



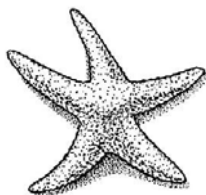
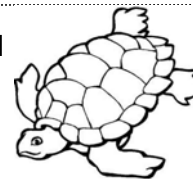
SFMS Mustangs

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KEEP Camping

In December, 50 students from South Fork Middle School traveled to Morro Bay for the Kern Environmental Education Program known as KEEP. These students spent five days learning about the science and ecology of the coastal area. Most students hiked at least two times a day, spent time in the KEEP laboratory, and enjoyed nightly songs and skits. Many students enjoyed "belly biology," a fun session in which students lay on their stomachs and look at creatures in the water below. Of course, they also loved exploring the mud flats and touching the interesting creatures found in the muck left by the tide. Some students, after an especially difficult hike, were rewarded with an Indian painting session, in which they use the powder made from grinding particular wet rocks to paint their faces. Ultimately, the students loved the experience!



A special thank you to the parents, teachers, and volunteers who gave up a week with their families to chaperone the trip.

Special points of interest:

- 91 South Fork Middle School students had zero suspensions and fewer than 4 detentions for the second quarter! That's 67%!
- 44% had no detentions!
- 50% of SFMS students had perfect attendance for 2nd quarter.
- 25 students qualified for the Kevin McCarthy Award: zero detentions, 3.5 or better GPA, and 95% attendance!
- 61% made honor roll!
- See inside for our entire honor roll list!

Funding Up-dates



Congratulations to all of the students who worked so hard to earn money for the Walk-a-thon!

Top earners:

#1: Morgan Green

\$301.00

#2: Rebecca Bowen

\$298.00

#3: Timber Miriah

\$289.00

#4: Ashley Yasin

\$286.00

This year, we have earned \$8,800 in fund raisers. Unfortunately, Camp KEEP alone costs the student body over \$18,000! Dances, field trips, assemblies, awards, and graduations cost and additional \$5,000. Students may pay for extra activities and events individually, such as dances or Magic Mountain, pay \$100 flat rate to the school, or raise money through fund raisers. Student council will offer additional fund raising op-

portunities in the spring. Look for some cool catalogues to come home that offer everything from candles, to jewelry, to clothing, and more! (Please remember that each student that sells items in fund raisers is credited 40% of the total that they sell; the items cost us 60% of the total selling price.)

Call Dawne Gibson or Mary Ann Morgan at 760-378-1300 to make a donation!



Watch for This...

EVENTS & HOLIDAYS:

- January 16:* Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.
- January 18:* MINIMUM DAY!
- February 1:* MINIMUM DAY!
- February 9:* 3rd Quarter Progress Reports go home.
- February 13:* Lincoln's Birthday Holiday.
- February 15:* MINIMUM DAY!
- February 20:* President's Day Holiday
- February 23:* OPEN HOUSE
- February 29:* MINIMUM DAY!
- March 9:* End of 3rd Quarter



Congratulations
TO
Katie
Lamping
2nd
QUARTER
DVD/VCR
winner!

Upcoming Attendance Awards:

Each month that your student attends school every day, he or she gets an attendance bracelet, a small reward, and a ticket towards a raffle.

3rd Quarter raffle:

Nintendo DSI

4th Quarter raffle:

Bicycle w/helmet

Less than 5 **EXCUSED** absences by the end of the year:

32 inch flat screen TV or a Kodak Rechargeable Camera

"Ch-Ch-Change"



Adolescence is a period of rapid changes...

Between the ages of 12 and 17, the parent ages as much as 20 years!

Author Unknown

Middle school is a time of dramatic changes for kids. Not only do they have to deal with constantly changing bodies, hormones, and social relationships, but they have to change classes and teachers. This can be a difficult time for them...and you! Here are some tips to help you.

1. Understand that your child's emotional, irrational reaction to something may be their hormones—be patient.
2. Take a little time each day to help him/her organize. Homework folders and journals are only successful if you establish consistency and accountability.
3. Check school calendars for holidays, minimum days, lunch schedules, and events. We have a yearly calendar on the back of the student handbook, monthly calendars, and school newsletters sent home in paper form and posted on the website.
4. Change is good, so I've heard, but hard. We CAN make it!

Sports News: BASKETBALL!!



We still have several basketball games scheduled for the school year. Games start at approximately 3:30 pm and last between 45 to 60 minutes per team. Games start every 60 minutes. We offer a snack bar at most home games for both players and attendees.

Home Games:

January 12 (2 teams)

January 17 (4 teams)

January 24

(1 girl's team)

January 26 (2 teams)

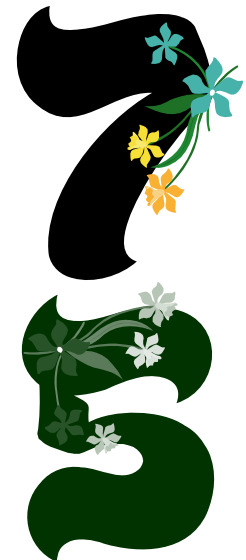
February 2 (4 teams)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
★
★ **Prices:** ★
★ Adult: \$2.00 ★
★ Child (0-middle ★
★ school): \$1.00 ★
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



2nd Quarter Honor Roll

Platinum Honor Roll:	Gold Honor Roll:	Silver Honor Roll:	Sean Deegan
Samantha Helms	Hannah Hurley	Garrett Carothers	Anastasia Dickson
Tylee Hogue	Haley Peterson	Emilee Deegan	Kimberly Garcia
Faith Marshall	Kaylie Torres	Rachel Driskell	Dylan Harbuck
Maddison McMullen	Hayley Bevan	Morgan Olson	Samantha Hurley
Kassy Opferman	Kaitlyn Booher	Nadia Roberts	Luis Mendoza
Gordon Wray	Bryanna Ege	Thomas Schrody	Abigail Opferman
Tyler Cazares	Brittany Mazzarini	Tyler Simunovich	Marlena Sanchez
Gabriella Damron	Angelina Sanchez	Brandon Valdez	Dustin Avila
Mark Fulkerson	Juliana Thom	Taylor Alldredge	Emil Priesol
Morgan Green	Devon Vittoria	Jesse Boswell-Lee	Payton Booher
Skylar Newton	Cristal Anzaldo	Stephen D'amico	Charlotte Davenport
Isabella Sunderland	Cole Behm	Serenity Durham	Harleigh Harbuck
Daniel Wray	Rebecca Bowen	Mariah Embree	Tamra Hoover
Dakota Harbuck	Jacob McCullough	Kelly Hand	Austin Hurley
Zachary Hendrickson	Jessica Melby	Zeno LaGrand	Timber Miriah
Sadie Mollenauer	Sharri Cazares	Theresa Lail	Richard Pulido
Skye Simunovich	Mackensie Eirich	Katie Lamping	Shelby Robertson
Aurora Sunderland	Ashlee Garcia	Revel Marshall	Destinee Rose
Tori Hogue	Brittany Smith	Bailey Settlemire	Sean Wilson
Ricky Moreno		Mackenzie Weghorst	Nicholas Wooley
Ashley Yasin			



Percentage of students that we want to make honor roll for 2nd Quarter!

Smoooooke Signals

Experts advise parents to start talking to their children about the dangers of smoking around age 5 or 6 since many children start using tobacco at age 11 and are addicted by age 14. Short-term effects include coughing and throat irritation while increased heart-rate and blood-pressure, as well as bronchitis, emphysema, cancer and heart disease are possible in the long-term.

Some suggestions to help you encourage your child to stay away from tobacco use are:

1. Encourage your children to get involved in activities that prohibit smoking, such as sports.
2. Talk to your kids about the dangers of smoking when opportunities arise.
3. Ask your children what they find appealing—or

unappealing, about smoking.

4. Discuss ways to respond to peer pressure to smoke. Practice with your child.
5. Make, and abide by, strong rules about smoking.
6. Never smoke in front of your children or leave cigarettes where they can get them.

Did you know...

“Ninety percent of adult smokers started as children. Each day, 4,400 kids become regular smokers.”

Check the school website for links to teacher sites.
www.southforkschool.org

SSA

Early in November, 50 students at SFMS were trained to be Safe School Ambassadors (SSA). These students were taught how to assess situations that occur among their peers and how to help the situations through appropriate actions, such as en-

couraging others, befriending them, or getting help when the situation warrants. We will be holding weekly meetings with these students to help encourage them to continue to make a difference! We want every student at South Fork to feel safe and comfortable.

Did you know...

If every student at SFMS made one positive action to help another student we would have:

675
 positive actions/week
24,300
 actions for the year



South Fork Middle School Mustangs Succeed in School!





SOUTH FORK MIDDLE SCHOOL

5225 Kelso Valley Road
Weldon, CA 93283

Phone: 760-378-1300
Fax: 760-378-9113
E-mail: anthome@zeus.kern.org

South Fork Students Succeed!

We're on the web!

www.southforkschool.org

SFUSD



Missing a jacket, shoes, or other personal item? Check the bags next to the middle school office for lost and found items. They will be discarded after one week!!



**To volunteer for this and other events contact:
760-378-2211**



(Vice) Principal's Closing:



Dear Parents, Guardians, Students, and Community Members:

The first half of the school year is over already and we have started the second half of our adventure! As you make your own plans for the next five months, these are some things to keep in mind:

1. Basketball players still have games and practices for the next month. We have nine games left! Please remember that **girls generally have practices on Mondays** and **boys have practices on Wednesdays**, but those *schedules change depending on games*. Remember to ask your athlete for the latest information.
2. **Students in the 8th grade must earn a "C-" in EACH class in order to graduate.** They must have all of their fees paid (cafeteria, library, and event) AND be in good academic AND behavioral standing in order to attend end-of-the-year activities such as Magic Mountain, graduation ceremonies, and graduation dances. *Eighth graders must not miss over 18 days of school to qualify for graduation.*
3. LOOK FOR OUR LAST STUDENT COUNCIL FUNDRAISER FROM JANUARY 29 TO FEBRUARY 15! Great items will be on sale! Look for our catalogue to come home in the next few weeks.

Please enjoy the great weather and call us with concerns or questions! Sincerely, Annette Thomey



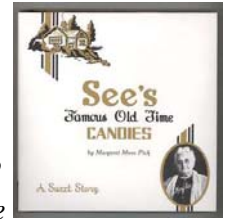
PTC Activities!

PTC meets the second Monday of each month in the elementary school cafeteria at 2:45 pm. We could always use extra volunteers and helpers to work events! The next meeting will be February 6th.

This fall we had our first See's Candy Sale and raised over \$1,750. We also held our Santa Store at both the elementary and middle school, raising \$1,100! The kids love being able to purchase inexpensive items for



friends and family. *A special thanks to the people who volunteered for the sale and gave their gift wrapping assistance!*



PTC will be working on the year book in January.

Please look for fliers so that your family can pre-order your copy before February 15th (cut off for messages and pre-orders)!