



June 7, 2007

THE CHILDREN'S DAY SCHOOL Weekly

Words from Rick

New Adventures

The last night of May was lit up by a full moon. The eighth graders wrote in their journals that evening sitting in the moonlight on white sands in New Mexico. Fourth graders took solo walks on a road through the Mendocino County woods in this same moonlight. Last year I was in both places; this year I couldn't be in either place. Poor me. I had to be here, in this paradise.

Last Friday, those who were lucky enough to be under the palm trees, elm trees and the bay laurel, were treated to a final assembly led by the seventh grade class. Tracy Kirkham, Chair of the Board and Co-Chair of the *Building Our Future* Campaign, announced to those present that the campaign has passed the one million dollar mark. After the assembly, seventh graders led students, teachers and parents through the east end of St. Joseph's Hall to say goodbye to some wonderful, old places like our old bathrooms, laundry room and kitchen. Well, these spaces may be more sorry than wonderful, but still they are *our* sorry spaces, and it was good to say goodbye to them.

This week is our last week of school. As you read this, the eighth graders will be preparing for graduation and the seventh graders will already have been promoted to eighth grade. On Monday, June 11, contractors will be here to begin the work to transform our cherished building. There will be a chain link fence across the yard separating our summer camp bungalows from the construction. The administration will be in reorganized offices on the third floor; it will be obvious that we are still in business and getting ready for another great year.

When you return in September, you'll notice many changes. Most obviously, construction will still be happening, primarily in the first floor bathrooms and the new first floor environmental education kitchen. You'll see changes on the east end of the third and second floors, a stairwell that goes from the first floor to the third, and fifth and sixth grade classrooms in what used to be the third floor art space. You'll see new floors, new counters and new walls, made with environmentally responsible materials.

I will be taking a short break this summer to finish my book and get to work on the next one, and I am very much looking forward to this time. If you'd like a sneak peek at some of the essays, check out the Divine Caroline website (www.divinecaroline.com). (Essays can be found in "From the Principal" in the parenting/classroom section.) In my absence, Assistant Head of School, Rebecca Kroll, will be in charge, except when she is on vacation in July. Doug Garfinkel, Head of Middle School, will be in charge in July. Throughout the summer, you can contact Donna Shibata for questions about construction.

Hot Dates

Thursday, June 7

10 a.m.

Passing the Torch ceremony
CDS yard

3:45-5 p.m.

Eighth grade graduation
CDS yard

Friday, June 8

Last day of school

No assembly

Extended program available

Dates also posted on CDS website
www.cds-sf.org/news/calendar.html



Thank You!

- To this year's outstanding PTTA officers for dedicated and enthusiastic leadership: Ray Baxter, President; Patrick Everett, Coordinator of Classroom Liaisons; Laura Pliska, Coordinator of Welcoming Initiatives; Michael Silver, Coordinator of Diversity Initiatives; Ann Van Gelder, Parent Volunteer Coordinator; Tanya Beck, Coordinator of Events; and Edwina Paschal, Middle School Coordinator.
- To everyone who brought coffee and doughnuts to Friday morning coffee this spring: Debbie and David Jasso, Sara O'Malley, Laura Pliska, Pat Rose, Nerius Mercado, Bill Glenn, Suzanne and Joe Jachinowski, Beau Timken, Molly and Jon Tyson, Nasrin Naraghi, Alycia Freeman and Marianne Evans. And an extra special thank you to Michael Silver for helping organize Friday morning coffee and for filling in the gaps when needed!
- To Susi Alexander, Ray Baxter, Marianne Evans, Tracy Kirkham, Laura Pliska and Michael Silver for welcoming new parents at New Parent Orientation last week.

It has been a great year—full of growth, change and challenges. It's been a gift to be a member of this community enduring change and preparing for more. Thank you to everyone for all of your hard work and commitment. Today, as we watch the Class of 2007 reflect on their time at CDS, we can be proud that this wonderful community helped the graduates get to the podium and will be a part of their new adventures in the future.

Have a terrific summer!

CDS Yahoo Group

Our CDS Community Yahoo group is a forum for the CDS community to share information about life outside of school. Join this Yahoo group, our in-house "craigslist," by visiting: groups.yahoo.com/group/cdscommunity.

Transforming St. Joseph's Hall

Thank You

From the funky first floor bathrooms to the dark corners of the snack kitchen, St. Joseph's Hall extends a very special thank you to the many people whose vision, expertise and generosity have made this summer's much-needed renovation possible. The dedicated campaign cabinet, whose members are Susi Alexander, Patricia Buse, John Hendrickson and Tracy Kirkham, has imbued the campaign with enthusiasm, confidence and an enduring sense of personal commitment to the mission of this school. Also, a big thank you to Kit Land, Bill Veiga, Ray Baxter, the [CDS Board of Trustees](#) and all campaign volunteers, as well as donors, supporters and helpers throughout the school. [This campaign has truly](#) been a team effort and a great achievement for CDS already, with more to come in the fall.

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); 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 if you have any questions.

Events

Class of 2007 Graduation

The Class of 2007 Graduation ceremony will take place today from 3:45-5 p.m. in the yard. Please note that there will be **no extended program** available this afternoon so that all CDS teachers have the opportunity to attend graduation. All parents are invited to attend as well and are encouraged to bring their children with them. CDS students will not be seated with their classmates and teachers, so parents should plan on supervising their own children during the ceremony. We hope you'll join us in celebrating this year's graduating class and all of their achievements!

Alumni Corner

Class of 2006

Cara Keller received a Lowell High School English Department Book Award, "In recognition of her outstanding achievement in English." Cara's parents reported to us that her teachers have been particularly impressed with her creative writing and her outgoing participation in class.

Congratulations Cara!

Library Corner

Thank You

A big thank you to those parents who donated sheets and tablecloths so that books can be protected during construction (a few more coverings would still be helpful)! Also, an especially big thank you to all parents who volunteered in the library throughout the year. The Book Fair was a great success, parent readers inspired students with spellbinding stories and parent shelvers and all-around helpers assured smooth sailing for all patrons.

Lastly, thanks to all parents who helped search high and low to find overdue books. With such great teamwork, it's no wonder that our library is such a joy for all.

Go Bulldogs!

Middle School vs. Faculty basketball game

On Tuesday, June 5 the middle school basketball team battled the faculty and staff at the Boys and Girls Club. It was an incredibly close game, and depending on who you ask, both teams were victorious!

Upcoming Dates

Monday, June 18 – Friday, June 29
Summer Camp Session I

Monday, July 2 – Friday, July 13
Summer Camp Session II

Wednesday, July 4
Holiday observed
No summer camp

Monday, July 16 – Friday, July 27
Summer Camp Session III

Monday, July 30 – Friday, August 10
Summer Camp Session IV

Monday, August 13 – Friday, August 24
Summer Camp Session V

Wednesday, September 5 & Thursday, September 6
Parent-teacher conferences

Friday, September 7
Preschool and kindergarten orientation

Monday, September 10
First day of school

Dates also posted on CDS website
www.cds-sf.org/news/calendar.html

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