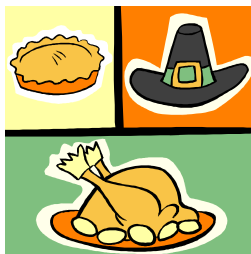




November 11, 2009

CDSA Community Service Project

We continue our partnership with **Mission Arlington** this year in offering the opportunity for our students and families to help provide items for Thanksgiving food baskets for the less fortunate.



Soon your child will bring home a grocery bag (provided by Jason's Deli) that will include a list of some of the items that would be a part of these Thanksgiving baskets. This is a wonderful way for your child to get involved by helping to make selections from the list as you do your grocery shopping for this meaningful community service outreach project.

The food drive runs through November 20th. Mission Arlington volunteers help deliver Thanksgiving baskets and food to over 16,900 people in need. We are excited to partner with them in serving our community.

Items needed are:

Stuffing mix	Pumpkin
Pie filling	Green beans
Cranberry sauce	Drink mix
Chicken broth	Instant potatoes
Yams	Macaroni & Cheese
Mixed canned vegetables	Tuna
Canned fruit	Boxed pie crust

CDSA White Pages

We hope everyone received their copy of the school directory. If you have not received your copy, please contact Julie at the front desk. Please remember that these are for your personal use only and not intended to be used for any type of solicitation whatsoever. If there are any corrections that need to be shared, please email them to Julie Malone at julie.malone@cda.org.

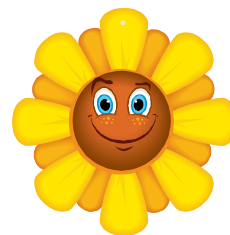


CALENDAR

- Thurs., 11/12** High Touch-High Tech visits "Germs Make Me Sick"
- Tues., 11/17** Mr. Bob from the Arlington Public Library visits
- Fri., 11/20** December lunch menus due
- Wed., 11/25** Thanksgiving holiday
No school ~ Extended Day available (**if enrollment allows)
- November 26 & 27** Thanksgiving holidays
No school or extended care
- Looking ahead...**
- Dec. 3** Hearing & Vision Screening (students who are 4 yrs. old and up)
- Dec. 8** Mr. Bob from the Arlington Public Library visits
- Dec. 10** Kindergarten students visit CATS Theatre
- Dec. 14** High Touch-High Tech visits
- Dec. 18** Winter class parties:
⇒ Toddlers, 9:00 am
⇒ Transitional, lunch time
⇒ Primary/K, 2:45 pm
- Dec. 21-January 1, 2010:** Winter Break

Extended Day available (if enrollment allows) Dec. 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30
- No school or Extended Day Dec. 24, 25, 31 & January 1**

Thank You CDSA Community!



A beautiful sunny day provided the perfect backdrop for our annual Fall Festival. Old and new friends alike enjoyed an afternoon of games, music, shopping, food and fun. Our thanks to everyone who attended the festival—we appreciate your support. The school would also like to thank the members of the committee who planned and organized the event: **Deanna DeBose, Kim Turner and Adria Villareal.**

Another event that was a success was our recent **International Day**. Thank you to **Henrik and Elizabeth Dufresne** for lending us their flags which were prominently displayed outside. There was so much food! It was great to see such a diverse display of so many delectable desserts, pastries and finger foods. Although the morning was a little chilly, everyone was able to enjoy the short parade outside before coming inside to enjoy delicious food and a visual presentation on Africa provided by former CDSA parent, **Bito Irie**. Thanks!

Lastly, thank you to **Barrie Shults** for her donation to our APPLE gift program which goes directly to our teachers. We appreciate her generosity as well as that of **Sally Sarten** who will be providing lunch for our staff this Friday, November 13th.

Hearing & Vision Screenings

Information will go home soon regarding hearing and vision screenings available on **Thursday, December 3rd (for students 4 years old and older)**. State requirements state:



“a) The Special Senses and Communication Disorders Act, Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 36, requires a screening or a professional examination for possible vision and hearing problems for children of certain ages and grades. Remember that if your pediatrician performs these screenings for your child, it is not necessary to have the screening done here. It is important to make sure we have a record of your child’s hearing and vision screening results in our files as well as **updated immunization records**.

Jr. GREAT Books



This year the kindergarten students are participating in a fun reading program called Jr. Great Books. This program builds listening, thinking, and inquiry skills by encouraging children to openly share thoughts and interpretations of different children’s classics. The children’s vocabulary will be enhanced by the new words presented in the lessons. Each week the children will do several readings of the same story. Each reading will be followed with questions for the children to think about and discuss. It provides a wonderful framework to help children learn to read with purpose and comprehension, develop the background needed for writing and fosters critical thinking all in the context of students sharing their ideas about great literature.

Attached to this edition of News to Use are newsletter samples from our Primary and Kindergarten teams.

As part of our fundraising efforts, there are several of our community stores that have partnered with us to give back a certain percentage of your purchases to the school. This is a great and simple way for parents, grandparents, neighbors and friends of our students to contribute to **CDSA** fundraising efforts just by shopping with our Community Partners and clipping the tops to products bearing the “Box Tops for Education” logo. These funds will be used to support the Annual Fund which helps to underwrite staff salary increases, instructional materials and facility needs.



Thank you for an awesome start in support of our fundraisers this year. For additional information, please contact Markeetia McKinnis, Community Partner Fundraising Chair via email (pto@cdsa.org)

Welkom ~ Welcome ~ Piacere

Our garden has grown...please join us in welcoming three new students to CDSA:

1. **Raiine Griffith** joined Ms. Dunbar’s class; her parents are **Paula Griffith and Francis Didieu**.
2. **Noah Hilek** joined the Toddler class; his older brother **Evan** is in Mrs. McCall’s class. Their parents are **Allison and John Hilek**.

WELCOME!

A Note from the Director

It was our delight to spend some time with you last week in individual parent –teacher conferences. We hope you found this time meaningful and informative and that you gained some additional insight into how your child is adapting to his learning experience here. If you did not have the opportunity to conference with us last week, feel free to connect directly with your child’s teacher to schedule another time. They are very flexible and will make themselves available for you.

We so appreciate the opportunity to partner with you on your child’s educational journey. It is our desire that you are discovering CDSA is a warm, diverse, enthusiastic community of learners. Our expert faculty and staff is dedicated to making this first formal school experience a great beginning for our students and their families. Our learning community is supported by a caring and effective parent body- working together to foster camaraderie by organizing exciting events and enhancing each school year with their fundraising efforts. We encourage you to participate in the ways that you can to support our school.

These first years will lay the foundation for a lifetime of learning for your child. We take our job as your partners in this endeavor very seriously indeed. Our school environment is warm and welcoming, full of the excitement, discovery, and sheer joy of learning about oneself and others. This is a place where children are given the language and structure to foster their independence, resilience, and creativity. Here, they learn to participate in a community of self-directed learners and flexible thinkers, and use their own minds to solve problems. Here, they learn empathy and develop a social conscience. All of this takes place with ease because, as Maria Montessori would say, our school environment is “prepared” to help each child develop and grow individually at his or her own pace, in his or her own style, and as part of a learning community of children.

We will begin planning for the 2010 – 11 school year soon and will be sending parent surveys for your input. Many of you have expressed the interest in expanding our curricular offering to include 1st grade. I will be hosting round table parent discussions soon as we consider the strategic plans for our school’s future.

Please know my door is open to you at any time and I encourage you to visit with me as the time allows. It is always so helpful to have your input and I value your perspectives.



WHOLE LANGUAGE CALENDAR

GEOGRAPHY: NORTH AMERICA

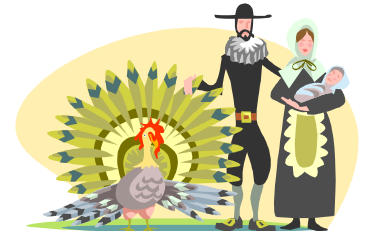
HISTORY: NATIVE AMERICANS, PILGRIMS,
MAYFLOWER...

SCIENCE: CHANGES OF NATURE, SEASONS

ART: THANKSGIVING, GRANDPARENTS
DAY ART

MUSIC: SONGS OF THE SEASON

KINDNESS: THANKFULNESS AND SHARING



From the Faculty and
Staff of CDSA,
Have a wonderful
Thanksgiving Holiday!

News to Use is a monthly publication printed and produced by Joyce Hunt and Julie Malone . Any submissions, corrections or clarifications should be emailed to joyce.hunt@cdsa.org or julie.malone@cdsa.org .

This publication will be sent via student backpacks and email and is also available through the school’s website: www.cdsa.org.

(817) 275-0851