

NEWS FROM THE MANDALA BOARD

Parent Activities



The Class Books

We have almost every child's page for the class books. If you haven't turned one in yet, please do so now. We want every child to have a page in their class book. If you are having a problem with your page call the office maybe we can help. After we get all of the pages we will need volunteers to collate the books. We will let you know when that is at a later date.

Saturday, Halloween Carnival Thank You

We had a wonderful turn out with happy children in an array of costumes. I want to thank Gwen Sotelo who coordinated the event. She made some new games and props which we will be able to use for many years. I want to thank all the Board Members who worked so hard to support Gwen in having everything ready. Of course it would not have been a success with out the volunteer time our parents put in to set up, supervise games, and to clean up.



Fundraising

As you are all aware fundraising has begun. **We appreciate anything you are able to do, but we do not want you to feel pressured to participate. Please, do not do a fundraiser if it is a burden to you or your family.** Some parents want to support the fundraising goal but do not want to participate in fundraisers. You may do this by giving a Direct Donation. Write the checks to Mandala Children's House and put Direct Donation in the memo. We will put the money in the fundraising account. Pick the fundraiser that works for you. We are continuing to add money to the fundraising account to redo the windows in the classroom and repair some dry rot. This is a long term goal. We also continue to do smaller projects, such as: putting a new door on the heater room, putting a hot water heater in the Preschool classroom. Some of the large projects that fundraising money has paid for in the past: new carpet and flooring in the classrooms, new kitchen area in preschool, new cabinets in EPS and Preschool classroom, new cement patio and landscaping. All of these projects help maintain the quality of the environment of the school.



See's Candy Sales – Coordinator Rose Chang – 892-6542 email rhosebud@yahoo.com

We appreciate all the support for this fundraiser. All orders are due in the office. If you have a late order, please notify Rose to see if she can still accept the order.

Recycling: Thank you to the parents who have been using the recycling bins for plastic PETE #1 bottles (includes clear plastic bottles for cooking oil, water, mouthwash, fizzy drinks, peanut butter, salad dressing, medicine, etc.) and aluminum cans. We made \$62 in October from these bottles and cans. The recycling containers can be found on the deck by the Preschool files and one is on the Office Porch. **Please** clean out all bottles and cans and smash them before you bring them to school. We are looking for parents to volunteer to take the bottles and cans to the Recycling center. If you want to do this call Rose Chang, 892-6542 or email rhosebud@yahoo.com.



eScript: We want to thank all of the families who signed up for eScript. It is not too late to sign up. Also every year you need to go into the escript web site and re-activate your Safeway card. In addition when your credit card expires and you are sent a new one you need to update that on escrip. This is such an easy way to bring money to the school so please sign up and stay current.

Thai Lovers Night Out - We want to thank all of the families who braved the bad weather to dine at Thai Lovers. It was a fun evening and we earned \$90 for fundraising.

Pump It Up: Tuesday, November 10 at 5:30. If you are planning on participating, remember to come to the office and sign up and pay your money. We hope to have a table set up in front of the classroom this week so you can sign up there. Also, this is not a school night, Wed. is a holiday.

E-waste: On March 6 we will have an E-Waste pick up day. Save the date and start putting aside those old computers, monitors, television sets, printers etc. Save the date. More information to follow closer to the date.



Annual Shopping for the Holidays Fundraiser -Tues. Nov. 17

Coordinator - Diana Salim - 347-8611 - diana0530@yahoo.com



We have set up a shopping day for Mandala Families, friends, teachers and staff with the following merchants who will donate a percentage of your purchases to the school. We have been able to combine shopping and dining so you have a full day of enjoyment. You need to bring special flyers with you for the school to get credit. These flyers will be found in your child's file with extras in the office for friends and family.

- *El Paseo de Saratoga* - Shop at Learning Express Toys and All Ears Audio Books (these stores will donate 20% of your purchases. Eat at Pizza My Heart, between 11:00am and 4:00pm. They will donate 20%. Eat at Red Robin from 4:00 to 10:00 pm and they will donate 15%.

All School News

Classroom Openings



Morning Preschool: There are 2 openings in the MWF class and 4 openings in the T-Th class

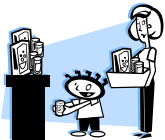
Afternoon Preschool: There are also some openings in the MWF and T-Th classes.

Help us fill our classes and get a \$100 break on your tuition. Attached are two coupons, one for you when you refer a family to the school who then enrolls and one for the new family. Give the coupons to the family you refer. They will bring them in when they enroll. You will receive \$100 of your tuition and they will get a credit of \$50 toward their registration fee. The coupons are good for parents enrolling for this school year and sign up to start no later than January. Extra coupons are available in the office.



School Pictures

Picture day went very well in all the classes. We want to thank all the parent helpers. Again the photographer from Red Balloon did a wonderful job, making it a positive experience. **The picture packets were put in your child's file this week. The class composite will follow in late November or early December.** If you want more pictures or have a problem with your package, **please call Red Balloon, 1-800-453-0335.** If your child missed school pictures they are doing make-ups on Wednesday, November 18 from 11:30 to 1:00. Please talk to Penny if you want your child's picture taken on that day. You can pick up a picture order form in the office for the make up day.



Food Bank Collection - The barrels will be here soon.

We want to encourage children to show compassion and concern for others. Include your child in purchasing food for the Second Harvest Food Bank and bring it to the school.

Your child can put it in the barrel so a less fortunate child will have food. A flyer will be sent home with a list of the most needed foods.

Summary of Your Child's Developmental Progress

On Monday, November 22 or Tuesday, November 23, your child's small group teacher will be sending home a form that summarizes your child's developmental progress.



The teachers have been observing and assessing your child's language, social, emotional, physical and cognitive development since he/she started school. We are using a new form this year, that I think will be easier for parents to note their child's developmental growth.

The new form is more specific and list appropriate developmental areas for the age group. Children fall into one of three categories; Not Yet (meaning they are not doing this yet at school), Emerging (the child is beginning to do this and is working on mastery) Mastery (the child does this every time, does it easily and with confidence.) After you read the form if you have any questions your child's small group teacher would be glad to set up a time to talk to you over the phone. If you are particularly concerned about your child's developmental progress, she will set up a conference with you.

In April, your child's small group teacher will have a 30-minute conference with you to review your child's developmental progress over the school year.



Flu Update: We had a number of children out sick with various viruses. We had one confirmed case of H1N1 and one unconfirmed but suspicious. All are recovering and will be back to school when they are completely well. As of this moment no new children were out sick today. I am attaching the newest update from the Health Department. Follow the suggestions and you can help us all stay healthy. We want to thank Carrie and Bill Anderson for ordering and putting up wall dispensers with safe non-toxic hand sanitizer. Now whenever a child sneezes or blows their nose they can go right over to the dispenser. It is great, thank you. We want to thank parents for working with us. I know many families were concerned and some wanted us to close the school. The flu is so out in our community, every school has had cases that we were in contact with, so children and families are getting exposed everywhere. Our teachers are being diligent in checking children at the door, in washing and sanitizing hands and surfaces. We keep lots of good fresh air coming into the classrooms. You can help the most by keeping children who are sick out of school. We will continue to keep you up to date.



We have some very exciting news. We are setting up a new way to get information home to you! SchoolSpeak is a program that facilitates electronic delivery of all school communication. SchoolSpeak uses a combination of web portal and email for effective information delivery. Core to SchoolSpeak is its personalized delivery of information. Every user in the system (you, the parent) will have a login with a password. *We will be using SchoolSpeak for our newsletters, calendars, teacher communication, and volunteer tracking. This system will automatically email you when we want to post announcements, or have needs for the classrooms.* We are in the process of gathering the information to activate School Speak. **In the next few weeks you will be contacted by SchoolSpeak with your personal login and password information.** Please know that this is a safe email, and mark it as such in your email account. To learn more about SchoolSpeak go to their web site: www.schoolspeak.com and check out the demo which will give you an overview. We won't be using everything that SchoolSpeak offers such as: posting report cards, since we don't have report cards. We hope to be up and running the beginning of January. Keep watching for flyers and informational emails we will be sending your way. We believe that you and your family are really going to enjoy this program. Please make sure to check with Suzi (Administrative Assistant) if you have any changes with your email address, and update those with her.