



November 8, 2007

# THE CHILDREN'S DAY SCHOOL Weekly

## From the Classrooms

### Kindergarten Food Drive

The Dolphin kindergarten class is happy to report that they've collected 35 meat items, 39 veggie/fruit items, 74 grain items and 33 bean/legume items during the month of October! Keep bringing those food donations in and thanks to all who have already donated.

### Kitchen Training for Parents

Tomorrow, November 9, Misty Cummings will hold a kitchen training for parents after assembly. Many of you have seen the new first floor kitchen—here's your chance to learn about the appliances and ways in which you might use the space, say, for Friday coffee supplies!

### High School Roundtable

Eighth grade students and their parents are invited to a high school roundtable discussion tonight from 5-7 p.m. Representatives from the classes of 2006 and 2007 will answer questions about the high school application process. Pizza will be provided.

## From the Office

### Sliding Scale Tuition

The founding vision of CDS is to provide an excellent education for children in the Bay Area regardless of the ability to afford tuition. Our sliding scale tuition is one of many ways we honor our core commitment to diversity. The families of 35% of our students pay sliding scale tuition, making us a leader in economic diversity among independent schools in San Francisco. Financial support for the sliding scale is derived from the school's operating budget (i.e. tuition revenue and fundraising). CDS currently dedicates 22% of its operating budget to sliding scale tuition. Sliding scale tuition is available based on financial need. Recognizing that many families who might not expect to be eligible for "financial aid" may still qualify for our sliding scale tuition, we highly encourage families who have concerns about their ability to afford full tuition to apply for sliding scale tuition.

If you are currently paying sliding scale tuition, or expressed interest in our sliding scale tuition last year, you should have received an application for the 2008-09 school year last weekend. The application deadline is Friday, December 14; families must reapply every year. If you did not receive a packet or would like to apply for the first time this year, please contact Aimee Giles in the Admission Office by phone (861-5432 x332) or e-mail ([aimeeg@cdfs-sf.org](mailto:aimeeg@cdfs-sf.org)).

## Hot Dates

Today  
5-7 p.m.  
High School Roundtable Discussion  
For eighth grade students and parents  
Fifth grade classroom

Friday, November 9  
8:30 a.m.  
Friday assembly  
First grade presenting

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



## Thank You!

- To all the parents who donated extra fabric paint to the art department, as well as all the parents who donated quilt supplies and helped work on class quilts!
- To the CDS parents who spent last Saturday representing CDS at the annual LGBT school fair and forum: Maria Pease, Carlos Vasquez and Cory Warren attended the fair and Amanda Newstetter attended the LGBT school forum following the fair.
- To all the volunteers who helped with admission related events this past week: Ray Baxter, Ray Cendana, Susan Chastain, Jim Colopy, Manda Ederer, Patrick Everett, Amy Hecht, Kristin Henry, Todd Hosfelt, Richard Hylton, Barbara Kirkwood, Paige Lang, Jeanette Layden, Tina Leung, Beth Mazie, Chitra Nayak, Roger Nys, Amanda Newstetter, Andrea Ow, Maria Pease, Laura Pliska, Louis Schump, Elizabeth Seirmarco, Michael Silver, Darya Soto, Ann Van Gelder, Carlos Vasquez, Cory Warren and Melanie Wise.
- Thank you to Cathy Koger for photographing the Day of the Dead altars, to Kara Schleunes for photographing the Halloween Parade, and to Cindy McSherry-Martinez for sharing her photos from the Leaping Lizard field trip to the pumpkin patch.
- To Jacob Glickman for donating a computer to the IT department.
- To Linda Glover and Ray Baxter for collecting, washing and donating all unclaimed lost and found items.

## K-8 Tour (for CDS Parents)

Curious to see what's going on in our K-8 classrooms? After coffee and the assembly on Friday, November 16, join Rebecca Kroll and Aimee Giles on a CDS-parents-only tour of our K-8 classes from 9-10:30 a.m. This is an excellent opportunity for you to see our K-8 classes in action and to ask questions (Rick will join us for Q&A). No RSVP is necessary – we hope you join us.

## Lost and Found

On Thursday and Friday, November 8 and 9, it will be easy to connect lost items with sharp-eyed owners. We will empty several large bins full of clothes, etc. and display everything on the benches around the yard. Please survey the scene for familiar items. We will have markers on hand to label all re-connected items! Dedicated parent volunteers, Linda Glover and Ray Baxter, will cart, sort and clean everything left unclaimed and bring it all to Community Thrift. CDS earns proceeds from Community Thrift's sales of these items. Please help out by labeling all items, including lunch boxes, with student names. In the event of rain, we'll wait until next week to display items.

## Community Thrift and CDS

If you're contemplating cleaning out closets and cupboards, please consider donating most anything and everything to Community Thrift at 623 Valencia (near 17th Street). Over the years, generous donations from the CDS community to Community Thrift have resulted in thousands of dollars disbursed back to CDS. Check your storerooms and shelves for unwanted items such as clean clothing, jewelry and accessories, shoes, books and magazines, housewares and furniture, CDs, videos, DVDs, lamps and electronics.

For information regarding drop-off procedures and hours, please visit Community Thrift's website at <http://www.communitythrift.bravehost.com/>.

## 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).

## School Wish List

- The IT department is currently looking for used laptop bags; if you have one to donate, please contact Terry Hall at [terryh@cds-sf.org](mailto:terryh@cds-sf.org).

## Events

### Grandparents & Special Friends Day

Invitations were mailed to all grandparents and special friends last week for our annual Grandparents and Special Friends Day on Wednesday, November 21 from 10:15 a.m. to 12 noon. If your grandparent or special friend does not receive an invitation, be sure to check with Mary in the Development Office ([maryd@cds-sf.org](mailto:maryd@cds-sf.org)) to make sure that we have the correct information and address on file for them.

Guests are invited to enjoy continental breakfast in the yard (weather permitting), spend time in the classrooms and attend a musical assembly at 11:30. Dismissal for all students will be at noon, following the assembly, and will take place in the classrooms and at double doors. Preschool pick up will take place at noon at the preschool gate and will be walk-in only. Please note that if you'd like your grandparent or special friend to pick up your child, you need to send in an authorization note before Wednesday, November 21.

## PTTA Update

### Wraps & Greens

A huge thank you to all parents, grandparents, alumni, teachers and staff for your support of the gift wrap and greenery fundraiser. Orders will arrive the week after Thanksgiving and will go home with your child. If there are any errors in your order, please contact Tina Corse at 722-7841.

For those of you who would still like to make a donation to the staff holiday gift, we are accepting checks of any amount. Please mark your check "Holiday Gift" and leave it at the reception desk. Thank you.

## Meeting Updates

Parents, faculty, staff and members of the Board of Trustees gathered on Tuesday evening to discuss diversity and inclusion at CDS.

Attendees spoke about why diversity is important to them. Michael Silver, PTTA Diversity Coordinator and member of the Board of Trustees, gave an overview of the history of diversity work at CDS. Among topics discussed was a paper co-authored by Trustee Emeritus Bob Curley, "On the Future of Children's Day School," the work of last year's Committee on Inclusion (COI) and the recommendations passed by the Board regarding diversity initiatives. COI members Richard Hylton, also a Trustee, and Sara O'Malley, also PTTA Parent Volunteer Coordinator, provided additional insights. Also reviewed was a summary of the recent activities of the new Committee on Inclusion and Diversity (COID), a standing committee of the Board. Working groups of the COID have been formed to focus on diversity in admissions and outreach, school community and culture, and curriculum and program. A number of results from their efforts have already been realized. Scheduled meetings of the COID and the working groups will be announced in future editions of the *Weekly*.

The next COID meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 20. Parents are encouraged to get involved. Please contact Michael ([michael.silver@barclaysglobal.com](mailto:michael.silver@barclaysglobal.com)) or Sara ([sara@omalleyhylton.com](mailto:sara@omalleyhylton.com)) for more information.

The next open planning session of the PTTA will be held on Friday, November 16 from 9–10 a.m. in the faculty lounge. All parents are welcome to attend.

## Go Bulldogs!

Congratulations to the Bulldog volleyball team for completing an excellent season with a 4-3 record!

Basketball practice begins in November. You can still sign up to play on the team; contact Mr. Jim if you are interested at 861-5432 x332 or [jimf@cds-sf.org](mailto:jimf@cds-sf.org).

## 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?

- 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)

## Upcoming Dates

Friday, November 16

9-10 a.m.

PTTA open planning meeting  
Faculty lounge

9-10:30 a.m.

K-8 tour for CDS parents

Saturday, November 17

SSAT administered for eighth graders

Tuesday, November 20

Committee on Inclusion and Diversity Meeting  
Make Up Photo Day

Wednesday, November 21

Grandparents & Special Friends Day  
Noon dismissal  
No extended program

Thursday, November 22 & Friday, November 23

Thanksgiving break  
No school  
No extended program

Thursday, November 29 & Friday, November 30

Parent-teacher conferences  
No school  
No extended program

Dates also posted on CDS website  
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Children's Day School

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