



May 27, 2010

# THE CHILDREN'S DAY SCHOOL Weekly

## Words from Rick

### School Reform

Are kids failing school or are schools failing kids? Find out now at [www.rickackerly.com](http://www.rickackerly.com).

## Board Corner

### Cell Tower Update

Last week, the CDS Board of Trustees voted unanimously to oppose the St. Matthew's Church cell tower installation. The Board will send a letter to the Planning Commission, T-Mobile and copies of correspondence to neighboring schools and institutions. Should it become necessary, the Board will support the appeal of an adverse decision of the Planning Commission to the Board of Supervisors. In addition, representatives of the Board wish to work with the Steering Committee on communications and strategy.

The Board specifically voted to express its thanks to the Steering Committee for all its hard work and dedication to this effort. The Board recognizes the Steering Committee's effort to act in a respectful and civil manner toward the church, and expects all parents, teachers, trustees, administrators and students to behave in a manner that is consistent with the values of the school, respectful of differing opinions on this matter, and that reflects well on CDS. Finally, the Board asks that all direct communications with the members of the St. Matthew's Church community be conducted through the head of school, Rick Ackerly. Rick is also available to answer any questions.

For those who wish to attend the Planning Commission hearing on the cell tower installation, it will be held at 1:30 p.m. on June 17 at City Hall in Room 400, though the room may change. A good turnout at the hearing will make a big impression on the Commission.

### From the Cell Tower Steering Committee

If you wish to sign the petition that will be shared with the Planning Commission, you will find one to sign at the front desk. To be kept apprised of the latest news on the issue and the hearing, you can join the Yahoo group by emailing Jocelyn Colopy at [jocelyncolopy@yahoo.com](mailto:jocelyncolopy@yahoo.com).

## From the Classrooms

### Step-Up Day

This Friday, May 28, rising first grade through rising eighth grade students will participate in "Step-Up Day." This is a student-only event and an

## Hot Dates

Friday, May 28

8:30 a.m.

Friday assembly

Leaping Lizards presenting

Step-Up Day

Friday, May 28 & Saturday, May 29

7 p.m. (Friday) & 1 p.m. (Saturday)

*Macbeth*

Dolores Park Church

455 Dolores Street

6 p.m.

Alumni reunion preceding *Macbeth*,

May 28

Monday, May 31

Memorial Day observed

No school, no extended program

Tuesday, June 1

New student and rising kindergarten health and registration forms due

Last day that, with written notice, you may withdraw your child from the 2010-II school year without incurring obligation for the total tuition



opportunity for students to spend an hour experiencing a taste of what it will be like to be in next year's grade. Please note that we have not yet finalized next year's class or teacher assignments, so students "Step-Up" into the grade level, but not necessarily to the exact classroom or teacher they'll have next year.

## From the Office

### Save the Date(s) for Mr. Rick

Don't miss these two upcoming events to celebrate Mr. Rick.

- **Friday, June 11, 8:30 a.m.** - The year's last Friday assembly will include a special performance by the Del Sol String Quartet.
- **Sunday, June 13, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.** - All-school, kids, families, alumni invited to a picnic in the yard. Bring your lunch and a blanket; we'll provide the cake!

### Farm & Garden Volunteers

Want to help tend the farm and garden? Collect fresh eggs for Sunday morning breakfast? Simply e-mail Misty Cummings at [mistyc@cds-sf.org](mailto:mistyc@cds-sf.org) to sign up for any of the following dates:

- June 12-13
- July 3-5, 10-11
- Aug 7-8, 14-15, 21-22, afternoon only 23-25
- Sept 4-6, 25-26
- Oct 2-3, 9-11, 23-25, 30-31

Also, if you'd like to help out with watering and weeding, we are looking for a volunteer to water and weed for about 1 hour a week. E-mail Misty Cummings at [mistyc@cds-sf.org](mailto:mistyc@cds-sf.org) if interested.

## Events

### Macbeth

Don't miss the middle school production of *Macbeth* this weekend at the Dolores Park Church (455 Dolores Street). Performances will be held at 7 p.m. on Friday and 1 p.m. on Saturday. There is a suggested donation of \$5 but no one is turned away for lack of funds. Kick off Memorial Day weekend with Shakespeare!

## Extended Program News

### Spring Arts Festival

Please join us on Friday, June 4 at 4:30 p.m. in the Notre Dame Plaza community room for the after school program's Spring Arts Festival. The festival will feature performances by the cello, violin and guitar classes, and the Story Theater production of *Who Stole the Chickens?* If you have questions, please contact Dan Larson at [danl@cds-sf.org](mailto:danl@cds-sf.org) or 861-5432 x315.

### Summer Camp Enrollment

There are still spaces available in this summer's camp program in one and two week increments. Highlights include building camps for elementary students such as Castles to Space Stations, a performing arts camp called Broadway Wonders and Theatre Stars, and new additions such as Carnival Crazy, Bug Lovers and Animal Trackers. A few spots also remain in our middle school camps: Exploring Asian Cuisine and San Francisco Snapshots. Contact Jasmin ([jasminh@cds-sf.org](mailto:jasminh@cds-sf.org)) or Dan ([danl@cds-sf.org](mailto:danl@cds-sf.org)) with any questions, and remember you can now enroll for one or two weeks at a time.

## Library Corner

### Turn in Overdue Books Today



Soon it will be time to tuck the library under wraps for the summer, but before the sheets go up, the books need to be back on the shelves. If your child took home books this year, please check all bookshelves for any

## 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 wigs: a straight blond “woman’s” wig, a long curly red “woman’s” wig and a short black “man’s” wig. They also need red, black and brown fabric, and pillow stuffing. Items can be dropped off at the front desk for Jasmin Hoo.

CDS library books. A good way to find CDS books is to tidy up your bookshelves at home so that all book spines face outward. The white spine labels of library books will stand out conspicuously in a neatly arranged shelf!

A big thank you to all members of the CDS community who helped out in the library this year by donating, covering, carrying and reading books. It is such a treat to watch excited students eagerly explore what the library has to offer!

## PTTA Update

### Classroom Liaisons Needed

CDS is looking for several enthusiastic parents to serve as classroom liaisons next year. Working with the classroom teachers and supported by the PTTA Liaison Coordinator, classroom liaisons are critical community builders. Their responsibilities include organizing classroom parent volunteers and facilitating communication. In partnership with the classroom teachers, the liaisons help facilitate a productive, fun and welcoming environment.

#### Responsibilities:

- Communication coach for parents who have questions or issues (to get them to the person who can help solve their problem!)
- Communication link between the PTTA and the classroom parents
- Teacher support (as requested by the teacher)
- Organization of class events and volunteer opportunities
- Welcoming new families

#### The ideal candidate will demonstrate:

- Strong organizational skills
- Ability to communicate effectively with all constituencies

- Ability to put aside the needs of your individual child(ren) in favor of the larger class issues (when wearing the liaison “hat”).
- Commitment to taking 100% responsibility for your relationships with others (not 50-50).
- Respect of others at all times, no matter what
- Inspiration in your work
- Desire to learn and use CDS disciplines (those behaviors, habits and attitudes that help us accomplish our goals)
- Ability to handle change, transitions and challenges gracefully
- A track record for taking responsibility for the CDS community by...
  1. Taking responsibility for your social and physical environment
  2. Finding a leadership role in the community and growing in that role
  3. Treating people as if they know what they’re doing
  4. If you have a problem, going to the person who can do something about it

Please send an e-mail indicating your interest to Carlos Vasquez, Classroom Liaison Coordinator, at [xcvasquez@aol.com](mailto:xcvasquez@aol.com) by Friday, May 28, 2010.

Using the criteria above, classroom teachers will make recommendations and 2-4 liaisons will be chosen per class by a committee consisting of the PTTA President, Liaison Coordinator, Head and Assistant Head of School by Friday, June 4, 2010.

### Open PTTA Positions

Looking for a few good women and men! There are several open PTTA officer positions for the 2010-11 school year which we are seeking candidates for:

**Classroom Liaison Coordinator** - Work with the administration to recruit and train classroom liaisons as well as disseminate timely information to families via their liaisons throughout the year.

**Faculty Appreciation Coordinator** - Manage faculty holiday gift fundraising programs, organize a fabulous faculty holiday party and end of year luncheon, and help the community find ways to express our appreciation of the wonderful faculty and staff at CDS.

**Volunteer Admissions Coordinator** - Work with the Admission department to recruit and train admission volunteers as well as organize and lead school tours.

**Community Events Coordinator (new!)** - Help develop this brand new PTTA Officer position. Responsible for planning the CDS Welcome Picnic and managing community building events like Friday Coffee in the Yard.

All parents, teachers, trustees and administrators are invited to recommend themselves or recommend a friend for any of the open positions. The PTTA President along with the administration will make a selection for each position from the pool of all recommendations. For more details, or if you have any questions, please contact PTTA President, Robin McClarren at [robinmcc@speakeasy.net](mailto:robinmcc@speakeasy.net).

## Coffee News

Thank you for making coffee fundraising for the Faculty and Staff Holiday Gift Fund such a success! The final 2009-10 coffee delivery will happen on the last day of school. If you'd like to increase your order on that last delivery to cover all your summer coffee drinking needs, please let Stephanie Scarpulla know ASAP at [coffee@cds-sf.org](mailto:coffee@cds-sf.org). Coffee subscriptions will resume on September 15, 2010.

## Upcoming Dates

**Friday, June 4**

4:30 p.m.

Spring Arts Festival

Notre Dame Plaza community room

**Friday, June 11**

8:30 a.m.

Special assembly for Mr. Rick with the Del Sol String Quartet

**Sunday, June 13**

11-2 p.m.

Picnic in the yard in honor of Mr. Rick

**Monday, June 14**

8:30 a.m.

Passing the Torch Ceremony

**Tuesday, June 15**

3:45 p.m.

Eighth grade graduation

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

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Submissions due Wednesdays, 8 a.m.

Contact Mary to receive the Weekly via e-mail