



Maple Creek School News

Welcome Back to School

We have a busy year of learning planned for the students of Maple Creek School. We're starting the year off with a study of insects. We have butterflies and crickets in the classroom and a wide variety of books (new, old, and borrowed) to help with their investigations.

Our mornings are spent engaging in math and language arts activities, and our afternoons will tie language arts with STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) and violence prevention through the Second Step curriculum.

On October 19, author/illustrator Bethanie Murguia will visit from 8:45 am to 11:00 am. She will present lessons based on her picture books. We are preparing for her visit by reading and analyzing her many, many wonderful picture books. We appreciate the Author Festival organizers for assigning this amazing author to our little school.

Volume 6, Issue 1

Sept./Oct. 2017

Facts about Attendance

Excerpts from <https://www2.ed.gov/datastory/chronicabsenteeism.html>

Over 6 million American school students are chronically absent each year.

That means about 1 in 7 students miss 15 or more days of school. These students are at risk of falling behind their peers. Research shows that "children who are chronically absent in preschool, kindergarten and first grade are much less likely to read at grade level by the third grade. Students who cannot read at grade level by the end of third grade are four times more likely than proficient readers to drop out of high school."

Excerpts from <http://www.americangraduate.org/blogs/latest-education-headlines/2015/09/01/every-day-counts-facts-on-attendance-achievement/>

Absenteeism in the first month of school can predict frequent absences later in the school year. Nearly half of all students that missed more than two days of school in September went on to miss almost a month of school.

Scenes from the first weeks of school:



Observing the Environment

Help Wanted:

- Enrichment Teacher
- Special Education Aide position.

If you are interested, please visit <http://apps.humboldt.k12.ca.us/employment/> or contact us for more information.

Inside this issue:

Superintendent's Message	2
Student Writing	3-5
Week of Inspirational Math	6
Fall Carnival	7
Recycling	8
Calendar	9

To Our New Neighbors (and those who have been around for awhile):

Maple Creek School District would like to welcome you to our community and invite your involvement. The only public place in Maple Creek is the elementary school, and we are working hard to keep it open. The school has an incredible academic, arts, and technology program. There is so much our school has to offer. Being in the midst of nature and the experience of life "outside of town" is the most unique experience that most people will never understand unless they have attended a school like this. I attended a small, rural school in my youth called Mountain School. My experience there as a child has given me a perspective that is rare and difficult to explain. Nature studies and gardening class cannot teach a deeper appreciation of nature the same as being a child in a small school surrounded by nature.

Being small makes our school like none other. Every student is able to work at an individualized pace allowing students to soar with their talents and receive one-to-one attention and coaching with their challenges. Living in the woods does not mean that our students are not connected to the larger world. Every child has access to a tablet or computer and can access the virtual community. Coding and robotics are integrated into math, science and art. Frequent field trips, volunteers, and guest instructors connect students with local experts and professionals in a variety of fields.

Maple Creek School is a small, rural school; our student population is so low that we are in danger of closing at the end of this year, June 2017. The greatest thing anyone can do for our school is to rent vacant houses to families and bring your own family to the school to see what we can offer. If you know of any families that are looking for a once-in-a-lifetime experience for their children and need a house to rent, please refer them to me, so that I can help connect them with a rental.

We also have two vacant employment positions. We are looking for a Special Education Aide and an Enrichment teacher. If you have talents to share please contact us! We currently have a parent volunteering her time to teach ukulele lessons. We would love to add to what she offers. There are many ways to be involved that require less time, such as joining us for our events, attending a board or school site council meeting. In October we have Author's Festival and the Fall Carnival. The students would love the community to create a haunted house for them.

There are many ways for us to connect with you. We publish a bi-monthly newsletter; please let us know if you would like it emailed or mailed to your USPS address. You can visit us any time to see the students engage with enthusiasm in their studies. Please share with others what a wonderful place Maple Creek is and encourage them to check us out, too.

Thank you for supporting this rural school that has been a part of a district that goes back to 1878. We would love to have it continue for this new generation of future adults.

Sincerely,

Wendy Orlandi, Superintendent
Maple Creek Elementary School District

To ALL of our Maple Creek Neighbors:

PLEASE drive at a safe speed on our narrow roads, particularly Maple Creek, Butler Valley, and Kneeland. Our students are traveling on these roads, and we would like them to get to school and home in one piece and in peace.

Thank you for showing you care
by taking your time on our rural roads.



Rules

During the first weeks of school, the students and staff of Maple Creek School discussed, read and wrote about the importance of rules. On the following pages are examples of some of the work the students produced.

Cheezy Followed the Rules

By Kai E.



Once upon a time there was a bully named Bob. Bob was not listening to Mr. March. When Mr. March turned around, he saw some paper fly passed him. He was mad at Bob but not Cheezy. Cheezy was happy because he followed the rules.

The End



Focus on Your Work
Always Have More Than One Plan

Be Safe
Be Respectful
Be Kind
Be Helpful



Use Inside Voice Inside
Use Walking Feet Inside



Before You Speak, THINK:

Is it...
True
Helpful
Important
Needed
Kind



What are Rules?

By Gianni Orlandi

What are rules? Are rules simple or complex? Do they take long or short times to make?

Do they change the world or just a small board game? Rules are all that and more; they can mean anything, so that's why I am writing this piece, so you can learn about rules. That is why we will see that rules are bigger and smaller than they seem. People make rules everyday, but the rules they make impact others. For example, in one game if you get tagged, you're out, but then in another game, a few people make the rule that if you're tagged you're in.

That rule made an impact, but this is only a small impact. And it's not a big thing; it's just a rule, but bigger rules might be called laws. A law is a rule that is voted for and enforced with penalties. Laws are just big rules with a huge impact like you have to be sixteen to drive, and you can't drink before or while you drive. Those are both laws or big rules; and those are good rules, but some are bad.

For example, the rule you can't buy cigarettes unless you are over 21 is good and bad. The good part is young people can't smoke or at least should not, but the bad part is young adults can smoke. People should not smoke at all. That is how different rules make different impacts.

How are rules made? We - me the author and you the reader - talked about what rules are, and what they do, but how are these impacts or rules made? It depends on what the rule is for and what it is. Remember, I am not correct, no person has the exact same idea. I think that people have to agree to the rule. Sometimes it depends on the public's vote because that is the whole purpose of the legislative branch of government - to pass laws - because people have the right to vote. Some rules you can't vote for, like if someone is making a board game, they can make whatever rules they want, but they can't make the rule you have to play.

Rules mean different things, it depends on the rule. If you change a rule, it means a new impact and a harder or easier result. The big laws if they get changed, there is a big impact, like recently the highway patrol made an announcement that the car seat law changed; this was a law that now has changed. Rules can save your life like you are not allowed to carry or shoot a firearm or gun unless you have a permit and are not using it for irresponsible reasons like shooting at humans or animals unless you have a hunting permit. Rules can protect animals because you are not allowed to shoot endangered animals.

Rules can be critical, like the shooting permit is critical if you break the law because it threatens safety. All the laws shooting, hunting, driving, littering, and a lot more are all to make the world safer and healthy. That is why there are rules; that's why if you break a law, you might hurt life itself. That's why we have rules, so we can have a life that is clean and safe. That is why we have rules.

The Day There Were No Rules

By Aviva O.

One day there were no rules and something bad happened. People everywhere were hurt and there was a mess all over the place. There were too many people on the slide. And then a person named Abee made ten then twenty/thirty/forty/fifty/ rules, and all the people followed them. And from that day on, people followed the rules.

Darla and the Rules at Dragon School
By Alejandra G.

This will be a story about Darla. Darla was a dragon. She was pink and scaly, like all dragons. She had green eyes and green, scaly wings. She was also very happy and cheerful.

Today was Monday, and Monday was a very special day for Darla. Monday was a special day for Darla because it was her first day of school. When Darla woke up, she was really worried. *What if I get bullied,* she thought to herself.

The next thing Darla knew, she was on her way to preschool. Riding in the car with her mom (Darla's mom was dark pink and scaly, had blue eyes, blue, scaly wings, and she was very happy). Darla was still really nervous. Her mom kept telling her that she was going to have a great day, but Darla didn't believe her. When Darla got to school, she saw a lot of kids, which made her even more nervous. Darla gave her mom one last hug before her mom had to leave. Darla very slowly started to walk up the stairs of the school.

Darla's mom wasn't the type of mom who cries when her child is going into the classroom or goes into the school; Darla's mom just hugged her outside of the school doors and then left.

Darla tried to hold back her tears, but it wasn't working very well. After a while, Darla found her teacher. Darla's teacher worried about her, and how she was so sad, so Darla's teacher went to talk to Darla.

"Hi, Darla, I am your teacher, I just want to ask you a question." said Darla's teacher, Mrs. Nolan.

"Okay." said Darla with a little snuffle.

"Why are you so sad today?" Asked Mrs. Nolan.

"Well, this is my first day of school, and it is hard being away from my mom and dad," said Darla, really quietly but loud enough for Mrs. Nolan to hear.

"I understand that," said Mrs. Nolan.

After that talk between Mrs. Nolan and Darla, Darla tried to get herself distracted, so she went to play. When she started to play, she realized that no one wanted to play with her, which made her even more sad. So then she just got so mad and sad at the same time, she went over to a little girl and yelled, "Play with me RIGHT NOW!!"

Then Mrs. Nolan started to walk up to Darla.

Once Mrs. Nolan got to Darla, she told her that Darla needed to go in a timeout for breaking one of the school RULES!

On Saturday, Darla and her mom had to go to a parent-teacher conference! Once they got there, Darla's stomach hurt. She knew why they were there. Darla had not told her mom about what had happened the other day and Darla did not want her mom to know about it.

To be continued...

Barker
Today was my first day of first grade. When I came to school I felt excited.

DARLA
Today was my first day of school. When I came to school I felt nervous. I was a bear. I saw three deer at the bus stop.


Wiley
Today was my first day of school. When I came to school, I felt nervous.

Alexander
Today was my first day of school. When I came to school, I felt excited. I was a bear. I saw three deer at the bus stop.


Sofia
Today was my first day of school. When I came to school, I felt excited. I liked riding the bus.

Week of
Inspirational
Math

+ *




÷





Mistakes are
Powerful!

Mistakes, and
Struggling to
find the answer
makes paths
Pathways in
your brain.




Strategies and Resources

Math needs many
resources, just
like humans.
For example:

- Tech 
- Manipulatives 
- Books and Paper 




But also strategies



- Team work 
- Draw the problem $\square + \square = \square$
- Break the Problem $\square + \square + \square + \square =$

$\square + \square = 3$

Speed is NOT Important

If you go slow
it allows you to
realize:

- math is a broad subject 
- think deep 
- You should persevere. 



Believe in
yourself. have an
open mind set.



I can't do it \times

I can do it \checkmark

Brains Grow
and Change:
Repeated practice
Makes you better.



Tuesday, October 31, 2017
1 p.m.—3 p.m.

October brings the favorite holiday for most children. At Maple Creek School, that means the Fall Carnival. We are in need of volunteers and donations. Please contact Wendy or Gwen at 707-668-5596 to sign up for the fun.

Volunteers:

- ◇ Create a haunted house in the old Volunteer Firemen's Building
- ◇ Help set up and run carnival games



Donations:

- ◇ Small prizes for carnival games
- ◇ Trick or Treat "gifts"



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 on them to the school for recycling. We can only handle ones redeemable for cash.



Please bring your donations to the school on Tuesdays and Fridays. Bill Carlson will direct you to the recycling area 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

Schedule of Events

October 2017

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 August:

☺ Aug. 28: First Day of School

Happening in September:

☺ Sept. 4: No School—Labor Day

☺ Sept. 14: School Board Meeting 1:30

Happening in October:

☺ Oct. 6: Field Trip—Pumpkin Patch, Zoo

☺ Oct. 13: School Board Meeting 1:30

☺ Oct. 19: Author Bethanie Murguia Visits 8:45—11 am

☺ Oct. 19: Picture Day

☺ Oct. 31: Fall Festival

Happening in November:

☺ Nov. 1: Minimum Day


☺ Nov. 9: School Site Council 1:15 pm and Fund Raising at 2 pm

☺ Nov. 10: No School—Veteran's Day

☺ Nov. 20-24: No School Thanksgiving Break

Please attend the **school board meeting on Sept. 14 at 1:30 PM** to hear the latest school news, appoint a provisional board member, and to give your voice to the LCAP process. **Meetings begin at 1:30: Oct. 13, 2017**



	FC: Thursday, Nov. 9, 2017 2:00 PM	SSC: Thursday, Nov. 9, 2017 1:15 PM
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------

Maple Creek Elementary School

Needs You!

The School Site Council (SSC) and Fundraising Committees (FC) need active community participation to function properly. Members of the SSC meet three times per year to develop, review and evaluate school improvement programs and school budgets. Members of the FC meet at least three times a year to plan and implement fundraising activities that bring in extra funds for school program improvement.



We invite everyone to give input on our LCAP as well as any other advice about the conditions of learning at Maple Creek School. Please contact Wendy or Gwen to offer suggestions regarding improvement of the education Maple Creek School delivers to its students.

Maple Creek Elementary School District

15933 Maple Creek Route
Korbel, CA 95550

Phone: 707-668-5596
Fax: 707-668-4132

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

The mission of Maple Creek Elementary School District is to provide an exemplary educational program for the students of Maple Creek School. The high teacher-to-student ratio provides personalized instruction to foster the development of each student's talents, academic performance and social/emotional growth. We provide a solid foundation for our students to enter high school, college and chosen career paths.

Emphasis on promotion of literacy in language arts, mathematics and technology skills:

High expectation and an optimal learning environment produce proficient and advanced academic skills;

Students, teachers and parents cooperate in a nurturing and interactive educational setting that enhances the learning experience;

Global literacy and digital citizenship are promoted with the use of digital devices for the students and professional development for the staff to remain updated on innovative technologies.

Emphasis on communication skills:

Classroom environment promotes the development of personal responsibility, positive social skills, effective self-management strategies, tolerance and respect for both self and others;

Collaborative projects provide opportunities to think critically, be creative, solve problems and work as a community;

An outstanding visual and performance arts program provides a stage for students to demonstrate these skills.

