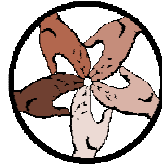


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## **FEBRUARY 2009 PRIMARY NEWSLETTER**

### **EVENTS TO TAKE NOTE OF IN FEBRUARY 2009**

**February 2, 2009:** First day of the 2009-2010 closed enrollment

**February 16 and 17, 2009:** Presidents' Days. No school. No daycare.

**February 19, 2009:** Parent Information Meeting: Discipline

**February 25, 2009:** Kulintang Dance Theater performance

**February 26, 2009:** Asia Immersion Day

**February 27, 2009:** End of the 2009-2010 closed enrollment

### **2009-2010 TUITION**

These are difficult financial times for almost everyone, so we have been crunching our numbers in a myriad of ways to see if there is any possibility that we can continue to run the school without raising tuition for the 2009-2010 school year. At current tuition rates and projected enrollment (and even without raises for faculty and staff), we would not be able to break even for the 2009-2010 school year. This is not a viable situation, so we are developing creative ways to increase our revenue through other sources.

Nonetheless, we *are* keeping our tuition constant from this year to the 2009-2010 school year. Since we must generate more income, we have decided to raise our mandatory donation from \$200 to \$400 per family (because those dollars are 100% tax-deductible for you) and will attempt to significantly increase enrollment. To help ensure this, we are creating an incentive program that will also help you, as well. Any family who refers a child to OWM who enrolls for the school year will receive a credit equivalent to one month's tuition.

In addition, we are willing to work with you to develop other solutions to keep the school afloat and ease your financial burden through grant writing, soliciting outside donations, donating materials that the school would otherwise need to purchase, etc. We are open to any other suggestions you might make to help us lower costs and increase revenues.

We have been in operation since 1979 and have successfully weathered several recessions, so we are sure if we all work together, we will be able to continue to operate and provide the level of services we all can be proud of.

Please see your enrollment packet, which will be available on Monday, for full details.

### **2009-2010 CLOSED ENROLLMENT**

Closed enrollment begins February 2nd. This allows you to re-enroll your child(ren) and any siblings prior to our accepting new students from our waiting list. Your re-enrollment packet for the 2009-2010 school year will be in your child's hanging folder on Monday, February 2nd.



### **If you wish to re-enroll and/or enroll an additional child:**

- Please read the accompanying Parent Handbook to be sure that you are aware of any policy changes that have occurred.
- Fill out the contract, indicating the program of your choice, and return it to the office SIGNED BY BOTH PARENTS or THE CUSTODIAL PARENT in the case of sole custody, by Feb 27<sup>th</sup>. Please make sure to indicate the

payment plan you desire and make a choice about photos on page 4. The contract should be accompanied by a payment of \$500.00 for the annual enrollment fee.

- This ensures your space for the 2009-2010 school year.

### **If you do not wish to re-enroll:**

- Please submit a written notice of withdrawal by Feb 27<sup>th</sup>, or your deposit will be forfeited.
- VERBAL NOTICE CANNOT BE ACCEPTED.
- Last month's deposit cannot be applied to summer school.

If your child will not be returning for the 2009-2010 school year, please talk about the transition with your child's teacher before discussing it with your child so that we can help make the change as positive as possible. We urge you to wait to tell your child about his/her new school until the end of the school year. This minimizes the level of stress and anxiety present in your child's learning environment. Please remember that the withdrawal of an older sibling prior to the completion of the kindergarten year precludes the possibility of the reenrollment of any younger siblings.

### **TIMELY ARRIVAL**



School starts at 9:00 am. Please be sure that your children arrive at school before that time. Not only is it disruptive to the class when children arrive late, it is unsettling to the child arriving late when s/he joins a class already in the "rhythm" of the day. Please remember that all children are welcome to arrive by 8:30 am, so that they have some time on the playground before the school day begins. We encourage you to take advantage of this extra time.

For Santa Clara students, if you do happen to arrive late, please say good-bye outside the classroom, open the door discretely and let your child in **without going in yourself**. If this happens too frequently, we will ask you to drop your child off in the office.

For San Jose students, if you do happen to arrive late, please drop your child off with Elizabeth, the Receptionist. She will escort your child to class.

### **PEACE LESSONS**

On February 4<sup>th</sup>, we will begin our Wednesday morning peace lesson. All children will need to be in the classroom in circle by 9:00 am, so please try to get here a little earlier. If you arrive after the lesson has begun, your child(ren) may stay with a teacher outside the classroom until the lesson is over.

### **VALENTINE'S DAY**



This year, once again, instead of exchanging cards and candies, the children will be working on a group mural.

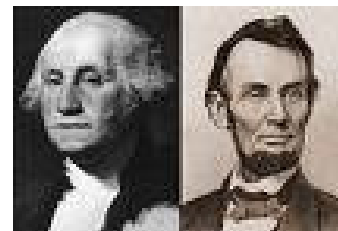
NO CARDS and NO GOODIES please.

### **TAX TIME IS COMING**



If you will need a recap statement for 2008 for tax purposes, please let Liz know soon, as she will get very busy prior to **April 1<sup>st</sup>**. Liz can be reached at her home office (408) 259-6997. Our Tax I.D. number is 94-2930042.

### **PRESIDENTS' DAYS**



On Monday and Tuesday, **February 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>**, we will honor Presidents Washington and Lincoln. There will be no school and no

daycare on those days.

## PARENT INFORMATION MEETING



Our next Parent Information Meeting will be on Thursday, **February 19<sup>th</sup>** at 3:30 pm. We will discuss discipline. For those interested, there will be a sign-up sheet on the white board next to the office (Santa Clara) and in the lobby (San Jose). We need a minimum of 8 people for the meeting to occur, so please sign up and join us for this outstanding topic! Childcare will be available upon request. Cost is \$15.00 per hour/per child.

## KULINTANG DANCE THEATER

As part of our study of Asia, the children will enjoy a performance of the Kulintang Dance Theater on Wednesday, **February 25<sup>th</sup>** at the San Jose site. The children from Santa Clara will be transported by bus.

Kulintang Dance Theater is a musical dance troupe dedicated to preserving and performing dances rooted in the Southern Philippine cultural tradition. The company presents the dances of the Tausug, Maguindanao, Maranao, Tiboli, and Tiruray peoples accompanied by the traditional sounds of the Kulintang music. From Ancient rhythms to graceful dancing and colorful traditional costumes, the children will be engaged through a participatory performance.

## ASIA IMMERSION DAY



On Thursday, **February 26<sup>th</sup>**, we will have our Asia Immersion day. We need help with our celebration. Please contact your child's teacher as soon as possible if you or someone you know would like to talk about Asia. We would also appreciate any assistance you may be able to offer with Asian food, recipes, artifacts, pictures or slides.

## PARENT EDUCATION EVENT

The Montessori Foundation, publisher of "Tomorrow's Child" (the Montessori magazine you receive in your hanging folders each quarter) is holding its annual West Coast conference in March 2009 at the Dolce Hayes Mansion in San Jose. New this year is a special event for parents on Sunday, **March 22<sup>nd</sup>**. The main focus of this workshop will be providing an overview of Montessori philosophies and practices that parents can incorporate into their homes and lives.

If you are interested in attending, please visit <http://magazinevolume.com/5453montessori/>

## MATCHING DONATIONS



We would like to call your attention to an opportunity to make your donations go farther. There are many companies that have matching donation programs. Please check with your employer to see if your company offers a similar program.

## GREEN SCHOOL COMMITMENT

This past fall, One World Montessori became a member of the Green Schools Alliance. As part of our membership, we pledged to become a Climate Champion School. This means we have agreed to work toward reducing our carbon footprint by 30% over the next five years, and to work toward carbon neutrality by 2020.

We would like to involve members of our parent body in this process, and we are therefore forming a Green School Task Force. We are seeking four to five parent volunteers who are willing to go over the guidelines provided by the Green Schools Alliance, and to help us work toward achieving our goal. Any hours put in will be counted toward your annual volunteer hours requirement.

If you are passionate about the environment, and are interested in working with us to make our school more green, please contact Lisa,

who will be coordinating the task force, at [lisa@oneworldmontessori.org](mailto:lisa@oneworldmontessori.org).

## FEVER/FLU



We would like to remind you that the Primary Parent Handbook states in :

*Paragraph 9, page 6 – Absence – Illness – Injury:*  
“... Children who arrive at school ill **CANNOT** be

accepted into the classrooms. Illness includes, but is not limited to, rashes, fever, vomiting, listlessness, diarrhea and severe discomfort. A child **HAS NOT** recovered from an illness until s/he is symptom free for **at least 24 hours.**

## CHANGE OF PROGRAM

We would like to remind you about the terms of the 2008-2009 Primary Parent Handbook regarding the change of programs:

“Parents will be charged \$10.00 for the first two program changes in a contract year. Three or more program changes in a school year will result in a \$50.00 charge per change.

Program changes **must** be submitted on the appropriate form to the office by the fifteenth (15th) of the preceding month.”

## SAN JOSE ELEMENTARY FACILITIES

Please be sure that your primary and infant community children do not use or enter the elementary bathrooms next to the nap room, even before or after school when they are with you. We are not licensed nor permitted to use these bathrooms for the younger children.

Also, the elementary students use the picnic tables in the courtyard to eat their lunch. Please respect their space and do not allow your children to sit, stand, or jump on the tables. We appreciate your cooperation.

## SANTA CLARA HOT LUNCH



There will be 11 days of Hot Lunch in February:  
3 Mondays (pasta), 4 Wednesdays (Mac and Cheese/Quesadilla) and 4 Fridays (pizza).

## SAN JOSE HOT LUNCH



We are working hard to continue the hot lunch program, and based on feedback from our parents, our hot lunch vendor has reduced her prices. Price has been the number one issue from our parent feedback and we hope that this change will help increase participation in the program. The new pricing structure is:

- \$4 per lunch if you are not purchasing lunch for the entire week
- \$3.50 per lunch if you are purchasing lunch for the entire week
- 10% discount will be given to families who purchase a full week of lunches for two or more children

As always, we welcome your feedback and suggestions regarding the menu choices.

## VOLUNTEER HOURS REMINDER

Remember that only volunteer hours completed before June 12<sup>th</sup> (and submitted by June 19<sup>th</sup>) will be accepted for this school year. Volunteer hours submitted after June 20<sup>th</sup> will not be accepted.

Thanks to all of you who have already submitted your volunteer hours.

## GRADUATION



As you all know, the 2008-2009 Kindergarteners will be graduating in June.

For the graduation ceremony (Monday, June 15, 2009 at the San Jose campus), the children will need to wear their blue One World t-shirt, white shorts, skirt or pants, white socks and **PLAIN** white shoes. If you need to buy a new t-shirt, let us know as soon as possible so we can be sure that we can order enough of them. ***It is sometimes difficult to find white pants, skirts or shorts so we are notifying you now to give you plenty of time to shop for them.*** Easter is often a good time to find these items.

We would also like to let you know that the graduates will be practicing for the graduation ceremony for the entire weeks of June 1st to 5th and 8th to 12th. Their attendance at school is very important during these two weeks. Please be sure that they arrive on time to school, as well. We will also need help transporting them back and forth between the San Jose and Santa Clara campuses.

## A NOTE OF APPRECIATION



Thank you to all those families who contributed to the Heifer fund – we were able to make our \$1500 goal!! The children were able to send the “Joy to the World” (two sheep, four goats, a heifer and two llamas) animal contribution to deserving families. Special thanks goes to the Hawes family and Vanessa Inn for their very generous donations.

Thank you to all the families who made donations to our Second Harvest food drive.

Our school donated a total of 741 pounds of food for needy families.

## SANTA CLARA

Thank you to Zhan-Guo family for donating decorations for Chinese New Year, to Silvana Sotelo and Silvia Cabal for their presentation for South America Immersion Day, to all the parents who participated in the mini fundraiser for Primary I's new keyboard, and thank you to Nupur Thakur for planning and implementing this fundraiser.

## SAN JOSE

Thank you to the Monclus family who cared for the animals over the holiday break and to the Nayar family for the Hawaiian artifact. Thank you to the Jiang, Mak and Yuan families for helping with our Chinese New Year celebration. Thanks to the Cheung family for their donation of the Chinese New Year books.

## MARCH PREVIEW

### March 2, 2009

First day of 2009-2010 open enrollment

### March 3, 2009

Niosha Dance Academy (Persian dancers)

### March 19, 2009

Bruce Cotter, the Bagpipe player

### March 17, 2009:

St Patrick's Day

### March 20, 2009:

Minimum Day. School ends at 12:00 pm.

### March 21, 2009

No-Rooz, Persian New Year

### March 26, 2009

Parent Information Meeting: Open Forum, Europe Immersion Day.