



May 22, 2008

THE CHILDREN'S DAY SCHOOL Weekly

Words from Rick

Phase Two

Saturday, May 31, will be a watershed day for CDS. On Friday, May 30, when we all go home for the weekend, the school will seem pretty much as it does today, and it will feel like business is going on as usual. But we are all in for a surprise when we return to school on Monday, June 2.

The western end of the third floor will be empty. It will look like the administration and specialist teachers fled the coop. The former administrative space will be a clutter of a few abandoned desks, tables and office dividers. Only the copy room with one lone copier will serve as a reminder of a once thriving administrative hub. Even more shocking, the faculty lounge, that wonderful community center with the soft couches, will be empty or nearly so. What happened?

It will seem sudden, but it is all happening right now. When no one was looking our wonderful volunteer workers, Kevin Corse, Paul Ouk, Sam Hunt, Bill Gravitt, Bill Littmann, Kevin Killen, Louis Schump and Wayne Dean, finished the woodwork, plumbing and design work in our new 16th Street property. This week, Tara Pro Painting (thank you Brian Layden) is there making it look beautiful. Two weeks ago you may have seen two men digging a trench along the north side of the exit driveway. Last week you may have noticed pipes going into the trench. Phone and data lines will be going into those pipes next week, and May 31 is moving day.

On Monday, June 2, if you want to visit the admission or development office, pop over to the **second floor** of our new building. You might want to stop in and see Mr. Rick or his new assistant Kerry Parker on the way. You can find the business office on the **third floor**, along with Misty, Vanessa, Jim, Celia, Jasmin, Melissa, Emilie, Grace, Christopher, or any number of other teachers who are working in or around the new curriculum resource room that has just moved from the old lounge. Teacher work-stations and shelves of curriculum materials will have popped up on the third floor of 16th Street like mushrooms. Dan and Mimi will also share the beautiful penthouse accommodations that overlook 16th Street. On your way, you might want to stop off in the kitchen and make yourself a cup of tea or chat with a teacher or two in the new lounge.

If you are helping out with Friday coffee, you might want to go to the **first floor** kitchen and make your coffee there, and while you are waiting for the drips to stop dripping, why not wander down the hallway and say "hi" to Jake Fishman or Terry Hall who will be just down the hallway on your right. If they are not there, why not go all the way and see the space that will eventually house our library, which will be moved over the course of the summer.

Hot Dates

Friday, May 23
8:30 a.m.

Friday assembly
Leaping Lizards presenting

Friday, May 23 & Saturday, May 24
7 p.m. (Friday), 1 p.m. (Saturday)
As You Like It

Performed by the middle school
"Shakespeare in the Spring" selective
Dolores Park Church
455 Dolores Street

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

Wednesday, May 28
5:30-7 p.m.
"Preparing for the high school
application process"
Middle school parents welcome
DMSC

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



Thank You!

- To Kevin Corse and Bill Gravitt for finishing carpentry work on the second floor of the new 16th Street space in preparation for this month's move.

This move marks the second stage of our project to transform St. Joseph's Hall. As soon as school is out on June 13, the workers of Plant Construction will be back, and when we return to school on September 2, the third floor of our school building will be occupied by the five core classrooms of the middle school, complete with an office for our new Middle School Head, Josée Mayette (see announcement below). If you want to find Rebecca or our new Curriculum Coordinator, Margaret, go to Mr. Rick's old office on the second floor.

This is a lot of change. There is still a lot of work to be done, a lot of money to be raised, and I hope that each of us will find a way of pitching in to make it happen. Read that letter over again and give to *Building Our Future*. If you can imagine it, you have to agree it is all very exciting. Make sure that it doesn't happen without you.

Transforming St. Joseph's Hall

Grant Update

We received a second grant this week of \$10,000 from the Fleishhacker Foundation for the *Building Our Future* campaign. The Fleishhacker Foundation has been a strong supporter of Children's Day School's expansion and facilities improvement projects for many years. This year's grant will be used for phase two construction costs; last year's grant supported phase one. We are in the process of submitting proposals to two other San Francisco foundations, Kalmanovitz Charitable Foundation and The Silver Giving Foundation. Personal connections can make all the difference with grant proposals, so please let the development office know if you know a trustee of one of these foundations—Rev. John LoSchiavo, Bernard Orsi, Conrad Hewitt and Lou Girardo (Kalmanovitz) or Philip Halperin, Peggy Anne Dow, Julie Shafer (Silver Giving).

From the Classrooms

As You Like It

The middle school selectives class, Shakespeare in the Spring, presents *As You Like It*, directed by Emilie Rohrbach. The performances will be held tomorrow, Friday, May 23 (7 p.m.) and Saturday, May 24 (1 p.m.)

at the Dolores Park Church (455 Dolores Street). Admission is on a sliding scale, beginning at \$3. See you there!

2007-08 CDS Yearbooks

The 2007-08 CDS yearbooks are on the way! Pre-order yours today by filling out the attached form. Extra forms can also be found at the front desk. Thank you.

Family Farmer Needed

The lovely farm and garden is in need of tending the weekend of August 30–September 1. If you are available to help out, please contact Misty Cummings at mistyc@cds-sf.org. Thank you in advance for your help.

Last Call for Pennies

Tomorrow, May 23, is the very last day to turn in your pennies to the Dolphin class penny drive! Empty out your wallets and change jars and bring those pennies in so the students can donate the money to Heifer International, an organization that gives livestock to families in need. Thank you for all of your donations so far!

From the Office

Welcome Josée Mayette

We are thrilled to announce that we've hired Josée Mayette as our new Middle School Head. She joins us after serving as the Middle School Head at Chinese American International School for three years and as a middle school social studies teacher for six years. She received her Masters of Education in Administration from San Francisco State University and her Bachelor of Education/Teaching from the University of Manitoba. Josée brings with her a wealth of experience in curriculum development, teacher recruitment and differentiated instruction, to name just a few of her many skills and experiences. She officially begins in July—please say hello and welcome her to the CDS community.

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.

Last Assembly & Friday Coffee

Come one, come all to the last assembly and Friday Coffee of the year on June 6. There will be plenty of coffee and morning sweets to go around, along with an extra special ceremony to celebrate the grand opening of the 16th Street building and the beginning of phase two of the St. Joseph's Hall construction project. See you there.

Preparing for HS Applications

Parents of seventh graders are invited to attend a comprehensive meeting/discussion about the high school application process on Wednesday, May 28 from 5:30-7 p.m. in the David Minus Science Center. Childcare will be provided; please sign up at the front desk by Tuesday, May 27. Any middle school parent is welcome to attend, though the focus of the meeting will be to prepare current seventh grade parents and families for the details of the fall high school admission process.

Join the Parade!

Each year, a dedicated group of CDS parents, trustees, teachers and staff, and children march in the San Francisco LGBT Pride Parade. This year, the 38th annual parade will be held on Sunday June 29 along Market Street. Join this year's parade behind the CDS banner and be part of the fun. For more information about joining the CDS contingency or becoming a safety monitor, please contact Carlos Vasquez at xvasquez@aol.com or (415) 564-9734.

Lost and Found

Please collect your lost belongings! Lost and found items will be displayed on the yard today and tomorrow. Unclaimed items will be donated to Community Thrift at the end of the day on Friday.

2008-09 Tuition Payments

Just a reminder that, for families who selected the full tuition payment plan for the 2008-09 school year, tuition is due **Monday, June 2** (June 1 is the due date on the enrollment agreements but since this date falls on the weekend, payments received on Monday, June 2 will be considered on time this year). Families who selected the 10-month payment plan will have their first payment made through FACTS Tuition Management on June 5 or June 20. Monday, June 2 is also the last day that, with written notice, you may withdraw your child from the 2008-09 school year without incurring the obligation

for the total tuition. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Donna Shibata, Director of Finance & Operations, at donnas@cds-sf.org or 861-5432 x314.

Events

End-of-Year Events

Step-Up Day

On Friday, March 30, students will "step up" to the next grade level. Students will mark the occasion with a students-only ceremony in the classrooms from 9-10 a.m.

Passing the Torch Ceremony

Everyone is invited to the Passing the Torch Ceremony on the morning of Thursday, June 12 (time tbd). At the ceremony in the yard students from each grade will share words of wisdom and give advice to the incoming classes. Please join us!

Class of 2008 Graduation

Mark your calendars now so you don't miss the Class of 2008 graduation ceremony on Thursday, June 12 in the CDS yard. Graduation will run from 3:45-5 p.m. All parents are invited to attend and bring their children with them; please note that there will be no extended program available that afternoon. For Leaping Lizards only, different arrangements will be communicated via liaisons regarding pick-up as they are the eighth grade class buddies and will be part of the ceremony. Stay tuned for more graduation information. We hope you'll join us in celebrating this year's graduating class and all of their achievements!

Extended Program News

Middle School Summer Camp

There are still spots available in this summer's middle school arts camp 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 danyl@cds-sf.org.

Spring Arts Festival

Join us on Friday, May 30 from 4:30-6 p.m. for our Spring After School Arts Festival! Building off the fun we had last December, the spring festival will be a chance to showcase the art created in after school clubs and enrichment classes. Violin, cello and guitar classes will be performing, and the festival will feature another original production from Ms. Jasmin's Story Theater Club. Refreshments will be provided.

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

Friday, May 30

9-10 a.m.

Step-Up Day

4:30-6 p.m.

Extended Program Spring Arts Festival

Sunday, June 1 – Friday, June 6

Eighth grade class trip

Monday, June 2

Last day to cancel 2008-09 enrollment contract

Friday, June 6

8:30 a.m.

Last assembly and Friday Coffee of the year

Tuesday, June 10

8:15-10 a.m.

Middle school project fair

Thursday, June 12

Passing the Torch ceremony

3:45-5 p.m.

Class of 2008 Graduation

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

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