

YNP El Portal School  
October 5, 2009  
379-2382 or 379-2414  
www.elportalelementary.com

Mariposa County Unified School District



Yosemite Park High School  
Phyllis Weber, Principal  
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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FRI 10/09 Project Pluton field trip – grades 4-5-6  
WED 10/14 Internet Safety Night  
FRI 10/16 Pro Day – all students dismiss at 1:06 pm  
FRI 10/23 Pro Day – all students dismiss at 1:06 pm  
FRI 10/30 Pro Day – all students dismiss at 1:06 pm  
FRI 11/06 Pro Day – all students dismiss at 1:06 pm  
WED 11/11 NO SCHOOL – Veteran's Day  
ALL WEEK – 11/16 – 11/20 Parent Teacher Conferences  
Grades K-6 dismiss at 1:06 all week  
WED-FRI 11/25-11/27 NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Holiday

## INTERNET SAFETY NIGHT – 10/14

### El Portal School Multi-Purpose Room Dinner – 5:30 Presentation – 6:30

Do you have a computer? Does your CHILD have a computer? Are you Cyber Safe? An Internet Safety presentation will be given by Special Agent Mardee from the FBI on Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. Join us and learn what you can do to protect yourself and your children. Subjects covered will include online privacy, identity theft, cyberbullying, my space, and facebook. El Portal School PTG will be serving a Lasagne dinner for \$5 per plate beginning at 5:30. The presentation will begin at 6:30. Child care will be provided for those that need it. This presentation is for ADULTS ONLY. Pre-registration is required. Contact Suzie Whitfield at the school–379-2382 or by email: [whitfield@mariposa.k12.ca.us](mailto:whitfield@mariposa.k12.ca.us) to register.

## Dress Code Reminder

Swimming season is over and students are running daily during morning aerobics and kicking balls during PE. All students should be wearing closed toe shoes to properly participate in these activities. Also, all pants worn to school must cover student's underwear. If pants slip, a belt must be worn. "Drooping pants" are not allowed in our dress code.

**SWIM-A-THON** As of Friday we have raised \$2900. Please help your children collect the money from the people who pledged for them. All money is due by October 8<sup>th</sup>. We will have a pizza party after all pledge money is returned to the school. Our goal is \$6500.00!



## PLEASE SAVE FOR SCHOOL:

We need clean empty egg cartons, small yogurt, pudding or fruit cups and Styrofoam trays for art projects. THANK YOU!

## WHEN YOUR CHILD HAS BEEN ABSENT:

### SAMPLE NOTE

*Alice Jones was absent 2/4/08 because she had a doctor appointment.  
Mrs. Jones*

Please remember to send a note with your child after he or she has been absent from school. The note should state the child's name, the date of the absence, the reason for the absence and must be signed by a parent or guardian.

## CLASSROOM NEWS

**From Mr. Marcis:** Please try to remember that all library books are due each Thursday. Our library time is right after lunch from 12:35-1:05. Hand washing, and general sanitary cleanliness needs to be encouraged from home and I'm doing it here since one of our students has a case of pin worm. Let's do our best to keep it from spreading. The next couple of weeks is focused on colors, the letters /Ss/, /Mm/, and /Rr/, and identifying the beginning sounds of words. Already I've begun to bring the students' attention to Fiction (fake/fantasy) stories and Non-Fiction (real/factual) books. Think about using both to share at home.

**From Mrs. Bown:** In science, about half of our wheat seeds have sprouted. Go through your kitchen and look for products made with wheat! In social studies, we explored how maps work and mapped our journey to Mono Lake. We studied birds and looked at their migration routes. It was exciting to see the same map with lights in the Visitor Center Reminder- Our library day is Thursday. (Only 2 students remembered to bring their library books back last week!)

**From Mrs. Sprague:** Here is what the second graders liked best about the Yosemite Facelift and Mono Lake. Juan Diego said, "I liked Mono Lake because we got to catch brine shrimp." Cyrus said, "I liked the brine shrimp and it was fun to catch them." Chris said, "I liked the flies at Mono Lake because they came back after they went away." Chuy said, "I liked the river at Mono Lake because when you touched it your hands turned whiter." Ramiro said, "I liked Mono Lake because of the tufas. They were so cool. I also liked, Yosemite National Park." Diana said, "I liked the flies at Mono Lake." Karen said, "I liked catching the brine shrimp at Mono Lake." Zack said, "I liked scaring the flies away at Mono Lake and catching brine shrimp." Owen said, "I liked picking up all the trash in Yosemite."

**From Mr. Moore:** The 4<sup>th</sup> grade is working on Chapter 5. They are working on solving equations that have parenthesis. The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade recently finished their Chapter 3 test and is now working on subtracting larger numbers. The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade read a non-fiction story about a boy from Arizona who is a trick roper. Ask your child what Anthony likes to do. In writing we continue working on our contest stories. In science the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade studied the food chain, and geology of Mono Lake. Ask your child why Mono Lake is so salty. Also ask them about 3 of the birds that use Mono Lake as a stop-over during their migration.

**From Ms. Medema:** Last week the fourth graders read a story called Tomas and the Library Lady. We also read a story called Having it All. Both are about migrant farmers and what it is like to move from place to place. Tomas discovers the library and becomes the storyteller in his family. In social studies, we looked at maps and learned about lines of latitude and longitude. This week we will play some games trying to find coordinates on a map. Unfortunately, our brine shrimp eggs did not hatch. We will try again using bottled water. Luckily, we saw so many on our field trip to Mono Lake. Thanks to Mr. Sakols for helping us with water testing.

**From Mr. Sakols:** Last weeks field trip to Mono Lake went well. We all got to see brine shrimp, brine flies, and California gulls. After an informative ranger led walk grades 4-6 tested the water so that we can compare our data to that of the Tuolumne River and the Merced River. Last Thursday room four conducted water testing on the Merced River. Then we looked for macro invertebrates such as mayflies, stoneflies, and caddis flies. In social studies we have continued to look at early European explorers. Most notable have been the Spanish and the French that claimed much of the new world for themselves. On Friday we will have a Project Pluton field trip to Taft Point off the Glacier Point Road. It should be chilly in the morning so make sure your children come prepared with a warm jacket, day pack, lunch, and a filled water bottle.