



January 22, 2009

THE CHILDREN'S DAY SCHOOL Weekly

Words from Rick

Rick is in Washington DC at the inauguration. Please check back next week for "Words from Rick."

Transforming St. Joseph's Hall

St. Joseph's Hall Update

from the Development Office

With two big construction projects complete, this summer will be different for St. Joseph's Hall. Camp will be in session here for all ages, preschool through eighth grade, and it will be delightful to have kids back on campus. There will probably be work done on the building this summer, the details of which are still being determined, and it will likely involve construction in the parking lot to upgrade the school's electrical service as well as necessary window repairs. These are important steps in making St. Joseph's Hall ready for an elevator and the campus ready for possible work on the preschool bungalows in the future, but the construction will not be as big as the projects undertaken in 2008 and 2007.

Given the current economic climate and the inevitable disruption of large construction projects in dusty old buildings, this feels like the right time to have a more "normal" summer at CDS. Thanks to the generosity of parents, trustees, foundations and friends who have contributed to the *Building Our Future* campaign, CDS has been able to make impressive progress renovating large portions of St. Joseph's Hall in a few short years. The building serves more students in more classrooms and is safer, warmer, more accessible and more lovely. The renovations, which have cost \$2.3 million (phase I, summer 2007) and \$1.3 million (phase II, summer 2008), have been funded with a combination of donations (\$1.8 million so far) and bank loans to cover construction costs. Each of the past two years, the school has successfully met various requirements imposed by the bank with respect to pledges committed to the campaign and total donations made. By meeting these requirements, CDS has been able to take advantage of favorable lending terms and credit flexibility. We have, in other words, been able to get a lot of work done with strong fundraising and access to loans as needed.

This year, we are faced with another bank deadline and are reaching out to the entire CDS community and beyond for help meeting it and continuing the successful renovation of St. Joseph's Hall. By June 1, 2009, CDS needs to meet our campaign goal of at least \$2.25 million in pledges raised in the *Building Our Future* campaign. Pledges can be paid over multiple years, but we must raise approximately \$500,000 in new pledges this spring to meet our goal and

Hot Dates

Friday, January 23

8:30-9:45 a.m.

MLK, Jr. Day Celebration

Saturday, January 24

1:15-3 p.m.

Read-a-Thon

K-4 students invited

Monday, January 26

4:30-6 p.m.

COID meeting

Second floor, 16th Street

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



Thank You!

- To Sherry Spitzer for taking pictures of last weekend's middle school Kaleidoscope Theater production, "Daringly Durang."
- To Carlene and Helton Lim for donating four large fish tanks to CDS classrooms.

satisfy the terms of the school's construction loan. The additional money raised this year will help fund the project this summer and will also preserve the school's access to credit, which has added strategic importance given credit markets in general and our need to evaluate the future of the preschool bungalows and possibilities for expansion.

More details will be available next month regarding the particulars of the construction planned for this summer. For now, we know what we need to do to keep moving forward, to realize the big vision for an environmentally responsible building that educates and, more straightforwardly, to make our bank happy.

If you haven't seen the CDS web page devoted to the campaign and St. Joseph's Hall renovation, take a look at www.cds-sf.org/giving/cc for before and after photos from both summers of construction as well as details regarding the campaign and vision for the whole building. We can also accept donations online; all donors to the campaign are invited to attend a party at Rick's house on the evening of Thursday, January 29, and there's still plenty of time to donate and receive an official invitation. Architects' renderings of the building as it will look with exterior renovations complete are also posted on the bulletin board on the first floor of the building, next to the Family of the Week display. And, as always, feel free to contact Marion Quinones at marionq@cds-sf.org or 861-5432 x323 if you have any questions.

From the Office

Family Farmers Needed

We're getting close to full farm coverage but still need a few more family farmers to cover the dates listed below. All you need to do is sign up with Misty Cummings at mistyc@cds-sf.org or 861-5432 x321 and you'll be trained and ready to tend the farm and garden.

- April 6-10

- August 17-21, 31
- September 1, 7

COID Meeting

Please note that the Committee on Inclusion and Diversity will meet on Monday, January 26 from 4:30-6 p.m. in the second floor meeting room of 16th Street. All parents are invited and childcare is provided during meeting time if you sign your child in at the front desk.

Events

MLK Celebration

Please join us for a special assembly on Friday, January 23 at 8:30 a.m. in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. After the assembly, students in sixth through eighth grades will visit preschool through fourth grade classrooms to read books and lead discussions about the civil rights movement. Parents are invited to participate in this activity, which should finish by 9:45 a.m.

Read-a-Thon

On Saturday, January 24, from 1:15-3 p.m., CDS will open its facilities to the Coro Exploring Leadership program, a 10-month experiential leadership training model for 30 high school juniors. The program is designed to increase students' abilities in problem-solving, critical thinking, and goal setting, in order to give them the professional skills necessary to become facilitators and partners for community change. On Saturday, these high school leaders will learn about issues related to education and literacy through workshops with local non-profit organizations such as Jumpstart, 826 Valencia and Room to Read.

K-4 students are invited to a fun (and snack-filled) afternoon of reading books about cultures around the world with these emerging high school leaders (supervised by Assistant Head of School, Rebecca Kroll). We'd love to have as many CDS students as

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.

possible read with these wonderful teenagers. (Parents, please note that you do not need to stay.) **In order for your child/ren to participate, please RSVP by Thursday afternoon to Rebecca at rebeccak@cds-sf.org.**

For more information about Coro, go to <http://www.coro.org>.

Country Fair Meeting

The chilly weather brings out wool sweaters and coats...and thoughts of sheep shearing at the CDS Country Fair! The Country Fair is not until May 2, but we're getting a head start on planning, and we'd like to invite all interested parents and faculty to participate.

For those new to the school, the CDS Country Fair is a fun, free, family event that takes place on our beautiful campus in early May. We celebrate the bounty of our campus and the talents of our children through games, tasty food, entertainment and creative crafts.

This event is planned and run entirely by the CDS community—it's a great way to meet other parents, put your creative ideas to work and learn something new.

If you're interested in getting involved in the planning stages (e.g. helping decide on the type of entertainment, food, booths, games), please mark your calendars for our first community-wide Country Fair planning meeting on Friday, January 30, at 9 a.m., just after assembly. We welcome everyone's input, so please join us!

If you can't make it to the meeting, but have some great ideas or suggestions to share with us, have some special skills to offer, or have any questions, please contact Amanda Richard at amandar@cds-sf.org or 861-5432 x 337.

Save the Date: Fiesta 2009

Save-the-date announcements for Fiesta 2009 will be mailed to you this week. Keep an eye out for details about our annual celebration and auction fundraiser on March 28. You don't want to miss it!

Extended Program News

Winter Club Schedule

Please note the new winter club schedule:

- Mondays/Wednesdays: Pet Club, Building Club, Outdoor Games, Wrestling and Meditation.

- Tuesdays/Thursdays: Nature Club (*new*), Tiny Worlds (*new*), Indoor Games, Outdoor Games and Origami.
- Fridays: Middle School Cooking (*new*), Book Club, Art Room and Library Club.

Conference Camp

As a service to parents who need half or full-day care for their children during conferences on February 6, the Extended Program will be offering a camp in half and full-day sessions. Preschool camp will be open to 24 participants and will be hosted on-site in the bungalows. K-8 camp will include neighborhood field trips and activities at the Boys and Girls Club. The cost for a full day of camp will be \$60, while a half-day session is \$35. For your convenience, a registration form is attached to today's *Weekly*. Questions can be directed to Dan Larson, Extended Program Director, at 861-5432 x315 or danl@cds-sf.org.

Summer Camp

We're happy to report that we will once again be offering summer camps for students in preschool through eighth grade. Registration will begin in February for the following sessions:

- Session I: June 15-26
- Session II: June 29-July 10
- Session III: July 13-24
- Session IV: July 27-Aug 7
- Session V: August 10-14

Go Bulldogs!

Basketball Scores

January 15, CDS vs. CAIS
CAIS 35, CDS 28

Basketball Calendar

Wednesday, January 21, 3:30 p.m.
Live Oak, UCSF, 1560 Owens Street

Tuesday, January 27, 4:10 p.m.
Lycee Francais, Boys & Girls Club

Thursday, January 29, 4:10 p.m.
Presidio Hill, Boys & Girls Club

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.

We're always looking for additional volunteers—if you're willing to sign up to bring morning sustenance, please contact Friday morning coffee coordinators Wendy Bokhorst-Heng at wdbheng@gmail.com, or Angie Jolie at ajolie@morillojolie.net.

PTTA Questions or Ideas?

- General e-mail, CDSPTTA@yahoo.com
- Laura Pliska, President, (415) 641-5116 or laura@sfbabyworks.com
- Robin McClarren, Faculty Appreciation Coordinator, (415) 235-0295 or robinmcc@speakeasy.net
- Sara O'Malley, Parent Involvement Coordinator, (415) 348-8841 or sara@omalleyhilton.com
- Karen Randig, Secretary, (415) 824-1784 or krandig@msn.com
- Andrea Reynolds, Preschool Representative, (415) 860-7556 or andrea-reynolds@sbcglobal.net
- Darya Soto, Diversity Coordinator, (415) 812-1715 or daryasoto@yahoo.com
- Carlos Vasquez, Classroom Liaison Coordinator, (415) 987-6501 or xcvasquez@aol.com

Upcoming Dates

Wednesday, February 4

2008 taxes due for sliding scale tuition applications

Friday, February 6

Parent-teacher conferences

No school

Extended program camp available

Monday, February 16

President's Day observed

No school; no extended program

Tuesday, February 17 – Friday, February 20

February vacation

No school; extended program available

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

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