



April 3, 2008

THE CHILDREN'S DAY SCHOOL Weekly

Words from Rick

Fiesta is for Friendship

Tomorrow night is our annual community celebration and auction fundraiser, Fiesta 2008. It is one of the few times each year that we have the opportunity to all come together, and every year Fiesta has proven to be one of the best parties in town.

The CDS community is the true educator. The whole culture created through our relationships is ultimately what our students take with them to their next school. We create that culture on the playground in the morning, around assembly on Fridays, in our email and phone communications, in our April Fool's jokes, in our fundraising, and when we chat in the afternoon, evening and all weekend long. The knowledge work that the children do in the classroom exists inside the context of the knowledge frameworks we create through the complex web of our relationships. Tomorrow night that web of relationships takes the form of a big old party, the purpose of which is to raise money so that our school can become ever more diverse.

Tomorrow night is a great time to connect, reconnect, get together with old friends and make new friends. If each person comes away from the event having made a new friend, or having seen an old friend in a new way, what a fabulous success the evening will be (especially if friends encourage friends to drop a little money along the way—no, a lot of money.)

And speaking of friends watching out for friends, let's watch our alcohol consumption. Things you might say under the influence might be things you'll regret next time you see your new friend on the school yard. Even the auctioneer said at our meeting this week that alcohol doesn't actually improve the bidding. And remember, we are going to be driving home.

A community needs to celebrate itself, and there are so few times when we can all do it together. This is a big one. So come! Be sure you don't miss it. If the ticket price is a reason to stay away, we really mean it when we say that the cost of the ticket is whatever you feel comfortable paying. Don't let anything stand in the way, because you are the community and your absence diminishes it.

I look forward to seeing everyone tomorrow night.

Hot Dates

Friday, April 4
8:30 a.m.

Cesar Chavez Celebration
Yard

6:30 p.m.

Fiesta 2008
Foreign Cinema Restaurant

Thursday, April 10

4-5:30 p.m.

After School Talent Show
Mission High Little Theater

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



Thank You!

- To Ray Baxter, Lourdes Cordero, Manda Ederer, Jeanneth Gutierrez, Richard Hylton, Karen Levesque, Jill Linwood, Sara O'Malley, Beth Porter, Elizabeth Seirmarco, Ann Van Gelder and Carlos Vasquez for calling newly-admitted families and welcoming them to the CDS community!
- To John Kraus for taking the class photos again this spring. They are fabulous! Check them out at www.cds.smugmug.com.
- To Dan Ligon for producing a short video clip about sheep shearing at the Country Fair. Check it out on the CDS website: <http://www.cds-sf.org/academics/enviroed.html>.

Transforming St. Joseph's Hall

Party Thanks

Thank you to all for attending, hosting and sharing stories at our most recent round of *Building Our Future* parties. In particular, a big thank you to all of the party hosts: Patricia Buse, Gayle and Gary Strang, Bill Gravitt, Lisa Wally, Marianne Evans and Bill Veiga, Dave Klaus, Matt Schwartz and Karen Levesque, and Dave and Debbie Jasso. Guests mingled, ate great food, made pledges and learned about the next phase of the campaign. Stay tuned for more *Building Our Future* news.

From the Classrooms

Class Pictures

Class pictures were a great success! Thanks to John Kraus, each class has several photo options available to view and order through the CDS smugmug website (www.cds.smugmug.com). 8x10 color photos cost \$8 and can be ordered online only—many other sizes and options are also available. Smugmug will mail your order directly to your home. Please contact Aimee Giles at aimeeg@cds-sf.org if you have any questions.

Family Farmer Training

Calling all farmers and gardeners! The next family farmer training will take place on Sunday, April 27. If you're interested in helping take care of our infamous chickens and sheep, sign up for the training with Misty at mistyc@cds-sf.org.

From the Office

School Calendar

The 2008-09 school calendar is attached to today's *Weekly*. Please note that next year's start-of-school date is Tuesday, September 2, 2008.

Events

Fiesta 2008

Please join us tomorrow night for this year's community celebration and fundraiser, Fiesta 2008! You can still buy tickets or purchase a \$100 raffle ticket (winner gets a quilt of his or her choice) during morning drop-off, with the CDS receptionist or at Foreign Cinema.

Event Details

The event will be held just around the corner at Foreign Cinema Restaurant (2534 Mission Street between 21st and 22nd Streets). There are many reasons to get to Foreign Cinema on the early side next Friday night, April 4. First, the party starts at 6:30, and a limited number of cars can valet park for FREE right outside the restaurant if you mention CDS when you pull in. Second, the silent auction, which features fabulous art by CDS kids, vacations, tasty wine and more, will only be open until 8 p.m. And third, food will be served in abundance as soon as guests arrive, so get there early for the best noshing opportunities. Instead of a sit down dinner this year, sumptuous hors d'oeuvres and sweets will be passed throughout the evening. There will be a cash bar, so please come equipped with cash and plastic to buy drinks of your choice and consider treating a CDS teacher as well.

Thank you to all who have worked incredibly hard to make this event possible. We look forward to celebrating with you tomorrow night—see you there!

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.

Extended Program News

Talent Show

This year's After School Talent Show will be held Thursday, April 10 at the Mission High School Little Theatre from 4-5:30 p.m. Performances will run the gamut from enrichment class music performances to individual joke-telling acts. All members of after school will attend the performance, and special attendants will be outside of Mission High to help with pick-up and sign-out after the performance. Students can also be signed out back at CDS after 5:30 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Dan Larson at danl@cds-sf.org.

Enrichment Registration

Enrichment class registration forms are being sent home in backpacks today. They're also available at the front desk or on the CDS website. Developed from survey feedback, some exciting additions include Mandarin classes for preschool and elementary students, additional sections of Yoga and Tree Frog Treks designed for elementary students, a performing arts class led by Swivel Arts for preschoolers, Spanish conversation for elementary and the return of Build an Electric Guitar. Registration forms will be accepted through Friday, April 18.

Spring Break Camps

With spring break approaching, we're excited to announce the themes for camp and begin registration.

For K-8, Ms. Jasmin, Ms. Anne and Mr. Chris will lead a San Francisco Scavenger Hunt. One clue leads to another as students explore the city through field trips daring them to complete photo, food, people and supplies challenges. Students will sample various cuisines, meet exotic characters, capture city sights for their team scrapbook and collect materials for projects back at school.

In the preschool, students will revisit February's successful travels with Ms. Gloria, Ms. Gladys and Ms. Ngoc as they circle the globe (without leaving CDS) in search of games, storytelling, music and homemade tasty treats. Our itinerary for the week is as follows:

- Monday – passports, Hong Kong and dumplings

- Tuesday –El Salvador, pupusas and “La Casa del Conejo”
- Wednesday – Spain, tortillas de papas and grape juice
- Thursday – flags and Taiwan
- Friday – Brazil, lemonade, carnival masks and a parade!

Registration forms were sent home last week. If you didn't receive one, they are available on the CDS website. If you have any questions, please contact Dan Larson at 861-5432 x315 or danl@cds-sf.org.

PTTA Update

Meeting Update

As we all gear up for tomorrow's Fiesta celebration and next month's Country Fair, staying very, very busy, we've decided to cancel next Tuesday's PTTA meeting and reschedule our May meeting to Tuesday, May 13 at 6 p.m. The topic for the May meeting will be “Communications and Planning for Next Year.” We look forward to seeing you all there. More information will follow as we get closer to the date.

Interested In PTTA Leadership?

As the year begins to wind down, we look toward next year. The PTTA leadership is looking for parents who are interested in taking a leadership role next year as either a PTTA officer or classroom liaison. If you are interested or would like to nominate someone you think would do a fabulous job, please contact PTTA President, Laura Pliska laura@sfbabyworks.com or 415-641-5116.

Go Bulldogs!

Futsal Scores

Wednesday, CDS, vs. Live Oak
LO 9, CDS 1

Futsal Calendar

Wednesday, April 9, 4:30 p.m.
Lycee Francais, Boys & Girls Club, 450 Guerrero St

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

Upcoming Dates

Monday, April 14 – Friday, April 18

Spring vacation

No school

Extended program available

Friday, April 25

Earth Day Celebration

Sunday, April 27

Country Fair Work Day

Saturday, May 3

11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Country Fair

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

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