

YNP El Portal School
December 14, 2009
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
MON 12/14 WINTER PROGRAM – 6:30 all grades
WED 12/16 WINTER FEAST – 12:00
12/21 – 1/9/10 WINTER BREAK – NO SCHOOL
THU 1/14 SKI DAY #1

TONIGHT – WINTER PROGRAM – 6:30

NO DRAMA CLASSES Dec. 14 or 15 because we'll be setting up for the winter plays on Dec. 14 and for the feast on Dec. 16.

CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS ARE READY!

If you made Christmas ornaments at our Family Fun Night last week you can pick them up in the school multi-purpose room. 217 ornaments were made. There will be many beautifully decorated trees in El Portal this year! Thank you Henrietta for all of your work with the kiln!

SKI DAY PACKETS (First Ski Day is 1/14/10)

Please return your packet to school by Wednesday, December 16th. If you are planning to drive your child to or from Badger Pass you will need to sign a volunteer waiver, submit an H6 DMV driver record form, and have the proper auto insurance – even if you are only driving your own child. Call the school if you have questions.

SPANISH CLASS STUDENTS from all 3 classes (beginning, intermediate and advanced) are invited to a piñata party on **Thursday, Dec. 17, at 7:30 a.m.** Don't be late! Parents are welcome to attend and help out. (Raisins will be available as an alternative to candy.) There will be no Spanish class on Friday, December 18th.

WINTER FEAST – Wednesday, 12/16 at 12:00

Students - \$2.25 Adults - \$3.00
(Free and Reduced students pay their regular price)
I would like to thank all the families that are donating desserts and or their time to set up /clean up the Feast. But we can always use more help, especially for cleanup. I am still looking for the next parent(s) to take over this wonderful tradition because Sara is graduating in June. Please let Suzie know if you are interested. If you are willing to continue this tradition, please be there on Dec. 15 at 3:00 p.m. to see how Candy Cane Lane is set up and on Dec. 16 at 8:00 a.m. for the day to set up the Feast. Thank you! Michele (Sara's Mom)

THE LIBRARY will be open as usual over the holidays on Mondays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. (except closed 3:30-4:30) so your child can continue to get books for reading, and so can you! Research shows that kids who spend at least 30 minutes per day reading are more likely to become good readers. Encourage your child to read each day over the holidays.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!
HAPPY NEW YEAR!
We'll see you on
January 11, 2010!**

FLU PRECAUTIONS: Please, if your child is sick in the evening or in the morning with vomiting or a fever, **DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL!** We do not have care facilities here for a vomiting child, and we do not want to expose other children and our staff.

CLASSROOM NEWS

From Mr. Marcis: Kindergarten will be the first on stage at the Winter Performance tonight at 6:30. They deserve lots of applause for their enthusiasm and memorization of the songs. Then, remember all parents and family members are welcome to join us on Thursday from 12:30 to 2:15 for our class winter celebration. We will be writing holiday cards among other activities. ALL library books will be due on Thursday, but we will not be checking out new books. Over the holiday break think about starting the End of the Year Project, working on academic goals set at conference, and taking time to read and write. Have a Happy New Year and see you all very soon!

From Mrs. Bown: First graders are listening to the first book in The Boxcar Children series in class. Look for more of these books at our library if your child wants to hear more! In math, we are learning about tally graphs and bar graphs to record information. In our literature story this week, The Secret Code, we learned about how Braille is used to read for people who cannot see. All students filled up their homework bookmark this week. Thanks for consistently bringing in spelling and reading homework!

From Mrs. Sprague: The second grade is very excited about the holiday performance this evening! They want to remind you to come and watch! In school we have been working on addition with regrouping two-digit numbers. Please keep practicing with them and also don't forget to keep having your child practice counting money! They need to know how to count money and give back change. And don't forget to read each night for 30 minutes and turn in the reading log on Friday. Thank you. *Mrs. Sprague*

From Mr. Moore: The 3rd grade has continued to work on geometry. We have measured perimeter and area. We have noticed several interesting things; ask your child which shape gives a larger area a long skinny shape or a square with the same perimeter. The 4th grade worked on multiplying larger numbers. This was review from 3rd grade so we moved through the chapter quickly. Both classes finished a test. The 3rd grade is having book clubs or literature circles for reading the last two weeks of 2009. We are reading a classic award winner called The Biggest Bear. We have been using some of our language arts time for doing play practice. Our Fall science unit is coming to a close. The bean plants are beginning to flower, and we have looked at some behaviors of our crayfish.

From Ms. Medema: We are continuing with book clubs and will finish these novels before winter break. We are researching CA missions by finding information in books and on the internet and taking notes on note cards. Students are learning how to organize a bibliography and site their sources. Ask your child about the new agricultural economy (replacing hunting and gathering), irrigation systems that supported this farming, and how Native Americans were treated at the missions. In science we are continuing to study properties of magnets. Everyone did a great job in the play! Have a wonderful winter break. Hope to see you at Badger Pass! Think snow! *-Ms. Medema*

From Mr. Sakols: Last week the 6th graders took a math test on angles. The fifth graders are learning about graphs and charts. Early next week they should be ready for a test. In writing we have begun a response to literature by writing about the heroic qualities of Harriet Tubman. The essay will include an introduction, three supporting body paragraphs, and a conclusion. This week during social studies we are looking at the events that led up to the Revolutionary War. Happy Holidays! I am not giving out homework this week.