



The Howler

Tracking the Pack...



Volume 5 Issue 1

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Update from The Leader of the Pack...

You can teach a student a lesson for a day; but if you can teach him to learn by creating curiosity, he will continue the learning process as long as he lives.

~Clay P. Bedford



Welcome back to school RPrep Families! Welcome to all of our new students and families! We are excited to begin the 2015-16 school year! I can't believe that we are beginning our fifth year already. It will be an eventful year, for sure! There is a lot going on. Let me tell you about it... This summer, Redwood Prep purchased the Hope Lutheran Church at 1480 Ross Hill Road in Fortuna. It is a beautiful space! All summer, our facilities team worked to obtain a rural development (facilities construction loan) through the United States Department of Agriculture. Last week we found out that our Feasibility Study, our Environmental Report, and our Architect Report were all forwarded to the State level. Hopefully, we will be approved in the next week or so by the State. Then we will begin the permit process and start renovation and construction on the new site as soon as possible. I just want to say that we definitely have some amazing people working to bring great things to our community, people not even affiliated with our school but supportive of what we do! Humboldt County rocks!

We will keep everyone informed through the monthly Howler, Parent Council, and DIBI Board of Directors meetings as we make progress on construction. Our goal is to begin the next school year all together in our new facility! There will be many opportunities for helping out. We hope that you will join us by volunteering and/or joining a school committee to help us as we create a wonderful learning space for our kids.

Every year we express our gratitude for the families and community members that made Redwood Prep possible and those who support the school by volunteering their time and energy. The combined sacrifices and efforts of our staff and volunteers allow us to save on custodial expenses, school supplies, classroom materials, etc.; which also allowed us to raise enough money for a down payment toward our new facility. Hopefully this dedication and commitment to our kids will continue on for years to come.

On Thursday, September 3rd, we hope your family will join us for the Redwood Prep Back to School BBQ. This is a great opportunity to introduce yourselves to other RPrep families and to get to know more about the children and families that your child(ren) will come to know this school year. Nothing helps us to get to know one another better than working elbow to elbow for the good of our kids. Please visit the volunteer table to check out the great opportunities available for families wanting to support our school and together for the benefit of our students and community. There are many ways that you can be part of our school community through volunteer activities, Parent Council, Family Events, Fundraising or classroom activities. Everyone has something to share!

If you have any questions or concerns regarding school procedures, policies, or events, please feel free to call us or email at any time. Your input is important and your involvement is welcomed. I have always believed that a school is only as strong as the community that supports it. We are an amazing community with an abundance of love and care for our children. No doubt our school and our student will flourish this year. Once again, thank you for all that you do as parents and teachers to maintain a caring, rigorous, and successful learning environment for our most precious resource, our children. Happy New School Year!

*Often, when I am reading a good book, I stop and thank my teacher.
That is, I used to, until she got an unlisted number.
~ Author Unknown*

Transitional Kindergarten - Morgan Drake mdrake@redwoodprep.org

This 2015-2016 school year marks an exciting beginning for the Redwood Prep community as we welcome our youngest students into the transitional kindergarten (TK) program. With the introduction of the TK program our kindergarteners turning 5 between September and December will be given the opportunity to thrive with a smaller class size and more developmentally appropriate curriculum. This additional kindergarten time will help to ensure student readiness and overall success in school.



Not only will this be the rookie year for the TK program, but for myself as well. I am so excited to be joining the Redwood Prep family as the TK teacher. Having done my student teaching here, as well as had the opportunity to substitute teach in most of the classes, I have grown to not only appreciate, but truly value and embrace the ideals and principles that are its foundation. I am so proud to be a part of this amazing school and hope to contribute to its continued growth.

Kindergarten - Krista Croteau keroteau@redwoodprep.org



School hasn't yet begun, but we're already building our class community in kindergarten! In May, everyone came in for a visit to the new classroom. They sang songs, played and got a first taste of school-life at RPC. In mid-August, we had the opportunity to meet to complete pre-assessments and to get better acquainted. Today, we gathered for one last time before school starts on Monday; we enjoyed a play date at Rohner Park. I'm hopeful that



this time that we've shared will reduce first-day jitters for all of us! Getting to know so many new friends each year (kids and grown-



ups alike) is one of the things I love most about my work! I'm looking forward to a terrific year with this new group of kiddos. I'm positive it will be full of growth in body, mind and spirit!

1st Grade—Dawn Carroll dcarroll@redwoodprep.org



During my travels this summer I came across a sign that said, "Do Something Amazing Every Day." The sign now hangs in my 1st grade classroom. To me, it is a wonderful reminder to look for and notice the amazing things that are happening in our lives every day and the importance of creating more amazing things in

our lives and the lives of others. We have amazing things planned this year in 1st grade and I am looking forward to watching the 1st graders amazing academic and social growth.



2nd Grade— Lori Head lhead@redwoodprep.org



Welcome back to school! I hope you all had a chance to enjoy some down time. I had a wonderful summer relaxing and visiting with family and friends, but now, I am ready to jump back into the school routine with a new, wonderful group of second graders.

I love teaching second grade. They start the year with gap-toothed smiles and end the year with those big front teeth. They grow so much during the year. They make lots of academic growth, too. They take all those wonderful reading skills that they learned in kindergarten and first grade and put them to use reading a wide variety of fiction and nonfiction. Second graders turn into amazing writers and bump up their math skills. And always, second graders like to have fun! I can't wait to share all their accomplishments with you each month. We are going to have an AWESOME year!

3rd Grade - Kim Kendall kkendall@redwoodprep.org

This summer has flown by and it is so fun to feel the excitement of the new school year! One of my favorite movie quotes is from "You've Got Mail" where Tom Hanks says that fall makes him think of school supplies and he offers to buy Meg Ryan a bouquet of sharpened pencils. School supplies are exciting in that they represent a new year and a new beginning. I am excited to start again with another new group of fabulous 3rd graders. We start out our year establishing routines and moving onto the autobiography/biography genre. We are also beginning with History and studying important Americans and the Constitution. Stay tuned for pictures and stories from our adventures!



4th Grade— Amy Eastman aeastman@redwoodprep.org



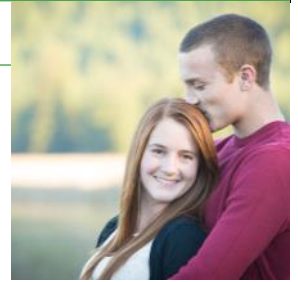
Welcome to the 2015-2016 school year! I am so excited to be getting this new year started! It is so unbelievable that summer has already come to a close and we are ready to get going! This summer was filled with lots of fun and lots of planning, as I prepared for the new 4th grade class! Along with some changes in the classroom, I have a lot of great projects and lessons all planned for this year! I am really looking forward to seeing all of our bright, smiling RPrep faces

as we return!

This first month will be filled with an awesome tech project to get to know each other more, getting started on 4th grade math, as well as some California history and getting back into our Cafe routine! Please be sure to put the Back to School BBQ (Thursday, September 3rd @ 5:30pm at the Rohner Park) on your calendar! I am looking forward to seeing everyone there!

5th Grade - Miranda Head mhead@redwoodprep.org

It has been an amazing two years teaching at Redwood Prep! I am looking forward to the changes and opportunities that year three has in store for the 5th grade class! My new 5th grade students and I will now be at the South School site with middle school. Although I will miss the TK-4th grade kiddos and teachers greatly, I think that this will open up many doors for the 5th graders.



I am looking forward to this new school year with new opportunities!

**6th Grade - Melanie Downing mdowning@redwoodprep.org**

Up close. Hands on. Relevant. That's Project Lead the Way (PLTW) in a nutshell. Teachers across the nation believe that PLTW catalyzes lifelong interest in science, technology, engineering, and math. After our K-8 implementation at Redwood Prep last year, I agree 100%. In addition to integration across multiple subject areas, PLTW also requires high level of student collaboration, problem solving, and creativity.

The job market for our kids' generation is changing; they will have opportunities in professions that don't even exist yet. Employers worldwide are in need of people who can blend hard skills such as writing and math with soft skills such as adaptability and imagination. They want workers who have technical expertise, can hit the ground running, are able to work collaboratively in teams, and who know how to analyze problems by thinking critically.

Plenty of research about the benefits of PLTW is making it the newest curriculum at schools all over California and the U.S. (we are the only team in Humboldt County teaching PLTW, but we're hoping more schools get on board soon). Keep an eye out for these three new courses at the middle school: Flight and Space, Energy and the Environment, and the Magic of Electrons!

7th Grade - Katie Dore kdore@redwoodprep.org

I have been anticipating this new school year for many weeks now and I am really looking forward to doing some exciting things in math and science as well as teach one of our new Project Lead the Way courses, Magic of Electrons.

Students in my class this year will do many interesting and hands-on experiments and activities. Seventh grade can look forward to dissecting a cow eye during our body systems unit, extracting DNA from strawberries, examining parts of flowers, and using microscopes. Eighth graders will have fun measuring motion, exploring density of different materials, and will build and test a submarine. All 6th-8th students will learn how to solder their very own night light during their Magic of Electrons class.



Throughout the year, we will be challenged by new concepts in math and science and will have some exciting labs and activities coming our way! Middle school is an adventure and I am thrilled to be on it with your children!

8th grade - Janice Lourenzo jlourenzo@redwoodprep.org

Back-to-School...It's a whirlwind. I am excited to help your teens through this amazing developmental period; growth-- social and physical-- happens at warp speed. The physical pain that comes with stretching bones is often remedied with rest and comfort. More troublesome is the pain associated with social growth and development. I will do my best to make sure students have a safe and supported environment where they feel confident to learn and grow. If you have any concerns regarding academic or social growth this year, please

**Music**– Jill Petricca jpetricca@redwoodprep.org

Preludes and Greetings! What a stimulating time to be coming together again! I look forward to seeing new and returning friends. Our experiments geared for developing musical intelligence will be tuneful and artful as we proceed from a solid base of body, voice, and mind. Regular ventures into the marvelous world of percussion will continue as we bridge our perspectives of this relevant art form. **Band** is meeting at the middle school from 3:00 to 3:45 this year in the last portable, four days a week M-TH. Our ensemble will require additional events outside of class. Students receive an instrument during week four. On week five students will commit to the class through June. Those desiring to take home their instrument to practice will have to complete a set of requirements. *Here's to an inspiring year of growth!*

Art/Technology– Sharn Chinnici schinnici@redwoodprep.org

Welcome back to art and technology. The upper grades will be starting the year with a project that will blend Habits of Mind with Meet the Masters. The lower grades will be starting their portfolios, and learning some of our programs in technology. I am looking forward to the new school year.

**Afterschool/ Enrichment**- Monica Holt mholt@redwoodprep.org

I am so excited to see all the returning and new faces in the program. There have been a couple changes this year and these changes will only strengthen our Afterschool program. The City of Fortuna is no longer partnering with us and I will be handling all the billing. So please feel free to email me if you have any questions or concerns. There are afterschool sign up forms in the office and I have also put some on the afterschool web site. Please make sure to read the parent letter attached to the forms, billing dates and payment options have changed. Dillon, Mrs. Michelle and Ms. Dayna will all be returning this year as afterschool leaders. Although they may recognize many of you please make sure that you or anyone that is picking up your child brings I.D. on the first week. We will be doing enrichment classes again this year, the first cycle will begin sometime in mid-October. If you or anyone that you know would like to lead a four- five week cycle please email me with that information. I am looking forward to a fabulous year in the Afterschool Program.

September 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Family Events Committee Mtg.	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day No School	8 Middle School Student Council @ 7:00 am	9	10 SS Back to School @ 6:00 DIBI Board Mtg. @ 7:00 p.m.	11	12
13	14	15	16 RPrep Family Movie Night	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		6th-8th Sacramento Filed Trip				
27	28	29	30			

Events

August

31st— Welcome Back to School!!

September

2nd— Family Events Mtg.

7th— Labor Day No School Today

8th — Middle School Student Council Mtg. @ 7:00 am

10th — Middle School Back to School Night @ 6:00 pm

10th — DIBI Board Meeting @ 7:00 pm

16th — RPrep Family Movie Night @ 6:00

22nd—25th 6th—8th Grade Trip to Sacramento

October

2nd — Early Release Day @ 12:00



Please save the dates for some fun times to support our kids!



We are planning on a Fall Carnival October 15th at the Ross Hill site. We will have games, prizes, bounce houses, and more! Proceeds will benefit student council, sports, and music programs.

Our gala will be May 21st this year. We are changing the venue this year to the Loleta Fire Hall and our theme will be a Down Home Country Gala. Mark your calendars now so you don't miss out on a rootin' tootin' good time!

Important Information about Health Care

By law, most people are now required to have health insurance or pay a penalty when they file their taxes. Californians can apply through Covered California and select the health insurance plan that works best for their needs and budget. The open-enrollment period happens once a year. Once open enrollment ends, you may enroll in a Covered California health plan only if you have a qualifying life event that makes you eligible to apply. Some examples of qualifying life events are: losing your health coverage, getting married, moving outside your plan's coverage area, having a baby and turning 26. To see if you qualify, visit www.CoveredCA.com/individuals-and-families/getting-covered/special-enrollment. Individuals and families may also qualify for Medi-Cal benefits.

Visit CoveredCA.com for more information. For free, confidential, in-person help in your area, visit: www.CoveredCA.com/get-help/local or call (800) 300-1506.

RPrep Supplies Wish List for

- Copy paper
- Bathroom Cleaning Supplies
- Large Garbage Bags (30 Gallon)
- Kitchen Garbage Bags
- Ziploc Storage Bags
- Plastic spoons and forks

