



APRIL 2026

COUGAR NEWS

Letter from the Principal

Cougar Families,

Teachers have been preparing students for the CAASPP tests with standards-based instruction as well as test-taking “practice” so that students are familiar with the testing format and strategies. You can help your children during the upcoming testing period, beginning **Monday, May 12th** by making sure they come to school with plenty of rest, a good breakfast and a positive attitude.

In addition, please help your child avoid unnecessary absences during testing by not scheduling appointments and/or planning special trips during this time. Here are some other ways parents can help their children prepare for standardized tests:

1. Prepare for tests one day at a time – Some students get so worried about tests that they don’t do well on test day. Encourage your child to simply do their best, and be sure to point out their strengths. Your confidence will be contagious.

2. The night before the test – When possible, try to spend a relaxing evening at home. It is important for your child to get a good night’s sleep.

3. Start the day off right – Getting up early on test days helps prevent the morning rush and allows time for a complete, unhurried breakfast. Avoid topics or arguments that may be upsetting. Starting the day on a pleasant note will likely send your child to school with good feelings.

4. Remind your child of the following practical test-taking tips:

- Reading or listening carefully to the directions is probably the most helpful thing to do
- Check answers carefully. It never hurts to review answers to avoid making careless mistakes.
- Skip a question and move on if you don’t know the answer. You can always come back later. Maybe you will be ready to answer that question then.

Continued...

Letter from the Principal Continued...

Important Updates

- At the time of this writing, our track and field season remains uncertain. Opportunities to participate have been very limited, and most available meets are located outside of our area. As a result, we are still determining whether a traditional track season will be possible this year.

With that said, we are excited to share some great news—Clear Creek will be launching a new sport this year: **Mountain Biking!** This opportunity will be open to both boys and girls in grades 4 through 8. The season will include six races. We are looking forward to seeing our Cougars represent our school in this exciting new way. More details, including practice schedules and start dates, will be shared soon.

Finally, we want to inform you that Mrs. Hyatt has made the decision to pursue a new professional venture and will be leaving Clear Creek School. While we are excited for her to begin a new chapter, we are truly saddened to see her go. Mrs. Hyatt has been an exceptional educator who has made a lasting impact on our students and school community. Please read her heartfelt letter on page 4.

As we look ahead, we will begin the process of hiring a new 8th grade teacher for the upcoming school year. Please join us in wishing Mrs. Hyatt all the very best! She will always be a valued member of the Clear Creek Cougar family.

PTC

The Spring Fling Family Dance is scheduled for Friday, April 17 from 6–8 pm. This will be a fun filled evening and I hope to see all of you there! Without the support of our PTC events like these would not be possible. If you are not currently active with our PTC I want to encourage you to come to the next meeting and get involved. Our next meeting is on **April 15th at 3:00 PM** and you are all invited.

Home – School Communication

Good communication between the school and home is very important to us and we are working to provide numerous ways for this good communication to take place. Please call the school office when your child is sick and cannot attend school.

Happy April,

Duane Triplett
Superintendent/Principal

EVEN MORE COUGAR NEWS...



Huge Shout Out

We want to take a moment to honor Mr. Triplett's recent recognition as a top administrator! Last month he was the recipient of two very notable awards:

1. Superintendent/Principal of the Year in Nevada County for his work within Clear Creek School District and the,
2. Region Two Administrator of the Year award, encompassing the 11 different schools he has served at.

These awards were given to Duane Triplett in honor of his exemplary leadership and dedication to the districts he has faithfully served over the tenure of his outstanding career.

Thank you Mr. Triplett for your continued support of the students and families of Clear Creek School!

Congratulations on these well deserved awards!



Upcoming Events

- April 1st- IFly Field Trip for 6th grade
- April 2nd- Art to Remember DUE!
- April 3rd- 10th NO SCHOOL, Spring Break
- April 13th- Garden Day
- April 14th- Board Meeting @ 4:30pm
- April 15th- PTC Meeting @ 3pm
- April 16th- Girls VBall Game @ 6 @ RS
- April 17th- Family Dance @ 6pm
- April 21st- 23rd - Girls Volleyball Tourney
- April 24th- SPIRIT DAY: Recycled Costumes and Frozen Fridays begin
- April 27th- 30th - Tech Week for Alice
- May 3rd- CC Alice in Wonderland Jr. Performance at 2pm FREE EVENT!

Dear Clear Creek Families,

I wanted to take a moment to share a personal update with you as we move toward the end of the school year.

At the conclusion of this year, I will be stepping away from my teaching position at

Clear Creek Elementary. Making this decision has not been easy, because Clear Creek has become so much more than a workplace to me. It is a community built on care, connection, and support, and I feel incredibly grateful to have been part of it.

During my time here, I have had the privilege of teaching many wonderful students and getting to know families across our school. Whether in the classroom, at school events, on field trips, or through everyday conversations, I have felt a genuine sense of belonging that makes Clear Creek truly special. The kindness and encouragement shown by students, families, and staff have meant more to me than I can fully express. Teaching middle school, and especially working with our 8th grade students, has been an experience I will always treasure. It is such a unique and important season of growth as students begin discovering who they are and who they want to become. I have loved watching their confidence grow, seeing them take academic and personal risks, and witnessing the humor, leadership, and compassion they bring into our classrooms each day. Being part of their journey as they prepare to take their next steps beyond Clear Creek has been a true honor.

Working with your children has been one of the greatest joys of my life. Watching them grow academically, socially, and personally has been both inspiring and rewarding. Clear Creek students bring curiosity, resilience, kindness, and heart into everything they do, and I feel honored to have been even a small part of their journeys.

As I look ahead, I am excited to begin a new chapter as I work toward opening my own childcare program. This step allows me to continue supporting children and families in a different way while following a dream that has been growing in my heart. Although my role will be changing, my passion for nurturing young people and building strong community connections remains the same.

Clear Creek will always hold a special place in my heart. The relationships, memories, and laughter shared here are things I will carry with me long after this school year ends.

Thank you for welcoming me into your community, for your kindness, and for the trust you place in those who care for and teach your children each day. I am deeply grateful for my time here and look forward to finishing the year alongside this incredible school family.

With sincere gratitude,

Mrs. Hyatt

Gonna Miss You!



CLEAR CREEK FAMILY DANCE

SPRING FLING

**6PM ON FRIDAY
APRIL 17TH**

**TICKETS
ONLY
\$10/ADULT,
KIDS ARE
FREE!!!!**

**ALL CLEAR CREEK FAMILIES
WELCOME TO ATTEND FOR
DANCING, FOOD, GAMES AND FUN.**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE
FOR PURCHASE AFTER
SCHOOL ON APRIL 1, 13
AND 15.**

**VENMO, CASH OR CHECK
ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED
BY AN ADULT**

CC Library

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2026



Mark Your Calendars for May!

5/18/2026 - 5/22/2026

We'll be open all week 5/18 through 5/22 right after school until the last shopper leaves - and Open House too!

Create your child's Book Fair eWallet starting 4/27 so they can shop cash-free, worry-free, and independently!

It's easy to set up and easy for others to contribute funds! Start here: [eWallet Setup](#)



Lions Club Contest

Stay tuned this month for the announcement of the winners of our March Lions Club Reading Contest! Generously sponsored by the Higgins Diggins Lions Club, with \$300 in cash prizes for six hardworking readers who finished AR quizzes to be entered into the raffle!

Calendar

- April 1 - April Fool's Day
- April 3 - 10 - Spring Break
- April 15 - World Art Day
- April 22 - Earth Day

CAASP Testing is coming in May! Remember to get plenty of rest, eat a good breakfast & bring your water bottle.



YOU CAN DO IT!





Kindly Save the Date for...

Muffins for Moms!

Wednesday, May 6th
8:45-9:30 AM
Clear Creek School Gym

Join us for TK & K presentations and a cozy reception with fruit, muffins, juice, and iced coffee!

Mommas, this is a special opportunity for you to spend time with your child. We kindly request that this event is for your Clear Creek TK/K student only.



Breakfast Menu

MONDAY

French Toast Sticks and Sausage 4/6 & 4/20

Scrambled Eggs and Hash Brown 4/13 & 4/27

TUESDAY

Truckee Sourdough Bagel with
cream cheese



WEDNESDAY

Fresh Baked Wednesday

THURSDAY

Sausage, Egg, and Cheese sandwich on
a Truckee Sourdough English Muffin

FRIDAY

Yogurt Parfait



Includes Milk and Fresh Fruit
Cereal offered as an alternative daily
Menu may vary based on availability



MENU

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APRIL
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Lunch

		Pulled Pork Sandwich on a Truckee Sourdough Bun ^{LS, WG} & Onion Rings	Regenerative Burger ^{LS} on a Truckee Sourdough Bun ^{LS, WG} & Wedge Potatoes	2	3
6	7	8	9	No School	
Spring Break					
13	14	15	16	17	
Chicken Nuggets ^{WG} with Potato Wedges	General Tso Dumplings with Vegetable Fried Rice	Chicken Alfredo Pasta ^{WG} with a Roll ^{WG}	Breaded Chicken Sandwich ^{WG} on a Truckee Sourdough Bun ^{LS, WG} with Wedge Potatoes	Shredded Beef Tamales	
20	21	22	23	24	
Mary's BBQ Chicken Drumstick with Mashed Potatoes and a Roll ^{WG}	Orange Chicken ^{DF} and Vegetable Fried Rice	Macaroni ^{WG} & Cheese	Beef Soft Tacos	Sicilian Style Pepperoni or Cheese Pizza ^{WG}	
27	28	29	30		
Chicken Nuggets ^{WG} with Potato Wedges	Teriyaki Chicken ^{DF} and Vegetable Fried Rice	Baked Potato Bar	Regenerative Burger ^{LS} on a Truckee Sourdough Bun ^{LS, WG} & Wedge Potatoes		

All meals served with Clover Sonoma RBST-free 1% or fat free milk. Menu may vary based on availability.

Community Roots Vision: Nourishing Nevada County students with fresh, locally sourced meals, fostering health, sustainability, and community well-being.

www.c o m m unityr oots nc .o r g

Salad Bar is available everyday with:

- Romaine lettuce
- Broccoli
- Cherry tomatoes
- Celery
- Cucumbers
- Fruit
- Baby carrots
- ...and more!

DF = Dairy Free
 LS = Locally Sourced
 WG = Whole Grain

Follow us!
[Instagram](#)
[Facebook](#)
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Western Gateway Park

Penn Valley Community Easter Egg HUNT

Saturday April 4th 2026

ARRIVE by 9:00 AM Hunt begins 9:30 AM SHARP!

*FREE event * Ages 1-12 * 6000 EGGs * Special prizes *

* Face Painting, Crafts, Balloon animals *

*Coffee, hot cocoa, pastries for sale *



For info call Tina 530-713-2296
or Lori 916-344-1980

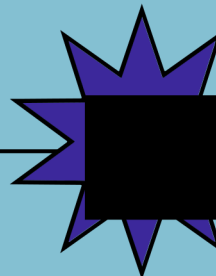
or

Sponsored by
Penn Valley Lions,
Chamber & Rotary,
Word-A-Live Church,
Gladys Martines
Empire Home Loans
New Life Nursery



SUMMER 2026

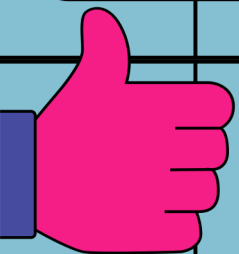
- Help with youth programs and activities
- Sign kids up for the summer reading challenge
- Gain skills for your resume or college applications
- Earn a SafeServ Certificate
- Earn 18.05 per hour
- 4 to 10 hours per week
- Monday - Friday, June 16 to Aug. 4
- Mandatory orientation, June 16
- To be considered for the library internship, please apply at <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/>



Open to applicants ages 14-18 who are enrolled in high school for the 26 - 27 school year with a valid work permit.

(Available from the school registrar upon hire.)

Application deadline:
May 3, 2026



Have questions?

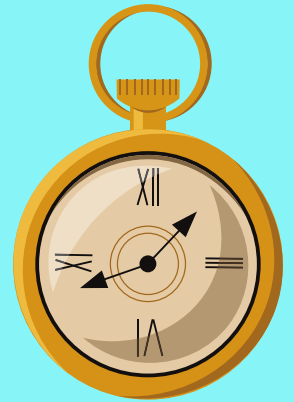
Interested teens may call Tricia Caspers @ 530-265-1541 or email tricia.caspers-ross@nevadacountyca.gov for more information.



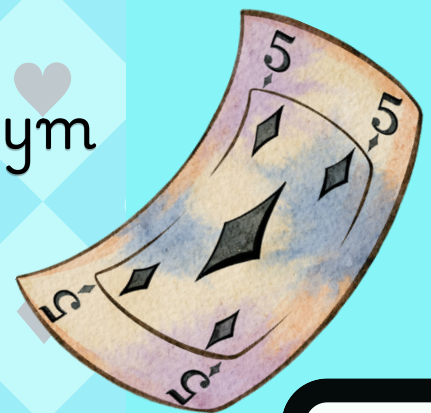
LYRIC ROSE THEATRE COMPANY
/ AND CLEAR CREEK SCHOOL
PRESENT:



DIRECTED BY:
TINA MARIE KELLEY &
HARRISON MCCORMICK



FREE
Community Performance:
Sunday, May 3rd at
2:00 PM
In The Clear Creek Gym



Art Fundraiser Due Soon!



Our school is participating in a fundraiser with Art to Remember. This program benefits our art department and you will have the opportunity to purchase keepsake items customized with your child's artwork. The products make great gifts for friends and family members!



[Link to order form, click here.](#)