

YNP El Portal School
February 1, 2010
379-2382 or 379-2414
www.elportalelementary.com

Mariposa County Unified School District



Yosemite Park High School
Phyllis Weber, Principal
email: pweber@mariposa.k12.ca.us
www.yosemiteparkhighschool.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

ALL FRIDAYS – 1:06 DISMISSAL
THU 2/11 SKI DAY #3
FRI 2/12 NO SCHOOL
MON 2/15 NO SCHOOL
TUE 2/23 Project Pluton grades 4-5-6
THU 2/25 SKI DAY #4
SAT 3/06 LUAU – PTG fundraiser in Yosemite

AFTER SCHOOL DRAMA PERFORMANCE (Please note time change)

Come support the Haiti Earthquake Relief Effort!

The El Portal after school drama program is having a benefit-performance on **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2010** at **6:00** pm. The students will showcase what they've learned in Drama through their performance of three plays: "The King O' the Cats", "The Magic Sieve" and "The Talking Fish". Donations for the Haiti earthquake relief effort will be accepted. All are welcome! We hope to see you there!

At our next **EPS SITE COUNCIL MEETING** on Feb. 8 at 5 p.m., we'll decide how to judge the effectiveness of categorical project activities and expenditures. We will formulate parent-teacher-student questionnaires for this purpose, prepare them for distribution in March, and appoint a committee to compile the results for presentation at the March meeting. We'll also review progress toward Site Plan goals, review budget expenditures for this year, and plan final expenditures. Site Council members are: Karen Amstutz, Mark Fincher, Kirstie Kari, Ramiro Marquez, Eliza Kerr, Sara Stock, Phyllis Weber, Xavier Sandoval, Suzie Whitfield, Cindy Medema, Dan Moore, and Allison Bown. All are welcome to attend.

LU'AU FUNDRAISER MARCH 6: Once again it's time for this entertaining fundraiser on Saturday, March 6, that is shared between Yosemite Valley School, Yosemite Park High, and El Portal Elementary. This year it's Yosemite Park High School's turn to coordinate and organize this event that takes place at the Curry Village Pavilion. We need volunteers from all three schools. Please sign up for as many volunteer jobs as you can. **We typically raise \$1000** for each of these park schools at this event, important money that helps fund computers, art, music, and the instructional aides that help in every classroom. Please call the school and let us know how you can help at the Lu'au.

FOOD NEWS: We are serving **STRAWBERRY MILK** on Thursday, February 11th for Valentines Day. Did you know that we serve **BREAKFAST** every morning at 9:30? Students have a choice of muffins, unsweetened cereals, string cheese, yogurt and buttermilk bars. These are served with fresh fruit, fruit juice and milk. Eating a healthy breakfast every day helps your child

1. Perform better in school.
2. Stay focused in class.
3. Have energy all morning long.
4. Eat a healthier diet.

Maintain a healthy weight.

SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT CARDS have been posted on the district website. To view our report card go to www.mariposa.k12.ca.us and click on the SARC button, then choose El Portal School.

Mariposa Little League signups are this Saturday, February 6th. Go to www.mariposall.com for details.

CLASSROOM NEWS

From Mr. Marcis: Our 100th day of school is Monday, February 8th. Please consider working with your son or daughter to bring in a collection of 100 things or a creative display showing 100. Our Valentine's Day celebration has been moved to Tuesday, February 16th due to calendar conflicts with our previous date. All parents are invited to join from 12:30-2:15. Addition must be practiced until all numbers less than 10 can be added quickly and eventually memorized. I am moving into subtraction now with numbers less than 10. The children are showing great progress and continue to do their best.

From Mrs. Bown: THANK YOU to Arin Trook, Janina Harrison and Ms. Jackson for helping us with our Houses project on Friday. Thanks also to the Westerlunds for sending in so many great supplies to share with others and to all of you who found a box for your child to bring in. This was a great part of our "Home Sweet Home" literature unit and our social studies. I'm always amazed at the creative uses kids find for things. Be sure you ask your child for a "tour". You can follow up on this project at home by encouraging your child to use common items to create uncommon treasures!

From Mrs. Sprague: We are excited that everyone is back from their holiday trips and we have a full class again! We have been reading a lot of stories in our class. Please ask your child about the story we read this week called The Great Ball Game. Ask how the teams for the game were chosen (teeth or wings). In math we have started 2-digit subtraction and we are also working on shapes.

From Mr. Moore: Last week the 4th grade worked on chapter 13. We learned how to find averages. We will take the chapter test on Monday. The 3rd grade took their chapter 12 test. We are learning to divide. It is so much easier to do when a person knows her multiplication facts! In reading we read a book called Jelly Bean Scientist. We are practicing skills like skimming, and making inferences. At the same time we are learning science vocabulary words like acid, senses, soluble, and abrasive. After we read each book we write a short summary. In science 2nd and 3rd grades had our second "Secret Formula" lesson. We investigated the attributes of cola! Over the next several sessions we will be inventing our own cola formula.

From Ms. Medema: This week we made exciting progress on our clay mission building project. We have the 2 church buildings created and next we will be working on tile roofs and bell towers. Thanks so much to Henrietta DeGroot for helping us with the clay. On Wednesday we made clay masks that will be sold to raise money for Haiti. It was a cooperative project where the masks were rotated to different students for each new design step. They are all very unique! Our class will begin our effort to raise money for Haiti this week. I have one idea for a class art project. Let me know if you have other ideas. I will be matching their earnings up to \$100.00. Look for more information this week.

From Mr. Sakols: This week in writing we will be working on our biographies. Last week students took two column notes on person they are learning about using books and the internet. Also we learned how to cite our sources in a bibliography. Last week in science we learned about how igneous rocks are formed. We had a lab where everyone made careful observations of different rocks. Great job class! Everyone completed their lab and turned it in. This week we will continue reading My Brother Sam is Dead and learn about what life was like during the American Revolution.