

# Out & About @ Fort Ross

March 13, 2009

"Congratulations Mrs. Thistle!" Those words were heard around campus today as a surprise baby shower was thrown by the students and parents in Mrs. Thistle's class. This will be her last day at school for a while. Her baby is due March 22. Good Luck!

There is another new face that will grace the K-2 Classroom. Mundy Richards is joining our team to be a resource aid for the rest of the year. Welcome!

This past Wednesday the school field trip to Still Water Cove Ranch was quite a success. We could not have ordered better weather. The day started with Jerry Rudy talking to the whole group about the history of the ranch as an all boys' school where his parents were teachers. He made us all jump as he set off an antique bear trap that was used decades ago to catch bears or barn robbers. Everyone enjoyed that. We then split up into groups. The K-2 explored Stockoff creek. They took their shovels and pails and investigated the rocks and pebbles found in the creek bed. The 3-5<sup>th</sup> grade followed Jerry to the fence to look out over the beautiful ocean and listened as he talked about the land formation and tectonic plate movement. They then hiked up to the grassy knoll in the pasture and tried to put themselves back in the time of the Native Americans. Jerry shared numerous Native American artifacts. A hike down to the ocean was where they ended their day. The 6-8<sup>th</sup> graders' day started with a hike and culminated with a discussion with Jerry. They collected owl pellets to dissect back at school and discovered a full sheep skeleton. A HUGE thank you to Jerry and Lauri Arnold for arranging this wonderful day!

Thank you to all of the parents who made it out for Parent Teacher conferences this week. We had almost 100% attendance! It is really encouraging for us to meet with you and discuss your children. Together, we make an incredible team in supporting your children's education.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Yours in Education,

Mrs. Thistle, Mr. Hammer, & Mrs. Weiss