



January 13, 2005

THE CHILDREN'S DAY SCHOOL Weekly

Words from Rick

The Purpose of Education

As we approach a day of remembrance for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., it is worthwhile to remember his words and his character. The following article is a paper he wrote as a student at Morehouse College in 1947, entitled "The Purpose Of Education."

As I engage in the so-called "bull sessions" around and about the school, I too often find that most college men have a misconception of the purpose of education. Most of the "brethren" think that education should equip them with the proper instruments of exploitation so that they can forever trample over the masses. Still others think that education should furnish them with noble ends rather than means to an end.

It seems to me that education has a two-fold function to perform in the life of man and in society: the one is utility and the other is culture. Education must enable a man to become more efficient, to achieve with increasing facility the legitimate goals of his life.

Education must also train one for quick, resolute and effective thinking. To think incisively and to think for one's self is very difficult. We are prone to let our mental life become invaded by legions of half-truths, prejudices and propaganda. At this point, I often wonder whether or not education is fulfilling its purpose. A great majority of the so-called educated people do not think logically and scientifically. Even the press, the classroom, the platform and the pulpit in many instances do not give us objective and unbiased truths. To save man from the morass of propaganda, in my opinion, is one of the chief aims of education. Education must enable one to sift and weigh evidence, to discern the true from the false, the real from the unreal and the facts from the fiction.

The function of education, therefore, is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. But education which stops with efficiency may prove the greatest menace to society. The most dangerous criminal may be the man gifted with reason, but with no morals.

The late Eugene Talmadge, in my opinion, possessed one of the better minds of Georgia, or even America. Moreover, he wore the Phi Beta Kappa key. By all measuring rods, Mr. Talmadge could think critically and intensively; yet he contends that I am an inferior being. Are those the types of men we call educated?

We must remember that intelligence is not enough. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education. The complete education gives one not only power of concentration, but worthy objectives upon which to concentrate. The broad education will, therefore, transmit to one not only the accumulated

Hot Dates

Friday, January 14

10:15-10:30 a.m.

Friday Assembly

Fourth/Fifth Grade Presenting

Friday, January 14

Wheels Day

CDS Yard

Monday, January 17

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

No School

No Extended Program



Thank You!

- To everyone who donated food to the San Francisco Food Bank. We exceeded our goal of 1,000 lbs and raised a whopping 1,403 lbs of food! 144 San Francisco schools of all sizes participated in the food drive and CDS was ranked 16th. Thank you for your generosity.
- To Kara Schleunes and Amanda Newstetter for helping out with admission tours.
- To Zachary Fisher and Bill Littmann for building the arbor that will soon be permanently placed under the bay laurel tree.
- To all the parents who helped make Tuesday night's Admission Open House a great success: Susie Carlson, Patti Cazzato, Atri Chatterjee, Steve Donovan, Lisa Eltinge, Marianne Evans, Maria-Eugenia Gomez, Jesis Jariwala, Tracy Kirkham, Elizabeth Seirmarco and Kristen Wurz. The parents of over 50 prospective students attended this event.
- To Chris Thompson for donating a laptop bag to the David Minus Science Center.

knowledge of the race but also the accumulated experience of social living.

If we are not careful, our colleges will produce a group of close-minded, unscientific, illogical propagandists, consumed with immoral acts. Be careful, "brethren!" Be careful, teachers!

The Dirt

A Hunger Lesson

Last week the fourth and fifth grade class went on an overnight trip to Heifer International Education Center in Ceres. The non-profit's mission is to alleviate chronic hunger around the world by providing appropriate livestock to families in order to help them provide sustaining sources of food for themselves and their communities. To help the children understand what it means to survive with limited resources, the organization's educators divided the class into three houses. The Asian, Appalachian and the Latin American houses were all given different and limited resources that the students needed to

use to cook their dinner. The students were encouraged to barter between the houses for what they needed and to take good care of their two year olds (the teachers). I was in the Latin American house with Allison, Brandon, Connie and Luke. After some trials they managed to build a fire and fry a potato. After dark had settled in, a student from the Asian house came over to tell us that they couldn't get their fire started. The immediate response was for all of the students in the Latin American house to run off to help them (they were so anxious to help that they left their two year old behind!). Within a few minutes Connie came back to make sure the two year old (me) was being taken care of and Luke returned to get our second potato to give away to the very hungry people in the Asian house. What stood out to me during the course of the evening was how generous and caring the students in my house were and how much they really wanted to help the students in the Asian house.

From the Office

Welcome Annile

Please welcome Annile Alexander as our new third grade teacher.

As many of you know, Josh Connor, our original third grade teacher, is currently pursuing his BA in humanities and Middle East studies. In an effort to support Josh in his education we are having him take a different position at Children's Day School. Beginning Monday, January 10, 2005, Josh will be assisting Jim Flanigan with P.E., as well as continuing as third grade extended program teacher.

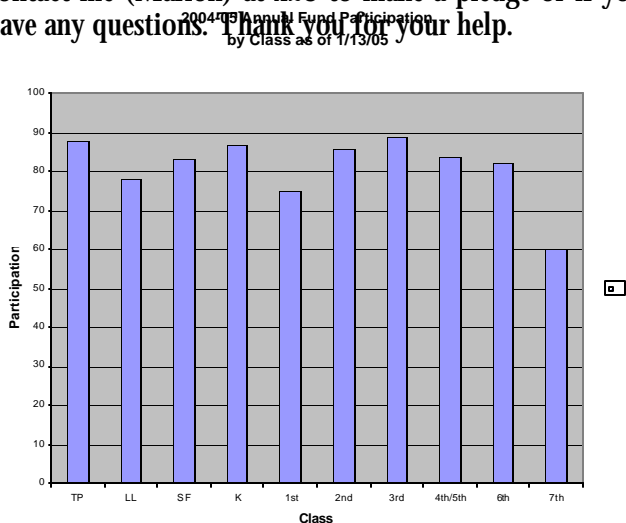
Annile Alexander, who presently assists Jim Flanigan with P.E. and has substituted in several CDS classes (including third grade) this fall, will be taking over Josh's responsibilities on the third grade team. Annile holds a BA in psychology, is near completion of his MS in teaching and has experience teaching at the elementary level in New York City.

Not only are we happy to be able to support Josh in pursuing his degree while still keeping him in touch with the third grade class, we are also happy to finally be

able to bring Annile on board as a full-time teacher.

Annual Fund

A hearty thank you to all of the families who have recently donated to the 2004-05 Annual Fund and pushed the parent contribution total to \$103,913. Parents have given in record numbers this year – 81% total – and we are very close to reaching the parent goal of \$105,000. We hope to reach this goal by the end of this week so that we can focus in the coming months on foundations and planning for the spring party and auction. Parent participation percentages are shown by class on the graph below, and several classes are only a few families away from reaching 100% participation, an achievement for which each class would be rewarded with Kid Chow lunches for a day. Parents have shown great enthusiasm, good humor and strong support for CDS this year. I am very grateful to everyone who has solicited, donated, pledged and spread the word about the importance of the Annual Fund at CDS. Please contact me (Marion) at x23 to make a pledge or if you have any questions. Thank you for your help.



Events

Spring Auction Update

Please note the following dates and deadlines for the Spring Celebration and Auction:

- Tuesday, January 25: Spring Celebration and Auction meeting in the faculty lounge at 4:30 p.m.
- Friday, February 11: Deadline for auction donation forms and items.
- Friday, February 11: All advertising text and artwork

for the auction catalog must be submitted.

Extended Program News

MLK March

You and your families are invited to join after school teachers on Monday, January 17 for the annual San Francisco Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Freedom March and Celebration. Participating CDS families will meet at 9:30 a.m. at CDS and walk together to meet up with our after school partner school, Marshall Elementary. From there, participants will take a BART Freedom Train (free BART tickets at:

<http://www.norcalmlk.org/2005/transportation.html>) to the start of the Freedom March at the San Francisco Caltrain Station (4th and Townsend Streets). The march begins at 11:30 a.m. and heads toward the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium. The celebration continues at the Civic Center with speakers including Congresswoman Barbara Lee, American Idol finalist Latoya London, the Glide Ensemble, Fiyawata, Jason Matteo and other special guests. Also on site will be a vendor fair featuring health, arts and crafts and food booths. If you plan to come,

Go Bulldogs!

Hoopsters Soar

Who knew we got game? The CDS boys basketball team returns this year extra strong after learning so much as a team last year. Give Coach Jim credit for their growing talent. The girls show real court potential even if this year the learning curve is sharp as all the girls are new to organized basketball. Parents, if you'd like to join us in practice and show us just how effective a smooth back door can really be, contact Coach Karolina at kgarrett@csu Hayward.edu. Come play!

Bulldog Basketball Scores

January 6, CDS vs. Creative Arts School

Boys: CDS 34, CACS 8

Girls: CDS 2, CACS 24

January 10, CDS vs. Katherine Delmar Burke

Girls: CDS 7, KDBS 38

Basketball Calendar

Monday, January 24, Boys, 3:45 p.m.

San Francisco School, 300 Gavin Street

please fill out the form that was distributed with the *Weekly* last week and return to Jenna Stephens.

Enrichment Classes

Classes are underway! Please call if you have any questions or check the after school program bulletin board for further details.

The Outdoor Murals enrichment class is still open for interested students who would like to have the opportunity to create a mural in a small group setting with an incredible teacher. The class is taught on Thursdays from 3:30-4:30 p.m. in the art area. If you are interested in signing up, please contact Jenna at x15.

Wheels Day

Wheels Day is a special day in the afternoon program where kids get to ride bikes and scooters and other wheeled vehicles in the yard. The next Wheels Day is scheduled for Friday, January 14. We have a modest supply of bikes and helmets for students to use, but if your child would like to bring a special vehicle from home, please park it in the space to the left of the glass door with your child's name on it and bring her/his helmet as well.

Holy Family Day Home

Starting this month, students from CDS will have the opportunity to be guest presenters at Holy Family Day Home's preschool classes and read to them from a storybook of their choosing. Many families called me to express interest in having their 4th-7th grader participate, but only two families have turned in their registration forms. If you are interested, please call Jenna at x15 ASAP.

The PM Program is Open to All

Thanks to those of you who have helped spread the word to your friends and neighbors about CDS opening up vacation camps, enrichment classes, the after school program and summer camps to all Bay Area children. Please continue to get the word out to children who don't attend CDS during the regular school year. Families interested in receiving more information can call Jenna at x15.

PM Field Trips

Friday, January 21: 2nd Graders, Harvey Milk Library Field Trip, 3-4:30 p.m.

Friday, January 28: Preschool trip to visit Mission Dolores, 2:45-4 p.m..

Friday, January 28: 4-7th Graders, Dolores Park, 3:30-5 p.m.

Friday, January 28: 2nd Graders, Dolores Park, 3:30-5 p.m.

PTTA Update

Thank You

Thank you to the parents, classroom liasons and members of the administration and board of trustees who joined us at Tuesday's PTTA meeting. A number of good ideas and useful information came out of our discussions and brainstorming. Notes from the meeting will be sent to the liasons to be distributed to each class.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 1 from 4:30-5:45 p.m. As usual, all parents, faculty, staff and board members are welcome and encouraged to attend. As we get ready to welcome new families to CDS (acceptance letters go out in March), we are interested in reviewing the systems we have in place to welcome new families into our community (buddy program, welcome picnic, Friday coffee, etc.) and to ensure parents who want to be involved in the school are given a chance to

PTTA Corner

Friday Morning Coffee

Come join other parents for coffee and doughnuts in the yard after Friday drop-off, 8:30-9 a.m. This is your chance to meet other families, have a few minutes of grown-up conversation and grab sustenance and caffeine before you start your day.

In addition, we need volunteers on occasion to help set up and bring doughnuts. Please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board. Nothing gets the kids out of bed in the morning like the knowledge that they will stop off for doughnuts during the drive to school!

PTTA Questions or Ideas?

Contact Marianne Evans, PTTA President, at (415) 648-1731 or goevansgo@yahoo.com.

do so. If you can't make the meeting but have thoughts and ideas on the topic, please don't hesitate to let me know via email (goevansgo@yahoo.com) or telephone (648-1731).

Thank you very much for all your participation and enthusiasm.

— Marianne Evans, PTTA President

Hola Familias de CDS

Hola a todas las familias de CDS!

Kindergarten students are studying verbs such as *sonar* (to dream) and words like *la libertad* (freedom.)

First graders are examining new phrases like *una arana* (a spider.)

Second, third and fourth and fifth graders are still working on their *puedo* (I can) and *no puedo* (I can't) books and are interviewing and presenting one another other in terms of their abilities and skills.

The 6th and 7th grade classes have just completed their fashion show and are moving on to creating math problems using clothing.

La frase de la semana. The phrase of the week.

Maria lleva una camisa roja. Mary is wearing a red shirt.

— Spanish Department

Upcoming Dates

Monday, February 7

6:30-8:30 p.m.

State of the School Night

Thursday, February 10

Parent/Teacher Conferences

No School

No Extended Program

Friday, February 11

Parent/Teacher Conferences

No School

No Extended Program

Saturday, March 19

6:30 p.m.-12:00 a.m.

Spring Celebration & Auction

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