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**Academy of
Personalized
Learning,
A Charter
School**

224 Hartnell Ave.
Redding, CA 96002

Phone: 530-222-9275
Fax: 530-222-9281



Tutoring

There will be **Open Tutoring** for APL students on-site as follows:

High school students: Tuesdays, 9:00-12:55 and 1:30-4:05; and Thursdays, 9:00-11:35 and 1:30-4:05.

Elementary/Middle school students: Wednesdays, 10:10-11:15; and Fridays, 10:10-12:25.

APL will provide tutoring at the **Burney Library** on an as-needed basis. Students can contact APL teacher Vanessa Burger at 276-7936 for tutoring assistance.

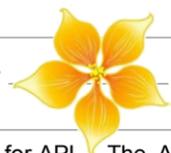
Math Tutoring with Mr. Nason will be offered as follows:

Tuesdays: 3:00-4:00 pm at APL

Wednesdays: 9:00 am-noon at the Local Indians for Education (LIFE) Center in Shasta Lake City. (Call 275-1513 for directions.)

Thursdays: 3:00-4:00 pm at APL

Fridays: 9:00-noon at the Anderson Library.



Meetings

The APL Board Meetings are the **2nd Wednesday** of each month at **5:15 pm**, with the next meeting on **September 8th**. The public is invited to attend.

The APL Advisory Council is a group of APL staff members, parents and students whose common goal is to enhance our school by sharing ideas. Advisory Council meetings are the **1st Wednesday** of each month at **2:00 pm**, with the next meeting on **September 1st**. The Advisory Council is in need of some new members: two parents, a high school student, and a teacher. Please consider serving on this important committee. If you would like more information, contact the APL office at 222-9275.

August/September calendar: **August 18th** is the first day of school at APL. **August 30th** is the first day for on-site classes at APL. Vendor classes begin **September 1st**. There will be no school on **Labor Day, September 6th**.



Picture Day



Life Touch Photographers will be at APL on Friday, **October 8th** for families who are interested in having school photos taken of their children. Siblings are also welcome to be photographed. The photographer will be at APL from **8:00 am to 3:30 pm**. A picture **make-up day** has been scheduled for **November 15th**. Your teacher will have order forms at your September meeting (and we'll have some here.) There is also a Life Touch flier included with this newsletter.

"If we value independence, if we are disturbed by the growing conformity of knowledge, of values, of attitudes, which our present system induces, then we may wish to set up conditions of learning which make for uniqueness, for self-direction, and for self-initiated learning."



Carl Rogers

Thanks to the **Cookie Jar** for their offer of a discount on cookies and drinks to APL families again this year!

Academy of Personalized Learning, A Charter School

224 Hartnell Avenue
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Phone: (530) 222-9APL (9275)
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Director: Dr. Patricia Dougherty



August 18, 2010

Volume 3, Issue 1

Greetings! The 2010/2011 school year is just beginning and we hope that you are excited to be back in school. APL is looking forward to another great year. As we continue to develop and improve our program, incorporating suggestions made in the parent surveys that were submitted last spring, we hope that you will be pleased with the schedule of classes that we are offering on-site this fall.

Tuesdays and Thursdays will be high school site days again this year, with many high school classes meeting two days per week. We have greatly expanded our high school offerings to meet student needs. Wednesday classes will be *primarily* for elementary students, with two sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. The same enrichment classes are offered in both sessions. Friday classes are for middle school students. APL will offer Academic Success classes for elementary/middle school students who need extra help with their schoolwork, and these classes will take place two days per week on Wednesdays and Fridays. On-site classes begin the week of August 30th (except Ceramics which will begin the following week.) Copies of the class schedules are included with this newsletter. If you haven't signed up for classes yet, please contact your teacher.

APL is pleased to continue providing vendor courses to our students. We offer a diverse selection of VCIs (vendor course instructors), with some new vendors to choose from this year and more on the way. Students may select one VCI, and APL will cover the cost, up to \$50 per month. Your teacher will discuss more details about our vendor program with you and arrange for participation in these classes. The vendor list is included with this newsletter.

Student attendance is important for success in classes, whether they are on-site classes or vendor courses. If your child is unable to attend, please call your teacher or vendor to let them know. Absences, such as for illness, can be excused and perhaps arrangements can be made to make up the lesson. Without a phone call, or some communication, the absence is unexcused. Repeated unexcused absences may result in disenrollment from the class. So please make every effort to attend classes and report absences.

Field trips and other events and activities will continue to be announced in the monthly newsletters. For this month, field trip sign-ups will be via phone or email as listed for each trip. We hope to have sign-ups via the APL website again soon. In the meantime, thanks for your patience with our old-school technology. See the Events section on page 3 for some interesting events in August and September.

This year APL will have a bulletin board and window area to display news, information and events that are of interest to high school students. This will include career planning and college information, such as dates for college entrance exams, workshops, and more. This information is not just for seniors. We encourage students and their families to start thinking about college early. If you are even considering the *possibility* of attending college, it would be wise to plan an appropriate course of study for the four years of high school that will allow you to do so. Keep your options open! See College Corner on page 3 of this newsletter for more information.

As we strive to offer our students a rich and rewarding educational experience, we welcome you and your family to this village we call APL!

- August/September events**
- ✓ Kayak Tours
 - ✓ Gold Rush Field Trip
 - ✓ GPS Adventures
 - ✓ Thoreau's Walden
 - ✓ Formed by Fire
 - ✓ College Quest
 - ✓ Sports Teams
 - ✓ APL Open House (October)

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APL Orientation

APL is accepting new students for the 2010/11 school year. Orientation for interested families will be held **Thursday evenings at 5 PM** at APL, 224 Hartnell Ave. If you have friends or family looking at school options, please consider suggesting us!

Here's what we have to offer:

- K-12 program
- WASC accredited
- Curriculum choice
- Independent study
- Home school



School Business

The Oral Health Assessment Form for 1st grade students in the 2010-11 school year is due by September 15, 2010. You can get the form from your teacher or the office. If you have questions or can't meet the deadline, contact Sherina at the office, 222-9275.

Immunizations for kindergarteners should be completed within the first thirty days of enrollment. If you have questions about immunizations, please contact Sherina.

Student IDs: For an APL student identification card, stop by the school and see Sherina to get your photo taken. For more information, contact Sherina at 222-9275.

Teaching Assistants: Many of the classes at APL would benefit from the able assistance of a Teaching Assistant, or TA, a high school student who can earn credits for this position. Some of the classes whose teachers said they would appreciate a TA are Art, Ceramics, Musical Theatre, Science, and Biology. There are also positions available for Office Assistants and Library Assistants. Students, if you are interested in earning graduation credits while offering support to our school working in the classroom, office, or library, please let your teacher know.

Work Permit applications are available at the office. Parents can fill out the request and drop it off at APL or fax it to Sherina, 222-9281.



Site reminders: Please note that on Wednesdays and Fridays, the elementary/middle school days, APL is a "closed campus." This means that students may not leave campus without a parent/guardian. High school students have the option of an "open campus" privilege if they have a signed permission note from parents and they use the privilege responsibly. We request that all students be dropped off and picked up in a timely manner. It is difficult to teach a class if students are straggling in and have missed the initial instruction. Please be aware that, as a school, this is a tobacco-free zone. Also, there is no skateboarding, *anywhere*, at the Cobblestone Court where APL is located. Thanks for your cooperation!

"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire."

William Butler Yeats

Library News

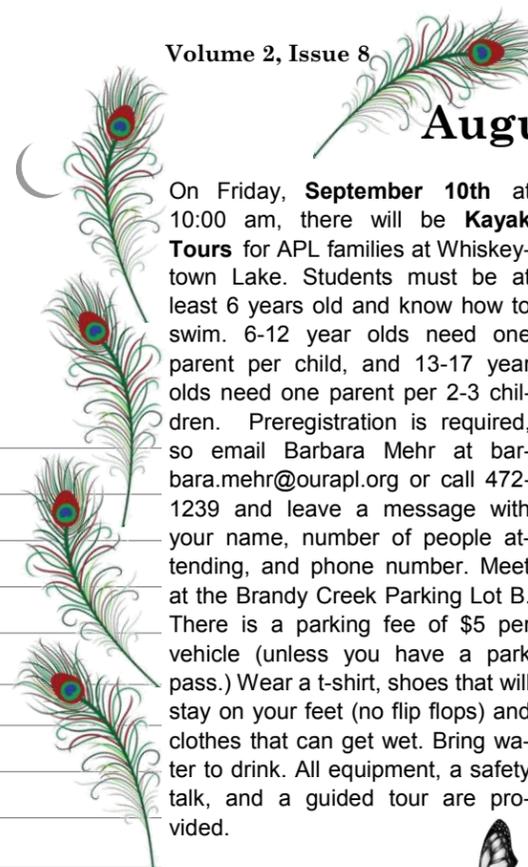
Destiny Library Catalog: Families can search our library holdings by going online to <http://ourapl.follettdestiny.com>. You can browse without logging in; however, if you want to look at what your children have checked out, click in the upper right hand corner of the home page on "Create Account." You will be asked for your student's last name and bar code number. Your teacher can provide you with the bar code. You will then be able to create your own password to access Destiny online. If you do not like the Destiny Quest format, click in the upper right hand corner "Exit Destiny Quest," which will bring you to a less visually imposing screen that might be more familiar and easier to navigate. If you have any questions, or need some help, please call Lynn or Kimberly in the library.

The theme of this year's reading incentive program will be **"Reach For the Stars."** Pick up your reading logs at the APL Library or from your teacher. For each log completed, students win a small prize. For every 10 logs submitted, students will receive a book of their choice through Scholastic, and they will be entered into a drawing for a Barnes & Noble gift card. Ten gift cards will be awarded at the end of the school year.

APL has been participating in two fundraising programs: Box Tops and Labels for Education. We would love to have a volunteer for each of these programs. A volunteer could do the work at home and it would be a great contribution to our school. For more information, contact Kimberly at 222-9275.



August/September Events



On Friday, **September 10th** at 10:00 am, there will be **Kayak Tours** for APL families at Whiskeytown Lake. Students must be at least 6 years old and know how to swim. 6-12 year olds need one parent per child, and 13-17 year olds need one parent per 2-3 children. Preregistration is required, so email Barbara Mehr at barbara.mehr@ourapl.org or call 472-1239 and leave a message with your name, number of people attending, and phone number. Meet at the Brandy Creek Parking Lot B. There is a parking fee of \$5 per vehicle (unless you have a park pass.) Wear a t-shirt, shoes that will stay on your feet (no flip flops) and clothes that can get wet. Bring water to drink. All equipment, a safety talk, and a guided tour are provided.

APL Open House:
Please join us on Monday, **October 4th** from 4:00 to 6:00 pm for Academic Open House at APL.



There will be a **Whiskeytown Gold Rush Field Trip** on Thursday, **September 23rd** at 2:00 pm. Discover how pioneer-prospectors Charles Camden and Levi Tower reshaped the landscape to create a home for their families and an "oasis" for the many travelers during and after the California gold Rush. After a tour of the 1852 home built by Charles Camden, enjoy a stroll through the historic district, ending with an opportunity to pan for gold! Preregistration is required, so email **R o s a n n e A t z e t** at rosanne.atzet@ourapl.org or call 223-2308 and leave your name, number of people attending, and phone number. Meet at the Tower House Historic District parking lot.

Sports Teams: American Christian Academy has invited homeschoolers to participate on their sports teams. Depending upon interest, coaches, and venues, ACA may sponsor soccer, basketball, cross country and track. For information about ACA athletic opportunities, please contact athletic director Greg Rust at 547-3804.

Turtle Bay Exploration Park Exhibitions:

GPS Adventures (through 9/6/10): Learn about navigation, GPS technology, Geocaching, and more in this highly interactive maze created by Minotaur Mazes.

Thoreau's Walden: A Journey in Photographs by Scot Miller (through 9/12/10): Discover the natural beauty that inspired Henry David Thoreau and learn how his writings influenced how we think about the natural world and our place in it.

Formed by Fire (9/25/10-1/16/11): In a unique collaboration, local artists Colleen Barry, David Gentry and John Harper come together to create a dynamic exhibition focusing on the concept of "fire" and how it shapes the unique beauty and ecology of the North State.

These events are free with Park admission.



College Corner



College Quest: The 2010 College Information Night will be Monday, **September 27th** from 4:30 to 7:30 pm at the Redding Convention Center. This is a great opportunity for students who are considering a college path. Many colleges send representatives who are interested to meet students, answer questions and provide informational brochures. There are also sessions of interest to college-bound students and their parents. For more information, contact www.MyCollegeQuest.org.

There are several college entrance exams available for students: the SAT, PSAT (practice test for SAT), ACT, and PLAN (practice test for ACT). The **SAT** (Scholastic Aptitude Test) is an **aptitude** test that measures a student's ability to understand and process elements of mathematical and verbal reasoning.

The test has three components: critical reading, math, and writing. Some colleges require students to take the **SAT and SAT II (subject specific tests)**.

The **PSAT/NMSQT** (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test / National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) is taken in the fall of junior year, although 9th and 10th graders are encouraged to take the test to help them prepare for the SAT. (Last year 56% were 10th grade or younger.) Juniors can qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Competition based on their PSAT results. **The PSAT will be offered at APL on October 13th.** Students must be registered with Sherina by **9/20/10**.

The **ACT** (American College Testing) is an **assessment** test of students' general educational development (like a cumulative final). It covers English, math, reading, and science with an optional writing test.

The **PLAN** is a practice test for the ACT and is usually taken in the fall of sophomore year.

Please see the insert in this newsletter for more information about college entrance exams for 2010-11 such as test dates, registration deadlines, test centers and more.

QuestBridge National College Match program pairs outstanding low-income high school seniors with admission and full four-year scholarships to some of the nation's leading colleges. QuestBridge invites applications from current high school seniors who have demonstrated academic excellence in the face of economic obstacles. The QuestBridge application is free of charge; due on **September 30**; and available at www.questbridge.org. For more information, contact them at questions@questbridge.org or 1.888.275.2054 (toll-free).