



April 24, 2008

# THE CHILDREN'S DAY SCHOOL Weekly

## Words from Rick

### Altogether: One, Two, Three, Lift!

A long time ago, when I was a young teacher of seventh graders, my class was charged with the job of getting four huge sugar maple logs off the ground and into the back of a truck, the bed of which was three feet off the ground. The logs were twelve feet long, eighteen inches in diameter and green—full of sap and heavy. Also, they were not light pine but dense hardwood. The nickname for sugar maple in New England is “rock maple.”

My students were daunted, but they dutifully lined up on either side of the first log. I gave my “One, two, three, lift,” but nothing happened. I said, “Come on now, let’s try again. One, two, three, lift.” Again, nothing happened.

The experienced teacher I was with stepped in. He positioned each student carefully across from one another and evenly spaced them down the log. Then he said, “Look, I know this looks like an impossible job, but here is the thing: each of you has only your own piece of log to lift. If you all do it at the same time, and believe that everyone else is lifting their piece, it will be easy. Okay?”

“Okay,” said the class.

“Ready, now. On ‘lift.’ One, two, three, lift,” he said, and up went the log like a pink straw, and into the back of the truck.

That is what we have to do this spring for St. Joseph’s Hall. We need to raise \$675,000, with as much of it in cash as possible, to reach our goal of \$2.25 million. We need this so that we can build two more classrooms, move the middle school onto the third floor, have a heating system that works, and move the administration into our new building by September. All of this building and moving will allow us to have smaller classes and make better, safer use of the whole building – bigger kids on the top floor, medium sized kids on the middle floor, and younger kids on the first floor.

Taking this school to the next level (literally as well as figuratively) is something we should all do together. If only some of us make it happen it diminishes us. Let’s all, “One, two, three, lift!,” get our middle school upstairs and do this good work.

## Hot Dates

Tonight

5:30-7 p.m.

“Transitioning to Middle School”

Meeting for fourth grade parents

Friday, April 25

8:30 a.m.

Friday assembly  
Eighth grade hosting

9-11:30 a.m.

Earth Day Celebration and  
Sustainability Expo  
All are invited

Saturday, April 26

Middle school car wash  
CDS driveway

Sunday, April 27

10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Country Fair Workday

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



## Thank You!

- To the families of Solan Dennis, Quinn Muller and Finn Kalmbach for donating lemons to the Country Fair lemonade-making team.
- To Jim Colopy, Manda Ederer, Marianne Evans, Amy Hecht, Kristin Henry, Paige Lang, Jeanette Layden, Carlene Lim, Roger Nys, Louis Schump, Kara Schleunes and Ann Van Gelder for participating in the admission focus group this week.
- To Mary Dennis and Darya Soto for helping organize tomorrow's Sustainability Expo.

## From the Classrooms

### Sustainability Expo

All families are invited to join us tomorrow from 9-11:30 a.m. for an Earth Day celebration and Sustainability Expo. Each class has created an exhibit for you to visit and gather valuable information about environmental concerns.

- Tadpoles: Recycling and transportation exploration
- Starfish: Pictures about Earth Day
- Leaping Lizards: Food study
- Dolphins: Worm bin
- Sea Horses: Bees, pollination and honey tasting
- First: Penguins, the ocean temperature and signal flags
- Second: Council of All Beings, mask-making
- Third: California native plant uses, soap-making with Ceanothus
- Fourth: What is recyclable, compostable and garbage at CDS?
- Fifth: Global warming
- Sixth: Angel Island models of sustainability
- Seventh: Health education outreach
- Eighth: San Francisco homeless media and art

Several organizations will also have booths including Rainbow Grocery, Public Utilities Commission, Freedom from Hunger, People's Fuel and Friends of the Urban Forest.

We hope to see you all tomorrow!

## Middle School Car Wash

Are you praying for rain so your car looks like it hasn't been parked under a shedding tree since last year's car wash? Does your idea of backing up involve lowering your driver's side window so you can see what's behind you? Stop already—it's time for the annual CDS Car Wash!

It's so easy. The seventh and eighth graders will clean your car for just \$10. Buy a ticket, show up, and we'll even throw in a bake sale so you can snack while you wait. Tickets are being sold all week during morning drop-off, or find a seventh or eighth grader—they'll gladly help you. The car wash is being held in the CDS driveway this Saturday, April 26 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Bring your car, bring your neighbor's car; heck, bring all the cars in your neighborhood!

Help the eighth grade class raise money for an awesome end-of-the-year dance party. See you Saturday!

## Community Learning Event

Join CDS middle school students and families on Thursday, April 24 at Town School for Boys at 6:30 p.m. for a panel discussion on the upcoming federally mandated aerial spraying program to eradicate the Light Brown Apple Moth.

As you may have heard, all parts of San Francisco and many Bay Area communities have been included in the LBAM spraying program to begin in August of 2008 and continue indefinitely on a monthly basis.

This event is hosted by Supervisor Michela Alioto-Pier; presenters will include scientists, legislators and environmental experts. Town school is located at 2750 Jackson Street (at Scott Street).

## 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](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cdscommunity).

## From the Office

### Middle School Meeting

Current fourth grade parents are invited to a middle school meeting tonight from 5:30-7 p.m. in the Ecolab about the transition to middle school. Topics that will be discussed include teacher collaboration in the middle school, a typical week in math, science and humanities, an overview of selectives, PE and Spanish, how we transition students to fifth grade and socio-emotional support in the middle school. Pizza and salad will be provided. We hope to see you tonight.

### Fiesta Update

#### Check-Out

Thank you all for your patience and good humor as we move through Fiesta check-out! We are working our way through the invoices and the numbers look great. If you haven't yet paid and/or picked up items, please do so tomorrow morning, immediately following drop-off and during the Sustainability Fair. Staff will be at the Fiesta Annex (first floor of I6<sup>th</sup> Street) to process payment and hand over winning goods.

#### Free Quilt Posters

Beautiful posters of this year's class quilts are available for all! This is a great way for all families and teachers to enjoy creativity of each class quilt. Free posters are available at the front desk.

#### Money Raised

While we don't have the final Fiesta numbers yet, preliminary data suggests that we've set a new auction record. This year's Fiesta raised approximately \$130,000 for sliding scale tuition! This event would not be possible without the leadership, vision and dedication of parent volunteers, organizers, bidders and party revelers. Thank you!

## Events

### Country Fair Time!

Bring the whole family to the annual CDS Country Fair on Saturday, May 3 from 11 a.m.–2 p.m. and experience what makes CDS so special—a gathering of community, students and parents volunteering, our farm and garden, creative student projects, and a lot of music, food and fun!

The traditional and always-popular activities will be back—sheep shearing of Lucky and Jojo, face painting, handmade items from our own farm and garden, the bake sale, and old-fashioned games—plus some fun new activities that you can truly sink your feet into.

Bring your appetites because you won't want to miss this year's organic BBQ, featuring a delicious assortment of grilled meats and chicken from local, sustainable farms, as well as tasty organic bread and vegetables.

And stay for the entire event, because you won't want to miss the live entertainment that will be featured. We won't say more...but you'll be surprised!

### Arrive in an Earth-Friendly Way

Unfortunately, there is no reserved parking available to us this year, and no parking will be permitted in the CDS parking lot. Please walk, skip, scooter, bike, take MUNI, or carpool to the Country Fair.

### Say "Sheep Cheese!"

Do you have a tripod and/or a digital camera that we can use to take pictures at our new and fabulous photo booth? We need your memory-making equipment to make this happen! Please contact Diana Hunt at [samanddi@pacbell.net](mailto:samanddi@pacbell.net) if you have equipment we can borrow for this new activity.

### Keep Your Cool

We are looking for large coolers to keep our organic meats and produce fresh for the BBQ. If you can lend us a cooler, please bring it to the reception desk next week. Contact Diana Hunt at [samandi@pacbell.net](mailto:samandi@pacbell.net) if you can help.

## Go Bulldogs!

#### Futsal Scores

April 23, CDS vs. Kipp

Kipp 15, CDS 5

#### Futsal Calendar

Wednesday, October 30, 4:30 p.m.

Kittredge, Boys & Girls Club, 450 Guerrero St.

## Sweet Treats for the Bake Sale

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-krispie 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 do not 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.

### Special Call for Cupcakes

The annual Cupcake Walk is a fun and popular game for the kids and everyone wins! We need A LOT of cupcakes. Please help out and bring a one or two dozen cupcakes to the bake sale booth on the day of the fair.

### Homemade & Homespun

Add your own homemade contribution to our Farmer's Market. Make homemade jams, sauces, vinegars, dried fruits or other special edibles? Please contact Paige Lang at [paige\\_stover@yahoo.com](mailto:paige_stover@yahoo.com).

Lovely knit items produced by our CDS hands are always the first to go at the craft booth. If you'd like to add your own knit creation, please contact Mary DeNardo at [maryd@cds-sf.org](mailto:maryd@cds-sf.org).

### Parent Volunteers Needed

Sign-ups are underway for the class activities. 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.

- Leaping Lizards: Old fashioned games
- Starfish: Bake sale
- Tadpoles: Table art and face painting
- Kindergarten: BBQ
- 1<sup>st</sup> grade: Set-up and break-down
- 2<sup>nd</sup> grade: CDS store and fiber arts
- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade: Set-up and break-down

- 4<sup>th</sup> grade: Welcome table and ticket sales
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade: Handmade craft market
- 6<sup>th</sup> grade: Farmer's market
- 7<sup>th</sup> grade: Games and photo booth
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade: Pie eating, cupcake walk and popcorn

If you'd like to have more information about the Country Fair, or to find out how you can volunteer, please contact Diana Hunt at [samanddi@pacbell.net](mailto:samanddi@pacbell.net) or Paige Lang at [paige\\_stover@yahoo.net](mailto:paige_stover@yahoo.net).

## PTTA Corner

### Friday Morning Coffee

Come join other parents for coffee and doughnuts in the yard after Friday drop-off, 8-9 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.

### PTTA Questions or Ideas?

- General e-mail, [CDSPTTA@yahoo.com](mailto:CDSPTTA@yahoo.com)
- Laura Pliska, President, (415) 641-5116 or [laura@sfbabyworks.com](mailto:laura@sfbabyworks.com)
- Patrick Everett, Classroom Liaison Coordinator, (415) 609-4055 or [patrick@everettnilsson.com](mailto:patrick@everettnilsson.com)
- Ann Van Gelder, Community Outreach Coordinator, (415) 647-8561 or [anndirkvg@hotmail.com](mailto:anndirkvg@hotmail.com)
- Michael Silver, Diversity Coordinator, (415) 203-0776 or [silvermas@aol.com](mailto:silvermas@aol.com)
- Sara O'Malley, Parent Involvement Coordinator, (415) 348-8841 or [sara@omalleyhylton.com](mailto:sara@omalleyhylton.com)
- Karen Randig, Secretary, (415) 824-1784 or [krandig@msn.com](mailto:krandig@msn.com)
- Tanja Beck, Middle School Representative, (415) 377-8756 or [tbeck@zephyrsf.com](mailto:tbeck@zephyrsf.com)
- Robyn Moss, Teacher Representative, (415)-861-5432 x389 or [robynm@cds-sf.org](mailto:robynm@cds-sf.org)

## Country Fair Work Day

Join us this Sunday, April 27 from 10 a.m.–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. Please contact Misty Cummings for more information at [mistyc@cds-sf.org](mailto:mistyc@cds-sf.org).

## Extended Program News

### Middle School Summer Camp

We are happy to announce that we'll be offering two sessions of a middle school arts camp this summer for students entering grades 5-9. Led by Terry Ashkinos, Christopher Gonzalez-Crane and Melanie Liu, sessions I and II will include a Photography Seminar and a Creative Writing Workshop. Session I runs from June 23 – July 3 (\$540) and session II runs from July 7 – July 18 (\$600). Sign-up forms, including course descriptions, are available at the front desk and on our website. If you have any questions please contact Dan Larson at [danl@cds-sf.org](mailto:danl@cds-sf.org).

## Upcoming Dates

**Saturday, May 3**  
11 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Country Fair

**Tuesday, May 13**  
6 p.m.  
PTTA Meeting  
“Communication and Planning for Next Year”

**Monday, May 12 – Friday, May 16**  
ERB testing

**Monday, May 26**  
Memorial Day observed  
No school  
No extended program

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

### Children's Day School

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