



The Badger

September 14, 2010

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- 9/15 Collaboration Day – 12:30pm dismissal/Art
- 9/17 Constitution Day – Student Council Elections
- 9/21 S'mores and Stars School House Sleep-Over
Hula classes begin
- 9/22 Yosemite Facelift
Collaboration Day – 12:30pm dismissal/Art
- 9/27 Lifetouch Picture Day
- 9/28 PTG meeting 5:30pm
- 9/29 Collaboration Day – 12:30pm dismissal/Art
- 10/4-7 Minimum Days, Conferences
- 10/18-22 Fall Break
- 11/6 Fall Frolic

THANK YOU

- ✦ For the BoxTops...several packages have found their way to the office desk...we are still hoping a coordinator will step forward!
- ✦ To all parents for attending our back-to-school night program. We hope you found all the information valuable.
- ✦ Families enrolled in the Target Take-Charge-of Education program...see article.
- ✦ Jessie Wright & Tracy Gabriel for continuing to be a part of the SITE council.
- ✦ Nena Pye for joining SITE council for this year.

YVS MEETS GROWTH GOAL FOR API—894

YVS students achieved an Academic Progress Indicator (API) of 894 points for the 2010 STAR Tests. This score keeps YVS above 800, which is the goal for all CA schools. Although it represents a drop from last years score of 921 it is still well within the ultimate goal that the state has set for its schools. As a small school our scores do fluctuate from year to year due to changes in the student population. We are pleased to have one of the highest API scores in the district and to have met our growth target of staying above 800. This score represents high percentages of students who scored proficient or advanced in all areas of the STAR Test. We also did not have any scores below the basic level which adds to our high score. Well done Yosemite Valley students!

YVS SCHOOL SHIRTS We are really only supposed to make our beautiful Yosemite Valley School T and sweatshirts available a couple of times a year – it is a tax thing... and now is that time! We have wonderful T-shirts \$10-kids sizes, \$15-adults and sweatshirts (very comfy) \$20-crew neck, \$25-hoodie. This will be our back-to-school-smores-n-stars special. We hope you will take advantage of this week-long event as shirts won't be available again until the end of the year. Shirts are

available in the office, cash or checks – payable to Yosemite Valley School.

BOX TOPS 4 EDUCATION – WE STILL NEED A COORDINATOR ☺

Fantastic – BoxTops are arriving but we are still looking for someone who would be interested in being the “Box Top Coordinator” for this year. It is a very prestigious appointment and all your friends will be extremely jealous! The way the program works is that twice a year we send in our box tops and they send us a check. The tops do need to be trimmed, sorted and put into 50 count bundles and that is basically it. If you are interested please contact the office, your help would be greatly appreciated.

WEEKLY REPORT ATTACHMENTS

Your teacher's weekly reports have taken on a new role. Not only are they an informative tool keeping you in touch with your child's classroom and individual progress but they are also a means by which we will be sending notifications and flyers to you. So expect to see announcements and notices attached to your child's weekly report from time to time.

SCHOOL ARRIVAL – EARLY & LATE

There is no doubt that we are a group of early risers and that our teachers are at school way before the 8am scheduled arrival of students. However, this is part of the teacher – prep time and a very busy time for teachers and staff who are preparing for their day. Students are welcome to arrive at 8am when our yard duty time starts and there is staff available to monitor them. (We have had a lot of animals on the yard-just another reason for students to come when there is supervision) We have also had to send out a first (and hopefully final) round of tardy letters (after 5 or more tardies). Please help your child(ren) to adjust their departure time if there is a problem getting to school on time.

DISTRICT ACADEMIC COACHES CHOOSE STANDARDS FOR BENCHMARK TESTS

At the second district wide training day on September 3 teachers identified California State Standards they expect their students to master by the end of the first trimester. The district academic coaches, who are teachers on special assignment, collated choices and came up with recommendations for the standards that will be on district benchmark tests. These tests will be used to analyze whether the classroom lessons are on target to reach the necessary standards mastery in time for the STAR tests in late spring. Benchmark results can indicate areas where teachers need to redouble their efforts in order to best prepare students for the STAR tests. Our teachers have created their own pacing calendars that have done

a fantastic job of covering the necessary school work so that our children are very well prepared for the STAR Tests, as evidenced by our API of 894. It will be interesting to see how the benchmark tests correlate with YVS achievement after this school year.

STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS On Friday we will celebrate Constitution Day by voting for student council officers. The officer-nominees are volunteers from the older classroom and are required to speak before the students prior to the vote. Good luck to all and thank you for choosing to serve your fellow students.

HAWAIIAN DANCE CLASSES

BEGIN Dance classes will be held on Tuesday afternoons beginning next Tuesday the 21st. Flyers went home yesterday with weekly reports which included information about times and cost. Classes will once again be taught by Laurie Kapuapoli'ahuikala Smith who has been teaching for 40 years. You may contact Mrs. Smith at 372-4827 with any questions.

PICTURE DAY IS COMING Notices went home with yesterday's weekly reports and will be sending the order forms for picture day with next week's reports. Order forms will then need to be returned to the office by Thursday, September 23rd. Pictures will be taken of all students, however picture packages will only be returned for those who have pre-ordered.

TARGET TAKE – CHARGE – OF - EDUCATION Donations are accumulated when supporters of our school make purchases using their REDcard. Target donates up to 1% of these purchases to the school you've designated (hopefully ours). We just received our annual check, it is not much, but every little bit counts. For more information on this program you can go to target.com/tcoe. Thank you again.

ALL STUDENTS NEED A SHIRT FOR ART TOMORROW We will be printing on an article of clothing in art tomorrow. Please send a shirt (old or new) with your child's name at the neck. White, light colors and plain shirts will work best.

LIBRARY DAY SCHEDULE This is just to remind you that your child's scheduled library day is below...please help them to remember their library materials.

K-2 Classroom – Fridays
3-8th Classrooms - Thursdays

SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM Once again YVS will be offering lunches through the District program. Please note the price change, and *Keep in mind you are ordering for Tuesday through the following Monday.*

Breakfast: Milk, fruit, yoghurt, cereal

Lunch: All lunches include fruit and vegetables, milk and will include one of the following: Deli sandwich & chips, grilled chicken wrap, or taco salad.

Breakfast costs \$1.50

Lunch costs \$2.50

If you would like to order meals for your child(ren) please send a note detailing which meals for which

days as well as payment to Ceci by 9 am Friday of the week before, thank you.

PAPER TOWEL ROLLS Once again there is a holiday art/recycling project in the works spearheaded by DNC. This year we need students to bring cardboard paper towel rolls to help with this project. If you are able to donate, please have your child drop them off in the office. Thank you

21ST ANNUAL CHILDREN'S FAIR The 21st annual ICES Children's Fair will be held on Saturday, September 25th from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Mariposa County Park. The event is sponsored by Infant/Child Enrichment Services, who, along with other agencies, childcare centers, and licensed daycare providers, will be providing fun, free activities. Highlights of this year's event will include various arts and crafts activities for children, face painting, a bike rodeo, and child fingerprinting. Parks and Rec will have their Rec Van and obstacle course set up, and music will be provided by "The Sound Man". Snack foods will be available for a small price.

The Children's Fair is a family event for children ages 1 through 12. We ask that all children be accompanied by an adult. Please plan on joining us for a fun-filled day in the park!

SCOTLAND MEMO SENT HOME

TODAY Room One parents please look for a memo about the Scotland Trip that will come home today with your child. This memo updates the plans that have been made so far and asks for parent participation in fundraisers.