



# THE VOICE

PLUMAS CHARTER SCHOOL

## Welcome Back!

A new school year has begun, and it is a pleasure to be seeing and working with you all again. Summer was too quiet!

Because the amount of classroom time has increased this year for all grade levels, school is an even more lively and interesting place to be. It is our hope that the additional time we are able to spend with each student will enable us to give our students more of the support they need in order to develop the impressive strengths and potential they show us.

We are, as ever, very eager to hear responses and suggestions from students, parents, and families, so please don't hesitate to contact one of us if you have something to say. For a full listing of each learning center's schedule, visit our website at [www.plumascharterschool.org](http://www.plumascharterschool.org)

Here's to a wonderful year!

*Taletha Washburn and Janet Wolcott, Directors*



**Above:** Senior Jason Davis concentrates on making his coil pot smooth in art class.

**Below Right:** Aubrey Terpkö, Corrina Stadler and Kyla DeoCampo participate in science class and show off their 'egg-speriment.'

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## We Welcome New Teachers



### Heidi Kingdon

This fall has brought Heidi Kingdon to Indian Valley Academy. With a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and a Multiple Subject teaching credential, she will focus on math education. Welcome, Heidi!

### Shalyn Goss

Indian Valley native Shayln Goss, who has a Bachelor's degree in Liberal Studies and Child Development and a Multiple Subject teaching credential, has begun teaching at Indian Valley Academy, where her focus is science. Welcome, Shalyn!



### Amber Donnelly

Amber is Plumas Charter's new Portola area high school teacher. She has a Master's Degree in Education, a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Single Subject credentials in Business and Spanish. Welcome, Amber!

## Greenville Update

Greenville high school students have started the year off with amazing attitudes and effort. The teachers are extremely impressed, and would like to congratulate them for making the school such a wonderful place to be!

*They watch their thoughts...which become words. They watch their words, which become actions. They watch their actions, which become habits. They watch their habits, which become their character. They watch their character, which becomes their destiny.*

Keep up the great work!

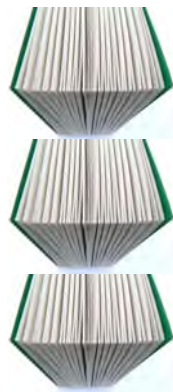


A group of Greenville 9-12<sup>th</sup> graders, in a great mood, even after a long day of classes!

### Elementary Activities in Greenville

Sierra Gallagher's elementary students meet on Wednesdays and Fridays from 10-12:30. Currently, the group is focusing on the writing process, including revision and publishing. The group has also been working on synonym mobiles, and they participate in a twice-weekly Art Class with Steve O'Connell. Upcoming events include a field trip to Chico to attend a musical theater performance and an apple pressing activity. Call Sierra at the Greenville office, 284-7050 for more information.

# Elementary Program in Quincy



**Above Left:** Mattea Bus-selin, *et al* enjoy quiet reading time.  
**Above right:** Liam Forcino pursues his interest in the human body.  
**Middle Left:** Mattea Bus-selin and Natalyn West enjoy their books and their beanbag. **Middle right:** Blake Bridges poses next to the very tall sunflower in the school garden.  
**Below left:** Abra Deo-Campo produces a work of chalk art.  
**Below right:** Owen Boyack and Kaleb Dupra read together in the classroom.



# Elementary Program in Quincy

## Working Together

Kara Torrence-Burkhead, ES

As the school year gets off to a strong start, the interactions between my students in Kindergarten through grade two, as well as those of Miss Cindy's 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> graders, are amazing! They are a very diverse group of children, and regardless of their ages and backgrounds, they come together on Tuesdays and Thursdays for classroom time to learn together. They are a cohesive group of individuals who enjoy communicating, creating, and even singing!

On a daily basis we contribute to each others' learning in active ways. We work collaboratively, in groups covering all content areas. In language arts we read together, design stories, and decode words. We conduct science experiments and solve math problems using manipulatives. We paint, construct ceramic projects, and learn music. With our expanded classroom hours, we still find time to build forts in the yard and engage in many other exploratory activities. Lacy and Marissa, our classroom aides, support the learning by helping us keep the environment clean and organized as our day progresses, since all of this hands-on learning can get messy! It is our diversity that inspires us to continue the school year with our best feet forward. We are excited to enjoy the year ahead together!





### Brave New World

Written by Aldous Huxley

Reviewed by Laura Beaton

Aldous Huxley's renowned futuristic novel *Brave New World*, published in 1932, remains a remarkably relevant commentary on society. In the story, the government has decided that happiness is the highest goal for all to achieve. When people are happy, they don't ask questions or stir up trouble. In a sterile environment, where people are created in test tubes and specifically engineered to perform certain tasks that they are conditioned to enjoy above all else, the government has successfully eliminated critical thinking and free will. With the elimination of aging, possessiveness, jealousy, and love (with its inherent heartache and sadness), a smooth-running society has been achieved. Those few individuals who somehow escape their conditioning and rebel against the government are conveniently shipped off to desert islands where they can't disrupt the orderly flow of society.

Huxley's novel is a witty commentary on a one-size-fits-all mindset. With the aid of drugs and sleep conditioning, very few people are ever uncomfortable or unhappy. A few Indian Reservations remain, where people are left to their own devices, to age and love and live a life that is not simply about happiness. When one of these "savages" is brought back to modern society, he quickly learns to despise this antiseptic life and rebels by hiding out and living in a hidden pocket of nature. Before long, though, he is discovered, captured, and displayed as a tourist attraction, like an animal in the zoo.

Read this book, and you will probably rethink your role in society. It might even make you happy to be sad! This is one of the PUSD recommended novels for 12<sup>th</sup> graders and is available at our PCS libraries.

### PCS Board of Directors

Everything that goes on at PCS is overseen by our Board of Directors. Their job is to ensure that the school's resources are effectively and appropriately used and that the school's students and their families are well served. **If you are interested in serving on the board and would like to know what is involved and how to apply, please call Janet or Taletha at 283-3851.**



## Portola News

The Portola learning center has moved! Our new location is 257 E. Sierra Ave (Highway 70). The phone number remains the same: 832-4157.

Classes currently offered in Portola: Writing and Math Support; Elementary Art, High School Art, Spanish, and Computer Applications. Tutoring in all subject areas for both elementary and high school students is available; just call to schedule a time slot. Friday mornings at 9:30 there is a P.E. class for high school students; call Amber Donnelly for more information or to sign up.

On Sept. 13, a group of nine students and parents joined ES Laura Beaton on the Great Sierra River Cleanup. Our group cleaned up the area between the Gulling Street Bridge and the Riverwalk trailhead. We picked up 112 pounds of garbage! We then catalogued our results and submitted them for posting online along with the results from hundreds of other groups participating in this excellent environmental activity aimed at cleaning up California's coastal and watershed areas and making our environment healthier and safer.

Portola students of the month are Ezra Russi, grade 6, and Darla Rodriguez, grade 1. Congratulations to these two students, who are very involved in art and love school!



The new PCS Portola features tissue paper mosaic “stained glass” windows created by Portola’s elementary art students under the direction of their teacher Karissa Cunningham.

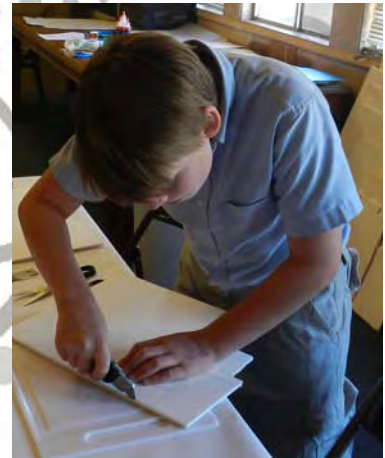
# Indian Valley Academy: "Think Hard, Work Harder."



What an exciting start to the year! We began with a Swim Party, to get to know all the new students and re-acquaint with the old. Thanks to Bill and Judy Gimple for hosting!



On August 31, a team of nine master's students in architecture from California College of the Arts arrived at IVA. Our 7-9<sup>th</sup> graders had the opportunity to work with them for 3 days on model-building and cutting-edge MakerBot 3-D printing. KIDMOB was kind enough to bring this program to Indian Valley Academy. We appreciate them so much!



**On Saturday, September 17, parents and students collaborated to construct a new fence and make repairs to the fort structure at IVA. It looks fabulous! Thanks to Bill and Bryson Battagin, Dale and Destiny Lyman, Todd and Dalton Johns, Jimmy, Logan and Landin Carmichael, Mike Chelotti, Jason Martinez, and all the volunteers who helped to make this happen!**



# Quincy High School Activity Update



High School Students now enjoy a variety of site based activities at the Quincy Learning Center, including English, History, Math, Art, Economics, Geography, and Successful Student classes.

**Above Left:** Sisters Nicole and Kirsten Lankston take some quiet reading time in the library.

**Above Right:** Levi Kinetader uses the globe to assist him with his Geography homework.

**Left:** Thomas Hernandez works on his sculpture.

**Below Left:** "Emotion" sculptures created in art class.

**Below right:** Serrina Thornton and Desirae Adame work on their sculpture.



**Right:** Kayla Navarro works on her coil pot in art class.



**Right:** Denisse Marquez smoothes her coil project.



**Below:** High School art class in full swing!



**How to Reach PCS Staff**

**Quincy Office: 283-3851**  
**Toll free 1-888-509-4146**  
**Greenville Office: 284-7050**  
**Inidan Valley Academy: 284-7917**  
**Portola Office: 832-4157**  
**Chester Office: 258-3365**

Staff members can be reached at these locations and/or by voice mail or cell phone as follows:

**Administrative Staff:**

**Janet Wolcott**, Executive Director ext. 14  
**Taletha Washburn**, Academic Director ext. 15  
**Gene Sies**, Business Manger ext. 19  
**Becky Stokes**, Registrar ext. 26  
**Susan Donald**, Librarian ext. 18  
**Shannon Mallory**, Secretary ext. 10  
**Sue Weber**, Student Activities Coordinator/  
IVA Director

**Teaching Staff:**

**Laura Beaton**, Quincy ext. 23, Portola  
**Kara Burkhead**, Quincy ext. 12  
**Mike Chelotti**, IVA  
**Amber Donnelly**, Portola  
**Sierra Gallagher**, Greenville  
**Shalyn Goss**, IVA  
**Gretchen Hagwood**, Quincy ext. 11  
**Heidi Kingdon**, IVA  
**James Newell**, Math Chester, Greenville, Quincy  
**Karen Oglesby**, Quincy ext. 20  
**Dallas Tognotti**, Chester  
**Cynthia Thackeray** Quincy ext. 17 Greenville ext. 14  
**Mary Wilbur**, Quincy ext. 21, Greenville ext. 12  
**Kate Zachman**, Greenville ext. 10

Janet Wolcott and Taletha Washburn, are the Editors of *THE VOICE*

For questions or submissions, email [janet@plumascharterschool.org](mailto:janet@plumascharterschool.org), or [taletha@plumascharterschool.org](mailto:taletha@plumascharterschool.org)

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www.plumascharterschool.org



**Plumas Charter School is *Your School!***

## California High School Exit Exam

<b>English Language Arts</b>	<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>Who is Eligible?</b>
Tuesday	Wednesday	
October 4, 2011	October 5, 2011	11th, 12th and Adult
February 7, 2012	February 8, 2012	11th, 12th and Adult
March 13, 2012	March 14, 2012	10th grade census, 11th, 12th and Adult
May 8, 2012	May 9, 2012	10th grade make-up, 11th, 12th and Adult