



Golden Nugget

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www.goldrushcs.com

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ADVERTISE IN THE GOLDEN NUGGET

(The Nugget reaches nearly 300 families. Help yourself and GRCS.)

RATES

- Full Page \$25
- Half Page \$15
- Quarter Page \$10

A Note From the Principal

It's October and changes are in the air. The temperatures are cooler, the days are getting shorter, colors are beginning to change and students are becoming more focused on learning (I hope).

For Gold Rush Charter there are some wonderful changes and causes for celebration. We received our score for last year's STAR testing. We had a 6 point growth target. Gold Rush students gained 28 points! Not only that, but we finally moved out of the 600's. Our current score is 700!!

The target for all schools is 800, which now seems reachable. Let's encourage each student to do their very best in this our tenth year. Gold Rush students are as capable as any student in the state of California, so if we all (parents, students, teachers and administrators) work toward a higher goal, I believe we will make it.

A second exciting change is moving the Country School to the Sullivan Creek campus. This move will take place on October 1 with Country School classes beginning there on October 4.

Kate Hansen



GOOD NEIGHBORS

We who are at the Gold Rush campus in the Mono Village shopping area share the sidewalks and parking lot with other businesses and customers. It is important that we don't congregate in front of their entrances so that customers can come and go without having to make their way through a group of students. We can each be ambassadors of positive PR for Gold Rush.

Country School News

COUNTRY SCHOOL FOOD PRESERVATION

This month at the country school, we have been studying food preservation. The kindergartners got to taste frozen vegetables, dried beef jerky and pickled cucumbers to help them understand the different ways that we preserve food.

All of the K-8 students got to chop, blend and dry fresh fruit to make fruit roll-ups. They also got to slice and dry apples in the dehydrator, dry herbs from our garden, make homemade pickles and homemade jam.

It was a yummy month of learning how to preserve foods; the students always like eating their work!

RIVER RANCH PICNIC

On Friday, September 17, teachers and families from the Country School got together at the *River Ranch Campground* in the canyon outside of Tuolumne to enjoy some relaxed time together..

The large trees provided shade and the kids enjoyed wading in the cool stream. Mr. Sweeley brought several "soakers," which the kids mainly aimed at him, leaving **him** thoroughly soaked. There were also blackberries to pick and marshmallows to roast on the campfire. Dinner consisted of grilled hot dogs and hamburgers, plus chips and salad. A large pumpkin pie served as a delicious treat for dessert.

Everyone seemed to enjoy feeding watermelon rinds to our special guest, a potbellied pig named Bacon.

A few families brought tents and spent the night, but most drove home to their comfortable beds.



Country School Moves to Sullivan Creek Campus!

HURRAY!

On Thursday, September 30, and Friday, October 1, the Country School moved from their location at the Grace Baptist Church (on Grace street off of Via Este Road) to their new location on the Sullivan Creek campus, at 16331 Hidden Valley Road.

This is a beautiful campus with some huge, ancient oaks and many smaller oaks. It has large classrooms, and wonderful playground areas, even a track. The Country School teachers will now be able to set up their classrooms without needing to tear them down for church meetings and services as was necessary at the Grace Baptist campus.

The Country School is moving bunnies and chickens to the new campus and will be bringing in goats soon. There is an old greenhouse that needs work and room for the new greenhouse that Mrs. Divine was able to obtain through a grant from the *Sonora Area Foundation*. Plus, there is lots of room for a big garden.

Students and staff will leave the Grace Baptist campus with many fond memories. The church was very gracious in their relationship with Gold Rush.

Directions to the new Country School Campus:

Take Highway 108 East. Turn left onto N. Hess Avenue. Turn right onto Phoenix Lake Road.

Travel 4.3 miles and turn right onto Creekside Drive. Travel one-tenth of a mile and turn right onto Hidden Valley Road. Travel one-tenth of a mile and the campus is on the left.

Students of the Month



Diamadi Haralambous (10th grade)

I can't think of a more positive and cheerful person than Diamadi. He always makes the most of any situation and cheers everyone along. He gives his best in class and homework. Diamadi works hard for all he achieves.

Mrs. Hildreth



Samantha Snell (7th grade)

Samantha Snell is returning for her second year at GRCS. She is a great student and is very motivated. Sami has already produced some amazing work that includes a fold-out, 3-dimensional book report on *Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*. This project had real candy on the display (which the students loved and ate!).

Sami's personable, fun and a pleasure to teach.

Mrs. Divine

EARTH SCIENCE FIELD TRIP

On Monday, October 18, all Earth Science students will be attending a field trip with Mr. Wyrick titled "Geology of the Sierra Nevada."

Where? Road trip over the Sierra Nevada via Highways 108 & 395.

When? Monday, October 18—Meet at Gold Rush Charter School at 8:00 A.M.

Grades? 9 and above

Cost? none

Sign-up? By Thursday, October 13!

Description: Spend a day observing and studying the geology of California's amazing Sierra Nevada. Stops will include Columns of the Giants, Sonora Pass, Conway Summit, Mono Lake, Oh! Ridge, and the picturesque June Lake Loop. Students will have a chance to collect rock and mineral samples for their collections and will tour the Mono Lake Visitor Center, South Tufa, and Panum Crater.

"October's the month
When the smallest breeze
Gives us a shower
Of autumn leaves.
Bonfires and pumpkins,
Leaves sailing down -
October is red
And golden and brown."
www.canteach.ca

STAR Scores Up!

We want to congratulate our students and staff for a job well done on improving our STAR scores.

We have received the overall API (Academic Performance Index) score from the state. It is something like a report card for schools. It takes student STAR scores, combined with high school exit exam scores, to calculate a number. The goal is for all schools to score 800 (proficient) or better.

We far exceeded last year's goal. Our overall score went up by 28 points! Our final API score for 2010 was 700. This year we're setting our own internal goal of growing by 50 points. That is very ambitious but we're making many substantial changes to help our scores go up. The biggest change this year is increasing classroom time.

★ *We'll share techniques for scoring well on the STAR exam throughout the year. For now, one of the best things that can help is getting enough sleep the night before. Many students are sleep deprived, this is especially a problem when taking tests! Go to bed and get a good nights sleep. Good advice every night now, while learning, but critical before a test like STAR.* Jim Gallno

TEACHER WISH LIST

Our **Home Economics** class requests donations of the following: aprons, fabric, yarn, knitting needles, quilting supplies, pins, needles, buttons....

If you have any of the above that you can donate, please contact Mrs. Hildreth, ext. 219.

Our **Photography** class is still in need of digital cameras. If you can donate one that is not being used, please contact Mrs. Benton, ext. 226

MAKE-UP PHOTOS

Attention: Students at all school sites and independent study students who have not yet had your picture taken!

Mrs. Yarbrough is available to take make-up photos on **Friday mornings at 10:30** in the main office. Please call 533-8644 ext. 216 to confirm an appointment.

Your photo must be taken in order to create a student I.D. card. Also, we want to see the smiling faces of all of our students in this year's yearbook.

MESSAGE BY JENNIFER TORRES

**Buy 1— One hour massage
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1/2 Off!!

**Jennifer Torres
CMT, Reiki Master**

209-352-2790

Gold Rush parent Jennifer Torres, certified CMT, Reiki Master, offers the following massage modalities:

***Shiatsu—Swedish—Trigger Point
Reflexology—Raindrop—Reiki
Chakra Balancing—Aromatherapy
Cranial Sacral***

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Questions/requests can be
e-mailed to Cheryl Calderaro,
newsletter editor at:

CherCalderaro@hotmail.com

A Personalized
Learning Plan

Important Newsletter from Gold Rush Charter School

October 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 <i>Country School at new campus</i>	5	6	7 <i>School Board 4 PM</i>	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 <i>Earth Science Fieldtrip</i>	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
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