

Friends Community School Newsletter

Weekly Bulletin

February 26, 2010

Upcoming Event This Week

March 1 -

Re-Enrollment
Deadline

**March 2 - Pajama
Day, Smithsonian
Family Night**

**March 3 - 1/2 and
James
Advisory, Ice
Skating Trip**

**March 4 - 3/4,
Berwyn Heights
Firehouse**

**March 5 - 7/8,
Dance, 7pm-10pm**

Dates To Remember

**March 9 - Terra
Cotta Warriors and
Happy Garden
Lunch**

**March 10-12 - P/T
Conferences -
Noon Dismissal**

**March 11 - 3/4,
FCS**

Dear Hilary,

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD. . .

This week some of our classes celebrated the hundredth day of school here at FCS. Activities in the kindergarten and some other classrooms included posters with 100 objects, necklaces strung with 100 beads, ten piles of pennies that added up to one hundred. Yet, I had to check the calendar to verify the count, for it seems we have been in school much longer. It made me realize that we have accomplished so much during this school year in only one hundred days.

A walk through our kindergarten and lower grades reveals children in various phases of reading-readiness and anticipation to tackling chapter books. They have thoughtfully written and illustrated stories, poems, and essays. Many of our youngest students have progressed from counting by ones to counting by twos, fives, and tens in the process of solving more complex math problems. Field trips, science experiments, Meeting partner activities, and choice activities help our children understand their capabilities and the world they live in. Our children have discovered the joys of learning, of acquiring new skills, and of making and maintaining friendships with their schoolmates. They arrive daily with the expectation that something exciting and meaningful will happen at FCS, and it does!

In Peace,

Larry

Re-Enrollment Agreements Due Monday

We are looking forward to having all of our current students continue at FCS next Fall. We are committed to offering available spaces to new families shortly after our re-enrollment deadline. If you haven't already done so, please be sure to submit your Enrollment Agreement(s) by the deadline, Monday, March 1st.

Philanthropy Matters

The Annual Giving Fund

Annual Giving Fund supports the classroom experiences, field trips, special programs, and other moments of discovery that help make our kids the versatile, engaged, creative thinkers they are.

Trip

March 12 - Talent Show, Dress Rehearsal

March 16 - 7th, National Museum of Health and Medicine

GOAL: \$60,000 with 85% parent participation
CURRENT: \$48,000 with 50% parent participation
NEEDED: \$12,000 with 54 more families participating

We so appreciate everyone's contribution - thank you.

YOUR PARTICIPATION IS SO POWERFUL! Great things happen when we support our own community! And we will receive an additional \$5,000 when we reach 85% participation. Please help get us there.

Giving and Growing: A Celebration of Friends

The FCS Auction is on Saturday, April 17, 2010

Donations are due (actually just the forms) on March 8th to give the auction catalog authors time to create this sensational, humor-filled, read-aloud, published piece of writing.

Need Donation Ideas?

- Form a volunteer swat team with other families to help get a house or yard job done
- Offer to guide a trip to a favorite destination or via a favorite conveyance - canoe, kayak, bike, feet, ???
- Teach a skill
- Share a talent - computer, graphic, legal, organizational, recreational, gaming - no, not that kind of gaming -- we mean chess, checkers, Othello strategy, or game night with popcorn.

Talent Show

We have had a great week of Talent Show auditions, and from what the judges have seen, you don't want to miss this year's FCS Talent Show!!! Mark your calendars for the FCS Arts Showcase on Thursday, March 18th!

The evening will begin with a Visual Arts Exhibit from 5:30 to 6:15 P.M. The exhibit will feature work from several Art classes, including the 5/6 classes' long-term project: "Mindful Bowls." Students will be selling their beautiful hand-made bowls and donating the proceeds to a local non-profit that helps to fight hunger.

The exhibit will be followed by a two-act Talent Show (with Intermission). All students who have successfully auditioned for the Talent Show will be

receiving more information about the dress rehearsal on March 12th. Please contact Stacy with any questions (Stacy@FriendsCommunitySchool.org).

We hope to see you at the show!

Spring Auction!

Unveiling the FCS 2010 Auction Website: See sneak previews, access forms and other info, select a volunteer job, etc. Access it through your student's FCS Google username and password; it's listed with all the class websites, and in the general website list, and also as a link within each teacher's class site.

REMEMBER, the March 8th Deadline for turning in your family's Auction Donation form to the FCS Office or email the form to auction@friendscommunityschool.org

Thanks for your participation in the Spring Auction! 100% of the money raised from the auction goes directly to tuition assistance and sustains the diversity our school is committed to supporting.

Green Tip of the Week

Dry Cleaning

Avoid PERC! Perchloroethylene is a volatile organic compound or VOC. PERC is regulated, though not banned by OSHA and EPA, and 85% US drycleaners still use it. If inhaled, PERC can affect the nervous and respiratory system (usually in occupational settings, but not always) and long-term exposure can damage the liver and kidneys. Studies link PERC to cancer in lab animals. PERC also contributes to smog when it reacts with VOCs in the air, all of which acts to damage the stratospheric ozone layer that protects us from the sun's harmful rays.

Here are a few alternatives:

-- You can often hand-wash many dry clean only clothes.

-- Ask your drycleaner which compounds they use

"Wet" dry cleaning is safe and uses controlled amounts of water.

A new safe alternative, "liquid CO₂", converts CO₂ to a liquid & carries soap like water.

Avoid DF-2000, if possible, it's made from oil and thus, contributes to global warming.

-- Recycle those wire hangers!

Quaker Quote

We are too ready to retaliate, rather than forgive, or gain by Love and Information. And yet we could hurt no Man that we believe loves us. Let us then try what Love will do: For if Men did once see we Love them, we should soon find they would not harm us. Force may subdue, but Love gains: And he that forgives first, wins the Lawrel. If I am even with my Enemy, the Debt is paid; but if I forgive it, I oblige him for ever.--William Penn, 1682, as quoted from the proposed Baltimore Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice,

<http://www.bymrsf.org/quakers/pubs/FaithNPractice/peace09.shtml#topic>
