

The Badger

October 11, 2011



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A California Distinguished School
Mariposa County Unified School District
<http://yosemitevalleyschool.weebly.com>

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

10/12 Collaboration Day – 12:30pm dismissal
10/14 End first Quarter 7th & 8th grades
10/17-21 Fall Break (furlough)
10/26 Collaboration Day – 12:30pm dismissal
10/28 End first Trimester K-6th grades
Lifetouch class photo make-up
10/31 Halloween Parade
11/2 Collaboration Day
PTG meeting – 5:30pm
11/9 Collaboration Day
11/11 Veteran's Day - Holiday
11/12 Fall Frolic
11/14 Project Pluton 4th-6th grades
11/16 Teacher Work Day – No students
11/23 Collaboration Day
11/24-25 Thanksgiving Holiday
11/30 Collaboration Day
12/21 Winter Program

BOXTOPS DEADLINE – OCTOBER

28 Our fall/winter deadline for sending in General Mills BoxTops4education is right around the corner... Please get these turned in by Friday, October 28th... and then keep on collecting as there will be another turn in date in the spring. Thanks

PROJECT PLUTON *submitted by Aiden Woods.* Yesterday was our Taft Point Project Pluton. As soon as we got off the bus at the trail head we felt the difference in temperature, Taft Point trailhead is at 7600 feet, that is 3600 feet higher than where we got on the bus. It was way colder too! Even though it was cold, cold, cold up there we had fun and learned a lot. On our 2.2 mile hike we took in quite a lot. We saw trees and plants that live in the area, we heard the wind, rain, and fellow hiker's voices, and we learned about all the different life zones throughout Yosemite. While we learned a lot about life zones and timber lines, the big lesson of the day was remember to bring really warm clothes and shoes when you hike in the high county.

THURSDAY MORNINGS' ALL SCHOOL MEETING

It is our tradition at YVS to meet as a school on Thursday mornings after the bell rings. We gather in the library in classroom groups and begin with a student led Pledge of Allegiance – we start with the oldest student and work our way, week by week down to the youngest.

After the flag salute there may be some brief whole school announcements or discussions about the previous week – for example – after the Facelift, we talked about what the students had found/picked up during their day. We then acknowledge individual student achievements both in math (JJI) and reading (AR).

This year we have added a new element and that is the "Author's Chair" where students share writing assignments from the previous week. For the past few weeks these have been mostly from Mrs. Fulhorst's classroom in an effort to have the older students "model" this new activity. Students are not only sharing their writings but also presenting which involves speaking clearly, projecting their voices and posture – "the whole package".

Last week we began with a reading from Mrs. Fulhorst's class but then were also presented with a couple of readings from both Ms. DeCecco and Mrs. Lyle's classroom (it is the plan to have a child from each grade share each week). It was quite a treat and the realization of what our Thursday meetings would incorporate into our program this year.

After each reading students and staff are invited to comment on the writing or presentation in a thoughtful and positive way. It has really been exciting and we are

THANK YOU

- ❖ **Mr. Jacobs** for joining the kids on Project Pluton!
- ❖ **Julaine Cornforth** for her continued help in the K-2 classroom.
- ❖ **Janis Kunz** and **Julaine Cornforth** for their continued work on fundraising.
- ❖ And **Congratulations** to **Zoe, Nate L., Mimi, BJ, Adam, Alex & Nate K.** for already completing their 6-week AR goals! – Well Done!

FALL BREAK NEXT WEEK While we are quite sure no one really needs reminding... next week there will be no school. Background – YVS has traditionally taken a week in the fall to allow families who could not take advantage of the summer holiday (it is our busy season) to plan for some family time now that the park has slowed down. The MCUSD has graciously allowed us to continue with this tradition by using the District furlough days to create this break. This does mean that the school will be in "hard shutdown" no staff on site, no facility use and as much energy use cut back as possible... so be advised that no one will be monitoring phone messages should you have a hankerin' to give us a ring... We will happily be looking forward to welcoming students back on the following Monday the 24th...Don't be late. ☺

so pleased to be able to celebrate our student's achievements in this way.

IMPACT AID SURVEYS Yesterday every family received a residential/workplace survey. The bottom line is that our district receives compensation for students of families are connected with Federal Properties – that is us to a “T”. It is Mrs. Archer's duty to ensure that each family return their survey – so please if you are sending one with another child at another school site please let the office know so you do not continue to receive reminders from her. We hope everyone will take just a few minutes to complete the survey, it has been highlighted with all necessary response “zones” in an effort to help with completion. Please return it to the office asap. Thank you

LIBRARY NEWS – COMPLETION OF 1ST SESSION This week marks the end of our first 6 week reading session, we hope in the next Badger we can name everyone and say that they ALL reached their goals... we are certainly trying by opening the recess reading time to all student who are working towards taking their final quizzes this week...and just in time for grading – it is a wonderful thing to reap the rewards of having Language Arts grades reflective of their completed reading assignments!

YVS SCHOOL SHIRTS Once again, we have very stylish YVS T & Sweat shirts available to purchase in the office. The shirts come in both adult and child sizes and cost (for YVS families) T-shirts: child \$10, adult \$15, and Sweatshirts: child (crew or hooded) \$20 and adults crew \$20 and hooded \$25 – really the best deal in town.

PTG MEETING We were sorry to have missed many of you at last week's meeting. As you know this is a very important connection between you and your school, so we hope all will plan to join us at our next meeting on November 2nd. As you may guess the big topic is fundraising, fundraising, fundraising. We had a good start with the Facelift bake sale – thanks again everyone, but need to keep the ball rolling, keep in mind that we have spent \$15,000 on staffing this year, this is more than ¼ of our annual budget and we are going to really have to step up our efforts if we are going to rebuild the “pot” so we have funds to do so again next year. We really need everyone's support. Which brings us to our next fundraiser – just around the corner, see below.

FALL FROLIC Please mark your calendars for Saturday, November 12th. This is the date set aside for our biggest fundraiser of the year, The Fall Frolic. This is a dinner (generously provided by DNC) at Curry Village. This event usually incorporates a silent auction & raffle.

At this point the most important thing you can do is to set aside that weekend, we hold this event at a time when we can get more-bang-for-our-buck as this is a high visitation time for the park...however, if we don't have folks to staff the event we are out of luck. The sign-up sheet will be coming home after the break.

FALL FROLIC FAMILY FUN BASKET in years past we have collected items from our families with a family fun night theme to be packaged as an item (s) for the silent auction, and these have proven to be very popular. Items may include: games,

DVD's, movie passes, popcorn/snacks, & cards...get creative – what do you and your family like to do together? Donations may be dropped off at the office... Thanks

SLIPPERS AT SCHOOL

- Only for snowy weather – the basic reason for allowing this change to dress code is to keep snowy boots from dropping puddles in the classroom.
- Slippers must have an actual rubber sole.
- Students need to be able to perform recess activities – so tennis shoes can be sent instead or should be left at school so students can change into them for recess activities.

MSO'S LANDMARK FIRST DECADE

The Mariposa Symphony Orchestra's 10th Anniversary Season-opening concert will be held Saturday, October 22 at 7:00 in the Fiestar Auditorium of Mariposa County High School. Borodin's Overture and Polovtsian Dances from "Prince Igor," the Adagio from Mahler's 5th Symphony, Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody #2 and more will kick-off this monumental season. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$4 for students, available at the Mariposa County Arts Council: (209) 966-3155. Tickets only are available at the Mariposa Visitors Center across from Miners Inn; call for hours: (209) 966-7081. (L. Marsden - 10/11)

SITE COUNCIL FORMING The SITE Council at YVS is an important group as it reviews and revises our School Plan. Our School Plan covers topics like academic achievement goals, school climate and all the extra programs that are in place for students. State and Federal money for various programs is budgeted by the SITE Council. Even though our school receives a small amount of these monies we still needs goals in place in order to budget our allotments. The council consists of three staff members and three parents. If you are interested and would like to serve please call the school and let us know. If more than three parents want to serve we will have elections. *All parents are invited to attend meetings (3-5/year) even if they are not official SITE Council members.*

LUNCH PROGRAM Once again YVS will be offering lunches through the District program, however, this year there will only be a cold option which may include sandwiches, yogurt or salads – there will be no hot meals served.

Breakfast: Milk, fruit, yoghurt, cereal

Lunch: All lunches include fruit and vegetables, milk and an entrée.

Breakfast \$1.50

Lunch \$2.50

If you would like to order meals for your child(ren...)

- *Orders and payment must be received no later than noon on Thursday.*

Orders are placed for Tuesday thru the following Monday.