

THE WEEKLY TIE-DYE

THE OFFICIAL NEWS OF FREMONT OPEN PLAN

LOOKING AHEAD

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Wed, Apr 24

- **Minimum Day**

Sat, Apr 27, 9:00am-12:00noon

- Garden Work Day

Fri, May 3

- Harry Potter Dress-Up Day

Thu, May 9

- **Minimum Day**

Thu, May 9, 6:00-7:00pm

- Open House (Parent info meeting 5:30-6:00 – see below)

Tue, May 14, 6:00pm

- PAG Meeting – Library

Wed, May 15

- **Minimum Day**

Thu, May 16, 7:00pm

- FOP Spring Production – Downey High Theater

Wed, May 22

- Pajama Day

Fri, May 24, 5:00pm

- FOP End of the Year Picnic – Downey Park

Mon, May 27

- **No School**

Tue, May 28 through Fri, May 31

- **Minimum Days**

Thu, May 30, Morning

- Play Day

Fri, May 31

- Farewell Ceremony

- **Last day of School!**

CALENDAR NOTES – SAVE THE DATES!

OPEN HOUSE

Our annual Open House is scheduled for **Thursday, May 9, from 6:00 to 7:00pm**. This is a chance for our kids to show off all of the amazing things they've been working on. Prior to Open House, from 5:30-6:00 in the cafeteria, is a parent information meeting with the architect for the facility upgrades that will be occurring at Fremont over the next few years. Exciting times!

END OF THE YEAR PICNIC

The annual FOP End of the Year Picnic will be held at Downey Park on **Friday, May 24 at 5:00pm**. Our planners are arranging a delicious meal which can be pre-ordered, and some fun activities. It's a great way to cap off the school year. Watch for more info coming very soon!

PLAY DAY

As you've no doubt seen, Roosevelt Park is closed for an extended period of refurbishment. So this year, our kids will be bussed to a nearby park for another super fun Play Day on the morning of **Thursday, May 30**. This event is successful only with lots of parent help, so please plan to attend if possible. More details coming soon.

IN THE GARDENS

WORK DAY THIS WEEKEND!

This Saturday, April 27, from 9:00am to noon

is another garden work day. We're expecting a large truckload of mulch, and need many hands to spread it throughout the gardens. If you can bring a wheelbarrow and/or garden tools for this purpose, that would be helpful. There's other work to do also, so please come on out!



MSG FROM FOP STAFF RE: NEXT YEAR

DISTRICT & DEPARTMENT CHANGES

Modesto City Schools has recently announced the implementation of Full-Day Kindergarten. Due to this change, Open Plan staff has had to consider how this will affect our program. After much discussion, we would like to share the anticipated department configuration. This tentative proposal is scheduled to be finalized at a meeting with District administration on May 3:

Kindergarten will be a stand-alone department

Primary Dept. will be 1st & 2nd grades

Middle Dept. will be 3rd & 4th grades

Upper Dept. will be 5th & 6th grades

We are excited to have flexibility within and between departments to best meet the needs of students.

As discussed in detail at last week's PAG meeting, there are state required reporting constraints which may cause our class rosters to look different than our learning day. Be assured that we will continue to provide the multi-age alternative education to which we are all committed.

We will continue to update you about further developments, including which teachers will be in which departments, as these things are finalized.

STUDENT PLACEMENT

As the end of the school year approaches, and now with department changes in the works, parents may be thinking about placement of their students for next year. We would like parents to know how much time staff spends together carefully discussing these placements. Many factors must be considered as we seek to build classroom communities where all students can thrive. As teachers we have had opportunities to observe students interact in small groups, rotations, and grade level groups. All of these observations inform our decision making as we endeavor to create balanced classrooms. We encourage you to have confidence in this process, knowing that we have the best interests of every child at heart.

While requesting specific teachers is discouraged, we do have forms available in the office that allow you to express any special needs or concerns that you have for your child's placement for the upcoming school year. These forms must be turned in by Friday, May 3 to be considered. Thanks!