

Academy of Personalized Learning,  
A Charter School  
2195 Larkspur Lane, Suite 100  
Redding, CA 96002

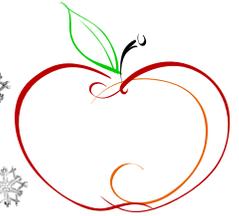
Phone: (530) 222-9APL (9275)  
Fax: (530) 222-9281  
www.ourapl.org

Director: Dr. Patricia Dougherty

Let it  
Snow!

# Apple News

## January News



January 1, 2012

Happy New Year! As we look forward to the year ahead, we hope that our children and their education is first and foremost in our minds and hearts, as they represent our best hope for the future. May we, and you, work together and do well in this regard.

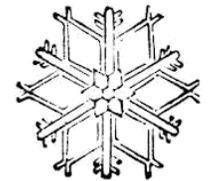
Volume 4, Issue 4

Once again, this newsletter contains an abundance of important information to impart to all members of our community. First, please note the updated school calendar that has been included along with the monthly calendar of events. Changes have been made to facilitate more on-site instructional days. Several weeks of independent study days (when all students complete their schoolwork at home) have been changed to on-site class days for students who participate in the on-site classes. January 10-13 are now on-site class days. This is the last week of the Fall Semester, which ends on 1/13/12. Now that we have a larger facility, afternoon classes will **not** be canceled for CAHSEE testing on February 7 and 8, and STAR testing will take place in one week, instead of two. STAR testing will be April 17-19 (with 4/16 and 4/20 being independent study days). Students in grades 2-7 will test in the morning from 9 am-noon and students in grades 8-11 will test in the afternoon from 1-4:00 pm. We will continue to accommodate students with siblings, or others with special needs, to test in the morning or afternoon as needed. As a consequence of compacting our STAR testing into one week, April 23-27 will now be on-site class days. Finally, the week of May 21-25 has also been changed from independent study to on-site class days. We hope that families will understand and be happy with the changes we have made, and we apologize for any inconvenience these changes may have caused. Amending the calendar mid-year is not a common practice, but we feel it extremely important for our students' education, so that we may offer as much on-site instructional time as we possibly can. Please throw your old calendar away, replacing it with this updated version, to avoid confusion as we move into and through the new year.

As for other news that you will find in the following pages, there are some great field trips planned for January as well as programs and contests that may be of interest to your family. There is information for seniors about ordering graduation gowns and applying for financial aid for college. We'll be offering a Cash for College Workshop here at APL in early February, with a chance for participants to win a scholarship. Please don't miss something that may be important to you, so read on!

### January events

- ✓ Shreder Planetarium:  
Cowboy Astronomer
- ✓ Gaumer's Jewelry and Museum
- ✓ Home School Skate
- ✓ Cash for College Video Contest



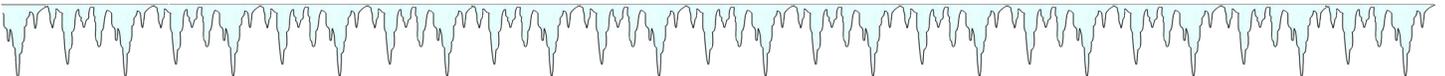
## Students in the Spotlight

**Kairy Arroyo** is a bright young first grade student at APL. She is a joyful learner and is excited to learn new things. This is her second year at APL and she is participating in lots of fun APL classes. Kairy takes pride in her daily school work and always creates beautiful work. Not only does she excel in academic subjects, but also in extra curricular activities. Kairy is learning to play the guitar and recorder. She also attends gymnastics classes once a week and enjoys studying new languages. Kairy has a new baby brother and a large and loving family. Kairy is a wonderful example of a well-rounded student who excels in all that she does.

**Madelyn Warner**, a seventh grader at APL, is a stellar student. She not only has all of her work done on time, all the time, but she also goes above and beyond to do an excellent job, no matter what the assignment. She is very active in sports and was a cheerleader for the U-Prep football team this fall. This commitment took up a tremendous amount of Madelyn's time in the evening and on weekends; however she was able to maintain her excellent grades. Madelyn is not only a great student, but she is very kind to all students and respectful to all staff members.

### Inside this issue:

Orientation	2
School Business	2
Library News	2
Events	3
College Corner	3
Tutoring	4
Meetings	4
History Day	4





# APL Orientation



APL is accepting new students for the **2011/12 school year**. Orientation for interested families will be held **Wednesday** evenings at **5 PM** at APL, **2195 Larkspur Lane**. 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



The **CAHSEE** (California High School Exit Exam) for **all 10th graders (and 12th graders)** who have yet to pass one or both sections of the exam will be **Feb. 7** (Language Arts) and **Feb. 8** (Math) at APL from **1-4 pm**. If you are not sure whether you need to take this exam, please contact your teacher. (Students taking the CAHSEE are excused from morning classes on the days they test. CAHSEE testing will **NOT** affect classes for other students on these days.)

The **STAR Writing test** for **4th and 7th graders** will be **Tuesday, March 6** from **9 am until noon** at APL. We anticipate participation from all 4th and 7th graders as agreed upon when parents and students signed their Master Agreements.

The **EAP (Early Assessment Program)** for **11th graders** will also be offered on **March 6 from 9 am until noon**. The EAP is not mandatory, but is recommended for students planning to attend college, as it may serve as an alternative to college placement tests.

Please see the flyers included in the newsletter for more information about STAR Writing (including information about practice writing tasks for those who want to prepare) and EAP.

**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 at 222-9281.

The students whose names were drawn for **Good Apple Awards** this month were: **Halie Halverson and Sophia Tijerina**. These students were cited with "good citizenship" and given tickets, which were then selected in the monthly drawing. Congratulations to our "Good Apples!"

**It's not too late to purchase your APL yearbook.** The cost is only **\$20**. Buy yours today! Place your order through your teacher or at the front desk. Sales envelopes are in the lobby. **The last day to order is March 15th.** Don't miss out!

**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.

"Every job is a self-portrait of the person who did it. Autograph your work with excellence." ~ Unknown

A **graduation gown** with cap and tassel can be ordered through APL for **\$19.95**. All orders must be submitted by **Jan. 31** to the APL office. Please bring a copy of the order form included with this newsletter, as well as cash or a check made out to **Graduation Source**. Boys wear black gowns and the girls' gowns are maroon.



## Library News



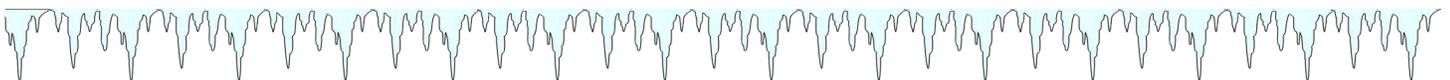
**Destiny Library Catalog:** Families can search our library holdings by going online to <https://ourapl.follettdestiny.com>. You can browse without logging in, but if you wish to look at what your children have checked out, click in the upper right hand corner of the home page on "login." You will be asked for your student's username (first initial followed by last name) and password (patron number). Your teacher can provide you with the patron number. 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

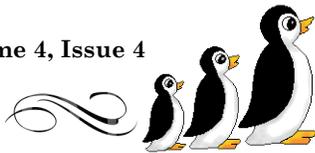
hand corner "Exit Destiny Quest," which will bring you to a less visually imposing screen that might be more familiar and easier to navigate. If you have any questions or need any help, call Kimberly in the library.

**Library Donations:** Although we appreciate your generosity, please hold any donations to the APL library until we are able to catch up with getting our materials organized. Thanks for your patience!

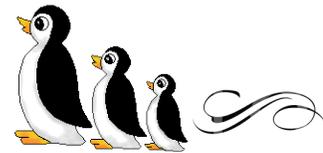
**Listen to a Life Contest:** This contest looks like a great opportunity to

connect generations. To enter the Listen to a Life Contest, young people 8-18 years of age interview a grandparent or grandfriend, 50 years or older, about the older person's hopes and goals through their life, how they achieved their goals and overcame obstacles, or key life experiences. The young person then writes a 300-word essay based on the interview. The Grand Prize is a Lenovo ThinkCentre computer and the winner's school also receives \$25,000 of EdOptions Orchard software. Twenty runners-up prizes include an MP3 player from EdOptions and \$400 of software. Deadline is March 30, 2012. For more information visit <http://www.legacyproject.org/contests/ltal.html>.





# January Events



**Schreder Planetarium:** On Wednesday, **January 11 at 11:00 am**, join APL at the Schreder Planetarium, 1644 Magnolia Ave. for **Cowboy Astronomer**. This program is a “skillfully woven tapestry of star tales and Native American legends, combined with constellation identification, star-hopping, and astronomy tidbits—all told from the unique viewpoint of a cowboy astronomer who has traveled the world plying his trade and learning the sky along the way. The program does, of course, include some sky gazing.” This show is ideal for ages six and older and lasts about an hour. **Register at ourapl.org by Tuesday, January 10.** (Please arrive at 10:45 am.)

“We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year’s Day.”  
~ Edith Lovejoy Pierce

**Gaumer’s Jewelry and Museum:** Barbara Mehr, APL’s Field Trip Coordinator, has scheduled a tour of **Gaumer’s Mineral and Mining Museum on Tuesday, January 24th at 9:30 am.** Gaumers features fifty years and four generations of collecting, with beautiful, rare gem and mineral specimens from around the world, stone carvings, fossils, Native American artifacts, a fluorescent mineral display, and a detailed replica of an old mine tunnel complete with ore car, tracks, and mining equipment. For directions, see our website. **Please park in the gravel lot next to Gaumers.** To participate in this event, **sign up at ourapl.org by Monday, January 23.**

**Hairspray**, the Broadway musical, will be performed at the Cascade Theater on **Friday, March 30 at 10 am.** Tickets are **\$5 per seat** and can be paid for at APL’s front desk, **making checks out to the Cascade Theater. Deadline for payment and registration at ourapl.org is 2/14.**

**Home School Skate** is the **2nd Wednesday of each month, October through May**, 3-5 pm at Viking Skate Country, 735 Auditorium Dr. The dates will be **1/11, 2/8, 3/14, 4/11 and 5/9.** Shasta Lake Alternative School, GUSD subsidizes 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 more information, contact Heidi Hillesheim at [90alana@shasta.com](mailto:90alana@shasta.com).

Redding School of the Arts will perform **Disney’s Cinderella KIDS** on Thursday, **February 2 from 9:00-10:30 am** at the David Marr Auditorium in the Shasta Learning Center, 2200 Eureka Way. The timeless fairy tale meets the magic of Disney in this adaptation of the treasured animated film. Tickets are **\$2 per seat for students and \$7 for adults** and can be purchased from the receptionist at APL, **making checks out to RSA, by Friday 1/13/12. Reserve your seat at ourapl.org.**



## College Corner



**Applying for financial aid is free.** Complete the **FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) for all federal financial aid and submit a verified **Cal Grant GPA by March 2** to apply for a Cal Grant. You should apply for financial aid every year, from your senior year of high school through your senior year in college.

Try to submit the **FAFSA** as soon as possible **on or after January 1.** Financial aid is awarded on a first-come first-serve basis so the sooner you submit the better. Parents do not have to file taxes prior to submitting the FAFSA; you can estimate your income and tax information on the FAFSA and then submit. Once your taxes are filed you may go back into your FAFSA to update the tax information and resubmit. The online FAFSA form is signed electronically so the student and one of their parents must register for a PIN number prior to completing the online FAFSA form. The PIN serves as your electronic signature.

**Cal Grant** awards are need-based eligibility grants determined from the information filed on the FAFSA and the student’s GPA. The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) sets forth income and asset ceilings to determine Cal Grant eligibility. All students are encouraged to apply for financial aid, regardless of whether or not their family income and assets are above the ceilings. A **GPA Verification Form**, which includes the student’s SSN, must be submitted to the CSAC by **March 2.**

**Cash for College** is a college workshop that will be held at APL on Tuesday, **February 7 from 5:30-7:30 pm** to help seniors and their parents fill out the **FAFSA forms.** Seniors who attend the event, complete their forms and a survey will qualify for a chance to win a scholarship.

The **BOGG Grant** is a financial need-based grant for students attending junior college, including high school students. Teachers can help

families fill out BOGG Grant applications, so please don’t hesitate to ask for assistance. APL has the forms.

The **Cash for College Video Contest Scholarship** is a new opportunity for high school seniors to **win up to \$4,000 in scholarships.** (There will be a \$1,000 prize, a \$4,000 prize and other smaller prizes). For a chance at the scholarships, seniors submit a video showing why they applied for financial aid and upload their video directly to the Cash for College channel on YouTube. **Entries can be submitted between now and March 2 and winners will be chosen after March 2.** Students do not need to attend a Cash for College workshop to enter. For entry details and forms, visit [www.WhyApply.com](http://www.WhyApply.com)



NON PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
NCP



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

2195 Larkspur Lane  
Suite 100  
Redding, CA 96002

Phone: 530-222-9275  
Fax: 530-222-9281  
[www.ourapl.org](http://www.ourapl.org)



## Tutoring



## Meetings



## History Day



Students in need of tutoring assistance in math have the opportunity to attend a **Math Directed Study Hall** to receive help with their assignments. Please see the Spring Semester Schedules for these class times. Students must bring work with them.

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

**Tuesdays:** 3:30-4:45 pm at APL

**Wednesdays:** 1:00-3:00 pm at the Local Indians for Education (LIFE) Center in Shasta Lake City. (Call 275-1513 for directions).

**Thursdays:** 3:30-4:45 pm at APL

**Fridays:** 12:30-3:00 pm at APL

APL teacher Vanessa Burger will provide general tutoring at the **Burney Library** from **10:00 am to 1:00 pm** on **Tuesdays**.

"The mind is not a vessel to be filled,  
but a fire to be ignited."

~ Plutarch

All staff, board members, and interested families are invited to participate in our **Focus Group Meeting on January 9 from 4-6 pm** at APL. This is an important component of our WASC accreditation as we work to assess and improve our school and program offerings.

The **APL Board Meetings** for this school year are the **3rd Thursday** of each month at **5:15 pm**, with the next meeting on **January 19th**. The public is invited to attend.

The **APL Advisory Council**, a group of staff members, parents and students whose common goal is to enhance our school by sharing ideas, meets on the **1st Wednesday** of each month at **3:30 pm**, with the next meeting on **January 11th**. The Advisory Council still needs a high school student and two parents of elementary students. Let your teacher know or contact Lynn at APL if you are willing to serve on the council.

Interested in skiing/snowboarding? Join the **Millville Educational Ski/Board Program 2012** for Friday trips to Mt. Shasta Board n' Ski Park. Visit [www.freewebs.com/kyleeneh](http://www.freewebs.com/kyleeneh) or you can contact Wendi Hill via [kyleeneh @ yahoo.com](mailto:kyleeneh@yahoo.com) for more information.

The **History Day Project** will begin during our spring semester. This project challenges students to research a historical topic and relate it to a specific theme. This year's national theme is "**Revolution, Reaction, and Reform in History**". In the class, students will be instructed on how to write a formal research paper. The project includes a research paper, an oral speech and the creation of a hands-on project that displays the student's topic. This project is designed for **4th-8th grade** students. Each student will receive a detailed handbook with clear homework assignments. This class **does require** outside homework and families must be committed to the project. The class dates are as follows: January 30th, February 6th, February 27th, March 12th, March 26th, April 16th and April 30th. Classes will held on the Mondays listed above from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Attendance is mandatory unless prior arrangements are made. This class focuses on both language arts and history standards for the 4th-8th grades. Please contact Mrs. Cable at [ccable@ourapl.org](mailto:ccable@ourapl.org) or at 222-9275 with any questions regarding the project.