

YNP El Portal School
February 8, 2010
379-2382 or 379-2414
www.elportalelementary.com

Mariposa County Unified School District

Yosemite Park High School
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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

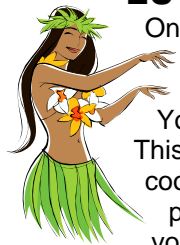
ALL FRIDAYS – 1:06 DISMISSAL

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

NO SCHOOL FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12 NO SCHOOL MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15

BIRDS OF PREY, a presentation with LIVE BIRDS (a Great Horned Owl, Peregrine Falcon and Red-tailed Hawk) by a master falconer and naturalist, Cat Krossschell will take place at the MIDPINES COMMUNITY HALL on Wednesday, Feb. 10, at 5:30. You'll learn about the behavior, flights characteristics and habitat needs of these and other birds of prey that live in Mariposa County. **BRING THE FAMILY!** (Sponsored by the Upper Merced River Watershed Council and it's FREE!)

WILD ABOUT READING! The Fresno Grizzlies Baseball Team, in partnership with PG&E and the National Parks Conservation Association., is encouraging students to read at home by offering free baseball tickets to those who read 10 books in 5 weeks or, for older kids, the amount of pages designated by their teacher. On Friday students brought home bookmarks to keep track of their books read. They must read, write the book titles, and return this bookmark to school by March 19 in order to receive two free baseball game ticket vouchers per child, which can be redeemed at the Chukchansi Park ticket office on Kern & H St. in downtown Fresno. **Parents, please help by setting aside quiet, no-TV time each day for reading.**



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.

SUMMER CAMP? Mariposa County 4-H Youth Development Program invites all 4th-8th grade children who turned 9 by Dec. 31, 2009, to come join the fun at Camp Tweety June 12-14 at Lions Camp Pacifica in Ahwahnee. 4-H members and friends from Mariposa and surrounding counties are invited. The fee includes two nights lodging, 7 meals, snacks, materials, and a camp souvenir. The registration fee postmarked by May 21 is \$75 for 4-Hers and \$80 for non-4-Hers. After this date, a \$5 late fee will be added on. Registration forms are available at 4-H club meetings, and the UCCE Office. Contact Donna Wice, 4-H Coordinator, at 209 966-4829 for more information or a registration form.

CLASSROOM NEWS

From Mr. Marcis: Today is school day 100 – super job to all the students and families that worked together to create an exciting display of collections and projects! Reminder: Tuesday, the 16th will be our Valentines celebration from 12:30-2:15. All are invited. We are still in need of extra candle stubs and wax pieces. How is your progress with the End of the Year Project? Consider a book with photographs or hand-drawn illustrations and describing sentences. The students are responding so well to Project Respect in our class. They are considerate, patient and always helpful to a student in need. They are developing their understanding of personal feelings and visible reactions in others.

From Mrs. Bown: Check out your child's social studies poster on American symbols, landmarks and documents. If you have any family pictures at famous American landmarks, be sure to send them in for us to see. They can even be pictures of parents before they had kids or when they were kids! We'll share them and return them to you.

From Mrs. Spague: We have started to collect money for Haiti in our classroom! We have already had several students bring in change from home to donate, thank you! If you have any spare change or dollars lying around, consider having your child donate it to our collection. We have been learning about black history this past week since it is black history month. We have read about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and we have had great discussions about how people were treated in the past! In math, we have started learning about two-digit subtraction and it looks like we will have another test on Wednesday, 2/10. Today is our 100th day of school. Ask your child what fun activities we did to celebrate.

From Mr. Moore: Last week in Math the 4th grade studied number theory, we looked at prime and composite numbers and divisibility rules. The second grade worked on more division. Keep practicing those multiplication facts. The 3rd grade finished their "Seeds of Science" reading unit. We learned lots of science. We also practiced reading skills like reading fluency, finding the main idea and skimming for information. For writing we practiced writing summaries of what we read. In science we investigated one of the attributes of cola- sweetness! Soon we will be designing our own recipe for cola. In social studies we are doing some lessons from our project respect curriculum. We have been practicing identifying how a person is feeling by looking at their facial expression and their posture. Grades 2-3 have run 366 miles so far this year!

From Ms. Medema: In language arts we finished reading the story Marven of the Great North Woods. For spelling / vocabulary we studied irregular verbs (present tense, past tense, and past participle). Our proverb for the week was "The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence." In science we started our unit on electricity by looking at static electricity. If your child is absent on the day of a test, I will give the test on the first day the student is back in school. If they will be absent several days, call or stop by for work they can finish at home so they're more prepared when they return.

From Mr. Sakols: Last week we began writing our biographies. Rough drafts were due on Friday and final drafts are due this Thursday. In social studies we learned about how the colonists became unified to declare their independence. This week we will learn about battles fought during the American Revolution. In math 5th graders had a test on chapter 19. Students who are not happy with their grades can get half credit for correcting their mistakes. During science we had a demonstration on erosion using a tray full of gravel and moving water. We also learned about identifying features such as meandering stream beds, alluvial fans, and flood plains.