

Academy of Personalized Learning,

A Charter School

2195 Larkspur Lane, Suite 100
Redding, CA 96002

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

Fax: (530) 222-9281



Director: Dr. Patricia Dougherty

www.ourapl.org



Apple News

November/December News



Greetings! As November and December are both short school months, this newsletter will cover the news and events for both months, and we'd like to begin with a few brief reminders. Cold and flu season is upon us. Please have **ill students stay home**. They can access their schoolwork via the **portal** and return to school with their work completed when they are well. If you aren't familiar with the portal, please ask your PLT. It's a great way to stay connected. It is important for all students to keep up with their schoolwork (especially in a program like ours, with at least three days of homeschool work to complete each week.) Our school policy is that **late work will not be accepted more than one class period past due** (which is one week) and it will receive only **50% credit**. Students who have been ill, have one extra class period to turn their work in without grade penalty. In addition to keeping current with schoolwork and maintaining good grades, meeting due dates is an important life lesson.

With inclement weather, we ask that drivers slow down in the parking lot, and that parents continue to walk their elementary children to and from the building. Daylight Saving Time ends at 2:00 am on Sunday, November 2, so don't forget to set your clocks back one hour. We also want to remind everyone about the need for punctuality in dropping off and picking up students, as well as to send a lunch with students. **APL is a closed campus** and students may not leave to get lunch. And one last thing, if you have inadvertently left school with a parent or guest pass, we would appreciate the return of the pass as our supply is dwindling.

With several holidays coming up, including Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, and Winter Break, please refer to the holiday/school dates listed on page 4 and the monthly calendars enclosed with the newsletter. During the break, as well as during the school year, you may be interested in having your children access educational websites. The first of the following lists includes some websites that might be of interest for all subjects: www.abcya.com, www.pbskids.org, www.cookie.com, www.learninggamesforkids.com, www.funbrain.com, www.highlightskids.com, and www.education.com. These websites have been recommended for math: www.sumdog.com, www.mulitiplication.com, www.khanacademy.org, www.coolmath-games.com, and www.hoodamath.com. Here are some websites for language arts, reading, and phonics: www.starfall.com, www.funfonix.com, and www.storylineonline.net. And for science and history, check out these websites: www.kidsbiology.com, www.kids.nationalgeographic.com, www.discoverykids.com, www.inventionatplay.org, and www.wonderopolis.org. For typing, visit www.typingweb.com. We hope you find these websites useful!

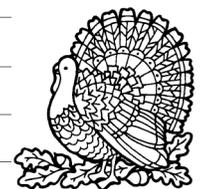
November 1, 2014

Volume 7, Issue 4



November/ December events

- ✓ Wild Trout & Fly Fishing
- ✓ Al Simmons
- ✓ Acorns
- ✓ Tennis Fun
- ✓ A Cascade Christmas
- ✓ The Nutcracker



Students in the Spotlight

Mattie Miller is a 5th grade student who has been at APL since kindergarten. Her favorite classes at APL are Writing, Knitting, Keyboarding, and Art. Mattie is a very creative writer who has improved her skills tremendously. She is helpful to others in class, always has a smile on her face, and she's an excellent teaching assistant to Mrs. Woodson. In her free time, Mattie enjoys playing with her sister Chesnie, reading books, playing card games, sewing or knitting, and learning about dolphins and bunnies.

Vance Erickson is an intelligent and clever 7th grader. Vance does his core coursework at home, including the study of Geography, and at APL, he attends a science enrichment class. Vance has a sense of humor as seen when his older brother asked how many pies they had been given, and instead of two, his reply was 6.28, (2 X pi). Vance works well independently and in groups, as he is steady and reliable. In his spare time, he enjoys playing soccer.

Lucas Miller has been with APL since its inception and he has been an invaluable member of our student body. He works hard and participates in his site classes, maintains wonderful grades, and is involved in several extra-curricular activities such as basketball through ACA and volunteering with Awanas on Wednesdays. On top of all that, he also manages to find time to work on and fix old cars—if you're lucky, you may see him drive his own car he restored to school!

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APL Orientation



APL is accepting new students for the **2014-15 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 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



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 **11/4** (Language Arts) and **11/5** (Math) at APL from **9:00 am-noon**. (Meet in the reception area at 8:45.)

Senior Portraits: A photo session is more fun when it's with your best friend or friends. Sessions are \$50 an hour for one or two seniors. For three seniors, the cost is \$75 for an hour and a half, \$100 for two hours for four seniors, ... (you get the idea). It is just more fun with... more. Get your friends together, decide to have your portraits together and call or email for an appointment. Don't put it off as appointments are expected to fill quickly. Call Bob McConnell: (530) 566-2377 or email at bobmc@bobmccconnell.net or www.bobmccconnell.net.

Sessions include 8 images online to choose from, image of your choice for the yearbook, and Facebook-sized images to share with your friends. Packages are available starting at \$12.

Work Permit applications are available at the school office. Parents can fill out the request and drop it off at APL or fax it to the office at 222-9281.

Immunizations for kindergarteners should be completed within the first thirty days of enrollment.

Please turn in the **Oral Health Assessment Form for 1st grade students if you have not turned it in**. The form is available at APL.

The students whose names were drawn for **Good Apple Awards** for November and December were: **Madysen Baber, Bella Gomez, Patrick Peralta, and Jacilyn Tyson**. These students were cited with "good citizenship" and given tickets, which were then selected in the monthly drawing. Congratulations to our "Good Apples!" (See Ms. Lynn in the library to claim your prize.)

APL Yearbook 2014/2015: If you are interested in purchasing an APL Yearbook for this school year, **they will cost \$15 until spring break, and then the price will be \$20 starting April 13, 2015**. You can find order forms and place your order at APL's reception desk.



Photo Day: If you have missed Picture Day, there will be another opportunity to have students and siblings photographed. Bob McConnell will take photos on **Wednesday, November 5 and Thursday, November 6, from 7:30 am until noon**. There is no commitment to purchase photos and students will receive a free ID card. For those interested in purchasing photos, packages start at \$12.00.

The annual **Parent and High School Student Surveys** are coming soon. You will hear more from your PLT about these online surveys. We look forward to your feedback in order to enhance our program. The survey period will be from December 1 through January 12.



Library News



Destiny Quest is our APL Library system which allows students and parents to browse our library holdings, place holds, create resource lists, and renew materials. The URL is : <https://ourapl.follettdestiny.com/> Click on Academy of Personalized Learning. In the upper left hand corner choose "create account." You will then see a space that states: "enter your last name" and "enter your barcode." The last name will be the student's official last name and the barcode is the student's school ID number that can be found on their student ID card, or can be obtained from your teacher of record or any library staff. After login, you will get a page that

looks like this:



At the top of the page there are several tabs including Quest Home, My Info, Advanced Search, and Visual Search. You can search for books and resources by clicking on the Visual Search or the Advanced Search Tabs. You can also type in a book or subject after the "Find," then click on

"Go." If you click on the "My Info" tab at the top of the screen a new window will pop up that gives students/parents the option of viewing a student's current check outs.

Box Tops: Did you know that for every Box Top you collect and bring into our school, we collect 10 cents? That may not sound like much, but when you multiply 10 cents by hundreds of Box Tops, it means hundreds of dollars for our school library! Every penny we earn by turning in our Box Tops goes into building up our library collection. Please take the time to collect Box Tops for our school. You can turn them into your PLT or we have a Box Top drop box in the front lobby area.



November/December Events



The Shasta Community Concert Association presents **Al Simmons: One Man Variety Act** on Wednesday, **November 5** at The Cascade Theater at **10:30 am (arrive 10:10 am)**. This is a free concert, but we must fill the seats we reserve, so make attendance a priority. Seats are very limited, so please limit the number of adults in your group. Sign up at www.ourapl.org by Tuesday, **November 4**. There will be a waitlist.

A Cascade Christmas will be presented at the Cascade Theater in Redding on Thursday, **December 4** at **11 am**. Celebrate the season with family and friends and continue the holiday tradition with this all new Christmas showcase. Tickets are **\$5 per seat**. Register at www.ourapl.org and pay the receptionist at APL's front desk by **11/5**.

"Let the grateful heart sweep through the day that it may recognize in every hour some sweet blessing." ~Henry Ward Beecher

Join APL for **Tennis Fun** at River-view Golf and Country Club, 4200 Bechelli Lane, Redding, on Thursday, **November 13** from **9:30-10:30 am**. Tennis pro Jack Thompson will teach tennis skills, running drills, and games. All equipment is provided. Space is limited. Please register with number attending at www.ourapl.org by Wednesday, **November 12**.

Redding City Ballet will present **The Nutcracker** at the Cascade Theater in Redding on Friday, **December 12** at **9:30 am**. Tickets are **\$5 for students** and **\$12 for adults**. The performance will last about 1.5 hours. To register, sign up at www.ourapl.org and pay APL's receptionist by **11/13**, **making checks payable to Redding City Ballet**.

Field Trip Registration: If you need to cancel your registration, please call or email **Barbara Mehr**, our field trip coordinator. There are often other families on the waitlist who would love to attend the event. Barbara's contact info is: (530) 472-1239 or bmehr@ourapl.org. Thanks!

Horsetown-Clear Creek Preserve free events for the family:

Wild Trout & Fly Fishing in Clear Creek: Nov. 1 (Saturday) 3 pm: Take a short walk to a gravel bar on a beautiful stream to see master fly fisherman Mike Mercer demonstrate the techniques of "casting a fly" as he explains fly fishing equipment and information about Clear Creek trout. (Not limited to fishermen.)

Acorns: A Native American Staple Nov. 9 (Sunday) 1 pm: Native Wintu herbalist 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.

Directions: Meet at the HCCP parking area on Clear Creek Rd, about 7 miles west of Hwy 273, just west of the Clear Ck. Bridge. Call 241-2026 for information or visit www.HorsetownClearCreekPreserve.org.



College Corner



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!

College OPTIONS will present **Financial Aid Night** on the following dates at local high schools. (Note time per school.) Students are welcome to attend any of the Financial Aid Nights presented by College Options regardless of where they attend school:

- Nov. 4, **6:30 pm** Fall River HS
- Nov. 5, **6:00 pm** Enterprise HS
- Nov. 5, **6:00 pm** Anderson HS
- Nov. 6, **6:00 pm** Burney HS
- Nov. 13, **6:30 pm** Trinity HS
- Nov. 17, **6:00 pm** Shasta HS
- Nov. 18, **6:00 pm** West Valley HS
- Nov. 19, **6:00 pm** U Prep HS
- Nov. 19, **6:00 pm** Central Valley HS
- Nov. 20, **6:00 pm** And. New Tech.
- Dec. 2, **6:30 pm** Red Bluff HS
- Dec. 3, **6:00 pm** Foothill HS

The SAT and Subject Tests will be administered at **Enterprise High School** and **Central Valley High School** on **December 6**. The regular registration deadline is **November 6**. There is **late registration** through **Nov. 24** (with a late fee of \$28). Register at www.collegeboard.org.

The ACT will be offered at **Central Valley High School** and **Liberty Christian High School** on **Saturday, December 13**. The regular registration deadline is **November 7**. There is a **late registration** (with a \$23 late fee) through **Nov. 21**. The cost of the ACT is \$36.50 (or \$52.50 with Writing). For more information about the ACT, go to www.actstudent.org.

College OPTIONS is offering **Fall 2014 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 appointment is necessary for workshops. Drop in any time during the workshop for help with your college questions.

- Nov 12 (Wednesday) 3:30-5:00 pm
- Nov 19 (Wednesday) 5:00-7:00 pm
- Nov 20 (Thursday) 3:30-5:00 pm

CSU/UC applications are due by November 30th.

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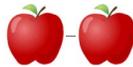
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Tutoring



Meetings



Honors



Students in need of tutoring assistance in English and math have the opportunity to attend **Directed Study Classes** 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: 1:00-2:05 pm at APL

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

Fridays: 1:00-3:15 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.**

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them." ~John Fitzgerald Kennedy

The **APL Board Meetings** for this school year are the **3rd Thursday** of each month at **5:15 pm**, with the next meetings on **November 20** and **December 18**. The public is invited to attend.

APL's Advisory Council meets one **Monday** each month at **3:00 pm**, with the next meetings on **November 17** and **December 8**.

November / December calendar:

November 2: Daylight Saving Time ends (set clocks back one hour)

November 10 is a school day.

November 11 is Veteran's Day (no school).

November 24-28 is Thanksgiving Break (no school).

December 19 is an independent study day (school work at home).

December 22-January 2 is Winter Break (no school).

APL senior **Adam Taylor** has been named a **Commended Student** in the **2015 National Merit Scholarship Program**. About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2015 competition by taking the 2013 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). A spokesperson for NMSC commented, "These students represent a valuable national resource; recognizing their accomplishments, as well as the key role their schools play in their academic development, is vital to the advancement of educational excellence in our nation."

Tyler Brown, who graduated from APL last year, also deserves recognition. He was one of 39 students from 21 North State high schools who received a scholarship from Tri Counties Bank, in partnership with United Way of Northern California. Tyler is currently attending Shasta College as he furthers his educational goals.

