



October 23, 2008

# THE CHILDREN'S DAY SCHOOL Weekly

## Words from Rick

### What Lies Ahead?

Some people have asked me how the economy is affecting the school. It's an important question, and it comes at a time when many of us are on "economy watch."

The short answer is that CDS is in good shape and we want to support our families. The operating revenue of the school is coming in as expected. This week's Annual Fund phonathon was successful *and* fun, as always. Eleven callers raised **\$30,000** during the first night alone. **A record.** The insurance company that manages employee retirement funds, TIAA-CREF, is one of the country's strongest financial institutions with consistent AAA ratings. In sum, the school's finances are sound.

This is not to say that all is well with the U.S. economy, or that we shouldn't continue to follow the ripples in the financial markets with concern; we have and we will. Within our own community, we know of families that have had serious changes in their financial situations; a parent in one family lost his job, and two families have recently applied for emergency funding. I want everyone to know that we actually have emergency funds built into our sliding scale tuition because we know peoples' financial situations can change during the school year—it happens. Yet all indicators suggest that CDS is in good shape (knock on wood), and we are doing all we can to assure that this remains the case.

As we look to the future and modify our long range plan for the school and begin, again, our budgeting process, we are neither bearish nor bullish; we are alert. This is a good time to remind everyone that we have sliding scale tuition. The whole point of "sliding scale," as opposed to "financial aid," is that we want to offer, to the extent possible, a CDS education to all families regardless of their financial situation—this is true for all income groups, and we encourage all families to consider applying. We know that this kind of education is not cheap.

One of the big challenges facing the school as we look to the future is our space needs, and along with space needs, enrollment. We are so fortunate to have the space we currently have. With two sections of kindergarten, first and second grade, the obvious question becomes where will they all go? Thanks to the additional space we were able to acquire last year, we have some time to plan ahead. An excellent trustee task force has been working on this question since June, and our Board retreat on November 8 will be devoted to this question, along with another big issue: economic diversity. We are determined to be a school for children of all socioeconomic backgrounds. The new economic climate, indeed, may have an effect on these questions.

### Hot Dates

Friday, October 24

8:30 a.m.

Friday assembly

Second grade (Sara) presenting

Sibling application due

Saturday, October 25

12-2 p.m.

Alumni Reunion & High School Roundtable

Monday, October 27

Professional development day

No school

No extended program

Wednesday, October 29

6:30-8:30 p.m.

All-school Curriculum Open House

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 of the parent and trustee volunteers who helped make the first night of this year's Annual Fund phonathon a great success: Kim Cohen, Ed Haslam, Cristina Hernandez, Tracy Kirkham, Kit Land, Lisa Li, Nina Robin, Gigi Rosales, Matt Schwartz, Chris van Löben Sels and Bill Veiga. Thank you for making phone calls, talking to fellow parents and getting those pledges and gifts rolling in!
- To all of the admission volunteers for your help leading tours and stuffing admission packets: Ana Brubaker, Mary Dennis, Manda Ederer, Zahra Ghayour-Kelly, Kristin Henry, Todd Hosfelt, Justine Juson, Paige Lang, Michelle Lapuz, Jeanette Layden, Tina Leung, Anisha Mason, Beth Mazie, Roger Nys, Kristen Pena and Elizabeth Seirmarco.
- To Robin McClarren and Tina Corse for leading the gift wrap and greenery fundraiser and to Luis Pena for his design work on the wraps and greens materials.
- To Susan Chastain for her professional expertise in choosing and hanging new shades in the 16th Street building.
- To David and Lida Morgestein for donating computer monitors and office supplies.
- To Kate Fritz, Bill Glenn, Suzanne Jachinowski, Nasrin Naraghi, Karen Randig and Molly Tyson for bringing coffee and donuts to Friday morning coffee last week.

Meanwhile, we have an excellent Board of Trustees that is competent, alert, hard working and highly motivated, both individually and collectively. We are, in fact, in good hands. So let's keep one eye always on the children. They are thriving! See you at assembly tomorrow.

## From the Classrooms

### Middle School Highlights

- Seventh graders are connecting math to current events as they listen to NPR's "This American Life: The Giant Pool of Money", which examines the housing crisis. Interested? Go to [http://www.thislife.org/Radio\\_Episode.aspx?episode=355](http://www.thislife.org/Radio_Episode.aspx?episode=355).

- Sixth graders recently visited the Doctors Without Borders exhibit in the Marina Green. "42 Million People Uprooted by War: A Refugee Camp in the Heart of the City" gave the students a chance to see replica shelters, latrines, watering stations, feeding hospitals and medicine tents.
- The selectives class, Collaborative Art, is working on a garden mural design for the CDS yard. Mixing clay with straw, the students will carve patterns into the mural.

## From the Office

### Online Conference Sign-ups

Parent-teacher conferences will be held on Monday, November 10 and Tuesday, November 11. New this year, parents can sign up for time slots online between October 17 and November 3 at <https://www.pickatime.com/client?ven=11601461>.

The site will ask you to enter your email address and a password of your choice to create your account. In the field titled Student ID, please enter your child's "proper" name as one word (ex: kerryparker or kerryparker-smith). In the field titled Student's Birthday enter your child's date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy) to access the teacher's appointment schedule. You can view sibling calendars next to one another by following the directions to enter the values for an additional student and push "Add."

Please note: if you are unable to get online to schedule a conference, please call Kerry Parker and she will help you (415-861-5432 x312).

### Technical Difficulties

The school has experienced some technical difficulties this week; we apologize for this inconvenience. If you've had difficulty communicating with us, please try again.

## 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 after school program needs the following items for after school activities and classes: yoga mats, old (clean) socks, yogurt containers, toilet paper rolls, cardboard boxes, foam packing material, old pillows or stuffing, ribbons, beads, buttons and fabric. If you have any items to donate, please contact Dan Larson at [danl@cds-sf.org](mailto:danl@cds-sf.org). Thank you.

## Extended Program News

### New Camp!

As a service to parents who need half or full-day care for their children during parent-teacher conferences on November 9 and 10, the Extended Program will be offering day camps. K-8 students will have the opportunity to participate in neighborhood field trips as well as group activities at the Boys & Girls Club. New this year, camp is also open to preschoolers; activities will be hosted on the CDS campus. The cost for a full day of camp will be \$60, a half-day session is \$35. Registration materials are attached to today's *Weekly* and are due by Tuesday, November 4. Please register promptly as space is limited. Questions can be directed to Dan Larson, Extended Program Director, at 861-5432 x315 or [danl@cds-sf.org](mailto:danl@cds-sf.org).

### “Lights On” Report Back



Last week's Lights On After School march and celebration was a success! Middle school and elementary students buddied up and were joined by one hundred students from Marshall Elementary School and other neighborhood schools. Students began marching at the corner of 16th and Mission Streets and sang, chanted "After School for Everyone," and performed poetry as they marched through the neighborhood. One of the

main issues of the event is advocating for neighborhood safety for children and the children certainly made their voices heard. The next day Marshall students visited CDS and students played together on the yard. We hope to continue this relationship with Marshall and collaborate more with our Mission neighbors.

## Study Hall News

Responding to student feedback, fourth grade study hall is now open to third graders who want to do homework or read quietly during first hour (3:45-4:45) with Mr. Anthony. To participate, third graders should join Mr. Anthony's line of fourth graders headed indoors at 3:45 when lower school students are asked to choose their first club of the day. Participation can be selected on a daily basis, but entering students will be required to stay in study hall for the duration of the hour.

## Lost and Found

Looking for a missing jacket or sweatshirt? Check out the lost and found items that regularly hang on clothing racks outside the environmental kitchen. On Thursday, October 23 and Friday, October 24 we'll display items on the yard before taking unclaimed items to Community Thrift on Friday afternoon. Parent volunteer Linda Glover will check for labeled items before donating, so please label your items if you'd like them back. Unlabeled items will be donated to Community Thrift or brought to Chloe's Closet Consignment Shop (all proceeds from both stores go to CDS).

## Go Bulldogs!

### Co-ed Volleyball Scores

October 16, CDS vs. KDDBS  
Game 1: CDS 15, KDDBS 25  
Game 2: CDS 25, KDDBS 21  
Game 3: CDS 15, KDDBS 9

October 21, CDS vs. CACS  
Game 1: CDS 21 CACS 25  
Game 2: CDS 25 CACS 19  
Game 3: CDS 15 CACS 13

### Co-ed Volleyball Calendar

Tuesday, November 4, 4:10 p.m.  
SF Friends, Boys & Girls Club

Wednesday, November 5, 3:45 p.m.  
Live Oak, UCSF Mission Bay campus

## Library Corner

### Library News



The library is up and running! With the help of parents Tina Leung, Ana Brubaker and Jeanette Layden, the new library was in great shape when eager patrons first visited on October 2. Soon there will be many more exciting books on the shelves thanks to generous donations from the families of Jamie Spitzer, Dinah Luomanen, Davis DuBose-Marler, James Crutcher, Cash Ashkinos and Mina, Serena and Ciara Richard. If any parents would like to help get these dozens of new books ready for patrons to check out, please contact our librarian Elsa at [elsat@cds-sf.org](mailto:elsat@cds-sf.org).

Parents are welcome to tour the library and check out books on parenting and schooling as well as books to read aloud at home. Come by and check out a book before or after dismissal time, Monday through Thursday.

## PTTA Update

### Holiday Gift Wrap and Greenery

The PTTA sponsored Wraps & Greens Sale benefitting the faculty holiday gift fund is underway! Sales kits went home in your child's backpack earlier this week. All orders must be placed by Friday, October 31. A parent volunteer will be available during morning drop-off to answer your questions or take orders. Orders can also be dropped off at the front desk. Please call Tina Corse at 415-722-7841 if you have any questions. Donation to the faculty holiday gift fund are also welcome (no order necessary). Thank you for your support of the wonderful teachers and staff of Children's Day School.

## Upcoming Dates

Friday, October 31  
Gift wrap and greenery orders due

Sunday, November 2  
Daylight savings time ends

Tuesday, November 4  
3:30 p.m.  
Green Task Force meeting  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor, 16<sup>th</sup> Street building

Wednesday, November 5  
6-7:30 p.m.  
CDS Book Club meeting

Monday, November 10 & Tuesday, November 11  
Parent-teacher conferences  
Extended program camp available

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

333 Dolores Street  
San Francisco, CA 94110  
415-861-5432 (ph)  
415-861-5419 (fax)

[www.cds-sf.org](http://www.cds-sf.org)

Editor: Mary DeNardo, [cdsweekly@cds-sf.org](mailto:cdsweekly@cds-sf.org)  
Submissions due Wednesdays, 8 a.m.  
Contact Mary to receive the Weekly via e-mail

# CDS November Camp Registration



\_\_\_ **Preschool:** Students will be hosted on campus and camp schedule will mirror normal school day routine. Activities will include art, cooking, farm and garden visits and group games. Camp is open to first 24 registrants.

\_\_\_ **K – 8 :** Activities will include kite-making at the Boys & Girls Club and flight tests at Dolores park on Monday, a field trip to Golden Gate Park’s Children’s Playground on Tuesday, and international cooking projects each day.

**Cost:** \$60/day \$35/morning or afternoon session only  
**Register by:** Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>. *No late registrations accepted.*  
**Payment required to register.**

Child’s name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade (and classroom) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s primary phone \_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s email \_\_\_\_\_

Please choose which sessions your child will participate and note estimated drop-off and pick-up times (morning session is 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.; afternoon 1 p.m. – 6 p.m.):

Date	Full Day	Half-Day	Pick-up time	Drop-off time
November 10				
November 11				

**Questions?** Contact Dan Larson, Extended Program Director,  
at (415) 861-5432 x315 or danl@cds-sf.org