

## SUNSET RECORD

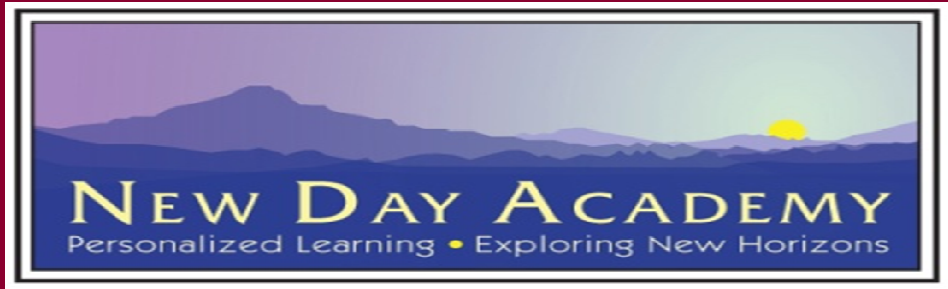


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Call 530-233-3861

NOW to get on the list for the Spring Tour for the College of Agriculture at CSU, Chico on March 26th, 2011. The tours will consist of a campus and farm tour along with admissions information. Even if you aren't interested in the Ag. Department, this is still a great opportunity to see a working farm as well as one of the most beautiful campuses in Northern California.



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FEBRUARY

## Director's Message

Tighten your seatbelts because the end of the year is headed our way. It seems that the second half of the year flies by as we prepare for the **STAR** writing test for 4th and 7th graders March 1-2, the 10th grade Cahsee test March 8-9, and STAR testing between April 26-May 5th. Testing is critical to our school's success and funding so our commitment is to support you and your children the best that we can so that all our students feel confident and prepared. Your teachers have prep packets with released test ques-

tions to help with that process. We have tutors and teachers experienced with the subject areas ready to help. Just let us know what we can do to assist.

Our **spring break** is March 14-18th this year. Easter is April 24th, the week before testing



and late in the semester so we didn't want to put it off that long. We will have the Friday before and the Monday after Easter off as well.

I had a great time skiing with some of our students at **Mt. Shasta** on January 28th. The Friday Homeschool program is a fun program and lessons are available until March 11. NDA is covering the cost for our students to have two lessons, rentals, and the lift ticket. Ask your teacher for more information or give us a call at the office.

## Western Accrediting Commission for Schools Self Study Begins...

New Day Academy is in the 5th year of a 6 year accreditation through the Western Accrediting Commission for Schools. This year we are starting the self study process that culminates in a report and a visit from the commission in April of 2012.

Accreditation is important to schools as it impacts students' access to colleges and universities and career opportunities in a variety of ways. An effective WASC self-study review is a powerful tool for schools to improve the quality of education and more effectively serve staff

and students.

New Day Academy will be forming working groups to evaluate and discuss our school's governance, culture, curriculum, assessments, and student achievement. We are looking forward to evaluating how we are doing, hearing from our families, and working on a plan of improvement.. Participation from all of our stakeholders is critical and we will be asking for help with the following:

Completion of a parent and student questionnaire,

Participation from students and parents with the study groups  
Pictures of our students enjoying activities that will be included in our self study report.

Samples of work for the committee report and visit.

If you'd like to help shape the future of our school please contact Laura at 233-3861.



## Spring Break March 14-18th!



The Cascade Theatre in Redding, CA, 1731 Market Street

*The wind of heaven is that which blows between a horse's ears.*  
~Arabian Proverb

# Sound of Music Field Trip

Hello! Last call for New Day Academy families wanting to attend the Sound of Music Field Trip at the Cascade Theatre in Redding, CA on Saturday, April 9th. We will be attending the matinee showing at 3:00.

New Day Academy is purchasing tickets for any New Day Academy student, as well as one adult chaperone per family. If you would like to purchase additional tickets for non

-NDA children or additional chaperones, let us know and we will purchase the tickets all together. Reimbursement checks can be mailed to New Day Academy at 214 W. 1st Street, Alturas, CA 96101 or be given to Kelly McGarva at the Cascade Theatre when you arrive to pick up your tickets.

The price for additional children will be \$10, and the price for additional adults will be \$19. Last day to request tick-

ets is February 21st. Last day to cancel ticket requests is also February 21st. Any requested tickets that go unused, whether they are for NDA students or not must be fully reimbursed by the family who requested them. This is to prevent wasted tickets.

There will also be a reminder in our March and April newsletters.

Ticket requests: 530-233-3861

# Wild Horse and Burro Field Trip Rescheduled

Unfortunately, our trip to the Wild Horse and Burro Field Trip had to be canceled due to weather. We still believe this would be a great educational field trip, so we've decided to reschedule for a warmer date in Spring.

Our tentative date so far is April 15th, which is a Friday. The Wild Horse and Burro

Program is located in Litchfield, CA, outside of Susanville.

There will be several activity stations during the field trip, and all ages are invited to go. This is a free field trip, it will only cost you gas to get there.

Come learn about the history of our wild horses, as well as

their future. The best kind of learning is first hand experience!

If interested in going, please call 530-233-3861 to get on the list.

Bring a bag lunch so that we can picnic on hay bales in the presence of these amazing animals after the tour!



Don't miss out on being eligible for free money for college!!!

# Cal Grants Time!

Would your high school student like to be eligible for a Cal Grant for higher education after graduation? Cal Grants are great because it is financial aid that does not have to be paid back. But before being able to qualify, New Day Academy needs the following information for your child:

- Prospective Graduation Date
- And
- Social Security Number

Without the SSN, a student can not sign up to be eligible for cal grants.

Please call the registrar at NDA with this information, and we will get your child lined up for some awesome financial aid opportunities.

530-233-3861

## The Test Corner...

### Up Ahead: STAR Writing Test Grades 4 and 7

Tuesday March 1, 2011 all 4th and 7th grade students will be taking the state writing test. Each year the students are given a prompt and asked to complete a document. The test is not timed. The state department of education has information and preparation materials on their website at

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sr/resources.asp>

Your teacher will be giving you examples of previous test prompts

and answers so that students can see what to expect.

Testing Sites:

Alturas Office 10-12

Redding, National University 10-12

Susanville Learning Center 10-12

Burney Word of Life Assembly

4-6:00

If you have any questions or would like extra assistance let us know.

You can contact Laura at 233-3861 or your teacher.

### Exit Exam for 10th Graders March 7-8

All high school 10th graders must take the high school exit exam March 7th and 8th. This is a census test so it affects our state scores.

Your teachers have preparation packets that give the students a step up and a good look at what they can expect on the exam. On Tuesday, March 7 they will take the Language Arts test. This includes reading comprehension, spelling, grammar, and an essay.

On Wednesday March 8th they take the math portion of the test. Questions range from pre algebra concepts to basic Algebra.

Testing Sites:

Alturas Office 10-1:00

Redding National

University 10-1:00

Susanville Learning

Center 10-1:00

Fall River Library 3:30 pm

Remember, we're here to help so feel free to call Laura at 233-3861 or your teacher.

## Board Goal Setting Session Highlights

The NDA Board of Directors had a Goal Setting Session January 8th. The following summarizes what they hope for our school.

### WE WANT TO BE/BE KNOWN AS:

- A school of high integrity: Following charter school law/regulations; with accountability to state, WASC, parents, and our community
- A school that focuses on traditional home school families who are available and supportive of student achievement
- A school willing to support students who need an extra hand in completing their education as long as student/family motivation to work hard and to succeed is evident

### WE WANT TO SUPPORT OUR DIRECTOR, TEACHERS AND STAFF BY:

- Providing professional development beyond what is necessary while encouraging staff to grow and achieve personal goals as they relate to NDA
- Offering competitive salaries and compensation

### WE WANT TO SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS/FAMILIES BY:

- Providing highly qualified, motivated teachers who believe in our non-site based independent study education model
- Encouraging parental input and recognizing the uniqueness of each child and family
- Continuing to provide a wide variety of materials and vendors

- Providing varied methods of education: online, textbooks, community college classes, etc.
- Providing tutoring, as needed/ requested, in all core subject areas
- Offering classes in core subjects and electives as desired by students/ parents
- Providing tutoring for students struggling with CAHSEE, STAR, and other tests
- Offering quality assessment tools for student placement and determining gaps in learning
- Providing quality academic counseling for all high school students

## Driscoll Strawberries Field Trip

We are planning a field trip to the Driscoll Strawberries ranch in Red Bluff, CA, as well as the ranch in McArthur. As long as we get enough interest, we will do both field trips in May, most likely on a Friday.

Come follow the life of a California strawberry from the fields to the consumer. Fun for all ages. This field trip is free, so don't hesitate to bring the whole family. If interested, sign up with Kelly by calling 530-233-3861.

**A set date will be announced no later than April. 1 cup of strawberries gives you 140 percent of your recommended daily allowance of vitamin C. Strawberries are known as superstars when it comes to anti-oxidant power!**



New Day Academy  
214 West 1st St.  
Alturas, CA 96101

## Fun Facts About Valentine's Day



Physicians of the 1800's commonly advised their patients to eat chocolate to calm their pining for lost love.



Richard Cadbury produced the first box of chocolates for Valentine's Day in the late 1800's.



More than 35 million heart-shaped boxes of chocolate will be sold for Valentine's Day.



The red rose was the favorite flower of Venus, the Roman goddess of love.



Teachers will receive the most Valentine's Day cards, followed by children, mothers, wives, sweethearts and pets.



About 3% of pet owners will give Valentine's Day gifts to their pets.



Popular belief states that the origin of Valentine's Day is from the time of the Roman Empire, when Bishop Valentine was executed on February 14th for secretly wedding soldiers and their loves during wartime, which was forbidden by the emperor, Claudius II.

Before the execution, he wrote a love note to the jailor's daughter signed "From Your Valentine."