

Academy of Personalized Learning, A Charter School

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Apple News



March News



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Spring is just around the corner with the vernal equinox on March 20th. Though spring is in the air, we still have some important work ahead before the school year is completed. The STAR writing assessment for 7th grade students will be March 2nd at 9 am at APL. March 3rd will be the make-up day. There is more information about the STAR testing that will take place in April, and PE testing for grades 5, 7, and 9 on page two of this newsletter.

In an effort to promote good citizenship on our campus (and hopefully in our world), APL has instituted the "Good Apple Award." When a staff member sees a student behaving well, whether that means helping another student or just not leaving a mess behind, the student is given a Good Apple Award ticket to be entered into a drawing. The winners of our first drawing are Keely Clark and AJ Rivard. Congratulations to these good citizens! They will have a choice of prizes, including gift certificates to Barnes & Noble, The Cookie Jar, or the movies.

Congratulations are also in order for Colton Boontjer, Tiffany Plunk, and Kassidy Zulliger. These students' work was accepted into the Children's Art Show: North State Landscapes at the Turtle Bay Visitor Center Theater. The show runs through April.

March events

- ✓ STAR Writing
- ✓ Home School Skate
- ✓ National Nutrition Month Events
- ✓ Women in Math and Science
- ✓ Planetarium
- ✓ Pinocchio
- ✓ Steppin' Out
- ✓ Young Writers Festival
- ✓ QuestBridge
- ✓ CollegeWeekLive
- ✓ Shasta County Junior Day



Students in the Spotlight



AJ Baker is a 10th grader at APL, having worked with the same teacher (and the same parents) since he started homeschooling in first grade. AJ has done an excellent job of applying himself to his academics, and as a result was able to add some electives this year. This is the first year that he has taken part in a music class of any kind, and he is truly enjoying Musical Theatre, along with guitar lessons from JJ Wilder. AJ has shown himself to be a dedicated participant in Musical Theatre, landing one of the leading roles in *The Pirates of Penzance*. As the Pirate King, AJ has been working hard to prepare for his role, and he will no doubt shine in his performance in May. He is a good role model for the younger students as well.

Aidan Clark, a 7th grader, attends several APL classes including Algebra, Middle School English, and Drama. Aidan has an important role in the play, *The Pirates of Penzance*, and he will be singing a solo. Aidan is intelligent, cheerful, and as the girls say "has beautiful hair." An avid reader, Aidan participates in the APL book clubs. His favorite books include those written by Neal Shusterman and the Percy Jackson series. Building elaborate designs with Legos and playing video games are other activities Aidan enjoys. He likes to play baseball in the summer. Last but not least, Aidan is very involved in Awana and church activities.

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APL Orientation



APL is accepting new students. Orientation for interested families will be held Monday evenings (except holidays) 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
- Classes, vendor courses & tutoring
- Flexible scheduling
- Credentialed teachers
- California standards based instruction



School Business



Passport Club will meet on Wednesday, **March 24th** from 11-11:50 pm in Room 1. The country of focus will be Costa Rica.

APL students in grades 2-11 will be **STAR testing** during the period of **April 20 to 29**. Students usually test 2-3 half days during the testing window, depending on grade level and courses taken. Your APL teacher will be talking to you about scheduling days and times that will be the most convenient for your family.

In order to accommodate our ever-growing enrollment, **site based classes will be canceled from April 19 through April 30**. These are **Independent Study Days**, which means that during this time, students who normally attend APL classes at our school site will be assigned independent study work to be completed at home.

APL would like to know if we have students in the 5th or 6th grade interested in attending camp at the **Whiskeytown Environmental School (WES Camp)** this spring. The cost of the camp is \$170 per student for 4-5 days and \$115 for 2.5 days. If there are students at least 16 years old, or parents, who would like to serve as cabin counselors, please let us know. Call Lynn at 222-9275 for more information.

The **California Physical Fitness Test** for students in **grades 5, 7, and 9** will be given during STAR testing at APL. 9th graders must pass the test or take 4 years of high school PE, instead of two. There will be a physical fitness test make-up day at Kids Kingdom Park on May 19th at 9 am. Students can also elect to participate in the **Presidential Physical Fitness Test**. Fliers listing the events for both tests and the fitness standards for the events are included with this newsletter.

APL would like to thank the **Redding Sunrise Rotary** for their generous gift of American Heritage Children's Dictionaries for our 3rd graders. Teachers will give the dictionaries to their students at their March meetings. Thank you, Rotarians!

This year APL has found a new fundraising opportunity: Collecting ink cartridges. We earn \$2 for each empty cartridge that can be refurbished. There is a drop box beneath the Pennies for Peace display in the library.

We are also collecting "boxtops" to earn money for the library reading incentive program and other APL programs. If you would like to help plan and participate in fundraising, please let us know by calling the office or telling your teacher.

APL's spring musical performance, **The Pirates of Penzance**, will be **May 14th and 15th at 7:00 pm** at the Spiritual Enrichment Center, 1905 Hartnell Avenue. Tickets will go on sale the first week of April and will be \$5.00 for all seats.

The high school graduation ceremony will be Thursday, **May 27th at 5:30 pm** at the McLaughlin Auditorium. Seniors will rehearse at **12:30** on the same day. And please remember that no food or drink is permitted inside the auditorium.

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, please contact Sherina at the office, 222-9275.

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.



Library News

The **APL Book Clubs** will meet as follows in March: The **Fantasy Book Club** will meet Tuesday, **March 9th** to discuss Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling. The **Mystery Book Club** will meet Tuesday, **March 23rd** to discuss Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz. The **General Book Club** is reading the second book of the Kidnapped series, called The Search by Gordon Korman. They will meet on Friday, **March 26th**. All of the book clubs meet at **4:00 pm** at APL. The books can be checked out at the APL library.

Scholastic Book Catalogs are available at the APL library. Scholastic book orders are a great way for you to get new books, CHEAP! Each order that you place also helps to buy books for our library and for our students. You can place your orders either through our library with a check, or online with a credit/debit card. To order online go to <http://clubs.scholastic.com/parentordering/>. Then you need to enter our school username: [apllibrary](http://apllibrary.com), and password: [bookorders](http://bookorders.com). If you have questions, contact Kimberly at the APL library.

"It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade."

Charles Dickens

Join **'Friends of the Library'** to help accomplish tasks in support of our library. Sign up at the APL library.

The theme of this year's **reading incentive program** is **"Take Off With Reading."** Pick up your reading "Flight Logs" at the APL Library or from your teacher.



March Events



Tuesday, **March 2nd** is the **STAR Writing Assessment for 7th graders** at **9:00 am** at APL. It usually takes about two hours. Make-up day will be March 3rd at 9:00 am.

There will be a **Women in Math & Science Conference** for girls in 6th, 7th and 8th grades at Shasta College on Saturday, **March 13** from 8:30 am to 2:00 pm. The conference goals are to increase young women's interest in math and science; to foster awareness of career opportunities; and to provide the opportunity to make personal contacts with professional women in technical careers. The cost of the conference is \$25 per person and there are registration forms available at APL. Questions can be directed to Pat Williams at 547-3924 or pwilliams18@hotmail.com.

Pinocchio "Twice Fooled" will be presented at the Shasta College Theatre on **March 18-20 & 25-27 at 7:30 pm and Sunday, March 21 at 2:00 pm**. This version of Pinocchio finds him as a grown man who still has not learned the lessons of his childhood. Tickets are \$10 general admission and \$5 for students and seniors.

The Dance Project is presenting their spring performance, **Steppin' Out**, for schools on Thursday, **March 25th** at the Cascade Theatre at 10:00 am. Tickets are \$5 per person and must be paid for by Friday, **March 5** (money to APL by that day). Checks can be made out to "The Dance Project" and of course, cash is fine. Please contact Helen Hazel at 410-8798 to reserve seats. On the day of the show, the group will meet in front of the Cascade Theatre at 9:30 am.

CollegeWeekLive, the free online college fair, will be **March 24-25**. Chat live with admissions reps and students from hundreds of colleges. Watch live video presentations on topics such as scholarships and financial aid. Be eligible for \$10,000 in scholarships just for attending! Sign-up now for free at <http://www.CollegeWeekLive.com>.

Home School Skate is the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 3-5 pm. The dates will be **3/10**, 4/14 and 5/12. Gateway Unified School District hosts the program, open to all home schooling families. Cost is \$3 per person with one free admission for supervising adult. All participants must be accompanied by an adult. For information, contact Heidi Hillesheim, 90alana@shasta.com.

APL has scheduled monthly planetarium shows at the **Schreder Planetarium** on Magnolia Ave. Join APL on Thursday, **March 18th**, from 1-2:45 pm, for Cosmic Safari. "The search for life in the universe begins as we travel to yet undiscovered planets in the far reaches of space. In differing environmental conditions, you'll discover what living creatures might look like on worlds very different from our own." To sign up for the show, contact Rose James at APL, 222-9275. Preview the monthly shows at www.schrederplanetarium.com.

The Shasta Reading Council presents the 5th annual **Shasta County Young Writers Festival**. This juried competition is open to all K-12 students in Shasta County (with entries also accepted from Trinity, Siskiyou, Modoc, and Lassen counties). Entries may be submitted in three genres: non-fiction, fiction, and poetry. The grade divisions are K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12. Winning student authors in all divisions will receive a \$50 Barnes and Noble gift card. **Submission deadline is March 26**. All 3-12th grade entries must be proofread and typed, double-spaced (12 or 14-point font). Please limit entries to 10 pages; one entry per genre per student. Author identity should not be printed on student work. Please use entry form which can be picked up at APL and must be attached to the back of the student work entered. APL submissions will be delivered to Simpson College at 1 pm on 3/26. For more information, contact Barbara Mehr, (530) 472-1239, mehrceramics@frontiernet.net.

March is National Nutrition Month. Check out the following **free** events:

Redding Public Library:

Spring Garden Workshop— March 15, 5:30-7:30 pm. Presented by Wayne Kessler of Shambani Organics.

Eat Right When Money's Tight— March 22, 5:30-7:30 pm. Includes a healthy cooking demonstration.

Create Healthy Habits—KIXE, March 29, 4-5:30 pm. Childrens' activities and a free book (while supplies last).

Other free local events:

Healthy Cooking Demonstrations:

Redding— March 10, 3-6:30 pm, SavMor Foods, 6536 Westside Rd.

Anderson— March 24, 5:50-7:00 pm, Community Center at City Hall, 1886 Howard St.

Lean-N-Green Day:

Redding— March 3, 11:30-2:00 pm, Sculpture Park, 777 Cypress Ave., near City Hall.

Anderson— March 24, 9-4:30 pm, Volonte Park.

QuestBridge's College Prep Scholarship provides awards that equip high-achieving low-income students to compete for admission to leading colleges. If you are a high school **junior** who has a strong academic record and an annual household income of less than \$60,00, you are encouraged to apply. Apply online for free by **March 29** to www.questbridge.org.

Juniors are invited to attend the 5th annual **Shasta County Junior Day** sponsored by College OPTIONS and hosted by Simpson University. This day will be an opportunity for juniors to experience a college campus, learn about financial aid, and plan for their educational options beyond high school. The event will be at Simpson University on Wednesday, **March 31st**, with registration at **8:45 am** and the program from **9 am-12:30 pm** with a pizza lunch included. For more information, contact Wendy at 226-4126.

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 **Tutoring**  **Meetings**  **End Notes** 

APL offers opportunities for tutoring. There will be **Open Tutoring** for high school students on-site Tuesdays, 9:00-2:00, and Thursdays, 9:00-12:00.

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

Mon: 1:00-3:00 pm at the Redding Library (Please note there will be no tutoring on the following Mondays: **3/1**, 4/12, and 5/24.)

Tues: 3:30-4:30 pm at APL

Thurs: 3:30-4:30 pm at APL

Fri: 9:00 am-noon at the Local Indians for Education (LIFE) Center in Shasta Lake City. (Call 275-1513 for directions.) Also, 1:00-3:00 pm at the Anderson Library.

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.

APL will have a special Board Meeting on Tuesday, **March 2nd at 4:30 pm**. The monthly Board Meetings have been changed to the **3rd Wednesday** of each month at **5:15 pm**, with the next regular meeting on **March 17**. Barring a schedule change or special meeting, the schedule of board meetings for the rest of the school year is as follows: **3/17**, 4/21, 5/19 and 6/16.

The APL Advisory Council meeting dates and times have changed. The next Advisory Council meeting will be Monday, **March 15 at 1:30 pm**. Future meeting dates will be published in the newsletter. The community is welcome to attend.

“Spring passes and one remembers one’s innocence. Summer passes and one remembers one’s exuberance. Autumn passes and one remembers one’s reverence. Winter passes and one remembers one’s perseverance.”

Yoko Ono

Just to mention: Creative Communications **2010 Poetry Contest** in which top entries are published in an anthology, with prizes in each division. Divisions: Grades K-3, 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12. Poems must be original, in English, and no longer than 21 lines. The Spring contest deadline is April 12.

California Energy Commission’s **2011 Energy Calendar Art Contest** is for students in grades 3-8. Entries are judged upon their relevance to energy and conservation ideas for today and the future. Artwork should be horizontal, no larger than 16”x20” or smaller than 8”x10”. Use crayons, felt pens, poster paints, watercolors or grease pencils on white paper or art board. Entries must be received by April 12. For more information on either contest, contact Lynn at APL.

March calendar: Spring Break is Monday, March 29th through Tuesday, April 6th. There will be no school and the office will be closed during spring break. Happy Spring!