



Maple Creek School News

Annual Café Fundraiser Brings the Community Together

By Gianni O.

For the Maple Creek School Café on May 1, 2017, generous people donated soup, salad, tea, coffee, brownies, bread, and help. We wish to thank them all.

Half Dollar Holler donated the bread; Carlene and Tony Cogliati run this local company. The bread tasted great and everyone at the café agreed.

Folie Douce donated the wonderful apple, fennel and basil soup. This Arcata restaurant gave us a soup that was gluten-free, dairy-free, nut-free and vegan. Everyone loved it.



The salad dressing, tea, and coffee came from Wildberries marketplace. They gladly donated three salad dressings, two coffee creamers, and five different teas, the perfect amount - thank you.



Eureka Natural Foods donated salad ingredients, such as cabbage and broccoli, that were much appreciated. The salad was one of a kind.

ENF wasn't the only store that donated salad. The North Coast Co-op pitched in, too, by donating lettuce and peppers and cucumbers. With thanks to these two stores, the salad was a smash.

We also appreciate the help we got. Two families donated brownies and helped decorate, but one student's mom worked from 8:45 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. helping, so big thank you to her.

We also were supported by 5th District County Supervisor Ryan Sundberg. He came early and met the five oldest kids in the school. He spent time talking with community members who came to the café, too.



Maple Creek School appreciates all the support and help. We love all who helped us. Thank you.



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CAASPP Tests On the Horizon

Our 3rd–8th grade students will participate in the annual mandated testing on the following dates:

Tuesday–Thursday, May 16–18, which will be ELA skills and performance tasks and the new Science test;

Tuesday–Wednesday, May 23–24, which will be Math skills and performance tasks.

We ask that families make these dates a priority and do everything they can to **make sure students attend well-rested**.

Maple Creek School will provide healthy snacks based on student requests during the test periods, which will fall between 9 am and noon.

End-of-the-Year Celebration Planned

Mark your calendars, please!

On **Thursday, June 15, 2017**, MCS students will perform a musical adaptation of "The True Story of the Three Little Pigs" after the annual barbeque and before the 8th grade and TK graduations and the awards ceremony.

We will serve the **potluck barbeque lunch at 11:45 am**. The **performance will begin at 1 pm** with the ceremonies to follow.

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Spotlight Shines on Ryan Sundberg

A collaborative writing experience by the 3rd–8th Grade Students

Would you like to learn about your county supervisor? Humboldt County 5th District Supervisor Ryan Sundberg made a second appearance at Maple Creek School's May Day Café; this time on May 1, 2017. He came early to talk to the 3rd–8th grade students. The students interviewed him and asked him questions about his personal life and what it's like to be a county supervisor.

Before Sundberg became a supervisor, he worked at a casino and at an airport hangar where he helped park airplanes. Later on, he was a member of the Trinidad Rancheria Tribal Council, which helped him with the tasks involved in being a supervisor. His business administration education also assisted with understanding the county budget of more than 350 million dollars.

People asked him if he would run for supervisor. In 2010, Sundberg was first elected to represent the 5th District of Humboldt County. He ran a campaign for a year before the election. He said his opponent raised over \$100,000, which was a lot more than his \$55,000. He did a lot of door-door campaigning and asked people for small donations. He asked what they wanted from the county supervisor. He listened to their concerns, so many voted for him. He won by 104 votes!

In case you don't know what a county supervisor does, here are some things Sundberg does for his district. He told the group that he gets 100 emails, 20 phone calls from, and 25 people in person who need help each day. Sometimes he goes out and fills potholes on private roads. He does other community service, such as the time he helped build a score board at McKinleyville High School and bleachers at Hiller Sport Park. He raised money for libraries. He currently belongs to the Mad River Rotary, which is an organization that raises money for community needs (the Mad River Rotary Club gives dictionaries to all 3rd graders in Humboldt County). He said out of the thousands of county workers, four work for him to help him do his job.

One important part of the supervisor's job is to work on the county plan. Housing is a significant component of the general plan. Sundberg helped to make building affordable housing easier. He assisted in taking out the solar shading rule and making it easier to build smaller houses on one property. Another important aspect of the general plan is economic development. Sundberg works hard to balance economic development with environmental preservation. Recently, Governor Jerry Brown appointed Sundberg to the California Coastal Commission. He said he would like to streamline the project approval process to help decrease costs, and he plans to honor his heritage by giving Native Americans a voice on this commission for the first time.

In addition, Sundberg supported Measure Z, which was to increase taxes to pay for additional law enforcement. It passed and added about a million dollars to the sheriff's department budget. Measure Z also helped with the county fire districts.

Although being a supervisor is more than a full-time job (sometimes people interrupt him during family outings to request help or talk politics), Sundberg plans to run for a third term in 2018.



Kiem-TV

Students Investigate Physical Science

Throughout this school year, all the students have participated in physical science investigations. They have covered atoms and molecules, compounds and mixtures, electricity, solutions—including those that are acidic and basic.



Learning to Serve Others

On April 5, 2017, Shannon generously donated her time to train MCS students in the fine of waiting tables. The training took place at Renata's Creperie in Arcata. The students took turns being waiters and customers. They learned how to follow food service guidelines for hygiene as well as how to be polite, gracious customers. Throughout the process, they enjoyed both sweet and savory crepes.



Writers Develop Their Craft

Maple Creek Students spent the cold, rainy, and otherwise dreary winter days writing. They wrote pieces from all three writing types: Informative/Explanatory, Narrative, and Opinion/Argumentative. They followed the writing process from brainstorming each piece, typically using a graphic organizer to plan the writing, all the way through to editing and then revising one or more times. They based their revisions on feedback peers provided through "Knee-Knee Conferences" and the "Author's Chair" experience as well as from their teachers. Each student chose one piece to highlight in this edition of *Maple Creek School News*. You can find those pieces on the following pages.

The Day the Baby Cow was Born
Written and Illustrated by Brooklynn



A few days ago

I saw a baby cow
that was just born.

The mom was taking
care of her baby. She

was protecting her baby

calf. She was afraid that my dad and I
might hurt the baby but we just wanted
to make sure the calf was healthy.

Brooklynn

I Went to Disneyland

Written and Illustrated by Aviva Orlandi

I went to Disneyland and stayed at a hotel next to Disneyland. The hotel was very very cool, and it had a night lite, and it was stars.

I had cake for my sister's birthday in the hotel room. When I went to Disneyland, I went on the teacups. I went to Toon Town and rode on a rollercoaster. It was fast, loud, and fun. I went on Goofy's Flying School; it was fun, fast, and loud. I went on a boat with my family. I had fun. I saw hippos and the driver said a funny joke. We saw a two baby tigers, two moms, and one dad. I went to Build a Bear, and I got a stuffy that I named Toothless. He is a dragon that is black with green eyes and his saddle is brown. When we got to the hotel, I played with my stuffed animal and my sister. I also got another stuffy and his name is Timothy. Timothy is a happy mouse and he has a hat and shirt too. I got hot chocolate and a churro.

Have you seen Disneyland? I had a fun time, and if you go, I hope you do, too.

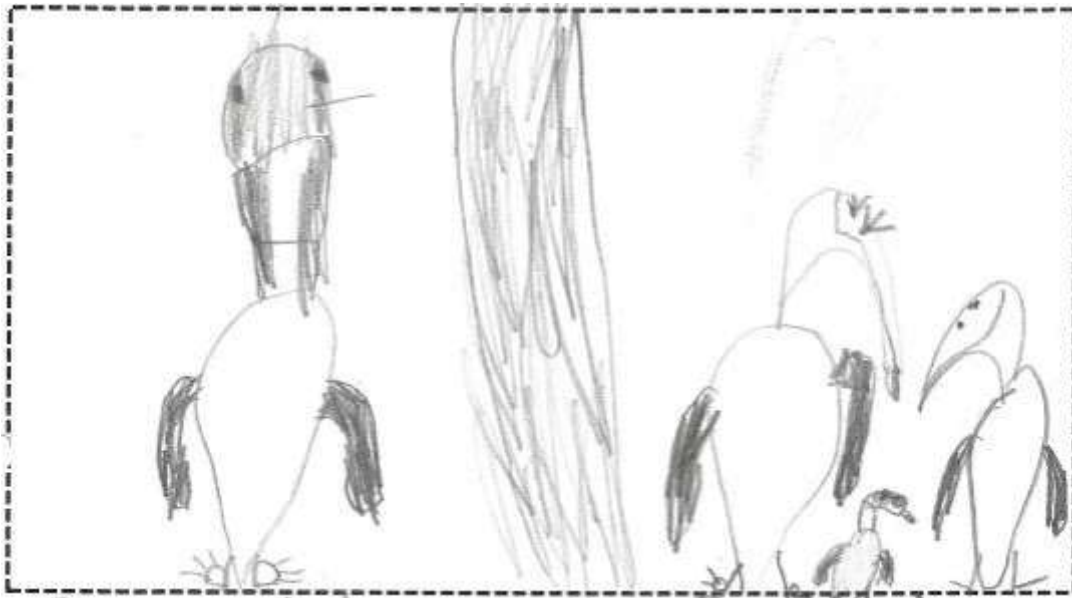


That is my tractor
Dear _____,

• My tractor is
big. It is bigger than the school. The whole
thing is soft. Two
spots are rough.
The seat is soft.
My favorite color
is gold. I wish I had
a gold tractor.



April 2017 Kai



The Penguins

Written and Illustrated by Dakota

Male penguins keep
their ^{white} eggs on their feet

so the eggs do not get

cold. After the eggs

hatch the baby chicks

have gray fur on

their body and black and

white fur on their

heads.

The Best Book

Illustrated and Written by Emily Rose McGaughey

A family once went to the bookstore, and the dad saw a book about outer space. He thought his daughter Lisa would like it, and she did. Then they got in the car and drove home.

Lisa read some of the book and then some more. Lisa liked the book because it had a space dog and a space cat that work together. Then it ended. Lisa was sad, so she read it again and again and again and again and again.

"I don't know what to do now," said Lisa.

"How about counting the words in the book?" asked dad.

"That would take too long; I want to do something fun," responded Lisa.

"How about watching T.V.?" suggested mom.

"No thank you," said Lisa. "I know what to do now," she continued.

"What?" asked the parents.

"I want to go fishing with you," declared Lisa.

"Okay, I would do that especially with you," said Dad.



People Need to Clean the Earth by Recycling

By Gianni Orlandi

Every day that landfill smell fills the house. No one wants a landfill in his or her neighborhood. People need to fix this. It's horrible for the air and surrounding nature. We have to move, but we don't have the money. This man and his family live in a town with a landfill in it, and every day the smell and air become more toxic.

Sadly, some people are forced to live with a landfill next to them. They can't help it; wait, they can, and so can other people. According to The World Counts website, people dump 2.12 billion tons of garbage every year. Some of this is burned in incinerators. There should be less trash and more recycling. However, the cause of this crisis is that people don't recycle; are they trying to trash the earth? Do they want to walk around in a polluted place? Or are they lazy and want to just get back to the TV?



Who wants to breathe old soda, rotten milk and other bad things that people throw away? Landfills add huge amounts of toxic gases into the air. According to Jared Skye on LovetoKnow.com, "Air pollution is not a problem that is limited to only one country. In fact, it is a worldwide epidemic that is much worse in some countries than in others." That's wrong; that just makes the world a more trashed and dirty place. Incinerators help and don't help at the same time because these machines make smoke when they burn the trash and just pollute the air more. In addition, burning the trash means the fire needs gas, which makes the world smelly and makes the air not good to breathe. People need to recycle more; the world is trashed. The time to act is now or never.



Also, pollution destroys nature. Some people wake up and look out their window and say, "Hey, were there trees over there?" Well, not anymore, most trees are cut down, so they can make landfills or an incinerator, which totally ruins the beautiful landscape and many animals' habitats. That isn't fair to them or anyone. People cut down 15 billion trees a year and doing that destroys many plants and even kills animals that live on the ground or in the tree.



Most people will say, "It's too much trouble to recycle. I would prefer to throw my trash in a can and have it picked up by a garbage truck." Well, they are right, but still they're kind of choosing to make the world bad for everyone else. This is really hard to imagine. People probably don't notice that they're trashing the earth and think that their trash is just simply disintegrated or burned and don't realize that what they're doing is dangerous.

Pollution, it's all around you: the paper you're writing on, the pencil you are breaking. Every time you throw something away, you're adding trash to that whopping 55 percent of trash; that's like adding to a landfill that has a giant pile of trash that's 500 feet tall. But some people will say they're innocent right after they throw ten bottles into a trashcan.

That's why people need to recycle more and make less trash, so our future is not just bright but clean and living. It should be full of nature and not trash, which means there needs to be more recycling. There shouldn't be any mountains of garbage and landfill debris. There should be a clean world not a dirty one, so that's why people need to recycle or our future is not a dream; it's a nightmare.

So
there will
be a
Tomorrow

A Wonderful SURPRISE!

Alejandra Gonzalez

One day while I was walking around, I saw this restaurant called Danny's, and I was hungry, so I went inside, and when I went inside, I was greeted very nicely. My waitress took me to my table and got me all settled at my table. She told me her name, and I thought it was a wonderful name, so I told her,

"What a wonderful name you have Bea."

"Thank you." Bea said politely.

Then she gave me the menu and said that she would be right back to get my water. When she got back with my water she asked me if I would like to drink anything other than water, and I simply said no thank you. Then she told me that she would be right back to take my order.

When she came back, she took my order, and after a little bit she came with my food. Then once I started to eat for a bit, Bea came back and asked how my food was and if it was good. Then she gave me my check, and I gave her a tip because I was never treated more politely in my life at a public restaurant. Then I went home and fell asleep to take a catnap (with my cat).

The next day I went to Danny's again, but when I walked in there was a lot of yelling and I was wondering what it was, so I peeked around the corner and I saw that Bea was getting fired! I didn't want her to be fired; she was the best waitress that I have ever had in my entire life! The next thing that I saw was Bea crying and running out of Danny's. I went outside and I told her who I was and told her that it was going to be okay; then she gave me her phone number so I could call her.

The next week I called Bea and asked her how she was doing, she told me that she was going job-hunting today. I asked if she wanted me to go with her, and she said that she could do it alone and did not need help. She also told me that she has always been interested in being a teacher, so she told me she is going to start school on Monday in case she did not find another job.

The next day I found Bea's other friends on Facebook, and then I called them because they all gave me their phone numbers and invited them to a party for Bea, so it would make Bea feel better about losing her job last week. I told Bea that she should come over for dinner after school because I would be making lasagna. Then she would come over to the party and be sooooo surprised!

So then, when evening came there was a knock on the door.

"Bea is here!" whispered one of Bea's friends.

I said, "Come in" and Bea came in to a dark room.

She asked, "Is anybody here?"

Then we all jumped up and said "SURPRISE!"

She was so startled she jumped. Then we all had some cake and Bea talked to some of her old friends from her school as a kid.

A few months after the party Bea came over to my house; she was really happy. She said she was almost done with school!

"That is so great, and I am so proud of you," I said.

Bea went home, and I took a nap with my cat (he is so cuddly).

The next day Bea and I went to Renata's and had delicious crepes. Next, we went to Bea's house, and I thought it was a nice house; we had some chamomile tea.

The next day I didn't see Bea but I did get a text message from her, it said: **Hi Alejandra this is Bea, I probably won't see you today because I have my graduation, but I might because you can come to my graduation if you want, but you don't have to. I have to get going now. Bye!**

I decided to go to her graduation because I wanted to see her get her teacher's credential.

"I am so proud of her," I said to myself.

In the afternoon I drove to Bea's school, I got there late, but I wasn't too late. I was seated and waited for a couple of minutes, and in those minutes I got to meet Bea's parents (they are really nice). Then they started.

A couple of kids went first, then Bea came up on the stage, and I had butterflies in my stomach.

Bea texted me again the next week. Here was the text: **Hi again, Alejandra. I just wanted to tell you that I am going to a job interview to be a teacher!**

I was so happy for her!

The next day she came over and told me that she got the job and she was going to teach at Summerville School. I was so proud of her, and she was the youngest teacher there!

THE END!

BOARD GAMES!

By Rachel M.

A while back, my family and I would have a family game night. We would play board games until it was bedtime, and we all had fun. Now we don't play board games any more. I wish we had more time to do a family game night.

I think a lot of families don't have a family game night, and that can be sad for a lot of kids because they don't get to spend a lot of time together with their family, so I think families should make time because playing games can be educational for the kids. Here are a few reasons kids should play games: they keep your brain in shape; they teach important social skills; they teach math skills.

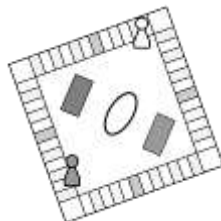
In the first place, they are rich in learning opportunities. The game *Clue* is a great game to play when you want to keep your brain in shape because it makes you think hard. According to scholastic.com, games give you the ability to focus on the activity. In addition, some games, including chess, make you think ahead before you take your turn.

Secondly, some kids may get really excited when they win a game "because your brain gets a jolt of dopamine; that makes you feel good," said Bill Nye; but games help kids learn to control their impulses. Also, the scholastic.com site said when you play a game, you get to spend time with your family and friends and learn social skills. Bill Nye agrees with this "social bonding" theory. *Scrabble* teaches players to be a good sport. During a game, you learn not to give up when suddenly you might get the jackpot.

Third, games help develop academic skills. It is a good time to play *Multiplication Bingo* or *Yahtzee* when you want your kid/kids to develop math skills, according to geekdad.com. *Scrabble* teaches players how to spell words.

Lastly, some games may be boring, so kids don't learn from them; but it is mainly the adults who think it is not fun. The truth is a little kid thinks all games are exciting.

In conclusion, parents should let their kid play games when the kid wants to play a game. A lot of kids deserve to learn by playing games; they can learn math and academic skills, social skills, the ability to focus on the activity, control their impulses, and to be a good sport.



Underground—A Realistic Dramatization of the Escape from Slavery

By Jaylenne H.

"I've seen death, But them all stays the same, The drinking gourd Runs through the blue haze, The wolf howls out As he drags you to the grave, The Devil's scream Hounds you on the way," say songwriters Angelique Cinelund and Curtis Richardson who wrote the theme song for *Underground*, the hit television series. In the show, this song was on a wall of a shack where they kept slaves. It was meant for any slaves that came across the song to find their way to freedom though the lyrics. One of the main characters is named Noah. He was running away, but he got caught, and was put in a shack when he found the song. This starts the story of the slaves finding their way to freedom on the new television hit *Underground* on WGN America network. It comes on the channels 239 on Dish, and 307 on Direct TV. The show has a lot of violence, images, and events that might need a mature audience, but it's up to the parents to decide to show the history to a younger age or wait until they feel it's comfortable.

The Underground Railroad happened between the American Revolution and the end of the Civil War. The Underground Railroad was not a railroad at all; it was a network of stops where slaves that had escaped could hide. Anybody who would help the slaves escape and be caught would go to jail because of one of the laws at the time. It was a big deal if someone's slaves escaped. It showed people that the owner wasn't in control, and that the slaves didn't respect them. As soon as the owner found out, it wouldn't be long that there would be slave hunters after them and almost all of the time it didn't matter if they came back dead or alive.

Akiva Goldsman, executive producer of the show, said the intent is not to teach history, but rather to shed a light on the "truth of where we come from." The show tells many perspectives of the people of the Underground Railroad. There are the slaves who picked the cotton to the slaves in the house. There were even the slaves that were respected by the owners and played the role of the owner when he was gone, and all of them wanted to be free. The show tells that there were many different struggles and feelings happening at the time. Then there were the people (of any race) who helped save some of the slaves; they would suffer the consequences of going to jail or worse, being killed. That is why I feel that the T.V. show is a realistic dramatization of the historical record.

They bring new music into the show while they make it historically accurate. They have a unique way of bringing modern music into the show. John Legend is one of the producers. Also, his production "Get Lifted" is helping with the soundtrack and the music aspects of the series.

He said, "We didn't want to feel too stuck in the period. We didn't want music to make people feel like they were going to a museum".

I feel that sometimes the music didn't seem to match the feeling and the text of the story, but most of the time they got it right. In the first episode, the main character (Noah) is running and the song in the background was "Black Skinhead" by Kanye West. In the scene, they show Noah running away in the dark with men running after him on horses because he escaped from his slave master. As they show him running, the song is playing in the background. The song is like a get you fired up song, so it would pull you in right away. Then while he's running, he stops and hides under a log and the song matches up with his breathing. It's almost as if you're with him, or you feel some sort of connection to the scene even though it's only the song's breathing matching up with his. That's an example of how they make the show more modern. If they chose different music, it could have felt just like another slavery show.

"'Underground' Producer Weighs in on Recent Slavery Comparisons." *Los Angeles Times*. Los Angeles Times, n.d. Web. 31 Mar. 2017. <<http://www.latimes.com/entertainment/tv/showtracker/la-et-st-underground-wgn-america-slavery-20160108-story.html>>.

"'Underground' Producer Weighs in on Recent Slavery Comparisons." *Los Angeles Times*. Los Angeles Times, n.d. Web. 31 Mar. 2017. <<http://www.latimes.com/entertainment/tv/showtracker/la-et-st-underground-wgn-america-slavery-20160108-story.html>>.

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Underground—A Realistic Dramatization of the Escape from Slavery

(continued from p. 12)

By Jaylenne H.

Even though the show is a dramatized, they have a good way of bringing it back to the history. Throughout the show, they tell the realistic struggles that everyone had at the time. In the second season, there is a slave named Darneil. As he works all day, he finds any fragments of paper he can, takes the pieces of paper home, and teaches himself how to read. People felt if the slaves were educated, they would start to get an idea of how badly they were treated or write their own freedom papers (which they did in the process of finding their freedom in the show). As Darneil learned to read, he began to learn how to write. There is one scene where he's talking to his partner about how he's been learning how to read and write. He wrote on a piece of paper: *love*, and his partner doesn't know what it says. He says this is how I feel about you. It is this really emotional moment where you see this connection between two people who live in horrible times. She says, "I will keep this forever" and looks at it and rips it to pieces. She tells him it's too dangerous. At the time, there were many laws against teaching African-American how to read or write. With all of the historical connections with every moment, it's teaching people about our history and its connection.

"If knowledge is power, slaveholders were determined to keep their slaves in ignorance," says a WGN representative in a piece that shows the history behind one of the scenes.

With every show that's ever made, there's always some people don't like it. One critic from Slate said, "We turn to these mediums knowing they can hurt, but leave us bettered for having spent time in the company of something excruciating and true. We don't, historically, turn to TV for this."

Yes, I know that we don't go to the TV for a history lesson, but these days, kids are using fewer and fewer books, and sometimes a TV show is a good way of showing kids some history though entertainment.

Slate also said, "*Underground's* provocative premise is shortchanged by a corny and anxious tendency to goose the narrative."

I understand that sometimes people add extra dramatic effect to a show, but sometimes the dramatic effect is true.

Also, from Metacritics, there was this one review from a person who saw an episode of the show. The viewer said, "Disgraceful. What a way to further escalate racial hate and keep blacks hating whites in 2016..."

I understand why this person feels this way because as an African-American, when I watch this show, it makes me look at how horrible it was, but it's important to remember that this happened to all races, and, yes, it makes you mad and hate the people who did it, but it's important to know about everyone's history

This show is smart about how they make it appeal to the people of today. They have smart historical context but keep it interesting with the drama. Also, I love the way they bring the sound of today to it and make it appeal to Millennials. That is why I love this show, but you would have to watch the show to find out for yourself.

Do Video Games Affect Kids As Bad As People Say They Do?

By Shawn G.

People say that video games affect teens in a negative way; that's true, but not as much as people think they do. They actually help teens in more ways than you probably think. According to a study published in *Pediatrics*, researchers found that one hour or less of video game play per day is associated with children and teenagers ages 10 to 15 being happier and more satisfied than those who do not play at all.

Video games help kids with life skills and other useful techniques such as hand-eye coordination and learning how to cooperate. In online multiplayer games, researchers of North Carolina State University observed more than twenty public gaming events and found out that video gamers spend much time engaging in social behavior online or offline. Video games also help relieve stress, and having a stressful day isn't fun. Video games also help students learn math, spelling, manage resources, understand problems of the world, learn about animals and countries, and how to use maps. Video games such as *Age of Empires*, *Civilization*, *Assassin's Creed* or *Call of Duty* (the first one and some parts of the second one) "can push teenagers to become interested and read more about different times in history" (netivist.org).

Also, video games have proven that kids are easier for communication. Bill Nye asked a gamer, "Does it make you more social or less social?"

Jonna Mae, a guest on his show, responded, "I feel like I'm more social now...in school I didn't have any friends...I didn't talk to anybody...But when I was in video games, I had a voice; I could be whoever I wanted to be."

Richard M. Ryan, C. Scott Rigby, and Andrew Przybylski, have examined individuals playing games. Their research demonstrates that perceived in-game autonomy and competence are associated with game enjoyment, preferences, and changes in well-being pre- to post-play. Bill Nye has said that when you win, your brain gets a jolt of dopamine that makes you feel good; it also makes you feel excited when you finish the game because when you are stuck on a certain level, and you keep dying over and over again, it makes you feel kind of depressed.

A study published in *Pediatrics* has found that kids who played in excess of three hours daily were less satisfied with their lives and had more difficulties both socially and personally than non-gamers. NYU Child Study Center's Parenting Institute says that video game addiction can be harmful if your child is unable or unwilling to participate in any interests or any other activities other than gaming. Some parents are trying to prevent that from happening by limiting time per day for a child to be playing video games. According to commonsensemedia.org, weekly screen-time limits, limits on the kinds of screens kids can use, and guidelines on the types of activities they can do or programs they can watch.

People who think videogames are bad have also said video games that feature violent actions and scenarios might lead addicted players to be desensitized to the violence. Richard Gallagher, director of the NYU Child Study Center's Parenting Institute, states that players who become engrossed in first-person shooter-style video games, for example, may adopt a detached view of society or develop aggressive thoughts and tendencies. That's why parents are choosing the right video games for their children and/or trusting them to be mature about these types of video games and not act violently in real life. The researchers at the University of Texas at Dallas note some kids who play video games skip meals or lose sleep. Excessive game play, a video game addiction, can negatively impact a gamer's health. That's when it should be back to limiting the child's playing time. "I think the evidence is becoming increasingly compelling that there is a segment of people for whom gaming becomes a problem," says Dr. Shawn Green.

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Do Video Games Affect Kids As Bad As People Say They Do?

(continued from p. 14)

By Shawn G.

Bill Nye asked, "Is there something to addiction?"

Dr. Hillarie Cash, a guest on his show, replied, "I can tell you that the clients who come to reSTART [her clinic for video game addicts] are almost universally socially anxious, and they report that the years spent in front of the screen... [made them] feel social online... They feel kind of safe online, but out in face-to-face relationships, they actually feel less comfortable."

Dr. Shawn Green said, "Just because you're playing a lot doesn't mean you're addicted... if you're suffering some life harm because of the activity, and you can't stop even though you would like to, and it's something where...we need more evidence, but I think the evidence is becoming increasingly compelling that there is a segment of people for whom gaming becomes a problem."

Dr. Hillarie Cash asked, "At what age do drug addicts and alcoholics start their addictions... the teenage years...many of the guys we work with...started gaming pretty heavily when they were in elementary school...as a result, their development is being affected by it."

Violent video games do not make you a violent person. If you are a violent person, and you play violent video games, it might make you more violent than if you are not a violent person.

On one episode of his new show, Bill Nye asked, "Do violent video games make you more violent?"

Dr. Shawn Green was a guest. He said, "It's important to talk about what violence is. Violence is the far end of aggression. Aggression is a...willful intention to cause harm. Violence is...willful intent to cause severe body harm...The research shows that playing violent video games will move you a little on the continuum. It's an effect size that might change the extent to which you interpret a bump in the hallway, but it's not going to take someone who has no risk factors for aggression to interpret that bump as aggressive and then do something violent."

I have been giving examples about how video games are good and bad, or how they are helpful for a teen's social life and how they affect teens in a negative way. I decided to pick this topic because it was a way to express how I feel about video games and to explain to people how they are good and bad for a kid's health. though, video games are helpful for teens and other people in many different ways.

WANTED/NEEDED

We would love a digital scale for more accurate weight measurements during our science investigations/experiments. The triple beam balances we have provide an experience with the process of weighing materials, but they do not provide the accuracy budding scientists need.



Science Test Changes

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The State of California is implementing new science standards that describe the things we want students to know and be able to do. These new standards help students to think and work like scientists and engineers—asking questions and learning using hands-on investigation and discovery.

Working with science teachers, California is developing the California Science Test (CAST) that emphasizes scientific thinking and reasoning. These new tests will be **given in grades five, eight and high school**. As partners in your child's education, we invite you to take a look at some sample test questions available in the new CAST Training Test at <http://www.caaspp.org/practice-and-training/index.html>. We will be accessing these practice questions in the next month to give the students a preview of what to expect.

It's important to remember that statewide tests cannot take the place of hands-on learning that is taking place in our school. Experiments, in-class assignments, and tests designed by your child's teacher all play a part in gauging what students know.

Statewide tests like the CAST are valuable because they represent a common yardstick—a way to measure the progress of all students at the same time in the same way.

We are excited about the new science standards and the role CAST will play in helping our students reach their potential and prepare for the future. If you have any questions about how we are implementing these new standards, please contact Gwen Neu at 668-5596.

Sincerely,

Gwen Neu, Education Coordinator
Maple Creek Elementary School

Annual End-of-Year Testing

Dear Parent/Guardian,

In May, our **3rd-8th grade students** will participate in the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments, which are part of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) System.

Why is this test important?

This test was created with teacher input to...

- * Measure how well your child has mastered the skills and content in mathematics and English language arts at his or her grade level
- * Align with the instruction that takes place in the classroom everyday
- * Match the learning goals of each grade level
- * Assess critical thinking, analytical writing, and problem solving skills, which are needed for success in college and a 21st century career.

The test has **different kinds of questions**, including traditional multiple-choice questions as well as ones that require students to explain their answers, show their work, and compose essays.

What should I expect after my student takes the test?

As you may remember from last year's score report, each subject will be broken down into areas. The report shows how students are doing in each area and where they need help. Depending on the student's needs, teachers can use this information to **provide targeted help to students to address their needs**.

Remember, **the results from this test aren't meant to tell the whole story**. Your child's scores are meant to be one of several ways for you and your child's teacher to see how your student is progressing in school. Test scores, along with student report cards and teacher's observations of your child's performance in the classroom, are used together to form a complete picture of your child's achievement.

Where can I learn more?

We encourage you to take a look at a practice test for your child's grade level. The practice tests are posted on the California Department of Education's Smarter Balanced Practice Tests Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/practicetest.asp>. To find out more details about the Smarter Balanced test, visit the "Be a Learning Hero" Web site at <http://bealearninghero.org/classroom/smarter-balanced>.

At Maple Creek Elementary School, our goal is for all students to achieve their full potential. The Smarter Balanced tests are just one way that we are able to understand better if we are meeting that goal. Thank you for all you do to partner with us in your child's education.

Thank you,

Gwen Neu, Education Coordinator

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 these items as they are the only ones redeemable for cash.



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

school on Tuesdays and the recycling area appropriate garbage

- ◆ 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

June 2017

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	

Happening in April:

- ☺ April 5: Field Trip—Renata's, Swim & Arcata Playhouse
- ☺ April 6: Middles to the Symphony
- ☺ April 6: School Site Council 1:30
- ☺ April 14: School Board 1:30
- ☺ April 17-21: No School—Spring Break
- ☺ April 27: Fundraising Committee Meeting

Happening in May:

- ☺ May 1: May Day Café, Noon
- ☺ May 4: School Site Council, 1:30
- ☺ May 9: Minimum Day—School Out 1 pm
- ☺ May 12: School Board 1:30 pm
- ☺ May 16-18: CAASPP Testing (3rd-8th)
- ☺ May 18: Learn and Grow
- ☺ May 23-24: CAASPP Testing (3rd-8th)
- ☺ May 29: No School, Memorial Day

Happening in June:

- ☺ June 1: Board Meeting, 1:30 pm
- ☺ June 6: 2nd Tooth Lesson 2 pm
- ☺ June 8: School Site Council 1:15 pm
- ☺ June 12: Board Meeting, 1:30 pm
- ☺ June 15: End-of-Year Celebration—performance, graduation, barbeque, beginning at 11:45 am
- ☺ June 16: Last Day of School Field Trip

Please attend the school board meeting on April 14 at 1:30 PM to hear the latest school news and to give your voice to the LCAP process.

Meetings begin at 1:30:
May 12, 2017
June, 1 & 12, 2017



FC: Thursday, April 27, 2017 2:00 PM	SSC: Thursday, June 8, 2017 1:15 PM
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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.

