow</a>	<b>06</b> <a href="#">11:30 a.m. Eureka Library, Baby Sign Workshop</a>  <a href="#">10:00 a.m., McKinleyville Library, Baby Read and Grow</a>
<b>07</b>	<b>08</b>	<b>09</b> <a href="#">3:00 pm Fortuna Library, Grandparents &amp; Books</a>  <a href="#">3:30 p.m., McKinleyville Library Hosts Local Author Juliet Cameron</a>	<b>10</b> <a href="#">Garberville Library Storytime</a>	<b>11</b> <a href="#">Noon hour - Eureka Library Thursday Afternoon Book Club</a>  <a href="#">Trinidad Library Story Time</a>	<b>12</b> <a href="#">10:00 a.m. Storytime at Eureka Main Library</a>	<b>13</b> <a href="#">2:00 p.m. at Eureka Library, Author David Gallagher Discusses Self-Publishing</a>  <a href="#">11:00 a.m., Rio Dell Library, Guitar Storytime with Brigitte</a>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> <a href="#">3:00 pm Fortuna Library, Grandparents &amp; Books</a>	<b>17</b> <a href="#">6:30 p.m. Eureka Library, Ross McKinney at Family Literacy Night</a>  <a href="#">Garberville Library Storytime</a>	<b>18</b> <a href="#">1:00 p.m., Native American Tales: Storytelling by Jacqueline Letalien</a>  <a href="#">Trinidad Library Story Time</a>	<b>19</b> <a href="#">10:00 a.m. Storytime at Eureka Main Library</a>  <a href="#">11:00 a.m. Eureka Library, Baby Read &amp; Grow</a>	<b>20</b> <a href="#">11:00 a.m. Eureka Library, Hooray for the Holidays at Toddler Storyhour</a>  <a href="#">2:00 p.m. DreamQuest Youth Ballet in Scenes from the Nutcracker</a>  <a href="#">12:00 p.m. McKinleyville Library, Holiday Craft Story Time,</a>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> <a href="#">3:00 pm Fortuna Library, Grandparents &amp; Books</a>	<b>24</b> <a href="#">Garberville Library Storytime</a>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> <a href="#">10:00 a.m. Storytime at Eureka Main Library</a>	<b>27</b> <a href="#">11:00 a.m., Rio Dell Library, Guitar Storytime with Brigitte</a>  <a href="#">11:00 a.m., Rio Dell Library, Guitar Storytime with Brigitte</a>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> <a href="#">3:00 pm Fortuna Library, Grandparents &amp; Books</a>	<b>31</b> <a href="#">Garberville Library Storytime</a>	<b>01</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>03</b>



## Humboldt Arts Council Provides Activities for Families

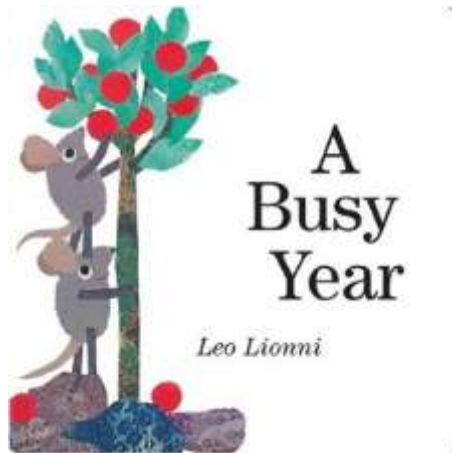
*Taken from: <http://humboldtarts.org/programs.html>*

In partnership with KEET-TV and the Ready-to-Learn initiative, the Humboldt Arts Council and the Morris Graves Museum of Art will offer FREE monthly workshops for children, families, and childcare providers.

These FREE monthly workshops are led by Jackie Hamilton from KEET-TV and take place on the first Saturday of every month from 12-2pm. The workshops are geared to provide opportunities for youth (2-8 years old) to develop critical reading and comprehension skills.

*Please enter the MGMA through Classroom door in Sculpture Garden.*

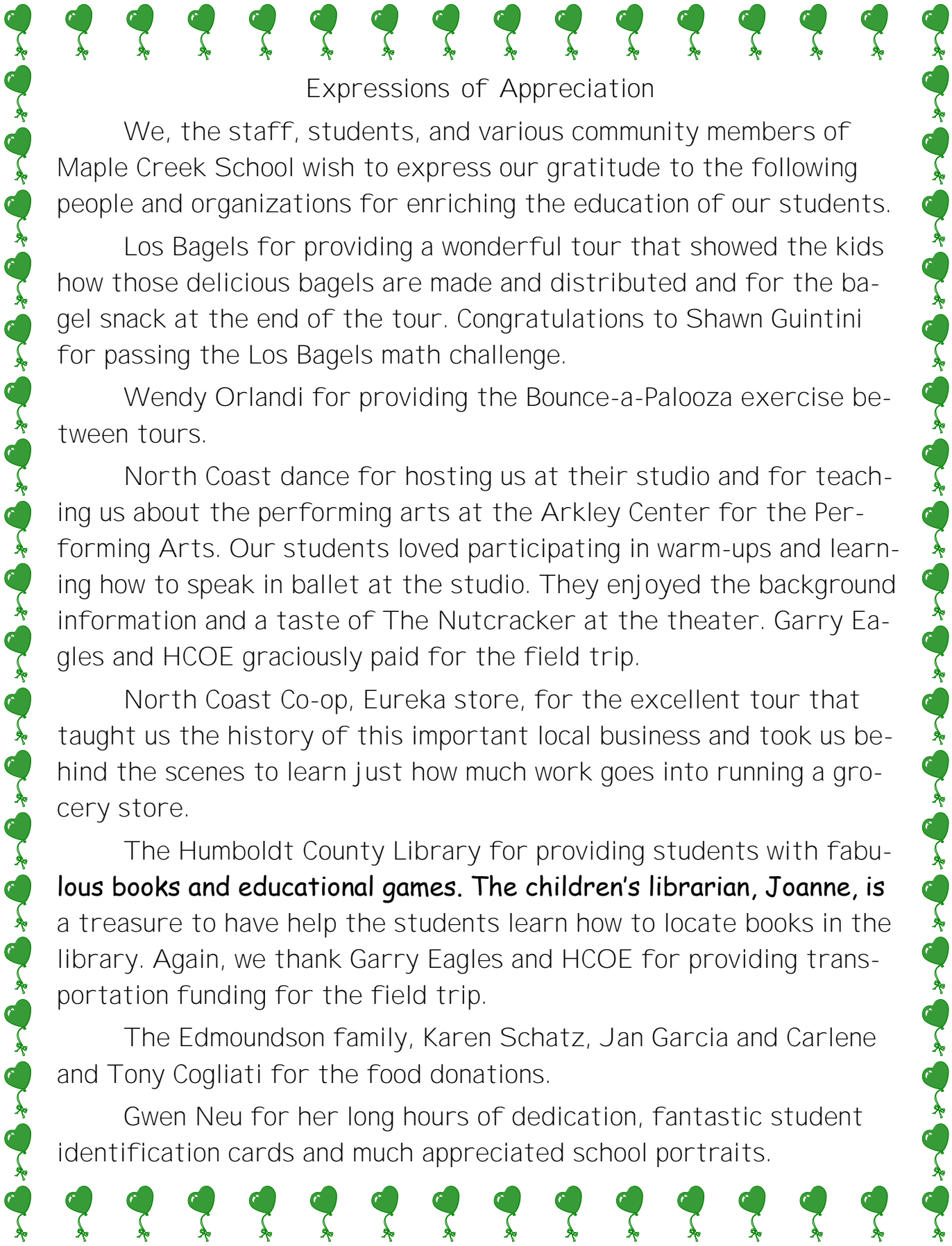
Each family takes home a free book!



December 13th 2 - 4 pm: *Second Saturday Family Arts Day*

We offer activities for youth and families, including performances, hands-on arts, projects, and interactive storytellers. Bring the whole family for hands-on art activities inspired by current exhibitions. Summer art projects for the whole family at Family Arts Day at the Morris Graves!

FREE with Museum Admission



Expressions of Appreciation

We, the staff, students, and various community members of Maple Creek School wish to express our gratitude to the following people and organizations for enriching the education of our students.

Los Bagels for providing a wonderful tour that showed the kids how those delicious bagels are made and distributed and for the bagel snack at the end of the tour. Congratulations to Shawn Guintini for passing the Los Bagels math challenge.

Wendy Orlandi for providing the Bounce-a-Palooza exercise between tours.

North Coast dance for hosting us at their studio and for teaching us about the performing arts at the Arkley Center for the Performing Arts. Our students loved participating in warm-ups and learning how to speak in ballet at the studio. They enjoyed the background information and a taste of The Nutcracker at the theater. Garry Eagles and HCOE graciously paid for the field trip.

North Coast Co-op, Eureka store, for the excellent tour that taught us the history of this important local business and took us behind the scenes to learn just how much work goes into running a grocery store.

The Humboldt County Library for providing students with **fabulous books and educational games**. **The children's librarian, Joanne, is a treasure** to have help the students learn how to locate books in the library. Again, we thank Garry Eagles and HCOE for providing transportation funding for the field trip.

The Edmondson family, Karen Schatz, Jan Garcia and Carlene and Tony Cogliati for the food donations.

Gwen Neu for her long hours of dedication, fantastic student identification cards and much appreciated school portraits.

## Recycling at Maple Creek School

In an attempt to raise money for educational needs and environmental awareness in one project, we have set up recycling bins for your beverage containers. We request that you bring ONLY plastic and glass beverage containers and aluminum cans that have the CA CRV symbol for recycling. We can only handle these ones redeemable for cash.



Please bring your donations to the school on Tuesdays and Fridays. Bill Carlson will direct you to the recycling area where you will sort your items into the appropriate garbage cans:

- ◆ Aluminum
- ◆ Plastic #1 (water and soda bottles)
- ◆ Plastic #2-7 (these are less commonly accepted for redemption, but if you see the CA CRV symbol on the bottle, donate it!)
- ◆ Green glass
- ◆ Brown glass
- ◆ Clear glass

The MCS Fundraising Committee, students and staff thank you for your participation in this new program.



[www.calrecycle.ca.gov](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov)



# DECEMBER 2014

## Schedule of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

### Happening in Dec.

- ☺ Dec. 3: Schools to Dance Field Trip
- ☺ Dec. 5: Walking trip to Boulder Creek
- ☺ Dec. 9 & 10: Parent Conferences—1 PM Dismissal
- ☺ Dec. 10: School Board Meeting 1:30 PM
- ☺ Dec. 19: Winter Performance
- ☺ Dec. 22—Jan 2: No School, Winter Break

### Looking Ahead:

- ☺ Jan. 19: No School, MLK, Jr. Day
- ☺ Jan. 30: MCS History Day
- ☺ Feb. 7: Humboldt County History Day

Please attend the school board meeting on Dec. 10 at 1:30 PM to hear the latest school news.



### School Site Council and Fundraising Committees

Please join the School Site Council/Fundraising Committee and/or attend the meeting on March 16 at 2:30 PM.

### Parent Conferences

Parent conferences provide an important opportunity for teachers and parents to discuss the progress each student has made during the particular grading period. We encourage parents to ask questions and make suggestions that will help their students learn to the best of their abilities.

Maple Creek  
Elementary School  
District

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Providing exemplary education that fosters  
communication, trust, and respect.

*Maple Creek School* is a necessary small school with an approximate enrollment of 12 students (K-8). The school is nestled in the Maple Creek and Mad River Valleys east of Arcata, surrounded by pastureland, forest, and mountains. The area is sparsely settled and accessible from Blue Lake, about a 35-minute drive and from Eureka, about a 50-minute drive. The Maple Creek School teachers are a committed and dedicated staff that provides a quality instructional program for the students. The secretary, custodian and bus driver all take an active interest in the students, which adds to the close, personal relationships among the kids, school and the community.

