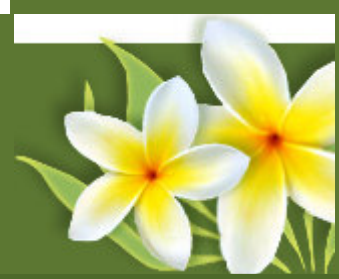


Friends Community School

Weekly Bulletin

March 19, 2010



Upcoming Events This Week

March 22-26, Spring Break-
No School

Dates To Remember

March 30 -7/8, Supreme
Court Trip

April 1 - 1/2, National
Building Museum

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD. . .

Last night we celebrated the visual and performing arts at FCS. Donna and Sarah R. displayed colorful and imaginative art work on every available hallway bulletin board. Three dimensional structures were positioned on tables throughout the building. Students, parents, and friends were able to stroll the hallway and appreciate the work of our young artists. Proceeds from the sale of Mindful Bowls created in Sarah's art classes will be donated to the College Park Youth and Family Services agency.

Later in the evening many students participated in our talent show. Young singers, dancers, musicians, poets, actors, and comedians courageously presented their unique routines. Clearly there are many remarkable performers among our students. Yet, one should not overlook the uniquely FCS flavor of this show. The supportive atmosphere of the audience (fellow students, parents, and faculty) encouraged each child to take the stage and share his/her gifts with family and friends. Special thanks to Stacy for all of her work to rehearse and organize this event. Thanks also to Olivia and our Parents Association for the refreshments.

May you have an enjoyable and relaxing spring break.

In Peace,
Larry

Friends Community School on TV!

Earlier this week, Tom Kierein, the weatherman for Channel 4 News, visited FCS. Tom discussed the process of weather forecasting with our 1 / 2 students. The

following day, Tom's weather reports were accompanied by photos and observations of his trip to FCS. Michelle Utara has a copy of Tom's report; interested parents and friends should contact Michelle if you would like to view the segment.

Philanthropy Matters

Grandfriends Day is coming up at the end of April, on Friday April 23.

This morning I sent an email via this (Bulletin) email list which describes Grandfriends Day for those of you who are new to the school. It also contains the form for letting us know whom to invite for your child/ren. Please return that form to Quillin, via hard copy or email, as soon as possible but no later than March 31, 2010, so we can get invitations out. Thank you very much.

The **Annual Giving Fund** is growing slowly but steadily. Many thanks to the 88 families who have participated - we are at 57% - and to the Annual Fund class representatives who have called families to request their participation.

- If you haven't joined the group of parents who have contributed, now is the time to do so. **We need 43 more families to contribute.** The school benefits from your gift *and* your participation.
- Annual Giving Funds are in great demand - for staff training, financial aid, classroom materials, class trip fees, and for school-wide items we would love to have: soccer goals, additional classroom cameras, research tools, proscenium arch and curtains for performances on the new stage, additional playground equipment/benches, to name a few.
- Annual Giving Funds are tax-deductible, unlike tuition. A strong Annual Giving Fund helps keep our tuition cost down.

Your participation really matters! Thank you.

Giving & Growing Financial Aid Fundraising Auction Saturday, April 17th

Thank you to all the FCS families who have generously given donations to the auction! We are still accepting donations, but they may not appear in the catalog. Items donated after March 19th will appear in the auction addendum to the catalog, but are still very welcome and will be part of the auction event! Information about Auction Pajama Movie Night will be distributed after Spring Break.

Tickets on sale now (\$30 each, send check into the FCS Office)

Here is just a small sneak preview of some auction items!

- Nationals Baseball Tickets
- A Vacation Home for Week in Greece
- Tickets to Arena Stage & Imagination Stage
- A Day of Sailing on the Bay
- XBOX 360 including Fun Games
- Homed Baked Goods
- Tickets to the Newseum and International Spy Museum
- Laser Tag Birthday Party

Pi Day Celebration

At Pi Day last weekend, the eighth graders impressed us with their reports on famous mathematicians. The seventh graders reinforced our learning with their math posters. The sixth graders renewed our sense of adventure with their paper airplane research. Gillian, Amelia, Stratis and their friends demonstrated their skills and sportsmanship in Connect Four and Checkers, and we all gained a few happy pounds. Let's continue the tradition next year!

Allison and Jordan

Reminder For All Instrumental Program Students

After-school instrumental lessons will begin a new spring schedule starting on Monday, April 5th. This will include ensemble rehearsals on Fridays in place of one small group lesson each week. Please see the Instrumental Music Program web page as part of FCS's Google website (under Stacy's Music Website). Contact Stacy with any questions.

Green Tip of the Week

Time to get the bikes out, pump up the tires and get on the road or trail! Think back to the biking and walking you did in your childhood (to school, friends' houses, the store etc.) - probably LOADS more than your kids are doing, amounting to more EXERCISE, INDEPENDENCE, as well as LESS TIME IN THE CAR. Many of us don't cycle or allow our kids to cycle because we haven't found a safe route. Now there's www.google.com/maps, (only for US now) which maps your route away from traffic and big hills. We found it easy to use, but not all that reliable. Other options: www.mapmyride.com and www.veloroutes.org, which gives elevation. For runners and walkers, there's www.mapmyrun.com and www.trails.com. Check 'em out !

Kid's Open Mic This Sunday

There will be a Kids' Open Mic at the New Deal Cafe this Sunday, March 21, from 1:30-2:30pm. The Open Mic takes place on the 3rd Sunday of every month. Children aged 17 and under are invited to perform, playing a musical instrument, singing, dancing, reciting a poem, etc. This is a great opportunity for kids to practice performing in public to a very sympathetic audience.
(Information provided by the Greenbelt Community Listserv.)

Quaker Corner

How shall we as Quakers sustain ourselves as a people of peace in the midst of worldwide war? By living in that covenant of peace which was before wars and strife were ... by living in the virtue of that life and power that takes away the occasion of all war. It is not our Quakerism, or our pacifism, or our knowledge, or skill, or emotion that overcomes hate and violence. We shall surely fail if we become proud of our virtue and traditions and become vain in our witness. We shall fail if we think the power that may move through us is our own. The power is not ours, it is God's. This is the foundation of what we must do in our testimony of peace in this time of war. The foundation is faith in the power of God's love to transform us and our society and to bring justice to the poor and the oppressed. Our task is to act, as best we understand what we are led to do, in obedience to that power.--Mary Lord (contemporary US Quaker author), quoted in the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Revised Faith and Practice,

<http://www.bym-rsf.org/quakers/pubs/FaithNPractice/peace09.shtml#topic>