

Academy of Personalized Learning, A Charter School

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November 1, 2012

Volume 5, Issue 4



Apple News

November/December News



Greetings! With November days come thoughts of gratitude as Thanksgiving highlights the month. The staff at APL is grateful for the opportunity to work with your children. Veterans' Day is also this month and we are grateful for all of the veterans in our community. (Don't forget we conduct the flag salute every Wednesday and Thursday morning at 7:45 am in the reception area and everyone is invited to participate.) As November and December are both short school months, there will be one newsletter to cover the news and events for both months. So we wish you Happy Holidays for both months!

APL has a new science teacher this year, David Ewart, and he is bringing some new programs which we would like to share with our readers. The APL Biology classes as well as the 6th grade Earth Science class have been given a special assignment. They have been given seeds that flew in Space on Space Shuttle Mission STS-118. Why is this important? Plant growth will be an important part of space exploration in the future as NASA plans for long-duration missions to the moon. NASA scientists anticipate that astronauts may be able to grow plants on the moon, and the plants could be used to supplement meals. NASA and the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association (ITEEA), in anticipation of the need for research into lunar plant growth, are having students develop a Lunar Plant Growth Chamber. Students design, build, and evaluate lunar plant growth chambers, while engaging in research and standards-based learning experiences. Students participate in the engineering design process and learn how to conduct a scientific experiment. Working with cinnamon basil seeds that have flown in space (and were placed outside the station to test how they withstood the harsh environment of space), students can compare plants grown from both space-flown and Earth-based control seeds, and test the designs of the lunar plant growth chambers. Thanks to Mr. Ewart, APL students are working on the cutting edge of Science!



November/ December events

- ✓ Making Tracks
- ✓ Wild Trout & Fly Fishing
- ✓ CAHSEE
- ✓ Portrait Makeup Day
- ✓ Fall 2012 College Application Workshops
- ✓ Annie Get Your Gun
- ✓ Acorns
- ✓ GIS Day
- ✓ Home School Skate
- ✓ Cascade Christmas
- ✓ CSU/UC applications due
- ✓ Library Challenge
- ✓ Veterans Museum
- ✓ Little Mermaid



Students in the Spotlight



Millicent Strawn, known to her friends as Milena, is a bright and active 6th grader at APL. Milena loves to read and excels in her school work. She also plays soccer, swims, snowboards, and takes gymnastics as well as dance and musical theater at APL. Milena plays guitar, bass, piano and writes her own songs. She is the oldest of four girls and helps with sisters, animals and the garden at home. Milena lives in Oak Run and loves the outdoors and actively exploring her mountain home with her homeschooling family. She is a shining star at APL!

This is **Madison Moutard's** 4th year with APL. You will see her around the school on Tuesdays and Thursdays with a smile on her face and a willing spirit. Madison, an 8th grader, is excited to be doing all four of her core classes onsite this year plus her elective Graphic Design class, and is doing well in all of them. In addition, she is learning Spanish with her home-school group and taking piano lessons. She also loves to ride horses and just placed top in her division at the Gymkhana. All of Madison's teachers report that she is a joy to have in class and that she always gives 100% in everything she does.

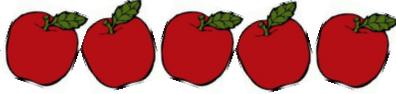
Dakota Kennedy, a junior, has been attending APL since Fall 2011. He has taken charge of his education this year, and is setting goals for his future. Dakota enjoys being outdoors and skate boarding. In class, he has demonstrated exceptional kindness and understanding toward a disabled peer, who likes to sit near him. Dakota completes all his work on time, and participates well in class. We are proud of Dakota and his growth, and look forward to good things from him.

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APL is accepting new students for the **2012-13 school year**. Starting in November, orientation for interested families will be held the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 5 pm** at APL, **2195 Larkspur Lane**. If you have friends or family looking at school options, please consider sug-



APL Orientation

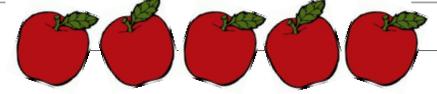
gesting us! Applications are available on our website, www.ourapl.org.

Here's some of 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

Yearbook! Parents/students can order this year's APL Yearbook at the front desk for \$25 - checks payable to APL. Orders must be placed by March 1st and the price will go up to \$30 on January 15, 2013. Online purchasing will be available soon. Parents, students, and teachers are invited to submit photos of students' personalized learning activities to highlight our diversity and feature as many students as possible. To submit photos, please email them to glowe@ourapl.org. High resolution photos are best. Students in the photos must be APL students, as we do not have permission to publish photos of other students that may be included in the group. There are still yearbooks from last year available at APL's front desk for \$25.

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.



Everyone is invited to attend the **Library Challenge Book Event!** Have fun answering questions in a game-show format. Questions will range from simple to challenging and will cover authors, titles, and use of library resources. Come and get a copy of the first round questions from the library during the first week of November. After completing all of the questions, bring them to Ms. Patti or Ms. Kimberly to claim a small prize. To continue the challenge, pick up the second round questions to answer. Bring the completed second round questions to the Library Challenge Game Competition on **Wednesday, December 5 at 3:00 pm**. All students who attend can participate in the Library Challenge Game, which will be

The **CaHSEE** (California High School Exit Exam) for **11th and 12th** graders who have yet to pass one or both sections of the exam will be **11/6** (Language Arts) and **11/7** (Math) at APL from **1:00-4:00 pm**. (Meet in the reception area at 12:45.) If you are not sure whether you need to take this exam, please contact your teacher or Sherina Weide.

Attendance, Promptness, and Beverages: School attendance is important for student success, especially when students are attending only one to two site days per week. Promptness is important also. Students who arrive late to class miss important instructions and lose valuable instructional time, but they also cause disruption to the class which affects the other students' ability to learn. Please help your students arrive on time. We also want to remind students/families that beverages (other than water in covered containers) are allowed only in rooms without carpeting. Thanks!

Library News

a review of the questions that the students have already answered, and give them a chance to win a Barnes & Noble gift card. Here is a great opportunity to learn library skills and have fun!

Reading Incentive Program: APL will facilitate a reading incentive program for students again this school year. 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.

LifeTouch will be at APL for **Portrait Makeup Day** on Thursday, **November 8**, from **8-10 am** to photograph students (and siblings, if interested). All students who have yet to be photographed this year are invited to get their photo taken and will receive a free ID card. There is no purchase necessary. We hope that as many students as possible will get photographed, so they will be included in this year's APL school yearbook. Payment envelopes will be available in the reception area.

The students whose names were drawn for **Good Apple Awards** for November and December were: **Ethan Bailey, Kiera Blais, Jocelyn Datus, and Kaitey Rueber**. These students were cited with "good citizenship" and given tickets, which were then selected in the monthly drawing. Congratulations to our "Good Apples!"

Items remaining in "**Lost and Found**" will be donated to charity after **11/30**, so please retrieve any belongings.

"We often take for granted the very things that most deserve our gratitude." Cynthia Ozick

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 www.scholastic.com/bookclubs. Follow the prompts to create your own username and password. When prompted, enter the one-time Class Activation Code, GJXLB. If you have questions, contact Kimberly at APL.

November/December Events

Annie Get Your Gun! will be presented at the Cascade Theater in Redding on Friday, **November 9** at **9 am**. There's No Business Like Show Business as 40 talented students ages 7-17 perform the action-packed Irving Berlin musical based on the life of Annie Oakley, a sharpshooter who starred in Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show. Tickets are **\$3** per seat. To register, pay Darla at APL's front desk by **11/8**. Sign up at ourapl.org.

Ever wonder how your phone can show your current location in the on-screen map? Or how it can give you directions? It's all done with Geographical Information System (GIS) data. Learn about GIS/GPS at **Students Mapping & GPS** for grades 4-8 on Wednesday, **November 14** at the Shasta County Library. There are various activities throughout the morning. Contact Dave Powers (515-5115) for reservations or for more information. There is also an informational flyer posted on the Community Events board in the reception area at APL.



To help seniors who have college aspirations make the most of their final year in high school, the following is a brief calendar of things to do for the senior year:

- Fall (August—November):**
 - + Research and plan
 - + Apply to colleges/universities
 - + Take or re-take the SAT or ACT
 - + Earn good grades
- Winter (December—March):**
 - + Financial Aid (FAFSA opens January 1st) Get your PIN!
 - + Scholarship applications
 - + Shasta College orientation & registration
 - + Private school applications during January & February
 - + Cal Grant GPA Verification (by March 2nd)
- Spring (March—June):**
 - + Receive financial aid awards
 - + Choose a school by May 1st
 - + Final exams
 - + Graduation!

Horsetown-Clear Creek Preserve: Wild Trout & Fly Fishing in Clear Creek: Nov. 3 (Saturday) **3 pm**: Take a short walk along a stream to see master fly fisherman and amateur entomologist Mike Mercer demonstrate the techniques of "casting a fly." He gives an exciting explanation of the facts and secrets of Clear Creek trout and the fly fishing equipment used in the sport. NOT limited to fishermen.

Acorns: A Native American Staple Nov. 11 (Sunday) **1 pm**: Native Wintu Ted Dawson will discuss the acorn, from harvest to food items. You'll be invited to join in grinding acorns with mortar and pestle and be rewarded with the best acorn dishes in Shasta County.

All events are free of charge and children are welcome. Call 241-2026 for information and directions or visit HorsetownClearCreekPreserve.org.



College Corner

College OPTIONS will present a **Financial Aid Night** for Charter, Private, and Christian Schools at **6:00 pm on December 4** at the Shasta College downtown campus, 1400 Market Street in rooms 8218 & 8220. Students are welcome to attend any of the Financial Aid Nights presented by College Options regardless of where they attend school, so here are other options:

Nov. 7, 6 pm	Enterprise
Nov. 8, 6 pm	Burney/Fall River
Nov. 14, 6 pm	Foothill
Nov. 28, 6 pm	U-Prep
Nov. 29, 6 pm	West Valley
Dec. 4, 6 pm	Shasta

College OPTIONS is offering **Fall 2012 College Application Workshops** for high school seniors and transfer students at the **Shasta College University Center** located on the corner of Tehama and Market Street in downtown Redding. No

Home School Skate is the 2nd Wednesday of each month from **3-5 pm** at Viking Skate Country, 735 Auditorium Dr. The dates will be **11/14, 12/12, 1/9, 2/13, 4/10** and **5/8**. This is the 15th year GUSD has hosted 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.

Join APL students on a visit to the **Northern California Veterans Museum & Heritage Center** on Thursday, **December 13** at **1:30 pm**. The museum is dedicated to preserving, promoting, and honoring veterans of all branches of the U.S. Military. Located at 3711 Meadow View Dr. in Redding, there is a donation requested. Please register at ourapl.org by **12/12**.

Redding School of the Arts will perform **Disney's The Little Mermaid Jr.** on Thursday, **January 31** from **9:00-10:30 am** at the David Marr Auditorium at the Shasta Learning Center, 2200 Eureka Way in Redding. Cost is \$2 per seat for students and \$7 for adults. **To register, pay Darla at APL's front desk by 11/7**, making checks out to **RSA**. Sign up at ourapl.org.

appointment is necessary for workshops. Drop in any time during the workshop for help with your college questions. The workshops will take place in room number 8113 as follows:

- Nov 7** (Wednesday) 3:00-5:00 pm: Application Help/Essay Review
- Nov 14** (Wednesday) 3:00-5:00 pm: Application Help/Essay Review
- Nov 20** (Tuesday) 3:00-5:00 pm: Application Help/Essay Review
- Nov 28** (Wednesday) 3:00-5:30 pm: Application Help/Essay Review
- Nov 29** (Thursday) 3:00-5:30 pm: Application Help/Essay Review
- Nov 30** (Friday) 3:00-5:30 pm: Application Help/Essay Review

CSU/UC applications are due November 30th.

Please call the College OPTIONS office at 245-1845 if you have questions. (They will be closed 11/21-11/25.)

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Tutoring



Meetings



History Day



Students in need of tutoring assistance in English and math have the opportunity to attend **Directed Study Halls** to receive help with their assignments. Please see the Fall Semester Schedules for these class days and times. Students must bring assignments with them to work on.

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

Tuesdays: 4:15-5:00 pm at APL

Wednesdays: 8:00-9:05 am at APL
1:00-3:00 pm at the Local Indians for Education (LIFE) Center, 4440 Shasta Dam Blvd., Shasta Lake City. Their phone number is (530)-275-1513.

Thursdays: 4:15-5:00 pm at APL

Fridays: 8:00-9:05 am at APL
12:40-2:55 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. Please call ahead 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 **November 15**. The December meeting has been changed to **December 13**. The public is invited to attend.

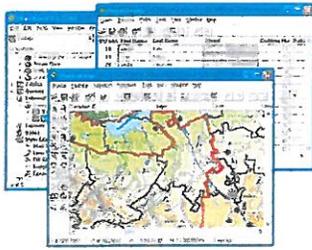
The **APL Advisory Council** is a group of staff members, parents and students whose common goal is to enhance our school by sharing ideas. Advisory Council meetings are the **1st Wednesday** of each month at **3:30 pm**, with the next meetings on **November 7 and December 5**. The Council is in need of a parent of an elementary age student. If you are interested in serving on the Advisory Council, please contact lweidenkel@ourapl.org.

Calendar: The following dates are **School Holidays:**

- November 12: Veterans' Day
 - November 19-23: Thanksgiving
 - December 19-January 7: Winter Break
- Fall semester ends December 18.**

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 "**Turning Points in History: People, Ideas and Events.**" In the class, students will be instructed 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 14 and 28, February 4 and 25, March 11 and 25, and April 29. Classes will held on the Mondays listed above from 9:00-11:00 am. 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 or at 222-9275 with any questions regarding the project.

Student Mapping and GPS



Far North Regional GIS Council presents

“GIS Day 2012”

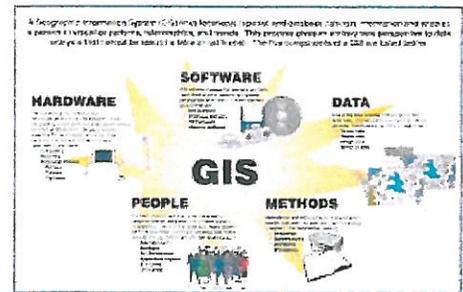
Ever wonder how your phone can show your current location in the on-screen map? Or how your it can give you directions to the nearest Starbucks? It’s all done with Geographical Information System (GIS) data. Learn about GIS/GPS in the classroom, from field data collection and with hands-on computer activities. *

What: Students Mapping & GPS (grades 4 to 8)

When: Wednesday, November 14, 2012

Where: Shasta County Library
1100 Parkview Avenue
Redding, CA 96001
(530)245-7250

FREE



Activities:

1) Understanding, Collecting and Mapping GPS **

- a) Introduction to GPS- Library Conference Room
- b) Collecting GPS - Library Grounds-outside
- c) Mapping GPS - Library Computer Lab

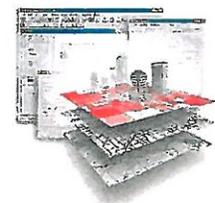
9:30 AM to 11:00 AM

and 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM



2) Getting Started with GIS Mapping

- a) **Conference Room** **10:00 AM to 11:00 AM**
 - i) How a GIS Works
 - ii) What You Can do with a GIS
 - iii) What is GIS Data – Vector, Raster and Data Storage
- b) **Computer Room-Hands-On Lab** **11:00 AM to 12:00 PM**
 - i) Intro to ArcGIS Online
 - ii) Navigating a GIS Map
 - iii) Discovering Information



Contact Dave Powers (515-5115) for reservations or for more information.

* Map Gallery and other all day activities planned.

** All three parts of activity ‘1’ are offered twice, starting at 9:30 AM and then again at 1:00 PM