



April 26, 2007

# THE CHILDREN'S DAY SCHOOL Weekly

## Words from Rick

### High School Placement

*This week's article is guest-written by Doug Garfinkel, Head of Middle School.*

How do eighth graders react when a classmate is brokenhearted because the high school she most wants to attend wants to admit her, but doesn't have the scholarship money she needs? How does a student react when he has gotten into a school he is delighted to be going to, but is sitting next to a friend who is confronting a rejection?

The answers to these questions, more than where students actually are going next year, determine whether the high school admissions process succeeded. They are about whether our students have the character to care for each other at a time when it would be easy to brag or boast about their own success. I watched our eighth graders respect their classmates' feelings. They gave counsel to a student working through a disagreement with parents about what school would be best. They spoke openly and respectfully about how much harder it is to get in when your family lacks financial resources than when you have them. They consoled students dealing with rejection from a desired school.

Students supported each other with empathy, affection and grace. One of our students had a late admit notice from a top school due to a paperwork mix-up. He took care not to announce his success to his classmates because he knew that some of his friends had been turned down by the same school. Classmates consoled a student who had been accepted at a top school but given no scholarship money, and then cheered for him when he got the news that he'd been accepted at another amazing school and was given a full scholarship there. At the end of a turbulent week of admissions, students made sure that a couple of classmates not yet reconciled to their placements felt supported and protected. When they felt that I was too quick to ask them to announce where they were going to school at that Friday's assembly, they let me know in the forthright (and respectful) way of CDS students that they felt I had erred. In every way, they epitomized what we want and hope our graduating students to be.

So if you ask me whether our high school placement succeeded this year, I would enthusiastically tell you that it surpassed my expectations. As an educator, I look at where these students are going and know that they have all placed into great schools consistent with each student's unique genius. I can see objectively that in both offers accepted and received they continued the excellent record established by the first graduating class. Most importantly, they know how to take care of each other when something that really matters is on the line.

### Hot Dates

Friday, April 27  
8 a.m.

Earth Friendly Friday  
Come to school in an earth-friendly way!

Friday, April 27  
8:30 a.m.

Earth Day Celebration

Sunday, April 29  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Country Fair workday

Tuesday, May 1  
7-8 a.m.

Middle school open forum  
All parents welcome  
David Minus Science Center

Wednesday, May 2  
7-8:30 p.m.

Orientation for parents of fourth graders entering fifth grade  
**Sign up for childcare with Ryan Gordon by tomorrow**  
David Minus Science Center

Dates also posted on CDS website  
[www.cds-sf.org/news/calendar.html](http://www.cds-sf.org/news/calendar.html)



## Thank You!

- To everyone who helped make the middle school car wash/bake sale/yard sale fundraiser such a great success: Betsy Cordes and Cindy Wilson for organizing the event; Lisa Eltinge for leading the car wash brigade; Jeanneth Gutierrez for coordinating the bake sale; Angie Romagnoli for organizing the yard sale; and all the students, parents and drivers of dirty cars who made the day possible.
- To Tina Leung and Patrick Liang for donating a tricycle and bike.
- To Suzanne and Joe Jachinowski for donating 12 tickets to last Sunday's Giants game to faculty and staff.
- To the Leaping Lizard class families for providing a delicious faculty breakfast last week.

For the record, the thirteen members of the class of 2007 are going to Drew (2), Gateway (2), Lick Wilmerding (2), Lowell, Metro Arts and Sciences, School of the Arts, University High School and Urban (3). I hope that you'll all join me in honoring them and their families for their achievement and for the quality of character that made that achievement possible.

## From the Director of Diversity

### Diversity & Justice Film Night

Thanks to the 15 parents, students and teachers who attended Tuesday evening's screening of "My People Are...Youth Pride in Mixed Heritage." Jasmin Hoo facilitated a great discussion after the movie; we look forward to more opportunities to have increasingly candid conversations about issues of race and class at CDS in the future.

## Transforming St. Joseph's Hall

### Fundraising Ideas

On Monday, May 7 the regularly scheduled Development Committee meeting will be devoted to fundraising for the environmentally responsible features that will be included in the renovation of St. Joseph's Hall. In particular, we will explore funding strategies for the photovoltaic glass that will cover the porch area and the solar curtain planned for the front of the building. We welcome everyone with interest, ideas and a desire to volunteer. We

have been collecting leads on funding opportunities and are looking for help in pursuing the best prospects as well as finding new ones. If you are unable to attend the meeting but would still like to help or give us some ideas, please e-mail Amanda Richard at [amandar@cds-sf.org](mailto:amandar@cds-sf.org). Please join us from 4-5:45 p.m. on Monday, May 7 in the faculty lounge.

## From the Classrooms

### Earth Friendly Friday Tomorrow!

Our second Earth Friendly Friday is scheduled for tomorrow! Our first Earth Friendly Friday was a big success with over 66% participation from students, parents and faculty. The third and seventh grades are again asking all families to carpool, take the bus, walk or bike to school tomorrow. Lemonade, along with appreciation and encouragement from the third grade, will be available at the front gate that morning. Help us have even greater participation this month. If you'd like a list of families in your neighborhood for carpooling, or if you have any other questions, please contact Michael Gast at [michaels@cds-sf.org](mailto:michaels@cds-sf.org) or 861-5432 x329.

## From the Office

### Class Photos

There is still time to purchase your class photo! You can place all orders through the CDS SmugMug website ([www.cds.smugmug.com](http://www.cds.smugmug.com)); they will mail your order directly to your home. Click on **Prints & Gifts** to see the many options available from mugs to puzzles to traditional 8x10 color photos for only \$8. Also, you can check out examples of the "goofy" style class photos in the first floor hallway. Please contact Ryan Gordon at [ryang@cds-sf.org](mailto:ryang@cds-sf.org) if you have any questions.

### Lost and Found

Today and tomorrow, lost and found items will be put out on the yard. Please collect your student's belongings. All leftover items will be donated to Community Thrift. Please remember to label all belongings as this will help items get back home to you.

## Events

### Country Fair

Promenade over to the CDS Country Fair on Saturday, May 5 from 11–2 p.m. for music, food, socializing, games and fun! The traditional and always-popular activities will be back—sheep shearing and wool washing, face painting, tug-of-war, handmade items from our own farm and garden, two raffles, a bake sale, old-fashioned games and of course, the grand BBQ!

Master of Ceremonies, Mr. Chris, will be announcing the day's events, and will introduce us to *Jubilee American Dance Theater*, a local performance group who will provide traditional folk music and perform a square dance demonstration. Our own fifth and sixth graders will lead all who want to join in a community line dance...you won't want to miss this unique experience!

### Country Fair Work Day

First, to prepare for the fair, join us this Sunday, April 29 from 10–2 p.m. and help make our campus even more beautiful. Please bring your garden or work gloves and enjoy a few hours of mulching, pruning and planting. Childcare and lunch will be provided.

### Arriving at the Fair

Walk, skip, bike, take MUNI or carpool to the Country Fair—all children who arrive in an earth-friendly way will receive a free raffle ticket. If you drive, free parking will be available at the Mission High parking lot, space permitting. Enter on Dolores Street. Sorry, NO parking will be permitted in the CDS parking lot.

### Say Howdy to New CDS Families

We've invited new families who will be joining our community this fall to the Country Fair. If you see some wide-eyed folks walking around wearing yellow name tags, please introduce yourselves and extend a warm welcome to our new families.

### Share Your Recipes

The CDS Cultural Diversity Group is putting together a "Deliciously Diverse" cookbook – pick up your free copy at their booth at the fair!

We need favorite family recipes from our community—please fill out the attached form and drop it off at the front desk by Wednesday, May 2. Or, send your recipes to school in your child's lunchbox. Make sure you put your name on your recipe and add a photo or note about

its country or region of origin, plus why you love it! Pre-made forms are available at the front desk.

### Middle School Mural Project

UNESCO has designated 2000-2010 as the Decade of Peace, and people from 100 countries around the world are creating murals in this theme to be displayed at the pyramids of Egypt in 2010. Our middle school students are participating in this amazing project. The students gathered a list of words related to kindness, then created sketches and finally, murals. Three of the murals will be displayed at the Country Fair, then at the Phillips Brooks School in Menlo Park and ultimately, will travel to Egypt.

Please visit these wonderful middle school murals while you're at the fair, and add a creative mark on our own kindness mural—a canvas specifically for the CDS community.

### Sweet Treats

Calling all bakers: we love our sweets and we need yours! Please bring your favorite treats to the Bake Sale booth, located on the preschool deck area. Cookies, cupcakes, rice-crispy treats, brownies, sweet breads, special gluten-free or sugar-free treats—all will be gladly accepted and sold in \$1 ticket increments. Be creative—in the past, colorful sheep-shaped cookies and cupcakes topped with farm animals have been the first to go.

Please deliver your baked goods when you arrive at the fair—we don't have a place to store them overnight. Remember to include a note if your item has special dietary information, and put your name on any serving dishes you'd like returned. Thank you.

### Special Call for Cupcakes

The annual Cupcake Walk is a fun and popular game for the kids and we need A LOT of cupcakes to make it happen! Please help out and bring one or two dozen cupcakes to the Bake Sale booth on the day of the fair.

### Parent Volunteers Needed

We need parent participation to run the Country Fair—if you haven't yet, please sign-up for a short time slot to help out. Thank you for your time.

- Leaping Lizards: Bake Sale
- Starfish: Face Painting/Table Art
- Tadpoles: Old Fashioned Games and Races
- Kindergarten: BBQ

- 1<sup>st</sup> grade: Set Up and Breakdown
- 2<sup>nd</sup> grade: Wool Washing and Fiber Arts
- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade: CDS Logo Items
- 4<sup>th</sup> grade: Ticket Sales and Name Tags
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade: Handmade Craft Market
- 6<sup>th</sup> grade: Farmer's Market
- 7<sup>th</sup> grade: Old Fashioned Games and Races
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade: Old Fashioned Games and Races

If you'd like more information about the Country Fair, or to find out how you can volunteer, please contact:

- Tanja Beck: [tbeck@zephyrsf.com](mailto:tbeck@zephyrsf.com)
- Jon Gilmour: [jongilmour@zephyrsf.com](mailto:jongilmour@zephyrsf.com)
- Diana Hunt: [samanddi@pacbell.net](mailto:samanddi@pacbell.net)
- Amy Muller: [amymuller@gmail.com](mailto:amymuller@gmail.com)

## Extended Program News

### Summer Camp Updates

#### Swivel Arts Summer Camp

With the help of CDS parent Vanessa Lambright, Swivel Arts has put together a week-long summer camp just for CDS students the week of August 27-31. The camp is for children ages 3-17 and is broken into three age-appropriate programs. The theme for the camp will be "Off the Cuff" and will include improvised music, creative movement, drama and hip hop. The camp is located at Dance Mission (24<sup>th</sup> and Mission streets) and morning and afternoon extended care will be available. Please register at [www.swivelarts.com](http://www.swivelarts.com) by Tuesday, May 15 to reserve a spot.

#### Open Camp Spots at CDS

The pre-K summer camps are filling up. There are approximately eight spots left per session. If you need an additional registration form, please contact Charlie at [charlies@cds-sf.org](mailto:charlies@cds-sf.org)

#### Summer Camp Resources

The summer camp resource box located in the library is filled to the brim with information on Bay Area summer camps for elementary and middle school students—check it out! Also, [www.gocitykids.com](http://www.gocitykids.com) is another great resource.

## Upcoming Dates

Saturday, May 5

11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Country Fair

CDS yard

Monday, May 14 – Friday, May 18

ERB Testing

Grades 3-8

Tuesday, May 22

4:30-5:45 p.m.

PTTA meeting

Monday, May 28

Memorial Day

No school

No extended program

Tuesday, May 29 – Friday, June 1

Eighth grade class trip

Dates also posted on CDS website  
[www.cds-sf.org/news/calendar.html](http://www.cds-sf.org/news/calendar.html)

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Submissions due Wednesdays, 8 a.m.

Contact Mary to receive the Weekly via e-mail