

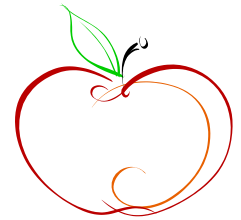
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A Charter School

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Apple News

April



April greetings! Mark your calendars for APL's second annual **Science Fair and Open House** on Monday, **May 16**, from **4-6 pm**. All school participation is welcome and anticipated. There will be displays of student work, including science fair presentations. We hope that home school students will get involved in the science fair along with our students in site classes. Check out the following website for science fair project ideas, answers, and tools: www.sciencebuddies.org.

Looking ahead to graduation, this year's **commencement** will take place at **5:30 pm** on **Wednesday, May 25** at the **Stirring**, 2250 Churn Creek Rd. (right around the corner from APL). Note that this is a new venue for APL's graduation this year, and we are excited about it. **Graduation practice** will be at the Stirring at **12:30 pm**. (If students will arrive on time, the practice will take about an hour.) Graduating seniors should return to the Stirring at **5 pm**. There will be a photographer available to take graduation portraits. (As a reminder, no food or drinks are permitted in the auditorium.)

Each year at graduation, APL presents a slideshow of the graduates. If you have a student graduating, please select some baby and recent photos (at least one of each). Email them to jparks@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 the name of your graduate and the teacher of record so the photos can be returned.

The **8th grade promotion ceremony** will also be held at the Stirring this year. It will be on Thursday, **May 26** at **noon**. Eighth graders will meet at **11 am** to practice. Attire should be "dressy." A photographer will be available to take promotion portraits.

As usual, this newsletter is chock full of information, including the upcoming CAASPP and physical fitness testing, so please read carefully. There are also inserts with a testing calendar and next year's school calendar along with the monthly calendar of events.

April 1, 2016

Volume 8, Issue 8

April events

- ✓ Cloverdale Waterfalls
- ✓ Mary Poppins
- ✓ Early Bird Watchers
- ✓ Whole Earth and Watershed Festival
- ✓ Clear Creek Wildflowers and Wild Plants



Students in the Spotlight



Caleb Hiester is an amazing young man always ready with a smile on his face! Caleb works diligently in his homeschooling. He is involved in the Classical Conversation classroom and does many exciting presentations. Caleb also does gymnastics, loves to read, and enjoys his Lego class! Caleb is both respectful and kind to other students and adults. It is a great honor that we have the privilege of having Caleb here at APL.

Angelina Hernandez is a kind and responsible 8th grader. She is an exemplary student who shines brightly in many ways. Not only does she consistently complete high-quality work, but she is a voracious reader who loves a good novel. She enjoys her onsite Ceramics class, going to youth group, and since taking a Photography class last year, has become more interested in photography as well. In addition, Angelina is a wonderful big sister with a giant heart. Each week she has been volunteering in the Ceramics class in which her three younger brothers are enrolled. Without a doubt, she is a wonderful addition to APL.

Preston Bouseman is a talented freshman this year. He loves to play music, taking guitar lessons with Nick Ciampi every week. He is also an avid builder and participates in APL's Robotics Engineering class. Most importantly, Preston is kind, responsible and a great team mate or leader when help is needed. He often volunteers at the local veterans home and enjoys hearing the stories of the veterans who live there. He is also a great help to the teachers and students at APL. Preston is appreciated for his hard work and generous participation at APL.

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APL is accepting new students for the **2016-17 school year**. Orientation for interested families will be held on Wednesdays, **April 6 and 20**, at **5 pm** at APL, 2195 Larkspur Lane. If you have friends or family looking at school options, please consider suggesting us!



California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP), the online state testing, will be conducted **April 11-22** for students in **grades 3 through 8 and 11**. Students in **grades 5, 8, and 10** will take the **Science STAR test** (paper test) that is the same as in previous years. **During the two weeks of testing there will be no onsite classes, and students will be expected to complete independent study work at home.** Students are encouraged to go online to www.caaspp.org to get familiar with the testing format so they understand how to take the test. Make-up tests will be given **April 26-29**.

Testing will begin at **8:30 am and end approximately at noon**. Please have students bring a book to read when they are finished testing. Snacks will be provided. Parents are expected to pick their students up after testing.

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.

Vex Robotics Competition: On **March 18**, APL students competed in the **Vex Robotics Competition** at Shasta College. We had two teams enter the **Labyrinth Challenge** and both our teams successfully navigated the maze. We were in first place until the last group that competed beat us by .28 seconds, so our teams took second and third place. We are very proud of **Preston Bouseman, Mac Freitas, William Greenwood, Ethan Hoerber, Emily Pitroff, and Kenan Stonkey**. The students are excited about competing next year and winning!

APL Orientation

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

Attention all 5th, 7th, and 9th graders: Please see the following schedule for **Physical Fitness Testing**:

Thursday, **April 7** at APL:

9th graders: 10:00 am

7th graders: 11:15 am

Friday, **April 8** at APL:

5th graders: 11:30 am

Monday, **April 11 - Mile Run at Enterprise Park** in Redding:

5th graders: 12:00 (noon)

7th graders: 12:30 pm

9th graders: 1:00 pm

~ Wear comfortable clothing and shoes as this is a timed run.

Information and videos regarding Physical Fitness Testing can be found on our website, www.ourapl.org under the Student Resources/Physical Education tabs.

The **Oral Health Assessment Form** for students who will be starting school in kindergarten or 1st grade in the 2016-17 school year is due by **May 31**. The form is available at APL.

The **Good Apple Awards** for April go to **J.P. Baugh** and **Sarah Vader**. These students were cited with "good citizenship" and given tickets, which were then selected in the monthly drawing. Congratulations to our "Good Apples!" (See a librarian to claim your prize.)

If you would like to order **graduation announcements**, you can order them through the Herff Jones website at www.highschool.herffjones.com. Once at the site, type in our school name: Academy of Personalized Learning and click the search icon. You can order traditional graduation announcements and/or photo announcements/products for your graduating senior. Using a debit or credit card, order and pay through the website and the products will be shipped directly to your home.

APL Yearbook 2015/2016: If you are interested in purchasing an APL Yearbook for this school year, they cost **\$20**. You can find order forms and place your order at APL's reception desk.

Library News

Library Returns: We are now in the 4th and last quarter of the school year. If you have finished with any of your school materials, please return them to the library. **The APL library will be closed from 10 am until 2 pm on May 26 for our 8th grade promotion ceremony. The library will be closed after May 27, except for the return of materials. All curriculum is due back to the library by June 10.**



Scholastic Book Orders: The last Scholastic book order of the school year will be submitted on **May 20**.

Reading Incentive Program: The reading incentive program will end on the last day of site classes, **May 20**. Please have all reading logs turned in by this date. The winners, who will receive Barnes and Noble gift cards, will be announced in the June newsletter.





April Events



Mary Poppins will be performed at the Cascade Theater on Thursday, **April 14** at **10 am**. Mary Poppins is an enchanting mixture of unforgettable songs, breathtaking dance numbers, and astonishing stagecraft. Tickets are **\$5** each. To register, sign up at www.ourapl.org and pay at APL's front desk. Only payment reserves seats. **Checks** should be written to **Cascade Theater**.

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

UC Berkeley Information Session: Admissions representatives will host an information and Q/A session for interested students/families on **May 13, 3:30-5 pm** at the McConnell Foundation.

Senior Year College/Financial Aid Checklist for April:

- Watch for college acceptance letters and financial aid offers via email and your college portal(s).
- Evaluate all financial aid offers carefully. Ask questions. All offer letters are *estimates* until finalized tax information is reflected on your FAFSA.
- Utilize College OPTIONS' Cost of Attendance Comparison Worksheet to determine your actual "net" cost at each college you are considering. www.collegeoptions.org
- Consider grants, work-study and other aid (scholarships) you don't have to repay before accepting a student loan.
- Notify the financial aid offices at all your possible colleges of any scholarships received that are not on your award letter. Ask them how these changes will affect your award letter from them. You may need to rethink your school choice.
- If you are short of funds necessary to pay mandatory deposits to the college, ask them if you can defer deposits and/or make payments on an installment plan.
- Manage your Cal Grant status with WebGrants for Students at www.webgrants4students.org. If you do not have any information

The **2016 Whole Earth and Watershed Festival** will be Saturday, **April 23 from 11 am to 5 pm** at Redding City Hall & Sculpture Park. With over 115 exhibitors, this community event, now in its 10th year, will feature a wide range of exhibitors promoting: active lifestyles, nutritional education, health awareness, sustainable products, natural resources and conservation, renewable energy, and environmental advocacy. There will be giveaways, hands-on activities, artists, and incredible music and performances throughout the day. Visit www.wholeearthandwatershedfestival.org for more information.



College Corner

- available on the "Award Detail" tab by mid-April, call toll free 888-224-7268 and ask them to help you determine your status.
- Finished your taxes? Log in to the FAFSA to correct or confirm income information. Your financial aid offer depends on accurate information— do not delay!
- Make sure you have fulfilled any financial aid verification requests from your college's financial aid office.
- Apply for scholarships!
- **May 1** is the deadline to notify the four-year college that you plan to attend. (You might have to make an enrollment deposit and/or register for orientation by May 1 as well.)

Attention Juniors: Experts suggest that students take college placement tests in the spring of their junior year and to take SAT Subject Tests in the spring while course material is still fresh in the mind. Many students also decide to test again in the fall of their senior year.

There are two more administrations of the SAT this spring. The new **SAT and Subject tests** will be administered at **Enterprise High School and Central Valley High School on Saturday, May 7**. The regular registration deadline is **April 8**. There is

Horsetown-Clear Creek Preserve Free Family Events for April:

~ **Cloverdale Waterfalls:** Saturday, **April 2 at 10 am:** Come explore the waterfalls and enjoy wonderful views of the Clear Creek canyon with HCCP Board member Don Neptune. This should be a fascinating moderate walk of 2 to 3 hours.

~ **Early Bird Watchers, Part 1:** Saturday, **April 16 at 8:30 am:** Enjoy early morning bird watching with local expert Barbara Peck. Bring binoculars if you have them.

~ **Clear Creek Wildflowers and Wild Plants:** Sunday, **April 24 at 1 pm:** Come walk with David Ledger from the Shasta Chapter of California Native Plant Society and learn about plants and nature.

All events this spring will meet at the HCCP parking area on Clear Creek Rd, about 7 miles west of Hwy 273, just west of the Clear Creek Bridge. Call 241-2026 for information.

late registration (with a late fee of \$28) through **April 26**. Register at www.collegeboard.org. The SAT costs \$54.50. Fee waivers are available for qualified students. The last SAT of this school year will be **June 4** at **Anderson High School** and **Central Valley High School**. Regular registration is through **May 5**.

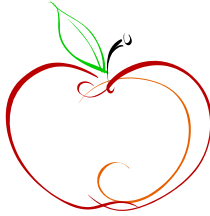
Students can take the **ACT**, an alternative college placement test, at **Central Valley High School** on **June 11**. The regular registration deadline is **May 6**. The cost of the ACT is \$39.50 (or \$56.50 with Writing). Find more information and register at www.actstudent.org.

Juniors, spring is a good time to visit colleges—large, small, public and private, to get a feel for what works for you. Develop a list of colleges that are of interest to you. Request viewbooks and information about financial aid and academic programs.

Scholarships: There are many scholarship opportunities available for students. The following websites offer free scholarship information:

- www.fastweb.com
- www.collegeboard.com/pay
- www.scholarships.com
- www.studentscholarshipsearch.com
- www.californiacolleges.edu

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 **Tutoring**   **Meetings**  **Art Contest** 

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.**

“It has always seemed strange to me that in our endless discussions about education so little stress is laid on the pleasure of becoming an educated person, the enormous interest it adds to life. To be able to be caught up into the world of thought...that is to be educated.”

~Edith Hamilton



The **APL Board Meetings** for this school year are the **3rd Thursday** of each month at **5:15 pm**. April’s meeting has been changed to **April 21**. The public is invited to attend.

Juried Art Show

Two APL students’ artwork was accepted into the **2016 Annual Juried High School Art Competition: Inner Workings**, a ceramic mask created by freshman **Sarah Vader**, and **Rip Tide**, a two-dimensional, Sharpie on paper work drawn by sophomore **Jacob Camacho**. The students’ artwork was displayed at the Old City Hall Gallery in Redding. This year, there were 185 works juried into the show out of 545 pieces submitted by 347 students from 12 Shasta County high schools. There were 14 winners in various categories. Awards were presented at a reception held on March 11 at the Old City Hall Gallery.

Calling all children artists! Enter **YourArt’s 1st Art contest** and have a chance to win a scholarship or other art prizes. The theme is **“Future Helpers of the Community.”** Children ages 3-14, draw something showing what it means to be a helper in our community or what you can do to be a future helper. Submit artwork with your name, contact info, and grade to YourArt c/o Rosalyn Duran at PO Box 494658 Redding, CA 96049. Drawings will be grouped Preschool, K-3, 4-6, 7&8. The contest runs through **April 30**, and winners will be announced at a KidDraw event in May 2016 at the YourArt Studio, 660 Azalea Avenue Suite B, Redding, CA 96002. Phone: 530-605-0430. To learn more about YourArt Studio, visit www.yourartclub.org.

“What we learn with pleasure, we never forget.”

~Alfred Mercier