

# Academy of Personalized Learning,

## A Charter School

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# October Apple News



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Welcome to Fall, with its beautiful days and slightly cooler temperatures. We hope you are planning to attend our school-wide **Parent Night** on **October 13** from **6:00 to 7:30 pm**. You may have heard your children talking about **Mister Brown** who recently conducted student assemblies at APL. From **6 to 6:45 pm**, he will be sharing his message about empowering students (and anyone) to make better choices to live better lives. From **6:45 to 7:30 pm**, families can visit classes to meet teachers, see student presentations and schoolwork, and participate in activities. Children are welcome to attend.

APL is a partner of the **NASA** (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) **Space Place**. You may have seen the new Space Place bulletin board in the hallway that has a monthly science calendar and information from NASA. Check it out and visit [www.spaceplace.nasa.gov](http://www.spaceplace.nasa.gov) to find lots of great activities and information for students and families.

October is **National Bullying Prevention Month**. Bullying is defined as unwanted, aggressive behavior among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. Both kids who are bullied and who bully others may have serious, lasting problems. There are three types of bullying. **Verbal bullying** is saying or writing mean things. Verbal bullying includes: teasing, name-calling, inappropriate sexual comments, taunting, or threatening to cause harm. **Social bullying** involves hurting someone's reputation or relationships. Social bullying includes: leaving someone out on purpose, telling other children not to be friends with someone, spreading rumors about someone, or embarrassing someone in public. **Physical bullying** involves hurting a person's body or possessions. Physical bullying includes: hitting/kicking/pinching, spitting, tripping/pushing, taking or breaking someone's things, or making mean or rude hand gestures.

There are many warning signs that may indicate that someone is affected by bullying—either being bullied or bullying others. Recognizing the warning signs is an important first step in taking action against bullying. Not all children who are bullied or are bullying others ask for help. It is important to talk with children who show signs of being bullied or bullying others. These warning signs can also point to other issues or problems, such as depression or substance abuse. Talking to the child can help identify the root of the problem.

Be aware that not all children who are bullied exhibit warning signs. Some signs that may point to a bullying problem are: unexplainable injuries; lost or destroyed clothing, books, electronics, or jewelry; frequent headaches or stomach aches, feeling sick or faking illness; changes in eating habits; difficulty sleeping or frequent nightmares; declining grades, loss of interest in schoolwork, or not wanting to go to school; sudden loss of friends or avoidance of social situations; feelings of helplessness or decreased self esteem; or self-destructive behaviors such as running away from home, harming themselves, or talking about suicide. If you know someone in serious distress or danger, don't ignore the problem. Get help right away.

Kids may be bullying others if they: get into physical or verbal fights; have friends who bully others; are increasingly aggressive; get sent to the principal's office; have unexplained extra money or new belongings; blame others for their problems; don't accept responsibility for their actions; or are competitive and worry about their reputation or popularity. Kids who bully others can also engage in violent and other risky behaviors into adulthood. Kids who bully others are more likely to: abuse alcohol and other drugs; get into fights, vandalize property, and drop out of school; engage in early sexual activity; have criminal convictions; or be abusive toward their romantic partners, spouses, or children as adults. Kids who witness bullying are more likely to: have increased use of tobacco, alcohol, or other drugs; have increased mental health problems, including depression and anxiety; or miss or skip school.

Parents, school staff, and other adults in the community can help kids prevent bullying by talking about it, building a safe school environment, and creating a community-wide bullying prevention strategy. Kids who know what bullying is can better identify it. They can talk about bullying if it happens to them or others. Kids need to know ways to safely stand up to bullying and how to get help. Encourage kids to speak to a trusted adult. Talk about how to stand up to kids who bully. Give tips, like using humor and saying "stop" directly and confidently. Talk about what to do if those actions don't work, like walking away. Talk about strategies for staying safe, such as staying near adults or groups of other kids. Urge them to help kids who are bullied by showing kindness or getting help. Let's all do our part to make APL a "Bully-Free Zone."

Information source: Hands-on Health

### October events

- ✓ Civil War Reenactment
- ✓ Creek Clean Up
- ✓ Ecology Walk
- ✓ Pumpkin Patch
- ✓ Parent Night
- ✓ PSAT
- ✓ Salmon Festival
- ✓ STEM Career Day
- ✓ Search for Salmon
- ✓ Cheer Zone
- ✓ Fly Fishing



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## APL Orientation

APL is accepting students' applications for the **waitlist** for the **2015-16 school year**. No orientations are scheduled for the month of October. 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

**Fall assessment:** All students in grades K-12 will be assessed in language arts and math, both at the beginning of the school year and this coming spring. Students will be assessed in their core LA/Math classes on site or will need to schedule a time to test, either by talking to their teacher or calling the school office to set up a time. Some of the tests will use paper and pencil, and some will be on the computer. **October 5** will be the last Monday that the computer lab will be available for Scantron testing (grades 3-12) from **9 am-3 pm**. The detailed information provided by the tests is useful for showing where students have made academic progress and in what specific areas they need to focus.

The students whose names were drawn for **Good Apple Awards** this month were: **Chesnie Miller** and **Mackenzie Speers**. 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.)

**Yearbook 2015/2016:** If you are interested in purchasing an APL Yearbook for this school year, you can find order forms and place your order at APL's reception desk. Yearbooks will cost \$15 until spring break, and then the price will be \$20 starting April 5, 2016.

**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.

APL is raising funds for **Stand Down 2015**, an event to help homeless veterans. If you would like to contribute, there is a donation jar on the reception area counter. Thanks for your support!



**Parking Lot Etiquette: Please help us keep the parking lot safe!** When dropping off or picking up children, **please park your car if you pull into the parking lot**. Do not double park, block other cars, or create traffic congestion or safety issues. **Elementary children must be accompanied to and from the building**. Middle and high school students may be dropped off on the side streets adjacent to the school. Unless supervision is present, elementary students will remain inside the building until they are picked up. Middle and High School students may wait in the patio area directly outside the front doors of the building on Tuesdays and Thursdays when supervision is present. **APL is a closed campus.**



The library has placed a book returns box in the reception area for the convenience of our families. And please note, the **library is closed during 4th period (1:05-2:35 pm) on Tuesdays and Thursdays.**

## Library News

**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](http://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.

**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.



## October Events



Join APL students for a **Civil War Reenactment at Hawes Farms** on Friday, **October 2**, at **noon to 2 pm**. (Please arrive 11-11:45 am.) Students will visit authentic military encampments, talk to “in character” Union and Confederate soldiers, and view military drills and demonstrations. The cost is \$3 per student and chaperones are free. Pay at APL’s front desk and sign up at [www.ourapl.org](http://www.ourapl.org). Space is limited.

The **10th Annual Community Creek Clean-Up** will be Saturday, **October 3**, from **8 am to noon** on the north side of the Sacramento River Trail, north of the Elks Lodge. Learn about native and non-native plants and public lands stewardship while working with community members to help remove litter and invasive vegetation which currently blocks the river view from the trail. Volunteers age 10 and older can register at [www.shastacreeks.com](http://www.shastacreeks.com) (electronic signature of parent/guardian required for minors).

**Field Trips:** If you need to cancel your registration, please contact **Barbara Mehr**, [bmehr@ourapl.org](mailto:bmehr@ourapl.org). There are often other families on the waitlist who would love to attend the event. Thanks!

“Whatever is good to know is difficult to learn.”  
~ Greek Proverb

Visit the **Nash Ranch Pumpkin Patch** on Thursday, **October 8** at **10:30 am**. The ranch is located at 10925 Old Oregon Trail in Redding. The cost for students is \$6 which includes a small pumpkin. Students can enjoy a scenic train ride, play in the hay bale maze, visit with the animals in the petting zoo, and pick their own pumpkin. Bring lunch if you choose. Register at [www.ourapl.org](http://www.ourapl.org) by **Oct. 7** and pay \$6 at APL’s front desk. Please remember: Payment is required to complete registration.

On Monday, **October 26**, from **2:30-4:00 pm**, **Cheer Zone** will offer students a taste of the recreational/non-competitive classes they offer and what their competitive teams do. Parents need to sign a waiver form. Students should bring a water bottle and wear snug, modest clothing. Cheer Zone is located at 20275 Sky-park Drive, Suite C (off Airport, behind Burrito Bandito). Register at [www.ourapl.org](http://www.ourapl.org) by **Oct. 23**.

Shasta Community Concert Association presents: **Kevin Johnson**, an award-winning ventriloquist, at the Cascade Theater on Wednesday, **November 4** at **10:30 am** (arrive at **10:10 am**). This is a free concert. Seats are very limited, so please limit the number of adults in your group, and make attendance a priority. There will be a waitlist. Sign up at [www.ourapl.org](http://www.ourapl.org) by **Nov. 2**.

**Horsetown-Clear Creek Preserve** free events for the family:

**Plant and Community Ecology Walk: October 4 (Sunday) 9:30 am:** Learn to identify some key plants in the landscape and how they relate to the community and ecosystem. Walk along the trail with BLM’s Laura Brodhead and explore the ecology of Clear Creek. Meet at the HCCP parking area on Clear Creek Rd, about 7 miles west of Hwy 273, just west of the Clear Creek Bridge.

**Return of the Salmon Festival: Oct. 17 (Saturday) 9 am-4 pm:** At the **Coleman National Fish Hatchery**. For more information and directions, visit [www.fws.gov/coleman](http://www.fws.gov/coleman).

**Search for the Spawning Salmon: Oct. 24 (Saturday) 9 am:** Join DF&G biologist, Matt Johnson for a walk along Clear Creek to observe and learn about spawning salmon. Meet at the Gold Dredge Trailhead on the south side of Clear Creek Rd, about 2 miles west of Hwy 273, just west of Sunrise Excavating.

**Wild Trout & Fly Fishing in Clear Creek: Oct. 31 (Saturday) 2 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.) Meet at the HCCP parking area on Clear Creek Rd.



## College Corner



The **PSAT/NMSQT** (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) is taken in the fall of junior year, although 9th and 10th graders are encouraged to take the test to help them prepare for the SAT. Juniors can qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Competition based on their PSAT results. **The PSAT will be offered at APL on Wednesday, October 14** from **8:00 am-noon**. Students must register by **October 9**. The test costs \$15.

The SAT and Subject Tests will be administered at **Central Valley High School and Enterprise High**

**School on November 7**. The regular registration deadline is **October 9**. There is a **late registration** (with a late fee of \$28) through **Oct. 27**. Register at [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org). The SAT costs \$54.50. There are a limited number of fee waivers available for qualified students.

The **ACT** will be offered at **Central Valley High School** on **Saturday, October 24**. There is a **late registration** (with a \$25 late fee) through **Oct. 2**. The cost of the ACT is \$39.50 (or \$56.50 with Writing). For more information about the ACT, go to [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org).

For anyone considering applying to attend a **CSU/UC** next fall, the **Application for Fall 2016 is open**. Applications are due **November 30**.

**Chico Preview Day**, on Saturday, **October 24**, from **9 am to 2 pm**, is a CSU, Chico open house for prospective fall 2016 undergraduate students and their families. There will be an information fair with representatives from all academic programs and student services available to answer questions. For more information and registration, visit [www.csuchico.edu/admissions](http://www.csuchico.edu/admissions) or call 1-800-542-4426.



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 **Handbook**   **Meetings**  **Future Events** 

The **APL Student/Parent Handbook** has been revised. This new version of the handbook can be found on our website under Parent Resources and we have a paper copy available for perusal in the school's reception area.

**Tutoring:** APL has made changes to our tutoring model to better meet the needs of our students. Please contact your PLT if your student needs tutoring assistance.

APL teacher Vanessa Burger will continue to be 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.**

"A teacher affects eternity: he can never tell where his influence stops."  
~ Henry Brooks Adams

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

The purpose of **APL's Advisory Council** is to gather input from the vested members of our school community (evenly weighted between staff and families) and use that information to improve our school. This includes addressing concerns of the families/staff and making suggestions to our Board of Directors. If there are parents, high school students, or teachers who would like to serve on the Council, contact Dr. Dougherty, [pdougherty@ourapl.org](mailto:pdougherty@ourapl.org).

Advisory Council meets one **Monday** each month at **3:00 pm**, with the next meeting on **October 5**.

**A Cascade Christmas** will be presented at the Cascade Theater on Thursday, **December 3 at 11 am**. Experience the joy and magic of the holiday season as toys from Santa's workshop and holiday marionettes spring to life while the elves get everything ready for Santa's big day. Tickets are **\$5** per seat. Please pay now to reserve a seat as they sell out fast. To register, sign up at [www.ourapl.org](http://www.ourapl.org) and pay at the APL front desk by **Nov. 3** to reserve seats.

The **North State Symphony** will perform at the Cascade Theater on Thursday, **January 21 at 11 am**. The symphony's youth concerts provide an exciting and engaging adventure in classical music from around the world. These tickets are **\$5** and also sell out fast. Register at [www.ourapl.org](http://www.ourapl.org) and pay at APL's front desk by **Nov. 30** to reserve seats.



# Family Night at APL

**Presentation by Mister Brown**

**Hands on STEM Activities**

**Visit Classrooms**

**Tuesday**

**October 13 @6:00 PM**

**more information call 530-222-9275**

