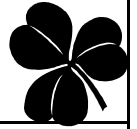
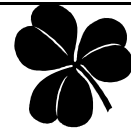


Laurel Creek School



Principal's Message...

Bill Stockman



Alert!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are only 25 school days away from the California STAR tests. These test are very similar to the finals in High School and are used as the primary measurement of a student's understanding and proficiency with the academic standards in elementary grades 2 to 6. These tests are given once a year in the first two weeks of May.

Teachers work hard to teach the standards and prepare their students for these tests. One of the difficulties we face is that students only get one opportunity per year to demonstrate their academic competence on the STAR tests. The biggest obstacle to the student's doing well on the STAR tests is the 3 week Spring break that occurs just prior to the tests. We have found that most students do not engage in academic practice during breaks and have a difficult time getting them re-focused on learning standards when they return after a break.

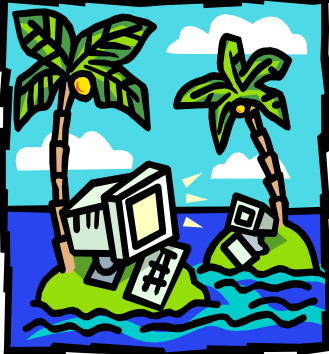
To help overcome this problem Laurel Creek School purchased the home computer program called **Study Island**. **Study Island** is a standards based Internet program that reinforces the State Standards and helps kids reach proficient levels on the California standards tests. We have found that students who use **Study Island** frequently make great academic gains on the STAR tests. We highly recommend that all students work on **Study Island** at least 15 minutes a day during the school year and at least 1 hour per day during the **Spring Break**.

STUDY ISLAND:

WWW.StudyIsland.com

User Name: Your Student ID #

Password: shark (lower case)



We receive a report of your child's progress every time they log in to **Study Island**. I will personally guarantee that your child will improve their scores on the STAR tests if they use Study Island as recommended above.

Another great tip is to have your child(ren) practice the California Released STAR Test Questions during the Spring Break. The STAR tests this year will have many questions similar the Released STAR Questions. If you have access to the Internet we recommend that parents review the Released STAR Questions with their children. The questions can be found at:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/TA/tg/sr/css05rtq.asp>

or you can Google CST Released Test Questions. When you open the State web page just click on the Math, ELA, or Science (5th Grade only) at your child's present grade level. Please note that actual questions begin on page 5 or 6. The answers to the questions are on the last pages. The tests can also be printed.

We recommend that students start to practice on the test questions 1 grade level below their present grade. We also recommend that parents make sure that their children use a systematic approach to solving the problems. Most of the Laurel Creek students have been taught to process questions using **RULES**.

A Plan For Solving a

Problem

- Read** the question!
- Understand** the question!
- Look** at the choices!
- Eliminate** bad choices!
- Select** the best choice!

PTA NEWS...

SAVE THE DATE!

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, March 11th in the Laurel Creek Library @ 3:30 PM.

PTA would like to say "Thank You" to all of our volunteers for making our 'Soc-Hop' so much fun! We sincerely appreciate all of your support!!!

Let's eat out!

Tell a Friend

Dine-N-Donate at Panda Express will be on March 2nd, 3rd, and 4th here in Fairfield; Laurel Creek will receive 20% back. A coupon will be in your child's folder.

Our next big event will be the "Spring Fling." It is a dinner and silent auction evening. We will be sending information out very soon!

Keep our campus clean!



SUNSHINE CLUB

The fundraiser for Juan Carlos Zapata was a great success! Thank you to all who were able to contribute.

The Sunshine Club will continue to fundraise for Juan at future events.

Please visit Juan Carlos at:

<http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/juancarloszapata>

IMPORTANT DATES...

March 1-12 Open Enrollment

March 1 -12 Primary Literacy Assessment (K-3)

March 1 - 5 Benchmark Assessment

March 3 & 4 4th Grade STAR Writing Assessment

March 1-May 14th 5th Grade Fitness Assessments

March 13 - Saturday, 9 AM -11 AM ONLY Kindergarten Registration

March 15 - Minimum Day - Early Release Time

March 16 - Minimum Day - Early Release Time

March 17 - Fairfield-Suisun U.S.D. Choral Festival

March 25 - Conference Day NO SCHOOL

March 26 - Minimum Day ... Track-Off Day - Early Release Time

March 29-April 16 - Spring Break

April 19 - Return to School



FAIRFIELD-SUISUN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Open Enrollment March 1 - 12, 2010

Applicants for K-5 Elementary Schools, please note:

All applicants living in a K-6 attendance area and are approved through open enrollment to attend a K-5 elementary school must enroll at their original school of attendance for 6th grade.

Open enrollment to a K-5 school does not guarantee enrollment to a 6-8 middle school. Open enrollees to a K-5 school may apply for open enrollment to a 6-8 middle school outside of their attendance area. There is no guarantee that such a request will be granted. All open enrollments are subject to the lottery process outlined in Administrative Regulation 5116.1.

Information on Programs Not Included in Open Enrollment Process

International Baccalaureate Program (IB): Daniel Harrison, R1 707-422-7500 ext 3389

GATE Contact: Linda Barrow, K.I. Jones Elementary School, 421-4195

Dual Immersion Contact: B. Gale Wilson Elementary School, 421-4225

VERY IMPORTANT...

The Following sites **will not be** available for Open Enrollment application and consideration unless a sibling is currently attending the requested school:

B. Gale Wilson Elementary
Cordelia Hills Elementary
K. I. Jones Elementary
Laurel Creek Elementary
Nelda Mundy Elementary
Rolling Hills Elementary
Green Valley Middle School

LOST & FOUND

Our lost & found is overflowing. Please take a look for those missing jackets, sweat shirts and sweaters. The bin is located in the foyer of the Multi-purpose Room. We will be donating the remaining lost & found to the Mission Solano during the Spring Break.



The 4th/5th grade Basketball Team has had an amazing season. They have been undefeated so far!

Thank you Mr. Drake for your great coaching!
GO SHARKS!