FROM INSIDE THE NEST...

SURPRISE VALLEY JUSD

NEWSLETTER











NOV 2026
FALL ISSUE
2026-2027

NEWS FROM OUR PRINCIPAL/SUPERINTENDENT

Happy Fall,

I don't know how we are already into November; this first quarter of school has really flown by. We are off to a great start to the year. Our overall numbers are down a couple of students, we currently have 87 students, but the atmosphere at the school has been wonderful.

Staff and students got what seemed like a little longer summer break, we finished in May and then started school a week later than last year in August. We started school on August 20th. The teachers had three work days prior to welcoming students on Thursday. Our open house was on August 18th, and it is always so great to see our students on the front lawn ready to start the year. Students got to meet/see their teachers, parents helped them sign up for sports, after-school programs, and the high school students got their schedules.

The first day of school we had our welcome back breakfast and our VFW helped with cooking and serving. It is a wonderful event for students and families and it gets everyone off to a great start. Thank you VFW Post #7888 for your wonderful partnership and support. Thank you to our board members who spent the morning serving breakfast to our students and families.

This year the board of trustees approved to have cell phones collected at the door as students enter the school in the morning. At the end of the day, students received their phones back. There have been general concerns about being in contact with students, however, from the staff standpoint the change has been wonderful. Students are having conversations during breaks and lunchtime. The school culture at the high school has improved tremendously because students are not worried about the next TikTok, their streaks on Snapchat, or worrying about what students are saying or doing in other places. They are able to focus on their classes, and not having to be reminded every class period to turn in their phones to the classroom phone holder.

HORNET HIGHLIGHTS

PRINCIPAL/ SUPERINTENDENT - PP. 1-3

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PRINCIPAL/SUPERINTENDENT CONTINUED...

On September 16th, we hosted a Community Carnival, with help from MCOE. We had wonderful support from our community and members of the county's community come to participate. This was a completely free event; students and families were able to receive resources, free goodies, free books, and a free dinner. It was a very fun evening and the weather held out for us. Thank you to all those who helped organize, participate and those who attended this fun event. We are planning on hosting this again next year.



September also brought lots of volleyball games for the elementary and high school teams. Some FFA students participated in conferences, and there were many other events around the school.



October continued with volleyball season which wound down towards the end of October. FFA sent a welding team to the Shasta College Field Day and FFA also hosted their annual Pig, Swig, & Jig dinner and fundraiser. This was a great event, where students made projects for the raffle/silent auction, they served a very yummy meal, and had an exciting dessert auction. All funds raised will go towards future National Convention trips. The first quarter ended on October 23rd. To finish out the month of October, the students decorated their classroom doors to the theme "Room on the Broom," and then we had our annual Halloween Walk. We can't thank our law enforcement partners enough who help us get our students safely down to main street. We also want to thank all of our community members and businesses that participated in our Halloween Walk. Our elementary students had a wonderful afternoon. Once they returned to the school, the high school students had decorated the halls, all the lights were turned off and high school students led the littles through the hallway. They go in waves and make it age-appropriate for each group that goes through. After all of the elementary students had gone through the creepy hallway, the high school students worked together to take down the decorations, store decorations and clean up the hallway so that it was back in order for the dismissal at the end of the day.





October 12th was a non-school day for students, but staff attended a work day. We completed the FIA (Fidelity Inventory Assessment) survey, which then tied well into our afternoon conversation. Our two schools have qualified for the Community Schools Grant. We had great conversations about what community schools are, which is very different from the prior use of the term. This grant is intended to improve the "whole-child" which coordinates academic, health, social-emotional, and community resources to support students and families. We used the FIA data from this year and the prior years that we have completed the survey, along with our LCAP (Local Control Accountability Plan) to apply for this grant. Staff got to dream big and shared about their wants, needs and concerns based on school climate, partners, and dreams. It was a great day for our staff to come together and have great conversations.













PRINCIPAL/SUPERINTENDENT CONTINUED...

November has started fast and furious. We started off the month by hosting our Literacy Night. With an amusement park theme, there were literacy activities based on different games you'd find at an amusement park or carnival. It was a fun evening and there was a free dinner, churros for dessert made by our high school cooking class, the seniors sold cotton candy, and the book fair was open. Thank you for all that attended. The next two days were minimum days and the elementary teachers held the fall parent teacher conferences. The book fair also continued open through the rest of the week. Friday morning we celebrated the hard work of our elementary students at our Quarter 1 Awards Assembly. Students were awarded classroom awards, we had 22 Perfect Attendance awards (K-7), and 21 students earned Honor Roll (4-7). There were also 26 8th-12th grade students who received Honor Roll for Q1.

On November 10th, Surprise Valley schools hosted a Veteran's Day Assembly. Together with our local VFW Post #7888, we had some celebrations and education. Five students participated in presenting the colors and Mrs. Scritchfield beautifully sang the National Anthem. Mat Evans and Steve Oliver shared the history of the MIA/POW table and the significance of each item that is on or at the table. Our community shared with us veterans who have graduated from Surprise Valley High School and we used that information to create a Wall of Heroes. We have kept this information and want to continue to build on it. Thank you for sharing our local veteran graduates. Elijah Westmoreland created a video of students and staff talking about the meaning of freedom and sharing stories of veterans they know. It was a very nice tribute. Thank you, Elijah! The VFW post also recognized Allison Fernandez for holding down the fort while Mr. Fernandez is away at Tech school with the Air Guard. The final part of our assembly was recognizing the winners of the coloring/writing contests that the VFW puts on. Congratulations to these students and all the students who participated.

It has been a busy start to the school year, but there have been many wonderful things that have been happening. The students are working hard and learning lots, but they are also participating in fun activities.



FROM INSIDE THE NEST...

ELEMENTARY GRADES

KINDERGARTEN & 1ST GRADE

MRS. HEATHER PRATT

🍎 **Little Learners, BIG Adventures!**

It is hard to believe how quickly this school year is flying by! Our kindergarten and first-grade students have been busy learning, growing, exploring, and making wonderful memories along the way. From exciting classroom activities to fun adventures outside of school, we have had a fantastic start to the year!



📚 **Learning, Learning, and More Learning!**

We have been practicing letters, sounds, blending words, writing sentences, counting, solving math problems, and so much more. It has been amazing to watch each student grow in confidence and independence. Every day brings new accomplishments, and we love celebrating even the smallest victories!

☀️ **Starting Our Day the Right Way!**

One of our favorite parts of the school day is our Morning Meeting! Each morning, we gather together to start our day with a little bit of fun! We begin by greeting one another, reading our morning message and sharing our thoughts during our “Question of the Day.” You never quite know what answers you're going to get from a kindergartener or first grader, which makes this part of our morning even more entertaining!

And then of course we do a little singing and dancing! We love getting up, moving around, and showing off our best dance moves. It's the perfect way to shake out those morning wiggles and get our brains and bodies ready for a day of learning!



🍂 **Fall Fun and Classroom Memories!**

We are lucky enough to have three wonderful high school teaching assistants (TAs) who join us each morning! They have become such a fun part of our classroom family, jumping right into our Morning Meetings, joining in on the singing and dancing, and even reading stories to the students. The kids absolutely love having them around, and we love the excitement they bring to our mornings!

Speaking of reading stories, our Halloween door decorating contest had the theme “Room on the Broom,” and Addi was especially excited to read the book to our class! It was the perfect story to go along with our door decorating.

And speaking of our door decorating contest… WE WON! 🏆🎃 Our classroom door featured some of the cutest little witches you have ever seen! It was such a fun way to celebrate Halloween, show off our creativity, and make some special memories together!







KINDERGARTEN & 1ST GRADE CONTINUED

A big thank-you to our high school TAs for being such great role models and making our mornings even more special! Maggie and Addi, two of the high school TAs, share the same birthday! Of course, we couldn't let that day go by without a little celebration! We had fun celebrating these two girls who have become such a special part of our classroom family. We are so lucky to have them, and it was fun to turn the tables and make them feel a little extra special for a change!







🎃 Pumpkin Patch Adventures!

Our trip to the pumpkin patch was definitely one for the books! The kids had an absolute blast exploring, playing, and enjoying all the fall fun. One of the biggest highlights of the day was the corn box, where our students decided that TA Wyatt needed to be buried in corn! And, being the good sport that he is, Wyatt went right along with it! The kids thought this was absolutely hilarious and had the best time covering him up. I'm not sure who had more fun, the kids or Wyatt! It's moments like these that make field trips so memorable. We had plenty of laughter, lots of smiles, and some pretty great memories made along the way!



We also had a special visitor from Public Health! Jenny came to teach our class all about germs, how they spread, and why it's so important to cover our coughs and sneezes. But this wasn't just any ordinary lesson… Jenny brought a SNEEZE MACHINE! The kids got to see firsthand just how far those pesky germs can travel when we don't cover our mouths and noses properly. It was such a fun, hands-on way to learn an important lesson about keeping ourselves and others healthy. We might still need a few reminders to sneeze into our elbows, but now our little learners know exactly WHY we do it! A big thank-you to Jenny for making learning about germs so much fun!



















🚒 Fire Safety, Firefighters, and Smokey Bear!

We had a very exciting and educational day learning all about fire safety. Our students learned what to do if a fire starts in their home, the importance of calling 911 in an emergency, and how to stay safe around fire. We also learned something pretty interesting—what happens to wildlife when big wildfires break out and how animals stay safe when fires hit their habitats.

The kids also got an up-close look at firefighting equipment and learned about the important tools firefighters use to keep us safe. And, of course, the highlight of the day was getting to meet Smokey Bear! 🐻 The kids were so excited to see him! It was a wonderful day filled with learning, excitement, and some important life lessons. A big thank-you to everyone who helped make this special presentation possible.



KINDERGARTEN & 1ST GRADE CONTINUED

🎃 Costumes, Candy, and a Little Halloween Scare! 👻

Halloween is always such an exciting day for our students, and this year was no exception! Our kindergarten and first-grade students dressed up in their adorable costumes and headed out for our annual Halloween walk around town. We stopped at local businesses along the way, where our little ghosts, goblins, princesses, superheroes, and everything in between got to do some trick-or-treating! The kids had an absolute blast, and their candy bags certainly weren't empty by the time we finished! We are so fortunate to live in a community where our local businesses go out of their way to make holidays like this so special for our students. A huge thank-you to everyone who welcomed us with smiles and treats!

But the Halloween fun didn't stop there! Our high school students transformed the school hallways into a haunted house. After making our way around town, we returned to school for a little spooky adventure. There were plenty of giggles, a few nervous smiles, and maybe even a couple of brave little souls who weren't quite as brave as they thought! The high schoolers did a fantastic job creating a fun Halloween experience for our younger students.



🎃 Pumpkins, Books, and a Whole Lot of Creativity! 📚

Who knew a pumpkin could tell a story?! This year, we did a family project: pumpkin book reports. Students picked out a favorite book and, with a little help from their family, transformed an ordinary pumpkin into a character from their story. And let me tell you, the pumpkins that came back were absolutely AMAZING! The creativity, imagination, and hard work that went into these projects blew me away! We had quite the collection of book characters on display, and it was so much fun seeing everyone's unique creations.

One of my favorite parts of this project was having two students who were so excited about their books that they wanted to read them aloud to the entire class!

A huge THANK YOU to all of our families who helped bring these pumpkin characters to life! We know projects like these take time, effort, and maybe even a little patience, but the results were incredible! It was such a fun way to bring reading, creativity, and family time together.

🏆 Celebrating Our Students!

We wrapped up our first quarter with our Quarterly Awards Assembly! It was a wonderful opportunity to recognize some of our amazing students for their hard work, positive attitudes, and the kindness they show to others. We celebrated our Students of the Quarter who have demonstrated dedication, perseverance, and a love for learning. We also recognized our Citizens of the Quarter who lead by example, show kindness and respect, and consistently demonstrate what it means to be a good friend and classmate. While not every student takes home an award each quarter, we are incredibly proud of ALL our students! Congratulations to our award winners! Keep working hard, being kind, and making us proud.

<u>Kindergarten -</u>
Student of the Quarter - Leto
Citizen of the Quarter - Aiyana
<u>1st grade -</u>
Student of the Quarter - Leah
Citizen of the Quarter - Pilar
Most improved student - Peyton



Looking Ahead!

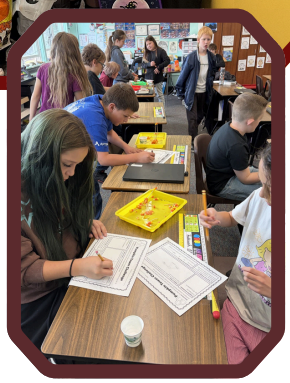
We have so many more exciting things to look forward to as the school year continues! We cannot wait to see how much more our students will accomplish. Thank you to our wonderful families for your continued support and encouragement.

4TH & 5TH GRADE

MRS. JENNY GROVE

We have had a great start to our school year. I love to start out with group activities that have students work in teams. This first quarter has flown by and it is hard to believe we are headed into the holiday season. The students have been working hard and doing a great job with their academics. We had a great time on the Halloween Walk and during our Literacy Night.

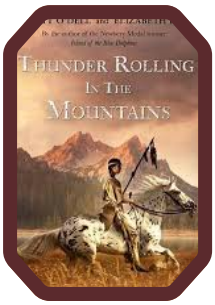






ELA

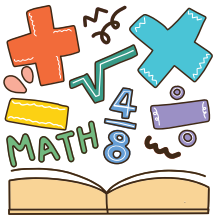
The 5th graders have been focusing on 'Cultures in Conflict' and we are learning how cultural beliefs and values guide people by using texts focusing on westward expansion and the Nez Perce culture. They are enjoying their novel "Thunder Rolling in the Mountains."



Math

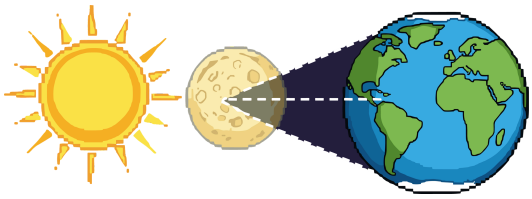
Fourth grade math has been all about place value, rounding and algorithms for adding and subtracting, converting measurements in metric form, and we have started multi-digit multiplication. The fourth graders are rocking math!

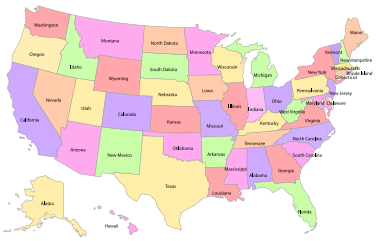
Fifth grade math has been all about place value and decimal fractions and multi-digit multiplication. They are becoming Marvelous Mathematicians multiplying 3- and 4-digit numbers by two and three-digits.



History

This year we are in a 5th grade rotation for History and Science so we are studying U.S. History. We started out the year studying U.S. States and Regions and State Capitals. Next, we looked at the geography of the United States as well as the American Indians that originally lived here. We learned about the Europeans who explored the Americas and the European colonies in North America, including issues that arose between American Indians and settlers.



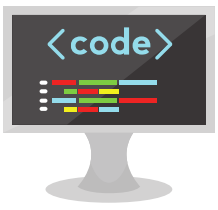


Science

For the second quarter we have started off exploring patterns of the Earth, Sun, Moon, and stars. We will investigate how shadows change throughout the day, how the Sun's position changes throughout the year, and how stars change throughout the seasons. Students will also create Earth, Sun, and Moon models to explore Moon patterns. We used our Kesler Science program and Mystery Science videos and activities to gain a beginning understanding of how our universe is structured and works.

6/7 Coding

We started out the year in code.org in a "Thinking Critically about AI" unit. AI is now part of our lives and it is important that our students understand what AI is, how it impacts our lives and how to use it properly. We've also continued with our Code Monkey program where students learn coding basics such as block-based and text-based coding. Kids also learn how to code in real programming languages like CoffeeScript and Python.



6TH & 7TH GRADE

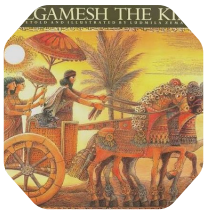
MRS. TAMERA FAIRFIELD

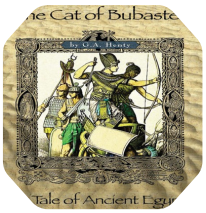
I'm so excited to be back in the 6th/7th grade classroom! It's been a whirlwind of a start, lots of things happening every week, and how is it already November?

Here's what we've been up to so far….

ELA

The students started the semester reading "The Epic of Gilgamesh," and then we started listening to "The Cat of Bubastes," which tied in with their History study of Mesopotamia and Ancient Egypt. They really enjoyed both books, and they really helped to transport them to that time in history. We will begin "The Odyssey" after Thanksgiving break, to coincide with our Ancient Greece Unit in history. Students just wrapped up our Poe-tree unit, where they learned how to craft couplets, triplets and quatrains. We read several autumn-inspired poems by authors like Robert Frost, Walt Whitman and many others. They then created their own autumn-inspired components to create their own fall Poe-tree.







Math

Both 6th and 7th received a new math curriculum this year. It has been a bit of adjusting but the students are really getting the hang of it and learning how to use the math books to their advantage. 6th grade has been working on order of operations, fractions and decimals. 7th grade started with a quick review of integers, fractions and decimals, and is starting on using algebraic expressions.

So far, it's been an exciting school year, and I am excited to continue teaching the 6th and 7th graders lots of new and exciting subjects.

$$\frac{2}{3}+\frac{3}{5}=$$

$$y=mx+b$$

History

The students started the first quarter with 6th grade history, studying the beginnings of humankind through Mesopotamia, and we are currently right in the middle of Ancient Egypt. We will be learning history throughout the year, as well as Science. Next we head to Ancient Greece, and we will spend most of the second quarter there.





Science

In science students have been learning about biotic and abiotic factors, ecosystems, biomes and we just wrapped up the carbon cycle. They have been discovering more about their own ecosystem and habitats and how it contributes and affects other habitats, especially those along the Pit River. Students got to see this firsthand when we went on our field trip to the Coleman National Fish Hatchery near the Sacramento River last month. We also toured Shasta Lake and the Dam, and learned how and why it was constructed and its impact on the Chinook salmon's habitat in the Sacramento River.

Students also started learning the scientific method and had the opportunity to experiment with watermelons. They hypothesized how many rubber bands it would take to change the circumference of the watermelon and then how many it took to cause it to explode.









MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS

MRS. HEATHER PRATT



🏐 **Serving Up a Great Volleyball Season!**

Our middle school sports season kicked off with volleyball, and this year we had two teams representing our school! Both teams worked hard, improved their skills, and showed great determination throughout the season. While we may not have walked away with a win every game, we certainly had some exciting victories to celebrate! More importantly, our athletes learned the value of teamwork, good sportsmanship, perseverance, and supporting one another both on and off the court. Coach Megan does an amazing job with our volleyball teams! It was wonderful watching the girls grow as players and gain confidence with each game. A big thank-you to our coaches and families for supporting our athletes and helping make this a successful volleyball season. Way to go, girls! 🏐❤️

🏀 **From Volleyball to Basketball… Let the Games Continue!**

As soon as volleyball wrapped up, our middle school girls were right back at it with basketball. The girls have been working hard, learning new skills, and giving it their all on the court. Their season will wrap up just before Thanksgiving break, and we are excited to see them finish strong!

We also want to give a HUGE thank-you to our amazing Booster Club! ❤️ Without their continued support, our middle school sports program simply wouldn't be possible.

And speaking of the **Booster Club**… they are always looking for new members! Joining the Booster Club is a wonderful way to get involved, give back, and help support the many activities, programs, and opportunities our school has to offer. You don't have to have a child playing sports to make a difference! Every helping hand and every little bit of time make a huge impact!

And don't worry, boys, your turn is coming!
🏀 Boys basketball will tip off in January, and we can't wait for another exciting season of middle school sports!





FROM INSIDE THE NEST...

HIGH SCHOOL GRADES

COLLEGE AND CAREER PREPARATION

MRS. HEATHER BORDWELL

The Cash-for-College FAFSA Workshop for seniors and their families was on Thursday, November 12th at 2:00pm. The Lassen College financial aid office was here to help families complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Other things continue as usual for our 12th grade students. They are responsible for keeping their grades in good order, and should be looking at schools they are interested in attending if college is their goal.

Please mark your calendar for December 1st and plan to attend the annual College and Career Fair at SVHS. We are inviting representatives from local business and agencies, as well as from local colleges. Students, families and community members are invited to come and meet with people who have experience with the many different options for the future. The fair is scheduled from 5:30pm to 7:00pm and dinner will be provided!!

College courses for High School Students:

Students enrolled in high school can take college courses at many of California's Community Colleges for free, or for a small fee. Currently, Surprise Valley High School students are taking online college classes from College of the Siskiyous, but courses are also available at no cost from Lassen College and Shasta College, to name a few. Students who are interested in taking concurrent enrollment classes at a community college in the spring semester should be thinking about what classes they want to take and preparing to enroll in December. If you are interested in this opportunity for your child please contact Mrs. Bordwell at the High School so that enrollment can happen in time to get the classes that students want.

Testing Updates:

Students in grades 8-12 have recently taken the PSAT and SAT tests. Students can access their scores through collegeboard.org. If a student registered a mobile number when they took the tests, The College Board will text them when their scores are ready. Scores should be available mid-November. The site is also useful for planning test prep as they get closer to their senior year and the SAT. SAT scores may be important for admission to some private colleges and scholarships. We give students the opportunity to take the test every year to provide another measure of progress as we plan for instruction, but also to give students experience with these important tests.

Interested seniors and juniors have recently taken the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery). While the test is used for military admission and job placement, students also take it to find out what jobs they may excel at in the private sector and will have access to the career exploration program. The program provides tools to help students learn more about career exploration and planning, in both the civilian and military worlds of work. The ASVAB Career Exploration Program is free of charge to participating schools. There will be a post-test interpretation session on December 1 at 10:00am.

Senior Prep:

The seniors and interested juniors met with Dave Tanner, of the McConnell Foundation Scholarship, on Tuesday, November 10th. He gave them some tips on writing effective essays for the McConnell Foundation Scholarship. SVHS students have received this scholarship in the past, and it has made a valuable contribution to community-minded alumni who have gone on to positively impact our community and others.

Let's Make Some Drama!

The Drama class has begun work on their Christmas Holiday play which will be presented in conjunction with the elementary school show on December 17th. It will be **funny** and **heartwarming--** we promise! 💕

PICTURES SUBMITTED BY MRS. BORDWELL



PINK OUT!





AUNTIE MAGGIE VISITS TO TELL US THE STORY OF THE WATER BULLY.



SENIORS MEET WITH DAVE TANNER.



STUDENTS AT THE COMMUNITY CARNIVAL!





FUN HALLOWEEN DECORATIONS.

MS. NORMA VISITED US AT OCTOBER'S HORNET ACADEMY.



NEWS FROM PROFESORA SCHAEFER

MRS. ADRIEN SCHAEFER

Hola!

This year, so far, in Spanish, we have celebrated Día de los Muertos, translated songs, and are writing letters to our sister classroom in Eureka, CA. Everyone is getting used to greetings, classroom words, describing themselves and now, conjugating verbs.





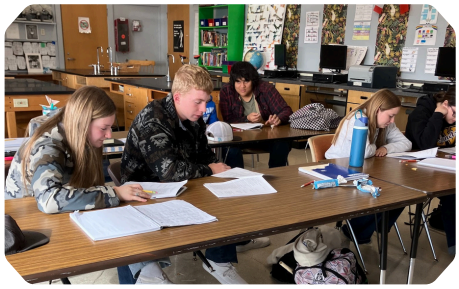
Home Economics has been busy learning kitchen safety, nutrition, and budgeting. They've been filling their recipe books with things like deviled eggs, muffins, cookies, crème brûlée and pico de gallo salsa!





9th- and 10th- grade English students have been reading Romeo and Juliet, but have been especially enjoying acting out each scene.

Algebra 1 students have been learning challenging concepts like graphing functions, absolute values, and their transformations.



8th-grade History has been learning about the 13 colonies as well as testimonial injustice versus testimonial justice regarding historical narratives of First Nations people.



STUDENT COUNCIL UPDATE

ADVISOR: MRS. JENNY GROVE

Our new Student Council officer team this year is President Talise Fernandez, Vice President Juba Mefford, Treasurer Saiya Fernandez, Secretary Gennasys Fernandez, and Public Relations Andrew Eichstadt. They have done a great job so far planning activities such as the Pink Out pep rally, Senior night, Halloween Doors, and decorating the hall for the Halloween Walk. In the works are our annual Christmas Gift Exchange and the early stages of planning for Homecoming.













A NOTE FROM THE AG DEPARTMENT...

MRS. MAIGEN SCRITCHFIELD

Falls seems to fly by as we quickly move into the winter season. Between the volleyball season, early FFA conferences and activities, our annual Pig, Swig & Jig fundraiser and Mrs. S out for professional development, the season has moved fast and we know we are still working up to the busy season.

Our second-period Ag Mech class is the smallest it has been in a while, with only two students in intermediate and six in advanced. Students worked hard the first quarter on the safety project for the Pig, Swig & Jig raffle or auction. Since the middle of October, they have taken and passed the welding safety test with flying colors and have started with oxy-fuel. This last week and until fall break we will be working on our first welding project, Christmas ornaments. They have the choice to do a CAD designed ornament as well. As we work towards the second semester, we will be starting to look at what they want to do for their fair project so we can get a positive start to that project, which takes most of the second semester.





Ag Chemistry students have been being challenged with dimensional analysis and learning the differences between isotopes and ions. These two concepts set the tone for the whole year and are also some of the hardest concepts to figure out so we can be successful during the rest of the year. We recently did a lab where students used different candy to represent different isotopes of elements. They were able to understand the effects of the number of neutrons on atomic mass. We will be starting to talk about electrons, bonding and the influence chemistry has on agriculture every day.



When sitting down to figure out the schedule this year, we decided to drop Intro to Ag, as the requirements for pathways have changed for ag and this left us with 8th Grade Ag as its own, standalone class. This will set us up for a few complications, like the work it takes to do the plant sale from prep to the sale, but with the help of a few other classes, we will make it happen successfully. They have passed their general shop safety test, started to discover the history of the FFA organization and will begin learning about the creed in the next week or so. They are a small group of three students, but they are really excited about the hands-on opportunities in this class. Check out the picture below of them making cement pumpkins!




To begin the year, Ag Bio learned all about the scientific method and how we extend it into the high school grades to be more in-depth during investigation and testing. Above students are testing the bubble sizes of different bubble gum brands. Then Ag Bio headed straight into ecosystems, carrying capacity, limiting factors, and food webs/chains. We are currently looking at human influences on ecosystems starting with the negatives and working into the ways we make choices to preserve the natural ecosystems by still supporting the agriculture industry. There are eight 9/10 graders and they are a pretty excited bunch.

Lastly, the Advanced Agribusiness class is successfully making it through our unit on sustainable business practices, starting first with ethics and applying that to past and modern agribusiness decisions. They watched both Food, Inc. and Food, Inc. 2; they then compared both and discussed the challenges and ethics of business in a Socratic seminar. They are currently analyzing the CA almond industry and will soon start reading “The Omnivore’s Dilemma.” It is exciting to have a group of students actively having successful and productive conversations.



AG DEPARTMENT CONTINUES W/FFA UPDATES...

We returned to the Mt. Shasta area this year for the officer retreat the week prior to school starting. We took a hike, visited a couple of lakes to enjoy the fresh air and lunch picnic, then spent lots of time bonding together as a team and building the foundation for the coming year.











The following week we started school and left that Friday for the Chapter Officer Leadership Conference (COLC) in Nevada City. This is one of our officer team's favorite conferences and they have the opportunity to build in different ways as a team. The officers gained a year-long mentor with a regional FFA officer and Gennasys had her first opportunity to serve her members as an Intermountain sectional officer at the face painting station during free time. When we returned, we headed straight into the Modoc Fair where students volunteered their time at the horse show, livestock show and scholarship auction. We also held our annual Fair BBQ with a few changes that included chicken and mac n' cheese. We have a few kinks to work out, but overall it was successful. We also participated in the fair parade and placed first in our division.





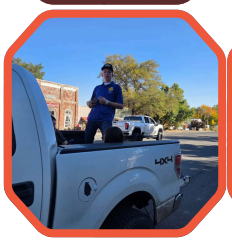



For September, we started the month off right with our first FFA meeting of the year. This year we also had four of our freshmen attend the Greenhand Leadership Conference (GLC) at Foothill High School outside of Redding. They had a great day learning about the FFA Organization and a fun treat of Dutch Bros before we headed home.




We started October off with one of the busiest Fridays in our history. We had an amazing visit from our State Officers; President Jaycee Salas and Reporter Faith Escoto. They taught different leadership workshops with our classes. During 5th period, we had our second meeting of the year and battled it out in Pumpkin Guts, a Halloween rendition of a well-known game using Uno cards where you arrange them from 0-9 the quickest. We had a ton of fun and the state officers got really into it. Later that day we also had a crew of FFA members help set-up and later take down, the First Friday trash cans, tables and road blocks. The next Thursday, Mrs. S took four of our welding team members to the Shasta College Field Day, where they learned more about welding and competed in oxy-fuel cutting and arc welding. They also took a welding knowledge test.












AG DEPARTMENT CONTINUED...



The following weekend Mrs. Scritchfield went to the annual Superior Region CATA Fall Meeting and Roadshow. Here she learned about upcoming decisions that will need to be made by the state association and participated in three professional learning workshops and toured a hunting club outside of Loyalton.

The week following was filled with Pig, Swig & Jig planning by the students and Mrs. S. The annual Pig, Swig & Jig was October 17th and was a success once again because of our community support, raffle/silent auction donors and the number of people who took the time to come out and support the members who continue to work towards attending National Convention and other conferences. It was a great night and if you did not have a chance to attend, make sure to come out next year! Put it on your calendar for Saturday, October 16, 2027!



So far this November we have practiced and then competed in the Intermountain Opening & Closing Fall Contests. We had two teams compete this year, the Advanced and Officer teams. The officer team placed 5th overall out of 12 teams! We also had our freshmen compete in BIG, sophomores in the CA Water Test and Juniors/Seniors in Co-ops. Our Co-ops team A (Gennasys, Amelia, Saiya) placed 2nd overall, Team B (Emma, Olivia, Lorenzo) 3rd overall and our Team C (Wyatt & Talise) placed 4th overall. Individual placings worth mentioning: Amelia 3rd, Saiya placed 5th. We are proud of how everyone came out to try something new and out of their comfort zones. Gennasys also had the opportunity to serve the section for the second time while helping with the awards.



UPCOMING EVENTS!

We are having our **Canned Food Scavenger Hunt** again this year! **Monday, December 14,** students will be out and about from 5:45-6:30pm. The week prior to the event, we will drop off bags at houses so they can be left on the porch if you'd like to participate. We will also leave some bags at post offices for those who don't live in town, along with directions for participating.

The W**inter Drive-thru Dinner** (homemade chili & cornbread) will happen on Wednesday, December 9th with sales closing on **Wednesday, November 18th**. Money raised is helping send students to the MFE/ALA conferences in January. Additional funds will help support FFA meeting activities.

The **Senior Luncheon** will be at the senior center on **Thursday, December 10th**. This is a free meal for any senior citizens in the valley. We would love to have you join us! The meal consists of ham, baked potatoes, salad, roll, cookie and an ice cream cup! We will also have hot coffee and homemade lemonade. **Noon at the Senior Center.**

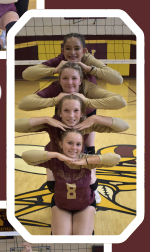


2026 SVHS HORNET VOLLEYBALL

MRS. MAIGEN SCRITCHFIELD

This was definitely a season of growth and confidence-building for the Lady Hornets. The team was coached this year by Allison Fernandez and Heather Pratt. The team captains were Seniors Gennasys Fernandez and Talise Fernandez. Here are some notable stats from the season:







Kills -

- Saiya (11) - 43 season
- Gennasys (12) - 32 season
- Maggie (10) - 27 season

Digs -

- Addi (10) - 74 season (ranked 1st in league)
- Saiya (11) - 72 season (ranked 2nd in league)
- Sooba (9) - 61 (ranked 3rd in league)

Aces -

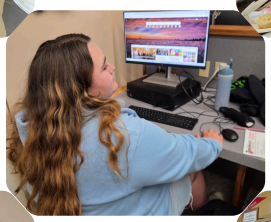
- Gennasys (12) - 24 season
- Saiya (11) - 20 season
- Olivia (11) - 7 season

Blocks -

- Gennasys (12) - 57 season (ranked 1st in league/2nd in section)
- Olivia (11) - 23 season (ranked 6th in section)
- Talise (12) - 10 (ranked 10th in league)

















HORNET ACADEMY - Q1

MRS. MAIGEN SCRITCHFIELD

Hornet academy!

We are continuing to offer Hornet Academy this year for our 8th-12th graders. Our first academy was in September. Mrs. Bordwell met with the yearbook committee, Mrs. Scritchfield taught students how to CAD design, Mrs. Venn took students on the first hike of the year to the SV and Mrs. Schaefer taught origami.

In October, Mrs. Venn took a small group of students to hike to the Bear and the Honeypot. At the school site, Mrs. Schaefer made pumpkin chocolate chip muffins, Mrs. Scritchfield taught some basic cake decorating skills with monster cupcakes and Mrs. Bordwell joined our community guest, Ms. Norma, to make suncatchers and wall plaster ghost paintings.

We are skipping November but will be coming back together for a super fun Clue-themed Hornet Academy in December.



SENIOR CLASS UPDATE

ADVISOR: MRS. MAIGEN SCRITCHFIELD

The seniors have had such a great start to their year. Thank you to everyone who has bought a dessert and/or attended the Halloween Carnival. We really appreciate it. Make sure to look ahead for more fundraisers and baked goods at the basketball games.

We plan to go and get the Christmas tree for the hallway on Monday, November 30th.







FROM INSIDE THE NEST...

UPCOMING DISTRICT EVENTS

**ALL GAMES LISTED HERE ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

NOVEMBER

FIRST HOME GAME IS MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH!
4:30PM VS. WESTWOOD!

DECEMBER

1: COLLEGE & CAREER NIGHT 5:30PM
2: MINIMUM DAY
3-6: GREENVILLE BBALL TOURNEY
7: HORNET ACADEMY
8: BBALL GAME @HOME VS. BIG VALLEY 5:30PM
9: FFA WINTER DRIVE-THRU DINNER 5:30-7
10: SV FFA SENIOR LUNCHEON
10: SVJUSD BOARD MEETING @7PM
11: TBD - BBALL @DUNSMUIR
14: SV FFA CANNED FOOD SCAVENGER HUNT 5:30
15: BBALL VS. HAPPY CAMP @MCCLOUD
16: MINIMUM DAY
17: SVJUSD CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
18: MINIMUM DAY
21-JAN 1: WINTER BREAK

JANUARY

5: BBALL @BUTTE VALLEY - 5:30
6: MINIMUM DAY
8: BBALL @HAYFORK - 5:30
11: SITE COUNCIL @3:45
12: BBALL @TULELAKE - 5:30
14: SVJUSD BOARD MEETING @7PM
15: END OF Q2/S1
16: TULELAKE FFA FIELD DAY
18: NO SCHOOL - MLK DAY
20: MINIMUM DAY
22-23: MFE/ALA
25: HORNET ACADEMY
26: BBALL VS. HAPPY CAMP @MCCLOUD
28: HOME BBALL VS. BUTTE VALLEY
30: HOME BBALL VS. HAYFORK

FEBRUARY

2: HOME BBALL VS. TULELAKE
3: MINIMUM DAY
6: ACADEMIC DECATHALON
9: SV AG DEPARTMENT ADVISORY MEETING
10: INTERMOUNTAIN SPRING SPEAKING CONTESTS
11: SVJUSD BOARD MEETING
12: SV FFA MEETING
15: NO SCHOOL - PRESIDENT'S DAY
17: MINIMUM DAY
19: Q3 PROGRESS
20: CHICO STATE FFA FIELD DAY
22: HORNET ACADEMY
22-26: FFA WEEK
26: AG OLYMPICS

