

Academy of Personalized Learning, A Charter School

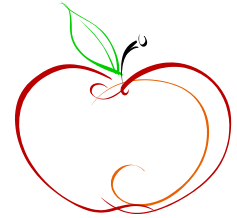
2195 Larkspur Lane, Suite 100
Redding, CA 96002

Phone: (530) 222-9APL (9275)

Fax: (530) 222-9281

www.ourapl.org

Director: Dr. Patricia Dougherty



Apple News



May News



May 1, 2012

Volume 4, Issue 8

"April showers bring May flowers" and summer will soon be here. With STAR testing completed for another year, we would like to thank everyone for their support and participation. We are grateful for the seriousness with which students took this important test. We appreciate the extra effort made by parents to prepare their children, making sure they were rested, fed and here on time. And a thanks to our staff, who endeavored to help students ease stress levels and test well, in addition to providing fun breaks and tasty snacks so the children would enjoy the testing as much as possible. Now we'll look forward to the results and the **STAR raffle** this fall.

Have you visited APL's website, www.ourapl.org, lately? It has a fresh new look and will hopefully be more user friendly and informative. Among other changes, the field trip registration process has been modified to make it easier for families to sign up for multiple events. (There are some great field trips planned for this month as well so check out the Events on page 3.) Our website will continue to improve under the tutelage of our new webmaster, Michael Hanson.

Though the school year is winding down, there are still some big events on the horizon. The APL Players will present **A Night on Broadway**, a musical revue, on **May 3**. Students in the dance and music and movement classes will also be performing. The students are excited to share their artistic talent with their parents, friends and peers, so please consider attending this musical extravaganza.

The following day, **May 4**, brings the **Open House that APL is co-hosting with National University** from **3-6 pm**. Both schools will be open and welcoming visitors. **College OPTIONS** will participate in the open house from **3-5 pm**, so if there are students/families who would like to know more about post-secondary educational opportunities, this will be a great opportunity to connect with College OPTIONS and learn about their programs and services.

Finally, the month ends with our **high school graduation** on **May 30**. For those with graduating seniors, there is important information for you in this newsletter about graduation practice, the senior slide show, and how graduates want their names to appear on diplomas, so please read the newsletter so you won't miss something important.

The **8th grade promotion ceremony** will be **June 1** at APL and there is more information on page 2 about this event. The seasons change, children grow, and we are in awe of life ever-moving forward. Enjoy the warm sunshine and the flowers!

May events

- ✓ A Night on Broadway
- ✓ Open House
- ✓ Cinco de Mayo
- ✓ Close Up Encounters With Birds of Prey
- ✓ Home School Skate
- ✓ Family Day at Hathaway Ranch
- ✓ Redding Rodeo Heritage Day
- ✓ Native Plant Identification
- ✓ APL Graduation

Students in the Spotlight



Jasmine Frye, a fifth grader, is new to APL this year. Jasmine, better known as Jazzy, has been a wonderful addition to our school. She is taking several onsite classes and her teachers have nothing but positive things to say about her. Jazzy is doing great academically in her classes and she enjoys doing work at home. She comes to her meetings ready to share what she has learned. Christine Eatmon, who is Jazzy's teacher of record, says her favorite thing about Jazzy is the big smile on her face when Ms. Eatmon says hi to her in the hallway. She also said Jazzy has a great sense of style.



Hannah Avery is an active 7th grader here at APL! She loves to swim as part of the Ducks swim program, and is usually swimming every day. In March, she qualified for and was able to compete in the Junior Olympics! She'll be busy swimming this summer too, as she is going to be volunteering for Swim America teaching young children how to swim. On site, she has really enjoyed Mrs. Vail's computer class this year. She loves cinnamon rolls and monkey bread, and is also a big fan of pillow pets! Her favorite subjects this year are math and history.



Hayley Hennessy is a freshman this year and joined our school as an 8th grader. She is a very active high school student here at APL, taking all of her core classes plus 3 electives on site, and has earned Honor Roll each semester of her enrollment. She is a hard working student, and is always ready with a smile and a good attitude, which is especially appreciated by the younger students she works with in art classes as a Teacher's Aide and in the computer lab where she volunteers. Hayley is a valuable member of the Yearbook team, who have created APL's very first yearbook! We look forward to seeing what Hayley will accomplish in her high school years with APL!

Inside this issue:

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



APL Orientation



APL is accepting new students for the **2012/13 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!

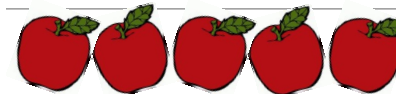
Here's what we have to offer:

- 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



There will be **CAHSEE testing** on **May 8** (English) and **May 9** (Math) from **1-4 pm** at APL for **10th** graders who were absent from the previous sessions as well as **11th** and **12th** graders who have yet to pass one or both sections of the test.

We request that all students in **grades 3-11** take the **Scantron Assessment Test** before the end of the school year, if they have not yet completed a spring assessment. During the month of May we will have testing from 9 am-3 pm each day, with testing sessions at **9 am, 11 am, and 1 pm**. There will be 12 computers available. Please check with your teacher or call Sherina for scheduling.

Parking Lot Etiquette: The parking lot we share with National University is a busy place and some safety issues have come to our attention. Small children are difficult to see and are at risk of being hit if not accompanied by an adult. When dropping off or picking up children, please park your car and walk children to and from the building. Do not double park, block other cars, or create traffic congestion or safety issues. Thank you.



The APL **high school graduation** ceremony will be **Wednesday, May 30 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.

Seniors: Please let Sherina (sweide@ourapl.org) know how you want your name to appear on your diploma. (And don't forget that all school materials must be returned to receive your diploma at graduation.)

Attention senior families: Each year at graduation, APL presents a slideshow of the graduates. Please select some baby and recent photos (at least one of each). Email them to 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.

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

The **8th grade promotion** ceremony will be at APL on Friday, **June 1 at noon**. 8th graders will have practice at **11 am**. Attire should be "dressy." There will be an ice cream social after the ceremony.

The **Oral Health Assessment Form** for students who will be in **1st grade in the 2012-13 school year is due by May 31, 2012**. The form is available at APL if you need it. If you have questions or can't meet the deadline, contact Sherina.

Current 6th graders who will be 7th graders next school year, 2012-13, need to have their **TDap immunization** complete and turned in by **August 30, 2012**. For more info, see http://shotsforschool.org/parents_faqs.html

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.

Library News

APL's **reading incentive program** for this school year will come to a close on Friday, **May 25**. Please have all reading logs turned in by this date. Winners will be announced in the June newsletter.

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!

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 15th**. 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 dam-

"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant."

Robert Louis Stevenson

aged 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.



May Events



The APL Players will present **A Night on Broadway**, a musical revue, on Thursday, **May 3**, from **7-9 pm** at the McLaughlin Auditorium, 1805 Sequoia St. (Sequoia School). Students from the dance and music and movement classes will also perform, showcasing what they have learned this year. Seating opens at 6:30 pm and curtain call is at 7 pm. Tickets are \$5 per seat (cash only please) and will be available at APL and at the door.

The **Academy of Personalized Learning** and **National University** will co-host an **Open House** on Friday, **May 4** from **3 to 6 pm** to showcase our site, staff and program offerings. Please come and share in this event as we develop and enhance our partnership with National University. Refreshments will be served.

Shasta College will present the 21st annual **Cinco de Mayo** celebration on Friday, **May 4**, from **11 am to 1 pm** in the Shasta College Student Center Quad. Activities include dance performances, presentations, a tamale lunch (\$5), piñata breaking for children, and more. The celebration is free and open to the public. There will also be free parking available in the north parking lot.

Shasta Land Trust is hosting their third **Family Day at Hathaway Ranch** on Saturday, **May 12**, from **10:30 am to 4 pm** in Oak Run. Activities will include geocaching, creek exploration, a Native American village, nature walks, and much more. This free event is open to interested children of any age and an accompanying adult. Lunch will be provided. To **reserve** your place at Family Day, call the **Shasta Land Trust office at 241-7886 and ask for Bridget**. Registration is limited and runs through May 7 or until full.

Redding's 64th annual rodeo is coming May 17-19. On Friday, **May 18**, we celebrate **Heritage Day**. Come watch some rodeo action, get a peek at specialty acts, and see the Junior Drill Team perform. APL student Kaela Barrett is riding for her second year and would love for everyone to come see her and her teammates perform on horseback. Please sign up at **ourapl.org by May 7 with the number of adults and children**. Arrive for Heritage Day at the Redding Rodeo Grounds (northwest of Turtle Bay) Friday, May 18 by **9 am**. A hot dog lunch will be provided.



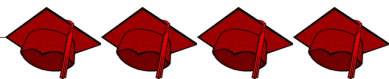
The last **Home School Skate** for this school year will be **May 9** from 3-5 pm at Viking Skate Country. Cost is \$3 per person with one free admission for supervising adult. All participants must be accompanied by an adult.

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

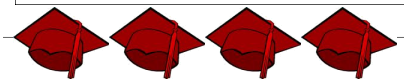
Close Up Encounters With Birds of Prey: Sunday, **May 6**, at **10 am**. Shasta Wildlife Rescue works to rescue and rehabilitate these magnificent birds. When one is not a candidate to be released back to the wild, they are cared for by this non-profit organization. Through their educational outreach program you have the opportunity to see birds up close and learn more about them. A variety of rescued birds and animals may be present. This is an excellent program for all ages.

Native Plant Identification and Uses: Sunday, **May 20**, at **1 pm**. Join native American Wintu Ted Dawson on a spring walk while he locates, identifies, and explains medicinal and general uses of native plants.

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 more information.



College Corner



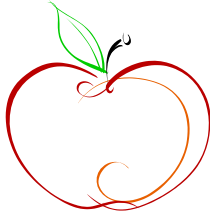
Summer is just around the corner and many high school students may be thinking about getting a job. Use the following list of suggestions to help **prepare for an interview:**

- 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.
- Send thank you note or card.

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2195 Larkspur Lane
Suite 100
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Tutoring



Meetings



Shakespeare



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 math assignments with them to work on.

Math Tutoring with Mr. Nason will be offered as follows through **May 30**:

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 is available for tutoring at the **Burney Library from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm on Tuesdays if you call to arrange an appointment with her at 276-7936.**

The **APL Board Meetings** are the **3rd Thursday** of each month at **5:15 pm** with the next meeting on **May 17**. The public is invited to attend.

The **APL Advisory Council** is a group of 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 **3:30 pm**, with the next meeting on **May 2**.

The Advisory Council is requesting candidates for its August election. The Council consists of twelve members: the APL Director, a support staff member, four teachers, two parents of elementary students, two parents of high school students, and two high school students. Member responsibilities include attendance and participation at monthly meetings to help improve our school (such as updating the parent/student handbook and creating the annual parent/student surveys). Council members serve two year terms. If you would like to serve in this capacity, please let Lynn know by **June 8**.

Join APL at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland, Oregon to see William Shakespeare's **As You Like It** on Saturday, **August 18** at **8 pm** on the Elizabethan Stage. This event is recommended for students age 10 and up. APL has purchased a prologue event before the play for our group. Students who attend prologues, especially for plays with challenging themes or complex language, such as Shakespeare's, are better able to understand the plays and get more out of the experience. To purchase tickets, please provide the following to Deenna at the APL front desk:

- 1.) **\$44.20 per ticket in cash or money order by May 7.** (Children under 6 are not admitted to performances or events.)
- 2.) Each driver needs proof of a one million dollar policy for the trip, and a current DMV Driving Record request. This helps to limit the liability to the school. Each family should drive only their own students.

For more information, contact Barbara Mehr at bmehr@ourapl.org or 530-472-1239.

"Excellence is not a skill. It is an attitude."

Ralph Marston

