

NEW DAY ACADEMY
214 W. 1ST STREET
ALTURAS, CA 96101

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- December and January Field Trip Dates
- Holiday Cookie Recipe
- Learn about the Winter Solstice
- Read our school's ESLR's
- Fall Photo Contest winners announced

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VOLUME 2, ISSUE 5

DECEMBER

Happy Holidays!



It is time for a break and most of us are ready to hibernate or just sit and rest for a little while. I am ready to ski but the weather is not cooperating. Our winter break begins December 19th and we are back in session January 3rd. Our office staff will be working through the break to help teachers and to keep things going except for Monday, December 26th and Monday, January 2nd. The bookmobile will not run Dec. 22 or the 29th.

When we come back from break, students will have two weeks until the semester ends on January 13th. If you have curriculum needs for course changes

in the second semester, be sure to let your teachers know. It is also a good time to review vendor choices and to decide if you are happy with your selections. We are looking at vendor log in sheets and calling families if they have a membership or vendor that they don't seem to be using. We don't want to waste any monies paying for something that students don't need or attend.

Once we climb over the half year mark, the school year has a tendency to pass quickly. We will start getting STAR preparation packets out to families as soon as the second semester begins. Fourth and seventh grade

students should start looking ahead to the writing test March 6th and 7th. We have materials to show parents the different prompts the students may see and need to prepare for. Please ask your teachers if you would like some help getting your children ready for that test.

The other test that will hit us quickly is the first California High School Exit Exam for 10th graders March 13th and 14th. We will be giving students materials to help prepare for that test as well.

I hope you have a blessed holiday season. Until next year!

Laura VanAcker

February Field Trip ~ Fire Station 8

Our February field trip for the 2012 school year will be an hour long tour of the Fire Station on Churn Creek Rd. in Redding, CA. Has your student even wanted to see a fire truck up close, or talk to a real fireman to know what it takes to become one? Then this is the field trip for them!

Spaces will be limited, so please sign up in advance! You must be signed up in order to attend. Contact Kelly at the office in order to do so: 530-233-3861 Kelly.mcgarva@newdayacademy.net

Date: Friday
February 17th
Time: 1:00 PM
Where: 31 Churn Creek Rd.
Redding, CA

Please meet Kelly at 12:45 in front of the station. She will be wearing her New Day Academy sweatshirt.



January Field Trip: Redding Library



Date: January 13th

Time: 1:00 PM

Where:

1100 Parkview Ave.
Redding, CA

How does a library work? We have a chance in January to find out. NDA has arranged a Redding Public Library field trip for families with children in grades K through 8.

Students will see many aspects of the library, from the "book hospital" to the book sorter, and lots more. Our field trip leader may even treat us to a

puppet show or book reading.

If you would like to attend this field trip, please call Kelly at 530-233-3861 to sign up. Spaces are limited, so please sign up as soon as you know you'd like to participate.

Sign Ups close January 6th, 2012.

A picture of what some Japanese cultures believed to be the Sun Goddess



Need a topic for a

holiday-themed report?

Why not research the history of molasses! Molasses has been used heavily since the 1600's. There is so much to learn about this gooey ingredient used in lots of holiday baking recipes!

The Winter Solstice ~ Dec. 22nd

The winter solstice marks the shortest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere, and that happens this month! After the winter solstice, the days will slowly start to get longer, meaning more daylight hours.

For some ancient cultures, the

winter solstice was a time for celebration and harvest. For example, in the Japanese culture, a sun goddess named Amaterasu was believed to emerge from her cave on the winter solstice. The return of sunlight meant food could start to grow again.

This year the winter solstice is December 22nd. If you were to stand on the North Pole at this time, you would never see the sun. BUT if you stood on the South Pole at this time, you would see sunlight even at midnight!

Traditional Holiday Cookie Recipe

Has your child ever tasted a molasses cookie? They are almost as popular for Christmas time as the fun-to-decorate sugar cookie. A century ago, molasses, known to the Japanese as "Black Honey," was used so much for daily cooking that families would buy it by the barrel. Give this recipe a try and start a Christmas tradition your kids will be sure to love:

Ingredients:

- 3/4 cup margarine, melted
- 1 cup white sugar

- 1 egg
- 1/4 cup molasses
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/2 cup white sugar

Instructions:

1. Mix margarine, sugar, and egg until smooth
2. Stir in molasses. Combine flour, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, cloves, and ginger. Blend into molasses mixture.
3. Chill dough for 1 hr.
4. Preheat oven to 375 *
5. Roll into walnut-sized balls, then roll in remaining sugar. Place 2 inches apart on cookie sheet.
6. Bake 8—10 min. Let cool.



Do you know what an ESLR is?

We do! ESLR stands for Expected Schoolwide Learning Results. The ESLRs are the skills we, as a school, want each of our graduating seniors to possess before leaving our school. Each skill is linked to one or more California State Content Standards.

As a part of our school, you may be interested to know what our ESLR's are. You can find them in our Parent-Student Handbook on Page 5, or right here in our December Newsletter! In the Spring of 2011, our staff approved the following ESLRs for New Day Academy:

New Day Academy Students will be:

ESLR #1 Academic Achievers who:

- ◆ Are self-directed, independent learners, who plan for their educational futures by setting goals and establishing priorities
- ◆ Show proficiency in essential literacy, writing, and mathematical skills
- ◆ Assume responsibility for personal lifelong learning

ESLR #2 Effective Communicators who:

- ◆ Are able to read, write, speak, and listen reflectively and critically with a sense of purpose
- ◆ Use technology effectively

ESLR #3 Responsible Citizens who:

- ◆ Are contributing members of society
- ◆ Are able to problem solve effectively, making informed and responsible decisions
- ◆ Accept and respect diverse viewpoints, lifestyles, and opinions
- ◆ Are able to function in a global society

“What we learn with pleasure, we never forget!”
~ Alfred Mercier

Winners of the Autumn Photography Contest

The votes are in, and we have our winners by grade range for the Fall Photo Contest. Photos were judged on how well they represented the theme of Autumn, as well as the quality and skill of the finished product.

Our K—5th grade First Place winner is **Samuel Hadwick**, who is a first grader in Modoc County. He took a beautiful picture of a small lake framed by the autumn foliage.

Our 6th-8th grade First Place winner is **Eric VanAcker** for his beautiful picture of a creek meandering through the fallen autumn leaves. A sunset was reflected in the water, creating complimentary colors of purple and yellow gold.

Our Second Place winner is **Felicity Jones** for her photo of a man packing through the Alaskan wilderness with his horses, enjoying the reds, browns, and greens of an early fall, which were nicely contrasted against a bright blue sky.

She wrote the following poem to accompany the photo:

*Hills of willows
With leaves held tight,
Blue mountains behind them,
Clouds in sight,
Autumn has come
When the river runs fast,
It is here in Alaska,
Yes, in the interior at last.*

In Third Place, we have **Ashleigh Dickman's** photo of Autumn's red and orange heart standing out from a background of vibrant green grass. She also had a very nice photo of an orange silhouetted sunset, but we felt the heart-shaped pile of leaves better fit the theme of the contest.

Our 9th –12th grade First Place winner is **Hannah Littier**. Out of the three photos submitted by her, it was almost impossible to choose which one was the best, but we decided to go with her photo of a boy walking along the edge of a lake while the mist rises up above the yellow foliage.

Our Second Place winner is **Abby Writer**, for her special picture of a late afternoon sun filtering through a tunnel of autumn-induced trees.

Our Third Place winner is **Kaitlyn Dickman**, for her close up photo of some vibrant, brightly colored leaves yet to fall.

Thank you to everyone who participated. All winners will receive a gift card to Barnes and Noble. Congratulations!

To view all photos submitted in the contest, please look to our website after the New Year.

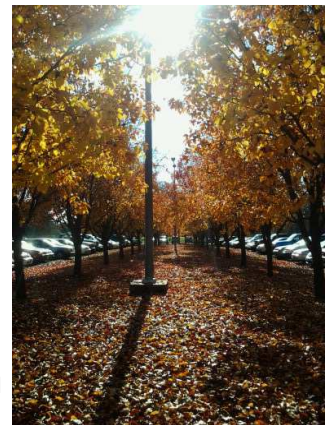


Photo by Abby Writer



Photo by Hannah Littier

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Alturas, CA 96101

New Day Academy Advisory Council Rocks!

December 5, 2011 was the second Advisory Council meeting for the 2011-2012 school year. The Council is an important group that discusses ideas for school improvement and offers advice to the Board of Directors and Executive Director. Current voting members include: Jeannie Sanders, Cindy Howard, Susan Wang, Jennifer Helmbold,

Autumn Finck, Hannah Littier, Amber Good, and Debbie Grigsby. Last meeting the group discussed potential school sponsorship in Shasta County, ideas for STAR test preparation, suggestions for STAR test incentives, and field trip options.

Meetings are open and anyone interested is encouraged to attend.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, February 7th, 6:30 PM at the YMCA Conference Room. It is a great way to influence the future of our school. For more information call Laura VanAcker at 233-3861.

No Time Like the Present!

Are you a high school student and interested in learning more about available scholarships? If so, then go online to the following web address for more information on the different scholarship application processes:

www.studentscholarships.org/scholarship.php

- ◆ NHS Scholarship Program
Deadline: January 20th, 2012
- Davidson Fellows Scholarships
Deadline: February 1st, 2012

- ◆ The Grand Scholarship
Deadline: March 1st, 2012
- ◆ Odenza Marketing Scholarship
Deadline: March 30th, 2012
- ◆ Vancouver Restaurant Scholarship
Deadline: May 30, 2012
- ◆ Healthy Lifestyles Scholarship
Deadline: May 30th, 2012
- ◆ Big Dig Scholarship
Deadline: June 1st, 2012

- ◆ Man Mac Automatic Scholarship
Deadline: June 15th, 2012



