



Golden Nugget

14763 Mono Way * Sonora, CA 95370 * Phone: (209) 533-8644 * Fax: (209) 532-9234

A Note From the Principal

I came across an article that I wanted to share:

“A few years ago, I was deeply moved by a photograph I saw on the back page of a magazine. It showed a small boy at the ocean’s edge, his tracks receding in the wet sand toward the water. Beyond the sand, one could see a gray sky, a distant island, and a long, even wave in the beginning of collapse. The boy had turned to face the photographer. His eyes were wide and his mouth was open in an exclamation of discovery. He was a picture of joy.

This powerful black-and-white image was accompanied by a short article explaining that this child had a problem - he was hyperactive and could not pay attention. Because he disrupted the other students, he had been expelled from school. At first, his parent did not know what to do, but they were observant. They had already seen how nature

calmed their son and helped him focus. Over the next decade, they seized every opportunity to introduce him to the natural world - to beaches, forests, and dunes as well as to the rivers and mountains of the American West. The little boy turned out fine. The photograph was taken in 1907. The boy’s name was Ansel Adams.”

Educational Leadership / December 2009 / January 2010

Gold Rush Charter School’s K-8th grade Country School has given students an opportunity to learn in a natural setting. We have seen the importance of nature to children’s health and their ability to learn.

Kathleen Hansen
Principal



UPCOMING FIELDTRIPS



THE TECH AND ROSICRUCIAN MUSEUM

WHERE: San Jose, California
WHEN: Tuesday, February 2, 2010
GRADES: 11th (Required for all Integrated Science students)
COST: No Cost

SIGN-UP BY TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2010

DESCRIPTION:

Spend a day at The Tech Museum of Innovation and The Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum in San Jose. At the Tech, students will visit a hands-on technology and science museum for people of all ages and backgrounds. The Tech’s mission is to inspire the innovator in everyone. Students will explore the many hands-on exhibits that focus on the close relationship between science and technology and will experience the IMAX presentation, Egypt. At the Rosicrucian Museum students will extend their study of Egypt’s ancient civilization by observing studying the largest collection of Egyptian antiquities outside of Egypt.

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

WHERE: San Francisco, CA
WHEN: Wednesday, March 3, 2010
GRADE: 10th (Required for all biology students)
COST: No Cost

SIGN-UP BY WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2010

DESCRIPTION:

Spend a day at the new California Academy of Sciences exploring a single building that evokes the interdependence of Earth, ocean and space. It houses an aquarium, a planetarium and a natural history museum. Explore a fascinating place that is filled with hundreds of innovative and engaging exhibits and thousands of animals. Count the number of teeth on the albino alligator, catch insects with a virtual butterfly net, rocket through the galaxy at warp speed, and so much more!

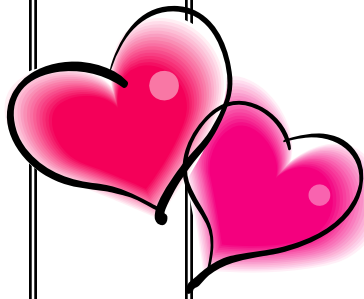
Valentine's Day

Every February we celebrate Valentines Day by giving flowers, candy and cards to those we love. We do this in honor of Saint Valentine. You may be wondering, "Who is St. Valentine"?

Legend has it that Valentine was a priest who served during third century Rome. There was an Emperor at that time by the name of Claudius II. Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those who were married. With this thought in mind he outlawed marriage for young men in hopes of building a stronger military base. Supposedly, Valentine decided this decree just wasn't fair and chose to marry young couples secretly. When Emperor Claudius II found out about Valentine's actions, he had him put to death.

Another legend has it that Valentine was an imprisoned man who fell in love with his jailor's daughter. Before he was put to death he sent the first 'valentine' himself when he wrote her a letter and signed it 'Your Valentine', words still used on cards today.

It was formerly believed that the heart was the seat of all human emotions. Accordingly, the gifting of a heart signified the selfless act of giving everything to someone you love. Though the ancients were not aware that the heart was responsible for pumping blood through the circulatory system, they knew one thing for sure, that the heart was the center of all feelings. This ancient belief has lingered on through the ages.



From time immemorial, beloved have been compared to roses. If we juggle the letters of the word ROSE we get EROS, who is the God of Love. The rose has thus been the traditional choice of lovers around the world. The Color red is associated with strong emotions and below are listed sentiments expressed by different hues of rose:

Lavender — Enchantment and Uniqueness

Orange — Fascination

Pink (Dark) — Thankfulness, Friendship and Admiration

Red — Love, Respect and Courage

Peach — Modesty, Gratitude, Admiration and Sympathy

Pink (Pale) — Grace, Joy and Happiness

Deep Red — Beauty and Passion

White — Innocence, Purity, Secrecy, Silence, Reverence

Yellow — Joy, Friendship, Jealousy, Hope and Freedom

Black — Farewell

Red/White — Unity or Engagement

Yellow/Orange — Passionate Thoughts

Peach — Modesty, Gratitude, Admiration and Sympathy

Pink (Pale) — Grace, Joy and Happiness

Yellow/Red — Congratulations

Rosebud — Beauty, Youth and a Heart Innocent of Love



By Alliya Anderson

One of Gold Rush founders, Eda Pardee, left us for the heavenly realm on January 18, 2010.

If you notice the awning over the Bonanza classroom door, facing Hillsdale Drive, it says, "Reading Skills Center." That space was Eda's private tutoring business for two years before Gold Rush. Eda had extensive training in the Slingerland method especially developed for dyslexia. She also held a Special Education Credential.

When I had met Jim Gallno and we decided to write a charter proposal, Eda was the perfect third and I asked her to join the effort. She was a very dedicated teacher, who worked tirelessly - putting many hours into each lesson. She taught reading skills and was the initial Special Education Director for Gold Rush Charter School.

During the first year of the school's operation, Eda learned she had cancer. She continued to work, arranging her chemotherapy appointments so she could still teach. Eventually, Mrs. Pardee was unable to continue working and Gold Rush hired a Special Education Coordinator. That, however, was not the end of the

story for Eda Pardee. She received many prayers and stem-cell replacement therapy and after a strenuous battle the lymphoma was declared in remission.

Always one for a challenge, Eda began working at the Sierra Conservation Center teaching the inmates. She was happily (once again) teaching reading to struggling learners. I recall how proud she was when a student could pass the G.E.D.

Over the last year or so, Eda's body was again attacked. She had several major surgeries at Stanford, which led to some serious complications from which she was unable to recover. My dear friend and warrior is in a better place now; but here, we will truly miss her.

~Kathleen Hansen
Principal



Celtic History Day Is Back for Schools and Families!

Friday, March 12, 2010 - 9am-2pm
Check in time for buses 8:30-9:30

Come join us for a day of "oohs" and "ahhs" as students and families from around the state gather at the Sonora Faire Grounds. Learn about the Celtic culture and history. Get ready for a full day of fun with all the same great features the weekend faire has to offer in a theme setting appropriate for families and schools. (non-alcohol/non-risque)

The fee is \$5 per student

CAHSEE Testing Dates

(California High School Exit Exam)

English - February 2 from 9am - 12pm

Math - February 3 from 9am - 12pm

On January 21 and February 1 & 2, Ms. Elias will be conducting math review for the CAHSEE. The review is targeted for 11th and 12th graders who have not passed the test. Sessions will take place in Grizzly from 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. Students are encouraged to attend all three sessions.

Student of the Month

ELEMENTARY:

(No Photo Available)

Rebekah Magwood 8th Grade

Rebekah Magwood, daughter of Brian Magwood of Sonora, is an eighth grade student at Gold Rush Charter School who attends classes at the Country School. Rebekah is an extremely self-disciplined student who demonstrates the highest possible level of effort and care in her assignments. She is attentive during class and completes her work in a timely manner. If she is made aware that an assignment is lacking in some way, she will go the extra mile to bring it up to par. Rebekah's high standards continue outside of the classroom. She is a friendly and kind young lady who is well respected by students and teachers alike.

~ Nominated by Kia Barriau

HIGH SCHOOL:

Amelia Hall 9th Grade

I am proud to announce that Amelia Hall has been chosen as the high school "Student of the Month." She is an inspiring student, well-liked by all, and an important member of the GRCS Student Council. Her school work has continued to improve over the past year, and she has received almost all "A's" and "B's" on her report card. Her future is extremely bright, and I am very glad she has chosen to come to Gold Rush Charter School.

~Nominated by Martin Blake, Freshman English



Gold Rush
Charter School

14673 Mono Way
Sonora, CA 95370

Phone: (209) 533-8644
Fax: (209) 532-9234

Questions/requests can be
e-mailed to Danielle, news-
letter editor. Thank you.

E-mail to:
Danielle.grcs@gmail.com

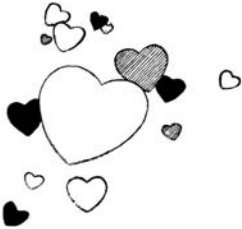
A Personalized
Learning Plan

Gold Rush S.O.N.G.

(Student Outcomes, Needs and Goals)

Students will be:

- Life-Long Learners
- Numerate and Literate
- Critical and Creative Thinkers
- Responsible, Productive & Collaborative



February is College Awareness Month!!

February 2010

	1	2 English CAHSEE 9am-12pm	3 Math CAHSEE 9am-12pm	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 No School Presidents' Holiday	13
14 Valentine's Day	15 No School Presidents' Holiday	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27

28

Happy Valentine's Day!

