



# The Summer Badger

August 9, 2011

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

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- 8/22 First Day of School, Tobishima School Visit  
Lunch provided for all students.
- 8/24 Minimum Day for all Students, 12:30 pm dismissal
- 9/5 Labor Day Holiday—No School
- 9/7 Collaboration Day – 12:30 dismissal  
Back to School Night
- 9/14 Collaboration Day – 12:30 dismissal
- 9/21 Collaboration Day – 12:30 dismissal
- 9/23 Lifetouch Picture Day
- 9/28 Collaboration Day – 12:30 dismissal
- 10/3-6 Minimum Days, Parent Conferences
- 10/12 Collaboration Day – 12:30 dismissal
- 10/17-21 Fall Break (furlough)
- 10/26 Collaboration Day – 12:30 dismissal

## WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

We hope you had a fun and restful summer break and that you are all eager to resume or begin school this year. We are still awaiting final approval and assignment of our staff and will forward that information to you as soon as we know for sure.

As of now what we do know is that Mrs. DeCecco will be teaching the K-2 combination and Mrs. Soria will continue as the OC teacher in the mornings. Mrs. Soria will also be the afternoon teacher for the 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades these are the contracts that so far have been signed. We are very hopeful that Ms. Stewart and Fulhorst will be returning to our school but that just hasn't been confirmed yet. Mrs. Gabriel also be returning in her capacity as special ed. Aide. The other aide positions are still kind of hanging in the air as we await confirmation about financial commitment from the PTG, but things look hopeful.

Once again, we will update you once we know for sure who will be gracing our halls just as soon as we find out – hopefully early next week.

## A QUICK MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW PRINCIPAL

I am thrilled to be joining the staff at YVS, a school known for the achievement of students and the commitment of the staff and community. I look forward to meeting and working with all you.

**PRELIMINARY API-** Although the final numbers are still being crunched, the API estimates for YVS are excellent- tops in the district!

**SUMMER OFFICE HOURS** Mrs. Archer will begin monitoring the office regularly beginning Monday, August 15<sup>th</sup> for those who need to bring in paperwork,

you may want to call before stopping by just to be sure at 372-4791.

## TOBISHIMA SCHOOL VISIT— LUNCH PROVIDED FOR ALL STUDENTS

Our students can expect to have a very exciting first day of school when the Tobishima students come for a visit. This annual event allows our students to mingle and make friends with Japanese middle school students and share a lunch together. Thanks to a generous donation, we will provide lunch for all students on Monday, Aug. 22.

**FURLOUGH & SNOW DAYS** We wouldn't say that getting district approval on our calendar this year was a battle... no, more of a celebration of the process of compromise. Just a few days ago we received final approval and will be happy to pass on the calendar to you soon... as MCUSD tries to move towards a single calendar for all schools we were awarded a big concession and that is the continuation of our traditional fall break. This will happen by putting our 5 furlough days together in October – a practice the district is moving away from as it was found to be problematic last year – the district furlough days will be dispersed throughout the school year for other schools. And with give there is often take – the district would like to have everyone participate in snow days, YVS included. So, there you have it...we know the children will be thrilled.

## EARLY DISMISSAL WEDNESDAY

Wednesday's are our Professional Development days so all students will be released at 12:30 pm.

**CLASSROOM HOURS** All classes begin at 8:15am. The Kinder day is done at noon but students are welcome to bring lunch, remain for the lunch recess and are to be picked up at 12:40pm. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders are released at 2:20pm and 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades are released at 3pm.

**THE BADGER IS GREEN!** We would like to thank everyone for embracing last year's transition to a "greener" world... not only did we save a few trees but quite a chunk of change by not having to purchase paper/ink for our weekly newsletter. As state funding continues to look bleak, we at YVS are looking for new ways to be more efficient with our time so that we have more time to spend with your children...

In the office that translates to continuing with the online badger that can be accessed at our website <http://yosemitevalleyschool.weebly.com> The Badger will be updated every Tuesday afternoon and we hope that you will continue to check there for the most recent information and calendar of events.

Please contact the office if you do not have access to the internet so that we can be sure you receive this very important information. Thank you

**LUNCH PROGRAM** We have not yet received information on this year's lunch program, so for at least the first week of school all students should be bringing their own lunch and healthy snacks to school daily. Please keep in mind that we do not have means/staff to heat-things-up so any warm items should come already heated in a thermos. For those who are new school lunches are purchased a week in advance... but that information will be provided in the August 23<sup>rd</sup> Badger.

**TISSUE DONATIONS** Budget cuts – the next stage is apparently going to affect our drippy noses. This year we will not be supplied with Kleenex for the classrooms (oh, sorry – 2 boxes, per teacher, for the year), so we would be very pleased if you were able to donate Kleenex for the classrooms, just another way folks can help.

**NEW PTG EMAIL** David Pye, your Parent-Teacher-Group president has set up an email to help facilitate communication for our school community. If you wish to be added to this email list please contact him at [yvsptg@sbcglobal.net](mailto:yvsptg@sbcglobal.net).

**BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT – PARENTS ONLY** Parents, you are cordially invited to come to Back To School Night. This is the evening where you will receive important information about your child's class, meet your child's teacher and get questions answered about school schedules and programs. We hope to see you there! The tentative schedule follows: K-2<sup>nd</sup> grades 5:30-6:00 pm. 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades from 6:00-6:30 pm and 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades from 6:30-7:00 pm. Please keep in mind that this is our one non-child event so please be sure to arrange for child care early. Thanks

**Tdap** All students entering 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades must have received the tdap booster. If you have not already been cleared by the office please bring in your vaccination verification on the first day of school.

## **SUPPLIES FOR SCHOOL**

**Mrs. DeCecco submitted this list for her students:**

1. Schoolbag
2. Lunchbox
3. Water Bottle
4. Pencil box with the following items: 5 sharpened pencils (please do not send mechanical pencils-they do not work very well!), one pair of scissors, 2 glue sticks, crayons and/or colored pencils, eraser.
5. Folder
6. Box of tissues (These do not need to be labeled, they will be shared throughout the year.)
7. A spare set of pants, shirt, and undergarments (These will be kept in cubby in case of emergency and will be returned at the end of the year.)

**For the 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students:**

Notebooks, pencils, scissors, pens, colored markers and/or pencils, post its, folders.

**EMAILS** If you have received this Badger via email that is because Mrs. Archer has collected email for you from somewhere... and in some instances multiple email addresses... if there is an address you prefer please let us know...thanks.

**FIRST DAY PACKETS** Just wanted to give you the heads-up that there is a lot of information coming home on the first day... please do your best to work through it and return completed paperwork as soon as possible. We will be contacting you to help fill in any gaps that we come across... Thank you