

# Academy of Personalized Learning, A Charter School

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## Apple News



### May News



May 1, 2011

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May looks to be another busy month at APL. We are excited about the culmination of the **History Day Project** and the celebration planned here on **May 9th**. The following week, Diana Bordeaux's Musical Theater classes will present their spring musical, *The Wild, Wild, Wildest West*, on Friday and Saturday evenings, **May 13th and 14th**. May will also see the last planetarium show for this school year, **The Future is Wild**, on **May 18th**, as well as the last home school skate for this year on **May 11th**. There is a rodeo coming up on **May 16th** and lots of fun family events at the Horsetown-Clear Creek Preserve. Information for all of these events can be found on page 3 of the newsletter.

If you are in 5th, 7th, or 9th grade, most likely, you still need to complete the run/walk portion of the **Physical Fitness Test**. Please join Mark Youmans and Robin Thorne at **Enterprise Park** on Monday, **May 16th at 9 am**. Depending on how many people we have in attendance will determine how many heats we have to complete. If you are in 10th grade and either didn't take it or failed the Physical Fitness Testing last year, you are eligible to retake the test one time and if you pass you will be exempted from two additional years of physical education. If you did not complete any or at least a portion of it during STAR Testing, you will also be able to complete makeups there as well.



We wish to thank all of the families who responded to the Parent Survey and the High School Student Survey. Your feedback is very important to us and we will use the results of these surveys as we plan for next school year.

#### May events

- ✓ History Day Project
- ✓ Home School Skate
- ✓ APL Spring Musical
- ✓ The Future Is Wild
- ✓ Western Heritage Day
- ✓ Early Bird Watchers
- ✓ Native Plant Identification and Uses
- ✓ Geology
- ✓ Bugs On the Bottom
- ✓ Butterfly Bonanza



### Students in the Spotlight



**Caleb Bonneville**, a third grader, is a very hard working, determined, and motivated student. Since starting at APL in January, he has made great progress in his reading and math skills. Caleb is not only finding success academically but athletically as well. He competes in snowboarding competitions and won the North Tahoe series in both Slopestyle and Boardercross, which earned him an invitation to Nationals in Colorado where he competed in three different events. Caleb finished 12<sup>th</sup> out of 38 in Slopestyle, 16<sup>th</sup> out of 33 in Boardercross, and 24<sup>th</sup> out of 32 in Halfpipe. His goal is to go back to Nationals next year and become a National champ. When Caleb is not snowboarding, he loves riding and racing motorcycles.

**Nathan Atkinson** is a shining star at APL. Nathan, a seventh grader, works very hard to do well both at APL and at home. He has a great attitude at school and about school, and he is very proud of his accomplishments in Ceramics as well as in reading and math. Nathan enjoys hands-on classes such as science and art, and loves to play video games in his spare time. He has excellent attendance and always completes his school work. Nathan has grown so much since starting at APL; we are all incredibly proud of this young man and look forward to watching him grow for many years to come.

**Micah Mueller** is a tall, quiet, and serious ninth grader who has been with APL for more than 8 years. Micah is a solid athlete and academic student. He is passionate about soccer and track, and devotes quite a bit of time, on his own, practicing to make sure that he is ready for the next event. Micah is also a history buff, piano player, and avid reader. He recently received high praise from his Earth Science and Mythology teacher Mr. Youmans who stated that "Micah is an excellent young man who contributes greatly to the vitality of the classroom and helps make teaching a more rewarding experience." He always participates in class, and gives his all, to the tasks at hand. Way to go Micah!

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## APL Orientation



APL is accepting new students for the **2011/12 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
- Classes, vendor courses & tutoring
  - Flexible scheduling
  - Credentialed teachers
  - California standards based instruction



## School Business



There will be **CAHSEE testing** on **May 10** (English) and **May 11** (Math) from **1-4 pm** at APL for **10th** graders who were absent from the previous sessions, **11th** graders, and **12th** graders who have yet to pass one or both sections of the test. **Afternoon classes will be canceled on these two days.**

We are hoping to have all students in **grades 3-11** take the **Scantron Assessment Test** before the end of the school year, if they have not yet done a spring assessment. For the last two weeks of school, **5/23-6/3**, we will have testing from 9 am-3 pm each day, with testing sessions at **9 am, 11 am, and 1 pm**. (On 6/1 and 6/2 testing will be only from 9-11 am.) There will be 20 computers available. Please check with your teacher or call the office for scheduling.

The students whose names were drawn for **Good Apple Awards** this month were **Jackie Matos** and **Julianna Mueller**. These students were cited with "good citizenship" and given tickets which were then selected in the monthly drawing. Congratulations to our "Good Apples!"

**Attention senior families:** Each year at graduation, APL puts together a slideshow of the graduates. Please select some baby and recent photos (at least one of each). Email them to [jeanna.parks@ourapl.org](mailto:jeanna.parks@ourapl.org) (specify "graduation pictures" in your title for the email), or drop them off for her at APL. If you bring in the actual photos, be sure to label them with your graduate's name and their teacher of record so the photos can be returned to you. Please get the photos to Jeanna by Friday, **May 27**, so she can put them in the slideshow.

The APL **high school graduation** ceremony will be **Wednesday, June 1** at **5:30 pm** at the McLaughlin Auditorium, 1805 Sequoia St (Sequoia School). Graduation practice will be at the auditorium at **12:30 pm**. (If everyone will arrive on time, the practice will take about an hour.) Graduates should be back at the auditorium at **5 pm** to prepare for the ceremony. Remember that no food or drink is allowed in the auditorium.



The **Oral Health Assessment Form for 1st grade students in the 2011-12 school year is due by September 15, 2011**. The state recommends that you make a dental appointment for your student by May 31, 2011. The dentist will fill out a form, which you can get from the APL office. If you have questions or can't meet the deadline, contact Sherina at 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.

The **Lost and Found** at APL is full of coats and other personal items. Please retrieve Found items by **June 17**. The remaining Lost items will be donated to charity after that date.

The **8th grade promotion** ceremony will be at APL on Thursday, **June 2** at **noon**. 8th graders will have practice at **11 am**. Attire should be "dressy". There will be an ice cream social after the ceremony.

"Wherever you go, go with all your heart."  
Confucius



## Library News



The book club selection for **Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>** will be *Everlost* by Neal Shusterman. The book club will meet at **2 pm** at APL.

APL's **reading incentive program** for this school year will come to a close on Friday, **May 27**. Please have all reading logs turned in by this date. Winners will be announced in the June newsletter.

The **APL library will close on June 1st, except for book returns**. Families may bring in returns and put them in the drop box for check-in. **All curriculum is due back to the library by June 17th**. After that date, we will send out notices to let you know what materials are overdue. We do not fine for overdue materials, however, families are responsible for lost or damaged materials. If you plan to school

over the summer and there are items that you need, please let your teacher know so that he/she can renew those materials for next year. We are asking for as much to be returned as possible for cataloging and inventory.

Friday, **May 13**, will be the last **Scholastic book order** for this school year. Please have your orders turned in before this date.



## May Events



The **History Day Project** celebration will take place at APL on Monday, **May 9 from 9:30 to 10:45 am**. Students involved in the class need to arrive at **9 am**. The students in the project will be showcasing their hands-on projects from this year's competition. Medals for the first, second and third place recipients will be awarded on May 9. Any students who are interested in participating in the project next year are welcome to come "preview" the project.

APL's spring musical production, *The Wild, Wild, Wildest West* will be Friday, **May 13**, and Saturday, **May 14 at 7 pm** at The Center for Spiritual Living, 1905 Hartnell Avenue in Redding. Tickets are available from Lynn at APL for \$5 per seat. Tickets will also be available at the door. (Ticket sales cover the cost of renting the facility.)

On Wednesday, **May 18**, the show **The Future is Wild** will be featured at the Schreder Planetarium at **1:15 pm**. Based on a wildly successful international television series that has been broadcast in over 60 countries around the world, *The Future is Wild* gives audiences a glimpse at what might be the future of the animal kingdom on planet Earth. Reserve your seat at [www.ourapl.org](http://www.ourapl.org) by **May 12**.

The last **Home School Skate** for this school year will be **May 11 from 3-5 pm** at Viking Skate Country. Cost is \$3 per person with one free admission for supervising adult. All participants must be accompanied by an adult.

**Redding Rodeo's Western Heritage Day 2011** will be Friday, **May 20, from 9 am-12 pm** at the Redding Rodeo grounds, 715 Auditorium Dr. Lunch will be provided. Register for this event at [www.ourapl.org](http://www.ourapl.org) by **May 13**. Rather than meeting as a group, families can enter and seat themselves. Homeschool families often sit on the east bleachers.

### Horsetown-Clear Creek Preserve Free Spring Events for the Family:

**Early Bird Watchers:** Sunday, **May 1 at 8:00 am**. Enjoy early morning bird watching with local expert Barbara Peck. Barbara has a Masters in Wildlife Biology and Ecology. She will point out birds and fascinate you with information about them. Bring your curiosity and (if possible) binoculars. \*

**Native Plant Identification and Uses:** Sunday, **May 15 at 1 pm**. Join native Wintu Ted Dawson on a spring walk while he locates, identifies, and explains medicinal and general uses of native plants. Mr. Dawson's presentation will include

making a natural poison oak remedy. Bring a jar/container to take some home in. No cost. \*

**Geology:** Saturday, **May 21 at 10 am**. Join Shasta College instructor Randy Reed on an easy two-mile stroll along old roads and trails in Horsetown-Clear Creek Preserve to learn about the rocky history of the local area. Directions: Meet at the yellow steel gate, on the south side of Clear Creek Road, about 6 miles west of Hwy 273.

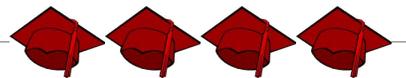
**Bugs On the Bottom—A Look at Stream Bottom Ecology in Clear Creek:** Sunday, **May 22 at 11 am**. Wade the stream with Shasta College instructor Morgan Hannaford, PhD—or watch from shore—as he gathers strange and fascinating insects from their underwater homes. Dr. Hannaford has a passion for teaching all ages, so don't miss this family event. Bring sneakers if you want to wade. \*

**Butterfly Bonanza:** Sunday, **May 29 at 9 am**. Join butterfly expert Chris Gray on a walk in search of local butterflies and the plants that sustain them. Bring close focusing binoculars, if available. \*

\* Directions for \* events: Meet at the HCCP parking area on Clear Creek Road, about 7 miles west of Hwy 273, just west of the Clear Creek Bridge. Call 241-2026 for info.



## College Corner



Summer is just around the corner and many high school students may be thinking about getting a job. The following list might help you **prepare for an interview**:

- References—bring a list of three references; do not use family members.
- Portfolios—prepare a sample of documents, projects, and pictures representing your skills and achievements in a notebook or portfolio binder.
- Know your employer—learn about the company.
- Be prepared to emphasize your strengths and how they fit the job.
- Dress up—first impressions are lasting.

- Prepare a list of questions to ask the interviewer.
- Practice interviewing with a friend or family member until the process seems natural.
- Bring several copies of your resume, a pad of paper and pen to make notes, and your personal identification documents.
- Have a positive attitude and a friendly smile.
- Arrive early and call if you are delayed or need to reschedule.

You really want that job and have prepared for the interview; now you have to:

- Keep calm. Try not to be nervous.
- Listen to the interviewer.

- Answer questions directly, honestly, and with facts and examples.
- Emphasize your strengths.
- Be polite and considerate by not interrupting the interviewer.
- Never say anything negative about a former employer or teacher.
- Ask any questions you may have about the job (leave salary questions until after you are offered the job).
- Ask for the job.
- Inquire as to when you will be notified about the results of the interview.
- Thank the interviewer for spending time with you.

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NCP



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**Tutoring**



**Meetings**



**End of Year**



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

**High school** students: Tuesdays, 10:20-12:55 and 1:30-4:05; and Thursdays, 9:00-12:55 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:** 9:00-11:45 am 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:** 9:00-11:45 am at the Anderson Library.

The **APL Board Meetings** are the **2nd Wednesday** of each month at **5:15 pm**, with the next meeting on **May 11th**. 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 **May 4th**. The Advisory Council members serve two year terms. If there are parents, students, and teachers who are interested to serve a term starting Fall 2011, please let Lynn know. We are building a slate of candidates and will have elections in August.

Because May is such a busy month, here are some of the dates that are on your newsletter calendar, but stated again here so you can make sure you have them:

- May 10-11: CAHSEE testing, no afternoon classes
- May 20: Last day of onsite classes
- May 23-June 1: Independent Study Days (and Scantron testing)
- May 30: Memorial Day (no school)
- June 1: Last day of school; High School Graduation; APL library closed except for returns
- June 2: 8th Grade Promotion
- June 17: All curriculum due back to APL

"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did. So throw off the bowlines, sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."

Attributed to Mark Twain, unconfirmed

"The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit." Nelson Henderson