

SEPTEMBER 2011 NOTABLES



WELCOME TO THE 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR!

Welcome to the 2011-2012 school year! We will be celebrating Anacapa's thirtieth anniversary this fall! We're delighted that you and your family will be a part of this Anacapa milestone. Please plan to join us for a family celebration at Elings Park on the afternoon of Saturday, October 1. You'll receive your invitation later this month, but in the meantime, please save us the date!

Of course, we have a full calendar between now and then. As you know, school opens on Thursday, September 8 with a two-day orientation. We're looking forward to having our returning students and their families back for another great school year, and we extend a very special and warm welcome to our NEW students and their families! You'll have a chance to meet and welcome them to the Anacapa community at our family potluck picnic on THURSDAY evening, September 8!

CALLING ALL NEW STUDENTS & PARENTS: IT'S HANDBOOK CONFERENCE TIME!

New families are reminded that the mandatory handbook review meeting will take place from 5:00 to 6:30 pm on Tuesday, September 6. All new students and at least one parent must attend this important meeting with Gordon Sichi. New students and parents are reminded to read the handbook carefully and discuss it together before the meeting. Please bring your family's copy along with you to the meeting. Need another copy of the handbook? Just call the school office (965-0228) to request one or drop by campus to pick up a copy.

SEPT. 8-9 ORIENTATION: GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER

Our two-day student orientation gives us a chance to renew old friendships and make new ones as we enjoy some Anacapa-style bonding. Our goals for orientation are to make all students and teachers feel welcome, to introduce everyone, to take care of some "business," and to celebrate who and what we are!

The orientation day schedules were mailed to you earlier, and copies are posted on the school Web site – www.anacapaschool.org. Please refer to those schedules or see the enclosed September calendar for specific times for the separate Lower and Upper School sessions on Thursday, September 8 and the all-school session on Friday, September 9.

JOIN US FOR THE FAMILY POTLUCK PICNIC AT LEADBETTER BEACH ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Please join us for the all-school potluck picnic at Leadbetter Beach from 5:30 to 7:30 on THURSDAY evening, September 8. The school will provide bread, paper plates, and utensils. Families should bring their own non-alcoholic beverages and food items as noted below:

STUDENT last names beginning with:

A-Johnson please bring a **MAIN DISH** to serve 10-12 AND your drinks
Johnston-O please bring a **DESSERT** to serve 10-12 AND your drinks
P-Z please bring a **SALAD or VEGGIES** to serve 10-12 AND your drinks

►► If you have two or more Anacapa students,
please **DOUBLE** your dish. ◀◀

(over please)

CLASS SCHEDULES

Students will receive their morning class schedules at orientation on Thursday, September 8, and will meet briefly with each teacher in a quick run-through of the morning academic schedule. If you haven't already done so, please return the blue postcard with your student's afternoon elective preferences as soon as possible. Classes will begin on Monday, September 19, after the Tuolumne Meadows trip.

CALLING ALL NEW WORK-STUDY STUDENTS

Students who will be new to the school's Work-Study program will have a brief orientation meeting with Suzie Sichi on the second day of orientation. This meeting will begin in Elliott Hall at 8:00 am on Friday, September 9 (immediately preceding the all-school activities planned for that day).

OUR TUOLUMNE MEADOWS TRIP WILL BE HERE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!

You recently received a separate mailing with information about our upcoming Beginning-of-the-Year Trip to Tuolumne Meadows in Yosemite National Park. Please be sure to take a look at the equipment list soon, so you are well prepared for this trip. It's coming up soon!

Trip information, including the equipment list, is also posted on the school website (see "For Your Information" in the right sidebar of the home page). Of special note are the following:

- Payment (\$275) is due by the first day of school—Thursday, September 8.
- Medications to be taken on the trip must be turned in, along with instructions, to the school office by Thursday, September 8.
- Students should arrive on campus with their gear at 5:30am on Sunday, September 11 for our early departure.
- We are scheduled to **return to campus at 9:15pm** on Thursday, September 15. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A REVISED, LATER TIME THAN WAS INCLUDED IN THE ORIGINAL TRIP MAILING!**
- Trip Recovery Day will be Friday, September 16. There will be no school that day!

CLASSES TO BEGIN AFTER OUR TRIP

Right after our trip to Tuolumne Meadows, we'll be hitting the books! Classes, including afternoon electives, are scheduled to begin on Monday, September 19.

HOW'S YOUR SUMMER READING COMING ALONG?

Literature teacher Peggy Lauer reminds students to complete their assigned summer reading book(s) before classes begin on Monday, September 19:

- Lower School – *Hoot*
- Upper School – *The Hound of the Baskervilles*
- AP Literature – *The Hound of the Baskervilles* AND *Amadeus*

AXXESS CARDS: WE'D LIKE EVERYONE TO HELP WITH THIS STUDENT FUNDRAISER!

Once again, families are asked to help the Anacapa student Senate earn money—and you'll also get great discounts for yourself! Students will be selling Axxess Cards to raise money for student activities sponsored by the Senate AND to support students' philanthropy, including continued support of two Tibetan refugee kids. The Senate typically earns over \$1,000 with this win-win fundraiser—one we hope you'll support this year. Students will receive their Axxess packets after we return from Tuolumne. **Sales end on Friday, September 30; that's the final day to turn in money and/or unused Axxess booklets.** Thanks!

WORK-STUDY BEGINS MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

All Work-Study students are asked to bring a sack lunch on Monday, September 19, as they will be meeting with faculty supervisors during the school's lunch period (12:25-1:10pm). Work-Study students will start their after-school work on Monday, September 19. Once we get into the swing of things, these students will usually be finished with their chores about 3:30. For the first couple of weeks, though, it will probably take us a little longer. Please bear with us as we all settle into our new routines!

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS

First semester student senate elections are scheduled for the "Club" period on Wednesday, September 21. If your student is interested in this leadership opportunity, encourage her or him to run. The senators and the tribune (the head of the student senate) meet once a week—usually at lunch on Mondays—to plan student activities.

STUDENTS TO SET GOALS AND MEET THEIR ADVISORS

During the first week of classes, students will write three personal goals (two of which should be academic goals) for the year. Students will then meet with their assigned academic advisors a few days later. These activities can provide some good conversation opportunities at home, so ask your student about them!

SHARE THE TRIP FUN AT OUR SLIDE SHOW & FAMILY DESSERT POTLUCK

We're sure you'll hear some of the stories about our camping trip to the Tuolumne Meadows as soon as your student steps off the bus! You'll also have a chance to see the photos from the trip at our family dessert potluck and trip slide show! Please bring the whole family and join us on campus at 7pm, Thursday, September 22 for this popular event. Families are asked to bring a small dessert (to serve 6) to share. See you there!

NEW PARENT ORIENTATION ON SEPTEMBER 26

The school will host an orientation meeting for new parents at 5:30 on Monday evening, September 26. Please note that students do not attend this meeting; it is for parents only. This is one of the ways we try to help parents settle in at Anacapa! Of course, you'll also have a chance to meet other new parents. No need to RSVP – just come! The event will last about an hour.

AFTER-SCHOOL HOMEWORK CLUB IS COMING SOON— ANOTHER GREAT RESOURCE FOR STUDENTS

One of the great components of the Anacapa program is the challenge of the academics—students gain a sense of accomplishment as their successes mount and a validated sense of pride as their efforts are acknowledged by teachers and peers. The Homework Club is one part of the support system that helps students achieve success. Beginning on Tuesday, September 27, Lassen Hall will be open from 3:30 to 4:45pm on most Tuesdays and Thursdays for a study hall that we call *Homework Club*. This is an opportunity for students to have a quiet place to work, plus some academically strong Upper School students will be available to assist in most subject areas. In previous years, students have benefited from this organized quiet space and time with other motivated students, so please encourage your student(s) to attend!

THURSDAY, SEPT. 29: LATE START FOR STUDENTS

Anacapa's re-accreditation with the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) is on the agenda this year. Under Peggy Lauer's leadership, the faculty will meet throughout the year to prepare for our spring site visit. Some meetings will take place in the early morning—with students having a late start—and other meetings will be scheduled for the afternoon—with students having an early dismissal. For the first WASC meeting on Thursday, September 29, students will start school at 9am. To accommodate families' schedules, students who need to be dropped off at school at the regular time are welcome to come earlier.

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BRING YOUR BEST SMILE... SCHOOL PHOTOS ON SEPT. 30

Both individual portraits and our traditional all-school photo will be taken on campus on Friday afternoon, September 30. We'll have the same photographer as last year—Emily Hart-Roberts—and we are looking forward to working with her again. **An order form is enclosed in this mailing. Order forms and payments are due in the school office by Tuesday, September 27.** Checks should be made payable to Emily Hart-Roberts Photography.

CALLING ANACAPA ARTISTS: WE ARE LOOKING FOR ART!

Anacapa is going to participate in Santa Barbara Downtown Organization's "First Thursday" on October 6. We are looking forward to hosting an "Anacapa Fair" with a trio of events on campus that evening, including:

- Live performances by the Anacapa band, *The Adobes*
- A demonstration and "mission report" from Anacapa's successful near-space balloon launch
- An exhibition and sale of fine art from the Anacapa community of student and adult artists

We hope you'll plan to join us—and bring lots of guests!

Also, if you would like to participate in the art show, please let us know right away. 50% of the proceeds from art sales will go to the artist—with 50% going to Anacapa's art department.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR SENIORS!

It's an exciting time for the Class of 2012 as they begin their senior year! We all hope it's the best year ever for each one of them! Enclosed for senior parents is a list of important senior dates, including the following:

- Seniors will have a trip prep. meeting with Gordon at 10am on Friday, September 2.
- The Class of 2012 will kick off their senior year over lunch with Gordon at 12:30 on Tuesday, September 6.
- After lunch with Gordon that day, the seniors will meet with Suzie at 2pm to prepare for orientation. (Please note that seniors will be on campus for both the Lower and Upper School orientation sessions on Thursday, September 8, the picnic that evening, and the all-school trip prep. session on Friday, September 9.) We always appreciate the key role our senior class plays in helping us launch the new school year during orientation.
- Friday, September 9 is the registration deadline for the October SAT, and Friday, October 7 is the deadline to register for the November SAT. For details, go to www.collegeboard.com or check out the SAT information in the Computer Room at school.
- College counselor Lynn Hamilton will meet with seniors on campus during lunch on Thursday, September 29.
- The Senior Dinner at Gordon and Suzie's home is scheduled for 4:30pm, Monday, October 10. Teachers and seniors attend this event. Seniors are asked to gather on campus at 4:00 so teachers can drive them to the dinner.
- Lynn will meet with seniors AND their parents at 5:30pm, Monday, October 17.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Notables, our monthly mailing to families and teachers, provides information about upcoming school events and activities. We rely on this notice to keep you informed. Please keep this mailer and calendar handy for reference throughout the month. *Notables* and the calendar are also posted on our Web site (www.anacapaschool.org) each month. For quick access, look for the link toward the bottom of the right-hand sidebar on the home page.

IF E-MAIL IS YOUR THING, YOU CAN HELP US SAVE TIME, PAPER, AND POSTAGE

If e-mail is part of your daily routine, we'd love to send electronic copies of this monthly mailing and other notices to you. Last year, the school was able to save a substantial amount of time, paper, and postage because so many of our parents requested electronic mail. While not all mailings will be sent electronically, many will be. We are mailing this first issue of *Notables* to everyone via regular mail, but we will send later issues via e-mail to families who have asked us to do that. If you haven't already done so, please let the office know your preference—e-mail or regular mail. Thanks!

LOADING ZONE: SAFETY FIRST AND FOREMOST

The white passenger loading zone on Santa Barbara Street is to be used only for dropping off and picking up students. Please be very careful and move forward as traffic allows and do not linger in the passenger loading zone. We all need to work together to provide a SAFE loading area. By law, parking is not allowed in that zone. Thanks!

JAYWALKING REMINDER

Parents, we need your help! Please observe Anacapa's very strict NO JAYWALKING rule at ALL times—even when you're attending a social event on campus and especially when you're picking up your student after a trip. Students are less likely to be tempted to jaywalk if parents use the crosswalks and cross with the lights. We appreciate your help!

PARKING LOT IS OFF LIMITS

Parents and students are reminded not to use the parking lot behind the school at any time (including evenings and weekends). We have only eight parking spaces in that area that "belong" to Anacapa. The rest belong to our neighbor. Thank you for your continued help in this important area of school operations and good neighborly relations!

A GOOD WAY TO HELP ANACAPA ALL YEAR LONG...

If you know a family with a student who would be a good addition to Anacapa, please invite them to give us a call or stop by campus to find out more about our program—or, better yet, come along with them, show them around campus, and introduce them to us at our October 6 First Thursday Anacapa Fair or our November 15 Open House! **Positive word-of-mouth is one of the most important ways families find out about our gem of a school.**

LOOKING AHEAD TO SOME IMPORTANT OCTOBER DATES!

We'll tell you more in October *Notables*, but please note these dates::

- 12-3:30pm, Sat., Oct. 1 Anacapa 30-Year Celebration at Elings Park
- 5-8pm, Thurs., Oct. 6 First Thursday: Anacapa Fair
- Afternoon, Fri., Oct. 7 Lower School Social at Golf 'N' Stuff
- 12-3pm, Wed., Oct. 12 PSAT for Grades 10-11
- 9am-12 noon, Sat., Oct. 22 Parent Academic Morning (a chance for parents to follow an abbreviated form of their student's daily schedule)

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT THE "FACULTY CORNER" EVERY MONTH...

Included in our monthly *Notables* is a feature called "Faculty Corner." Each month, some of our teachers will write a brief piece about a key part of the Anacapa School program. This month, Gordon Sichi writes about Anacapa trips and the prominent role they play in the school program—and in the hearts and memories of students and alums! Be sure to read all the way to the end—for an exciting announcement!