



ARROYO PACIFIC ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

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Message From The Principal

Dear APA Families,

Welcome to the 2026–2027 school year! It has been wonderful to see our campus come alive again with the energy, excitement, and enthusiasm of our students.

As we begin this new school year, I encourage every student to embrace new opportunities, challenge themselves academically, build meaningful friendships, and make the most of the many activities and experiences our school has to offer. To our returning families, thank you for continuing to be part of our community. To our new families, we are delighted to welcome you to the APA family.

I look forward to a wonderful year of learning, growth, and achievement together. Thank you for your continued support of our students and our school.

Warmly,
Janice Yen

Upcoming Events

- * **Parent Night & Open House**
Sep 3rd, 2026
- * **Labor Day (School Closed)**
Sep 7th, 2026
- * **Honors Assembly**
Sep 11th, 2026
- * **SAT Registration Deadline**
Sep 18th, 2026
- * **Club Day**
Sep 18th, 2026
- * **Mid-Quarter Holiday (School Closed)**
Sep 21st, 2026

Student Highlight Interview–Ethan (P2)

Ethan Vetrone is a junior at Arroyo Pacific Academy. He participated in the Democracy Summer program run by congressman Jamie Raskin.

Student Highlight Interview–Denny (P2)

Denny Zheng explored astrophysics this summer through a workshop covering topics such as dark matter, telescopes, and theoretical astronomy.

Last Month in Pictures (P3)

About Time Management (P3)

Student Highlight: Denny Zheng

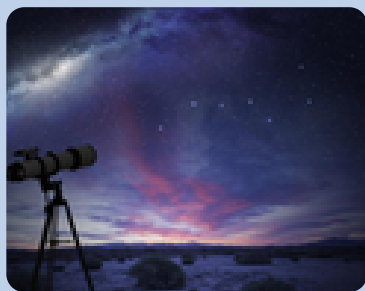
Q: How would you explain to someone who has never heard of this subject that this course was about to?

A: We were briefly introduced to numerous topics in astrophysics. We learned how astronomers operate telescopes, how matter interacts with light, an introduction to dark matter, theoretical astrophysics (predicting the behavior of stars and planets), the basic units of measurement in astronomy, and a bit of coding. It was a summer workshop where we met every Tuesday, sometimes up to 5 hours.



Q: What's the most interesting thing you've learned during this course?

A: The most interesting topic I've learned while attending the course is dark matter. Originally, I always thought that dark matter was something fictional. I learned that it is a real substance that makes up about 85% of all matter in the universe. Some interesting things about it are that it does not emit or absorb light (it is invisible) and it has no nuclear interactions. This was the most fascinating topic to me because many of its functions are mostly unknown.



Q: Would you say this course changes your perspective on things such as basic schoolwork, or is it more isolated?

A: This course did change my perspective on schoolwork and academics in general because it allowed me to realize the skills I need to study astrophysics. Additionally, it made me realize how superficial my knowledge is, not just in astronomy, but in general.

(Interviewed by Yuchen Zhou-Grade 10)

Student Highlight: Ethan Vetrone



Q: Were you interested in what this program had to offer initially? How did you find out about this program?

A: I was very interested in Democracy Summer to begin with. I first heard about it from Congresswoman Judy Chu while at the Pasadena City Hall No Kings protest.

Q: Do you plan on using what you learned from this experience in the future? If so, in what ways?

A: Since I plan to major in political science and pursue a career in politics in the future, this is a valuable experience for me. I intend to use what I have learned from this program in my academics, career, and life in general. For instance, I could more effectively engage with voters through what I've learned from

canvassing and phone banking. Additionally, this program has given me a clearer perspective of the day-to-day work of a civil servant.

Q: What is one thing you learned from this experience that you think everyone should know?

A: From this program, I learned that there is a way for students to express themselves with confidence, connect with the general public through campaigning, and help impact our country's future for the better.

(Interviewed by Yuchen Zhou-Grade 10)

About Time Management

(Jaylen Fan, Yuchen Zhou-Grade 10)

Time management is an important skill for every student. With homework, exams, projects, and extracurricular activities, schoolwork can quickly feel overwhelming. A simple way to stay organized is to plan ahead, list upcoming tasks, and prioritize them by importance. Large assignments can also be broken into smaller, more manageable steps.

Students should also limit distractions by studying in a quiet place and putting away their phones. Short study sessions with regular breaks, such as the Pomodoro technique, can help maintain focus and reduce procrastination. Starting assignments early also gives students more time to review their work, ask questions, and avoid unnecessary stress.

Last Month in Pictures



"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

— Eleanor Roosevelt

Get Involved!

Want to submit something for next month's "Last Month in Pictures"?
Scan the QR Code now and send yours!



Thanks To:

Yuchen Zhou (10th grade)

-Executive editor

Jaylen Fan (10th grade)

-Editor

Shawn Weng (11th grade)

-Photographer

Tony Zhong (11th grade)

-Photographer