

YNP El Portal School  
October 19, 2009  
379-2382 or 379-2414  
www.elportalelementary.com

Mariposa County Unified School District



Yosemite Park High School  
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### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

TUE 10/20 Picture Retake Day  
FRI 10/23 Pro Day – all students dismiss at 1:06 pm  
MON 10/26 EP School Site Council – 7 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  
THU 11/12 Project Pluton – grades 4-5-6  
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

**PICTURE RETAKES** will be done **TOMORROW**, Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>. If you need a retake done be sure to bring your photo packet to school to turn in to the photographer. Remember to keep your class photo – you won't get another copy.

Wednesday evening's **INTERNET SAFETY** presentation was extremely informative. One suggestion is that parents set up a rule that children and teens only be able to **access their Internet connected computer in an open location** where parents can easily see what their child is doing, even if there is a wireless connection. Never allow a computer in the child's bedroom! FBI Special Agent Mardee, who presented this safety night, has had to deal with serious Internet based crimes committed against innocent children and teens, and this presentation was meant to help us prevent these in our homes.

**SWIM-A-THON** Our total is up to **\$5,700!** Please help your children collect the money from the people who pledged for them. We will have a pizza party after all pledge money is returned to the school. Our goal is **\$6,500.00!** We still have 17 students that have not brought in any pledges.

### **PLEASE SAVE FOR SCHOOL:**

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

### **Want to learn drama skills, perform, and have fun?**

This program is open to all 4-6 grade students and will meet Mondays and Tuesdays from 3:00-4:30 pm in the multipurpose room starting October 26<sup>th</sup> and ending Jan 26, 2010. If all goes well, we may start another session in February! We plan to have a performance for the community at the end of the program and maybe some smaller ones in between. A \$30 contribution for materials would help for purchasing scripts, props and costumes – please donate what is reasonable for your family. If your child would like to participate, but you need help with transportation home, please let us know and we'll try to help. Contact Audrey Davis with questions or concerns at 379-2536 or [anicjo@aol.com](mailto:anicjo@aol.com). If interested please fill out the form below and return to Suzie by Thursday, October 22 with your contribution.

### **CLASSROOM NEWS**

**From Mr. Marcis:** Each of the Alpha Friend letters I teach is accompanied with a song and actions (Sammy Seal, Mimi Mouse, Reggie Rooster). Maybe you've heard your child singing. Ask your child to tell you words that start with s, m, r, and now this week we'll practice /t/ (Tiggy Tiger). We'll be beginning more rhyming activities over the next several weeks and months. To practice at home find many rhyming books (like Dr. Seuss and others) and children's poems. Exaggerate the words that rhyme and draw your child's attention to the similarity of ending sounds. Our Kinder Halloween celebration will be on Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> from 12:30-2:15. Talk to your child about their role and how they would like to dress. All are invited!

**From Mrs. Bown:** 1st grade is Earthworm Science Central! We rescued many refugee earthworms during this week's heavy rains. We learned that an earthworm has FIVE hearts, no eyes and every one of them is both a mother and a father! We have been observing our earthworms in our worm box this week and will set them free soon. Ask your child what "castings" are and why they are important for our soil.

**From Mrs. Sprague:** Last week in math we finished chapter 3 on regrouping numbers and place value. We talked about how many 100's, 10's and 1's are in numbers to 1000. Please reinforce this by asking your child how many hundreds, tens or ones there are in a number. We are now working on comparing and ordering numbers. In writing we wrote stories for the story telling contest put on by the Mariposa Arts Council. We had some great entries! I will let you know who our Grand Author is as soon as they pick the winner! Thank you, Mrs. Sprague

**From Mr. Moore:** In math the 4th grade worked on chapter 6 examining multiplication and division patterns. They will take a chapter test on Monday. The 3rd grade is working on reviewing multiplication facts learned last year and starting to memorize their facts for 3's and 4's. In reading the 3rd grade finished a unit on traditions. Ask you child about what traditions they liked from the stories. In writing we wrote letters to schools in most of the 50 states. We hope to hear about schools all over the country. Last year we got letters from 6 different states. In Science we have set up a hydroponic bean garden. Ask your 2nd or 3rd grader how that works! In social studies we are looking at the similarities and differences of California's Native Americans lifestyles.

**From Ms. Medema:** Last week the fourth grade did a lot of reading. First we read our L/A story called Boss of the Plains, learning about the original cowboy hat made by John Stetson. In social studies we are beginning our unit on CA missions. We started by reading several articles in our book and on the internet. In coming weeks we will complete a research report on missions. We will then build our own missions. I don't anticipate building until after Thanksgiving. Our brine shrimp eggs hatched this week! We are trying to set up a larger salt water environment in our class to see how long they survive. We are very busy so if your child misses school please see me for missed work.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, my child would like to participate in this program

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
grade

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's name

\_\_\_\_\_  
phone #