

Academy of Personalized Learning, A Charter School

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Apple News

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January News

Happy New Year to all members of the APL community! In 2013, may our efforts bring to each of us new skills, heightened awareness, and deeper perception so that we may contribute ever more to our community and our world. Let this year be the best that APL has experienced!

Spring Semester begins on Tuesday, January 8. Independent study as well as onsite classes will resume on that date and most students will continue the classes they had during fall semester. Government and Economics are some of the few semester length courses, and seniors who took Government in the fall will now take Economics. There are no changes in the schedule of courses being offered onsite.

As APL continues to monitor student growth and progress, we hope to complete a mid-year assessment of all students. Your PLT will have more information about assessment as we move forward, and we hope that families will appreciate knowing how their students are making progress in their learning.

Have you heard about Sound Club? **Sound Club** is a weekly, half hour program for kindergarteners to be instructed in phonemic awareness. Phonemic awareness is a conscious understanding that speech is composed of individual sounds. Phonemic awareness provides a foundation for phonics, reading and spelling. It is both a prerequisite for and a consequence of learning to read. During Sound Club, the children will be instructed in phonemic awareness skills such as: rhyming, knowledge of initial, medial, and final sounds, sound blending, and sound segmenting. Children are also instructed in the correct production of each sound. Sound Club will meet on the following **Fridays** from **9:00 to 9:30 am**: 1/11, 1/18, 1/25, 2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22, and 3/29. If you have any questions about Sound Club, please call Cheryl Woodman, our Speech-Language Pathologist, at 222-9277.

January events

- ✓ Home School Skate
- ✓ Cash for College
- ✓ Planetarium
- ✓ Little Mermaid Jr.
- ✓ Young Artists Show



Students in the Spotlight

Berkley Simons is a bright and active fifth grader. Berkley is a good friend who excels in her school work. She also is in Oak Run 4-H and raised and sold her first steer last year. Berkley lives on a ranch in rural Shasta County and enjoys the outdoors and exploring her mountain home. She loves animals and horses and she spends lots of time caring for them and riding. Berkley has a large family and helps in her family's Christmas tree business each year. Berkley is an APL superstar!

Wyatt Lacroix, an 8th grader, has been at APL for two years and has proven to be an asset to our school. He is currently taking all of his core classes onsite including the yearbook class in which he enjoys documenting school activities and memories for our students. In addition, Wyatt is taking guitar lessons and Kenpo Karate and has been a Boy Scout for many years. He earned a scholarship this past summer to the Robotics Summer Camp at Shasta College based on teacher recommendation and a personally written essay. Wyatt is always respectful, polite, and friendly to both peers and adults and does his best at all times with a smile on his face.

Colton Johnson is a very personable and responsible young man. He is a diligent student, participating in class as well as completing all assignments for his Independent Study courses. Colton is a natural leader with a strong work ethic and sense of community responsibility. He sets a high standard for himself which influences other students to try harder as well. In addition to his work, Colton likes to have fun, occasionally "busting out the moves" and even singing to the delight of classmates in Ceramics. Colton is a senior this year, has a 4.0 GPA, and has been an APL student for all four years of high school. We will miss him when he graduates!

Inside this issue:

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





APL Orientation

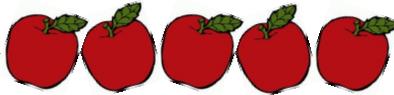


APL is accepting new students for the **2012-13 school year**. Orientation for interested families will be held the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 5 pm** at APL, **2195 Larkspur Lane**. If you have friends or family looking at school options, please consider suggesting us!

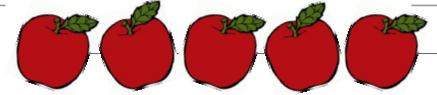
Applications are available on our website, www.ourapl.org. Here's some of what we have to offer:

- 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



Yearbooks: For your convenience you may purchase your APL yearbook online! Go to <http://ybpay.lifetouch.com> and enter job # 11139013. You may also pay at the front desk by check or cash. An envelope has been provided. They are **\$25 if purchased by 1/31**. Remember, the **price increases to \$30 after January 31st**.

Senior Portraits: To be included in the yearbook, email senior portraits to glowe@ourapl.org by **1/31**. Please include the student's name in the email.

Home Study Projects: Have an interesting project that you'd like to share? Preserve the memory by submitting a high resolution photo of your student and their project for possible inclusion in the yearbook (space is limited). The sooner the picture is submitted, the better. Possible ideas: art/building projects, sports, dance, drama, presentations, etc. Email pictures to glowe@ourapl.org. Include the student's name and a short description of the photo.

The students whose names were drawn for **Good Apple Awards** for January were: **Keikona Brasch and Kara Muhly**. These students were cited with "good citizenship" and given tickets, which were then selected in the monthly drawing. Congratulations to our "Good Apples!"

For those who may be interested in getting **flu shots**, Shasta County Public Health gives flu shots for \$10 at their regular shot clinics. Public Health is located at 2650 Breslauer Way (off of Hwy 273) and their phone number is 530-225-5591. The clinic hours are below:

- Monday: 8:00 am to 11:00 am
1:00 pm to 4:30 pm
- Tuesday: 8:00 am to 11:00 am
- Wednesday: 8:00 to 11:00 am
1:00 pm to 4:30 pm
- Thursday: 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm
- Friday: 8:00 am to 11:00 am

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. 5** (Language Arts) and **Feb. 6** (Math) at APL from **1-4 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. (Students taking the CAHSEE are excused from morning classes on the days they test.)

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.

Student IDs: Students who had their photos taken by LifeTouch are now being given their student ID cards. These ID cards will be used for checking in and out of school once we get our scan station. They can also be used to check out books from the APL library. **Please take care not to lose these ID cards.** For students who need an APL student ID card, stop by the school and see Sherina to get your photo taken. For more information, contact Sherina at 222-9275.



Library News

Library Returns: If you have completed a course, or have finished using any materials checked out from the APL Library, please return these materials to the library. Other students may be in need of what you have. In these tight financial times, we cannot afford to leave books unused on a shelf, so please return materials that you are not using. Thanks!

Reading Incentive Program: APL facilitates a reading incentive program for students. 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.

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.





January Events



To sign up for field trips, please go to the field trip link at www.ourapl.org to register. Please include phone number and email contact. Contact bmehr@ourapl.org for more information or to cancel registration.

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 **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.

“For last year’s words belong to last year’s language and next year’s words await another voice. And to make an end is to make a beginning.”
T. S. Eliot

Schreder Planetarium: On Tuesday, **January 22 at 1:15 pm**, join APL for the show, **New Horizons**, at the Schreder Planetarium, 1644 Magnolia Ave. “From breathtaking landscapes, to violent volcanic eruptions, to the sheer beauty of Saturn’s rings, explore the planets and moons of the solar system in a majestic journey through our celestial neighborhood. Travel down to the surface of all the planets and experience what life would be like on those brave new worlds. Our journey begins as we follow a comet as it travels through interplanetary space. On each of our exotic ports of call, real data and images from modern space probes are transformed into stunning 360 degree photo-realistic 3D animation.” These shows last about an hour. Reserve your seat by **January 21** at ourapl.org. Seats are limited and there will be a waiting list.

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. As of this writing, there are still tickets available. If you are interested in attending this show, contact Barbara Mehr at bmehr@ourapl.org to find out about ticket availability.

The Young Artists Show: Contemporary Colors and Shapes at Turtle Bay Museum will be January 25 through April 13. Students in grades K-8 can enter any 2-dimensional medium (painting, drawing, collage, photo, etc.) and work can be realistic or abstract. Maximum size is 18” by 12.” Submissions will be accepted no later than **Jan. 4** at the Famous Artists’ office on the 2nd floor of the Museum. Please label the back of the artwork with Student Name, School, and Grade Level.



College Corner



The **FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is the financial aid form required by most colleges, universities and career/technical schools across California and within the U.S. By completing the FAFSA, students can qualify for thousands of dollars in financial assistance, including Cal Grants, Pell Grants, fee waivers, other grants and scholarships that do not have to be paid back, work-study jobs, or student loans that require repayment.

Applying for financial aid is free. Complete the **FAFSA** 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. You can access the FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

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 students 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. To obtain a pin, eligible students AND parents should visit www.pin.ed.gov.

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** must be submitted to the CSAC by **March 2**. **APL will**

submit GPA verification for all students who have turned in the release form. If you need the form, contact your PLT or Sherina Weide.

Cash for College is a college workshop that will be held at APL on Wednesday, January 16 from 5:30-7:30 pm to help seniors and their parents fill out the FAFSA forms. The event will include a financial aid information session prior to students completing their online FAFSAs. Seniors who attend the event, complete their forms and a brief survey will qualify for a chance to win a \$1000 scholarship. (If 20 students attend this workshop, one will win. Better odds than the lottery!)

The **BOGG Grant** is a financial need-based grant for students attending junior college, including high school students. The BOGG Fee Waiver Application can be found on the Shasta College website as follows: <http://shastacollege.edu/fa/bogfw/>. There are two versions to choose from: electronic or paper application.

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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 **January 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 **January 9**. 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 lweidenkeller@ourapl.org.

January Calendar:

Jan. 7: Spring semester begins and classes resume

Jan. 21: Martin Luther King Day—no school

“Year’s end is neither an end nor a beginning but a going on, with all the wisdom that experience can instill in us.”

Hal Borland

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.