



∞ The CDS Weekly ∞

Catching Up on the Coming Weeks

(415) 861-5432
March 11, 2004

Words From Rick

The Party

One of the great communal events of the year is almost upon us. A fabulous, hard-working, fun-loving group of parents has brought us to the verge. Now it is our turn to show them that we know how to have a good time.

For those of you who have never attended the Black & White Ball, I am sure the most important question on your mind is, what does "elegant dress" mean? As a New England preppy, I am probably the member of the community least qualified to answer that question, which makes me the perfect one to answer it. One of our teachers asked me if "elegant" meant he could wear his tuxedo. I said, "absolutely." There were some very elegant ball gowns last year, and I hope to see more of them. What was even more delightful was the wide diversity of dress. After the event last year, elegant means to me your blue jeans must be clean and your high-heel sneakers shined.

Another important point. Some have been referring to this event merely as "The Auction." This is not precisely correct. It should be referred to as "The Party," pronounced "*The* party," or "the *PARTY!*" Last year, revelers had to be chased off the dance floor.

The committee has done an amazing job of raising everyone's awareness about this event, from hanging the quilts to be auctioned in the hallway, to standing out in front of the school in all kinds of weather to sell tickets and collect auction items. But an aspect of the event which may not be apparent to all is that this is one of our main opportunities this year to have fun together and to celebrate the good work of so many people. I understand that grandparents like me, are also encouraged to attend.

And yes, it is also an auction. Last year this community raised \$75,000 in one night. This year, there are over 300 auction items in all price ranges, so one does not need to sell stock to attend (although, of course, transferring wealth to our children is always a good thing to do with money.) Also, there are so many items some can be had for a song. But one should attend just to see, up close and personal, those beautiful quilts, lovingly created by the students, parents and teachers of this marvelous community. Before you walk in the door, be sure you've asked yourself the question, "How much should I pay for a priceless work of art?" Even if you are not intending to spend any money at all, just watching Steve Donovan, the auctioneer, up on stage is worth the price of admission.

But the most important reason to go to "The Party" next Saturday night is to have fun with old friends and to meet new ones committed to a wonderful cause, which happens to benefit our children.

☺ This Week's Hot Dates ☺



Friday, March 12th

Professional Day

No School

No Extended Program

Monday, March 15th

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Knit & Spin

Faculty Lounge

Monday – Friday, March 15th – March 19th

Winter Electives Make-Up Week

Saturday, March 20th

6:30 p.m. – Midnight

Black & White Ball & Auction

Annunciation Cathedral

Thank You!

- ▶ To Patti Phelan and Kirk Souder for hosting the fun cocktail party for Leaping Lizard parents. A great time was had by all!
- ▶ To Stephanie Holdenried and Shawn Conly for donating a turtle, lights, and complete tank to the first grade classroom.
- ▶ To the Sparagon Family for donating a bike for use on the playyard.

Black & White Ball & Auction

Saturday, March 20th

What's on the Menu?

Sumptuous hors d'oeuvres from Susie Carlson and On Occasion Catering, live music courtesy of 5th/6th grade teacher Andre Perry, groovy DJ dance tunes for all tastes, the return of Steve "the Auctionator" Donovan . . . all of this is yours with the purchase of a hot ticket to the 2004 Black & White Spring Ball & Auction next Saturday night, March 20th. Even if you don't plan to buy anything or can't pay the suggested ticket price, please don't miss out on the celebration. This is a community party, and all parents are welcome and encouraged to join the fun. Please talk to Beth Ditlefsen or Stephanie Scarpulla about ticket arrangements, and check out the mouth-watering menu preview below:

On Occasion signature cheese, crudités, pate display
Caviar bar with traditional garnish

Whole roasted Alaskan wild salmon
Asparagus with sesame aioli, marinated lotus root
Mussels on the half-shell with tropical salsa
Shrimp cocktail
Crab on endive spears
Caribbean jerk chicken skewers with chutney mayonnaise
Lamb tiropita
Grilled mushroom skewers with anchoide
Potato frittata with truffled caper aioli
Gorgonzola polenta with caramelized onions and walnuts
Tuna tartare in won ton cups

Desserts:

Joseph Schmidt truffles
Chocolate-dipped strawberries
Madeleine's
Fresh fruit

See you at the ball!

Ball & Auction Tickets

Look for Stephanie Scarpulla and friends selling Ball & Auction tickets at morning drop-off. Drive-by ticket purchases can be made via credit card or check, and buyers will receive a fresh spring flower as a thank you. This year we will be sponsoring tickets for each teacher and a guest, so please consider buying a ticket or two to share. Thank you for your support!

Childcare for Spring Ball & Auction

Childcare during this year's Black & White Spring Ball & Auction will be available at CDS, courtesy of Rob Gillespie and Michael Gast, elementary extended program teachers. Kids can be dropped off at CDS starting at 6:00 p.m. (doors to the Ball open at 6:30 p.m.) and picked up as late as midnight. Kids should wear pajamas or comfy play clothes. Food, fun and movies will be provided. The cost is \$5 per hour per child. Spaces can be reserved by leaving a message for Mr. Rob at CDS (extension 26), emailing him at robg@cds-sf.org, or by signing up with Martha at the front desk. Please contact Rob with any questions.

Auction Programs

Look for Auction Programs on Monday, March 15th. Make sure to peruse the catalogue carefully and prepare yourself for a night of spirited bidding!

The Dirt

More than Meets the Eye

In the next couple of months the 1st grade will be using their senses to explore the four block radius around the school. Developing careful observation skills is a crucial part of this exploration. Last week, 1st graders brainstormed different words they could use to describe an apple. They came up with a good list. "Shiny," "green," and "smooth" were a few of their ideas. Then the class passed around an apple and each used a different word to describe it. After "red and round" had been used, it became a challenge for them to each find a different word to describe it. But after spending a little time using their senses to explore the apple, they created an extensive list of observations including, "It smells sweet and sour," "It has black spots,"

"Some have green patches," and "There are five bumps on the bottom." After the activity they devoured their apples. At least 8 children exclaimed, "This is the best apple I have ever eaten!" They wanted to know what kind it was and where Nicola had bought them. Many kids wanted their parents to buy the same apples for them. It was wonderful to see the class gain a greater appreciation for something as simple as an apple through the power of careful observation.

—Morgan Taggart

Congratulations Candy!

Join us in congratulating Candy Mabry, our new Assistant Head! Candy, who's accrued nearly 20 years in early childhood education (12 of which she's spent as a Head Teacher in the preschool at CDS!) will be making an exciting career shift next year, joining Rick in the running of our school. Candy's years of experience, her keen eye for detail and grace under fire made her the obvious choice. And certainly, Candy's peers at CDS could not be more excited to work with her in this new capacity.

Candy's new role will begin with the 2004-05 school year. In the meantime, she will continue her head teaching duties in the Teddy Bear class, while working with the faculty in curriculum development.

Expansion Update

After much planning and some challenges, the bungalows are nearly ready to go up. GE Modular has confirmed the new bungalows will be completely fabricated and ready to ship by Friday, March 19th. A final signature required from the Building Department should be garnered by the end of the week.

Once the signed permit is in hand, Kevin Corse will begin site preparation. He anticipates starting during the week of March 22nd. Site preparation is of course dependent upon the weather, but we anticipate delivery and installation of the Bungalows in mid-April.

Thanks everyone for your inquiries and for your patience.
—Laurance de Vries, Business Manager

Extended Program News

Spring Break Camp

Spring Break Camp will be held from April 12th– 16th, and the theme is Urban Wildlife. **Remember to sign up in advance**; drop-ins are difficult to accommodate with our reduced camp staff.

Winter Electives

Winter Electives officially ended last Friday, March 5th, **however**; the following electives have make up classes:

Monday: FIT Gymnastics, Drama, Music and Cooking
Tuesday: Computers
Wednesday: Piano
Thursday: Chess, Sewing

(This information was also posted on the PM bulletin board last week).

David Cutler's TV News Show and Cartooning classes will be made up on Friday, March 19th. A film screening of their work will be held in the 5th/6th room on Friday, March 26th at 3:45 p.m.

Spring Electives

Spring elective packets have been sent home. Thanks to those of you who have signed up already! Spring electives start on Monday, March 29th and run through Friday, May 21st. The registration deadline for spring electives is Wednesday, March 24th.

—Jenna Stephens, Extended Program Coordinator

Hola Familias!

I notice everyone has been doing their homework each week. I'm so proud of your effort. Keep up the good work!

Here are *la frase de la semana*:

Cual es tu animal favorito? Which is your favorite animal?

Mi animal favorito es... My favorite animal is....

Pero Dog

Gato Cat

Gracias y hasta pronto!

—Consuelo Aparicio-Cercos, Spanish Department

Knit and Spin, Monday Evenings

The Knitters and Spinners continue to meet every Monday evening from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the faculty lounge to share our projects, offer one another help and learn new skills. You're invited! Hope to see you there!

CDS Parent-Teacher-Trustee- Administrator Association: PTTA Update

The Country Fair Needs Your Talent!

The Country Fair Committee is seeking talent for our Country Fair celebration on May 1st. Are you a musician? A juggler? A balloon sculptor? Do you have a magnificent talent you'd like to share with the CDS community? Don't hide your talent from your potentially adoring fans! Contact Sally Nielson at sn@hausrath.com to get involved.

Community Thrift Donations

Donate your unused clothing, linens, toys, kitchen items, hi-fi equipment, cds, books and knick-knacks to Community Thrift and benefit CDS! (Please do not donate computer software or hardware, mattresses, car seats, strollers or exercise equipments.) Community Thrift is located at 625 Valencia Street, between 17th and 18th. The drop-off point is on Sycamore, a one-way alley accessible from Mission Street, open every day from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Please make sure to tell them you are donating on behalf of Children's Day School, and give them account code 83. For more information contact Linda Glover at (415) 255-6885.

Friday Morning Coffee

Schedule a few minutes in your Friday morning to join other parents for hot coffee and grown-up conversation in the yard after drop off, 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

PTTA Questions or Ideas?

Contact Marion Quinones at (415) 701-1957 or MQuinones@fbm.com.

Do You Prefer *The Weekly* by Email?

Help us reduce our paper usage by receiving the *Weekly* via email. Please email us at [cgsweekly@cds-sf.org](mailto:cdsweekly@cds-sf.org) and give us your email address. Let us know the name and class of the child your hard copy usually goes home with so we can remove him or her from the classroom distribution list. Thanks!

Upcoming on the CDS Calendar



Saturday, March 20th

6:30 p.m. – Midnight

Black & White Ball & Auction

Annunciation Cathedral

Wednesday, March 24th

Registration Deadline for Spring Electives

Monday, March 29th

Spring Electives Begin

Wednesday, March 31st

Cesar Chavez Birthday

Last Day to Sign Up for Spring Break Camp

Monday, April 12th – Friday, April 16th

Spring Break

Spring Break Camp Available

How to Submit to *The CDS Weekly*.

Submissions are to be received **no later than 8:00 am Wednesday**. Please email them to cgsweekly@cds-sf.org.

