



*Weekly Bulletin*

*April 23, 2010*

## *Friends Community School*

### **A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD. . .**

This year we celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Earth Day. Some of us are old enough to remember the first Earth Days, when activists took up the cause of protecting the Earth and its valuable resources. We read Rachel Carson's Silent Spring and Paul Ehrlich's The Population Bomb, and were moved to make a commitment to conservation and stewardship. Forty years later we note an improvement in the quality of our water and air, but recognize there is still plenty of work ahead.

At FCS we are fortunate to have daily lessons on conservation and the effective use of our Earth's resources. From its effective passive solar design, water conservation, fuel efficient heating systems, to our living green roof, our building is a daily reminder of effective strategies to limit our impact on the Earth. Outside, several classes are planting vegetable gardens, weeding the Monarch butterfly garden, and observing the life cycle of the American toad. Some of our older students are studying the fuel efficiency of our energy systems and the design of our bio-retention ponds to limit erosion and storm-water runoff. Many thanks to Christine Dunathan and parents who help us envision our next steps in environmental stewardship.

Happy Grandfriends Day at FCS!

In Peace,

Larry

### **Upcoming Events This Week**

**April 26 - Chris, DC Kitchen**

**April 27 - James, DC Kitchen  
Mel C., Ropes Course**

**April 29 - Jordan, DC Kitchen  
3/4, Annapolis Trip  
PA Meeting**

**April 30 - Primary Team Play**

## **A Reminder from the Business Office**

Remember that if you chose to pay next year's tuition using the *Monthly Payment Plan*, the first of ten payments is due on May 1<sup>st</sup>. If you are paying by ACH withdrawal, we will begin taking those payments from your checking account on either the 1<sup>st</sup> or the 15<sup>th</sup> (whichever you indicated on your form), starting in May. If you are paying by check, the amount due can be found on your Enrollment Agreement (or, if you received financial aid, on your award letter). In addition, you will receive a coupon booklet next week, although the coupon is not necessary to make a payment. Please feel free to call or e-mail me (Cynthia, x. 126, [Cynthia@friendscommunityschool.org](mailto:Cynthia@friendscommunityschool.org)) if you have any questions.

Thanks very much for keeping our financial wheels turning smoothly - our mortgage holder, our utility companies, and everyone who earns a salary here appreciate your efforts!

A note of thanks, too, to everyone who supported the Auction. Our Financial Aid Committee was particularly challenged in making award determinations for the coming year, given the increase in applications for aid. But they would have been even more so were it not for the crucial dollars brought in through the Auction. You all are terrific, and a community truly supportive of one another!

## **BERWYN HEIGHTS DAY IS COMING!**

### **WALK IN THE PARADE WITH THE FCS BANNER!**

Saturday May 1st

Meet in the parking lot of the Berwyn Heights elementary school at 60th and Pontiac St.

Meet at 11:30

The parade starts at noon

Email Amelia for sign up at [mousie321@gmail.com](mailto:mousie321@gmail.com)

### **From the Auction Planning Committee:**

Thank you for making the "2010 Giving and Growing Spring Auction" a success.

The Auction brings our community together as the funds it raises help keep us together.

For this evening of fun and fundraising, we had record-breaking attendance with 199 guests.

And 42 kids enjoyed Auction Pajama Movie Night.

The net total, after expenses, of over \$27,000 goes directly to tuition assistance for our FCS students and sustains the diversity our school is committed to supporting. THANK YOU!

### **TALENT SHOW DVDs FOR SALE!**

Want to share your student's performance with friends and family? Did you miss the big event, and you want to see what all the excitement was about? Perhaps you want to save a DVD as evidence for when your little one grows up?

DVDs from this year's Talent Show will be available next week. Once again, they are being generously provided by the O'Brien family (Pam and Sean, parents of Karen in Michelle's

class and Eilean in Sarah's class) for \$10 each. Please send your cash or check (made payable to Friends Community School) in an envelope through "Kid Mail," and be sure to include your student's name and teacher so that the DVD can be delivered to the correct classroom. All proceeds will go to the FCS Annual Fund.

## **"King Bidgood's in the Bathtub... and he won't get out!"**

### **Primary Team Play and Bake Sale**

The Kindergartners, First Graders, and Second Graders will be performing their version of "King Bidgood's in the Bathtub" on Friday, April 30th at 2 pm in the multi-purpose room.

FCS students worked several times this year to raise money for Doctors Without Borders, an organization that helps people in need all over the world. With the recent earthquake in China, as well as the onset of the rainy season in already-taxed Haiti, as well as numerous other challenges for our fellow humanity, some of our primary wing children have asked to do more. So we are having a short bake and lemonade sale during the 30 minutes before the Primary Team Play on April 30.

Please come a little early and enjoy refreshments...

Primary Team Play - Volunteer Needed

Primary Team teachers are in need of a parent to help format this year's program. All of the information will be provided and the volunteer will only need to take care of formatting. Please e-mail Alexandra at [Alexandra@friendscommunityschool.org](mailto:Alexandra@friendscommunityschool.org) by Monday if you are able to help.

Thank you.

### **Affordable Fashion**

Hello! My name is Kathleen, and I am an 8<sup>th</sup> grader at Friend Community School. For my year end project, I have been researching affordable fashion.

Fashion is one way people express themselves, but dressing yourself can be costly. At Value Village, you can buy inexpensive secondhand clothes. For my service project I am organizing a clothing drive. Please bring in any old clothes you have that you do not want anymore, and please put them in one of the boxes around the school labeled Affordable Fashion; Value Village Donations. Even if it's just an old shirt that you grew out of, instead of throwing it away, donate it! Thanks!

## **UNIVERSITY PARK CO-OP ANNUAL SPRING CHILDREN'S CLOTHING/TOY SALE**

Saturday, May 1, from 10am to 12pm, Riverdale Presbyterian Church  
6513 Queens Chapel Rd, University Park, MD, 20782

Quality "pre-washed and gently worn" clothing for children from tots to teens will be available. Featured will be seasonal items, spring/summer clothing, books, toys, sports

equipment, baby/layette equipment and maternity items.

Cash only.

[universitypark.ccc@gmail.com](mailto:universitypark.ccc@gmail.com)

## **HELP FCS WIN A MUSIC CONTEST!**

A handful of 5th & 6th grade students are participating in an online music contest sponsored by VH1's Save the Music campaign. Students were asked to create a video that explains why music education is important. Five student submissions will be chosen to win prizes including \$1,000 for the school music program, concert tickets, instruments, and more! One grand prize winner will win \$5,000 for the school music program and a trip to New York City!

Students' videos will be judged on their creativity, strength of the argument to keep music in schools, use of social media to share your video and raise awareness about the issue, average rating, and number of people involved in the project. They need YOUR HELP to increase their chances! Please rate their video by going to:

<http://www.dosomething.org/bands/entry/friends-community-school-fcs>

Thank you for your support... and please spread the word!!!

### **Auction Items**

Did you miss the auction? Or were you just out-bid on everything? Well here's your chance at a guaranteed sale with these two items that did not find a home. Both are on display in the lobby till Tuesday. If you are interested please contact Janet Dixon at [tenaj@efxmediala.com](mailto:tenaj@efxmediala.com) / 202-832-4874. Priced to move!

#### **1109 *If a Picture is Worth a Thousand Words...***

...Then a professional portrait is certainly worth a bid on this package. Picture-Story Studio/Jim Johnson Photography has generously donated a studio portrait session (including required in-studio design consultation) and a framed and matted portrait panel display with 3x5" custom portrait prints. No substitutions. To validate certificate, mail to studio within ten days of auction date. Expires Nov. 30, 2010.

Value: \$ 800

Jim Johnson Photography / Picture Story Studio

#### **1206 *As Mysterious As the Mona Lisa***

What is he looking at? Hang The Observer on your wall and imagine! This fun painting on a yellow ground has a Norman Rockwell air to it - if Rockwell had known his way around an airbrush.

Value: \$ 500

Purpose By Design Airbrush

## **The Dragon's Lair**

An original ballet

Public Playhouse in Cheverly Maryland  
(5445 Landover Rd Phone 301-277-1710)

May 1st and 3rd @ 7:30

May 2nd @ 3 pm

Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for kids and seniors. They can be purchased ahead of time or at the door.

Eilean and Karen are in all three performances

### **Dates To Remember**

**May 5 - Kickball Game with Siena School**

**May 6 - (7/8), Spanish Field Trip**

**May 7 - In Service, Noon Dismissal**

**May 12-14, Assataegue Camping Trip**