SunRidge School

A public school guided by the core principles of Waldorf Education in Sebastopol, CA

SunRidge School Bulletin

November 4th, 2026



The Falling Leaves Festival is this Saturday, November 7th!

There is something so special in the early leaves drifting from the trees
—as if we are all to be allowed a chance to peel, to refresh, to start again.

-Ruth Ahmed

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Calendar

To view the calendar on the school website, click here:
To view the 26-27 calendar click this pdf: *2026-27* SunRidge School Year Calendar
Please click here for directions on exporting the SunRidge School Calendar.

Friday, November 6th, after drop off
CommuniTea

Saturday, November 7th, 11:00 am - 3:00 pm
Falling Leaves Festival

Wednesday, November 11th
No School in observance of Veterans Day

Tuesday, November 17th, 9:00 - 10:00 am
Prospective Parent Tour

Tuesday, November 17th, 5:30 - 7:30 pm
Equity Council Mtg. via Zoom

Wednesday, November 18th
5th Grade Play

Thursday, November 19th
5th Grade Play

Friday, November 20th, 9:00 am - 12:45 pm
Chosen Elders' Day

Friday, November 20th
Early Release Day

Monday, November 23rd - Friday, November 27th
Thanksgiving Break, No School

Monday, November 30th, 9:00 am - 12:15 pm
TK / K Laguna Uplands Walking Field Trip



Photos from the 2025 Falling Leaves Market Place



Falling Leaves Donations

We must receive donated items by November 3 or ASAP with a donation form

- Donation forms can be downloaded and printed at home. Hard copies are available in the office.
- Deliver donations with forms between October 12th and November 3 to the labeled space at the SunRidge school office.

Thank you in advance for your heartfelt contributions to this true community effort. Please contact us with any questions about the “Falling Leaves Handmade Marketplace”.

See you at the festival,
Tanessa (tanessa27@gmail.com) and Amy (Amy.cagulada@gmail.com) on behalf of SunRidge Parent Council



SunRidge Chosen Elders' Day

Friday, November 20th
9am - 12:45 pm
To reserve space(s) please click the link below:

Click Here

Winter Spiral News

Dear Families,

We are delighted to announce that our beloved Winter Spiral festival will take place on December 10th and 11th. Concurrently, we recognize that these dates fall on the last days of Hanukkah and may conflict with families' holiday celebrations. The preceding Friday also falls during Hanukkah and conflicts with another event that could not be rescheduled, thus limiting our options.

Please know that we deeply regret this overlap. We honor the traditions celebrated within our community and understand the importance of gathering with loved ones during these meaningful days. Thank you for your understanding as we hold both the joy of this beloved festival and care for our families' traditions. Kindly let your teacher know if you will be unable to attend the Winter Spiral due to this or any other conflict. A class specific schedule will go out in a few weeks.

In light and sincerity,
Karina Haedo



From the 2025 Falling Leaves Festival

Exciting news about the Gala!

Our 25th anniversary gala will be unveiled at the Falling Leaves Festival!

Join us at **11:00 AM this Saturday!** We can't wait to see you there.

Interested in volunteering? Please email us at **srcsgala2027@gmail.com**. We'd love your help!

See you there!

Día de los Muertos

Yesterday, November 3rd, thanks to the Herculean efforts of Señora Marcela, SunRidge students had the opportunity to experience a “Living Museum,” in which eighth graders portrayed notable Latin Americans who have died, sharing their lives and contributions to the world.

Students also visited the ofrenda, where photographs of loved ones were displayed alongside marigolds, papel picado, and many other beautiful adornments. Many classes enjoyed pan de muerto prepared by class families.

Remembering and honoring the dead is a poignant part of Día de los Muertos, a tradition rooted in Mexican culture and celebrated in many Latin American communities. I know that those who participated were grateful for the opportunity to share in this meaningful observance. My heartfelt thanks to Señora Marcela, our eighth graders, and the families who helped bring it to life.

For it is through remembering the dead that we recognize the joy of living.

Ms. Haedo



Honoring Indigenous Peoples’ Month

November invites us to deepen our understanding of the Indigenous peoples whose enduring presence, cultures, and care for the land are woven into the history and daily life of Sonoma County. At SunRidge, we are grateful for opportunities that bring this learning into our classrooms and community gatherings through personal connection, listening, and shared experiences.

This year, our fourth-grade class has already welcomed two native visitors to discuss land acknowledgments, helping students consider whose ancestral lands we occupy and the responsibility that comes with acknowledging that history. A parent who is a member of the local Lytton Rancheria and in our school community also visited their children’s classrooms to share insights about feathers and their symbolism, the central role of acorns, and much more. We are thankful for the time, knowledge, and stories these visitors have shared with our students.

We are especially excited that Pomo dancers will open our Falling Leaves Festival this year. We look forward to welcoming them and gathering as a community with appreciation and respect for the living cultural traditions they share.

SunRidge School stands on the traditional and unceded territory of the Coast Miwok and Southern Pomo peoples, the ancestral lands of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. The Southern Pomo are the original inhabitants of the Sebastopol area, and many Coast Miwok and Southern Pomo people continue to live within their ancestral territories today.

We honor their enduring relationship with this land, their languages, cultural practices, and living presence. We express gratitude for their care of the land, water, plants, and animals, and pay respect to their ancestors, present communities, and future generations. May these experiences encourage us to keep listening, learning, and strengthening our relationships with the people and places that make up our community—this month and throughout the year.

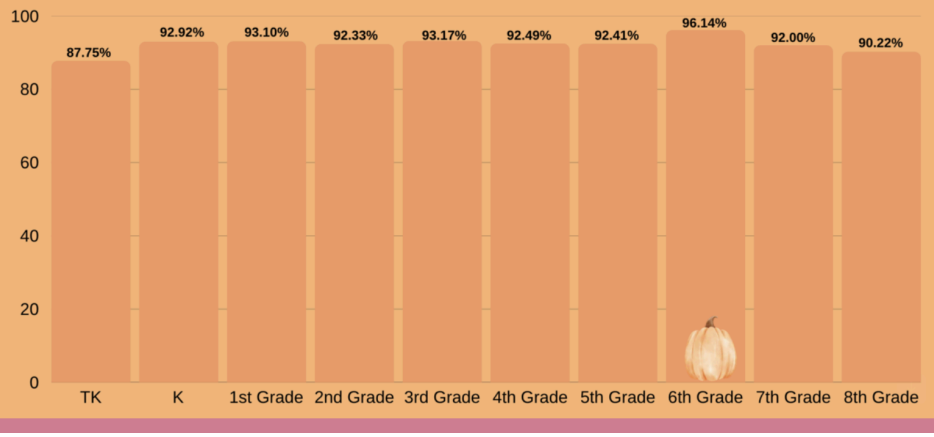


From the 2025
Falling Leaves Festival

October Attendance

Overall Total YTD: 92%

Goal: 94%



Traffic Update!

We would like to acknowledge and thank two eighth-grade parents, Dan Burton and Michael Ingram, for stepping forward to volunteer as crossing guards! Their support covers two days, and we need additional volunteers—especially on rainy days. If you can lend a hand as a crossing guard, please fill this in. Thank you for helping keep our school community safe.

Speaking of rainy days, yesterday, we witnessed cars speeding, going around other vehicles, and stopping at the front of the school to let students out, blocking traffic behind them. These actions are dangerous, thoughtless, and create unsafe conditions for our children and families.

Please allow enough time in the morning to use the roundabout in the back for drop-off, slow down, and practice patience and care at all times. We would much rather students arrive safely than on time.



SunRidge Beautification Project

My name is Hilary Heaviside, and I have a 2nd grader at SunRidge. Over the past year, I have been conjuring up ways to enhance our beloved campus to better serve the children who spend so much of their day on the grounds. To move forward collectively, I am spearheading a 'Campus Beautification Committee'. To inspire our initial discussions, I have organized a tour at Harmony School, which will be guided by Victoria Johnson. If you are curious about learning more, please join us!

Event Details:

- **What:** A conversation starter on "*Enhancing the SunRidge campus for our children's benefit*"
- **Where:** Salmon Creek School, #1935 Bohemian Hwy, Occidental, 95465
- **When:** Friday, November 13th, at 4 PM (rain or shine)

Objectives:

1. Discover how Victoria (a former Harmony parent) procured funding for significant projects at Harmony School.
2. Observe their garden program and glean inspiration from their systems set-up and outdoor spatial dynamics.
3. Learn about their garden harvest and healthy organic lunch program.
4. See their play structures, particularly the one that Jimmy Cabrera recently helped build, as he has offered to build a similar one on our campus!

In closing, I recognize and appreciate the efforts that the faculty and parents have already contributed and continue to invest in the SunRidge School campus. My intention is not to undermine their work, but rather to shine a light on this cause, gathering a diverse group of parents with various skills to further beautify and support SunRidge for our children.



SunRidge Looking Festive for the Falling Leaves Festival

Classifieds

SunRidge School provides space for advertisements in its newsletter as a service to the community. The appearance of any advertisement in this newsletter does not constitute an endorsement, recommendation, or certification by SunRidge School. The school neither verifies the accuracy of the content nor supports the products, services, or organizations featured in these ads. Families and individuals are encouraged to exercise their own discretion and judgment when engaging with the businesses or services advertised.

Click Here for Classifieds

Want To Contribute To The SunRidge Bulletin?

If you would like to add or contribute something to our school bulletin, please submit your request to all of the following staff:

Ms. Theresa at tthomasson@twinhillsusd.org
Ms. Haedo at khaedo@twinhillusd.org

We have bi-monthly bulletins. Bulletins will be posted twice per month. Please submit your contribution ONE full week prior to the bulletin posting. Contributions received after that time will be considered for the following bulletin. Thank you so much.