

Climbing to the Top

ccn

chico country news



Chico Country Day School provides a safe, joyful community where all learners are inspired to achieve their personal best.

{PTP Update}

Elections are Coming!

As another school year approaches the finish line, PTP is working on plans to ensure a smooth transition to the 2011/2012 school year. Event and budget planning for next year are underway and a budget will be presented for a vote at the last PTP meeting of the year, taking place Tuesday, May 10th at 6:30 PM in the MUR.

Elections for vacating PTP Officer positions will take place that same meeting. Positions to be elected for the Fall are President, Vice President, Committee List Officer, Secretary, and Information Officer. I am happy to report that our current Secretary, Sylvia DeVlaming, and Information Officer, Cheryl Mortenson, will be seeking re-election. In any case, newcomers will join experienced returning PTP officers, ensuring a seamless transition.

Parent involvement is a source of CCDS pride and it is an opportunity that comes but once, as are all of the opportunities that accompany parenting young children. I strongly encourage you to consider getting involved in a higher role at the school. It is a decision you will not regret. The foundation is solid, laid by years of amazing, dedicated parents. If you have any interest in getting involved with PTP, do not hesitate to e-mail me at shayne.law@jmsmucker.com.

Thanks to parent Brandi Aranguren stepping forward in support of CCDS merchandise, sales will be getting underway once again as weather permits on Fridays

at the end of the school day. In addition to the familiar tee shirts and sweatshirts (it is cold somewhere, right?!), Brandi secured long anticipated and sure to be coveted CCDS decals. Now we can all share our school pride!!! They are very affordable, so send a few dollars with your kids or take a peek just outside the door to the MUR on a sunny Friday when picking up.

May is action packed with events as the Challenge/Jog-A-Thon takes place on May 10th, followed by Faculty Follies May 13th, Bike Chico the week of May 16th and the school's annual Open House/ Dinner/Book Faire May 19th. Stay tuned for more information regarding these great school events.

—Shayne Law
PTP President

Are you ready for some Basketball?

Set Wednesday, May 4, 2011 aside for the 2nd annual CCDS Staff vs. 8th grade basketball game. The staff will begin their domination of the 8th graders at 6pm in the Pleasant Valley High School gymnasium. Don't eat dinner before because we will have pizza and drinks for sale, along with other treats. To get in the door, it will only cost you \$3 per person, or \$5 for a family. Come and enjoy a great evening of fun and competition!

CALENDAR

Wed. May 4— Staff v. 8th graders basketball game @ PV High School gym, 6pm

Tues. May 10—Jog-a-thon (rescheduled)

PTP meeting, 6:30pm, MUR

Wed. May 11— CCDS Board meeting, 6pm, Room 24

Fri. May 13—Faculty Follies, El Rey Theatre, 4:30 and 7pm shows

May 16-20—Bike Chico Week

Tues. May 17— Spring Choir Concert

Thurs. May 19— Open House/Dinner/ Spring Book Fair

Sat. May 21—8th grade dinner dance

Mon. May 30—Memorial Day
No School

Thurs. June 2—8th grade graduation, 4pm, Bidwell Bowl Amphitheatre

Fri. June 3—CCDS Bridging Ceremony, 11am: LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

Wed. June 8—CCDS Board of Directors meeting, 6pm, Room 24

Sun. June 26—North Valley Day at the Bay - SF Giants game

Congrats Honor Roll Students

Chico Country Day School is proud to announce second trimester honor roll students.

7th Grade:

Brooke Ayon, Leina Clarke, Emma Demorest, Theodore Greenfield, Donald Hansen, Sean Hardesty, Chloe Herman, Madisen Hiney, Hailey House, KaiAlexander Kiesling, Jacob Kovacs, Olivia Leiker, Grace Massa, Meghan Murphy, Duncan Ober, Lilyanne Price, Hannah Stemen, Madison Stevens, Marlee Stover, Samantha Vance, Daniel Walsh, Hannah Benson, Grace Buchanan, Caitlyn Buyert, Chad Gardner, Nick Gazda, Alyssa Hardesty, Fiona Hull, Samantha Laine, Gabriella Mace, Claire Morrison, Olivia Najera, Ethan Nash, Sawyer Olson, Heather Pembroke, Mirella Perez, Abby Smith, Kelli Thorup, Elsa Walsh, Lily White

8th Grade:

Zachary Brousseau, Kelsey Chambers, Kendra Fox, Elizabeth Hunt, Kevin Louber, Mikayla Poli, Dakota Price, Amelia Zepeda, Grant Adams, Elizabeth Allen, Marissa Brake, Sadie Bridge, Alyssa Buyert, Maya Cassidy-Church, Julia Coons, Kaila Davidson, Riley Fischer, Alizé Hall, Alex Hawkins, Amanda Howey, Annaliese Kuhn, Camille Mavis, Dora McKenzie, Jordan Page, Adam Penn, Nolan Powell, Morgan Rackley, Sophia Rogers-Davidson.

{Principal's Report}

Tough Budget Times Ahead

Over the past three years we have seen our funding from the State decrease by nearly 25%. Despite this, CCDS has been able to maintain its programs and not lay-off employees. This is due to sound fiscal management, conservative allocations of resources by our Board of Directors, and voluntary concessions made by our staff. Over the years our teachers and staff have agreed to wage freezes, a higher contribution to their medical benefits, and a reduction in materials and supplies for their classrooms and programs. A big thank you should go out to our staff for their willingness to be part of the solution in these very difficult financial times.

In May the State will provide all schools with a revised budget, which will detail any further revenue reductions for this coming year. We don't know the extent of these reductions, though preliminary indicators suggest anywhere from \$350/ADA to \$1,000/ADA. The CCDS Finance committee and Board of Directors, along with input from parents and staff are working hard to come up with alternatives and a list of priorities for CCDS so that we can absorb budget cuts in a manner that will minimize impact on students, parents and staff. Be assured that decisions made will be for the long term benefit of CCDS and its programs.

We are very fortunate at CCDS to have active involved parents – some of whom are able to make financial contributions to our school. In terms of field trips, classroom supplies and special events these financial contributions are also very important and much appreciated. Those families who are not able to contribute financially, but do so through the generous contribution of their time, energy and ideas share as well in deserving credit for helping to maintain our programs and the quality of education here at CCDS. Thank you everyone for all you do. We will be providing more information on these financial issues as we get more information from the State.

—Paul and Margaret

Faculty Follies

Come join us at the El Rey Theatre
on Friday, May 13th
for FACULTY FOLLIES 2011!

Two shows to choose from:
4:30pm and 7pm
\$7 for K-8 students / \$10 for adults
Tickets are available NOW in the office
or through your child's teacher.

Tickets will go quickly...so reserve your seats TODAY!

Art News

I would like to thank all of the parents who helped make both the Student Art Show and the Mall Art Show a huge success. Every year I am amazed when I walk through the show and see the fabulous art that the students at our school have created. It is wonderful to see the proud faces of the kids as they show their artwork to family and friends. Below are some comments from students about the Art Show:

Kylee Dewey said, "I liked all the different colors in the paintings."

Jade Clarke said, "That's the coolest art I ever saw."

Bella Gordon said, "Everything that was in the art show looked so beautiful and creative."

I would also like to congratulate third grader, Erik Faith, for taking 2nd place for his Conservation Message in the Federal Junior Duck Stamp Competition. His message will be displayed with the California Duck Stamp winning entries around the state of California. Way to go Erik for your hard work in promoting waterfowl conservation!

Again, our art program at CCDS is successful because of the dedication and support of our parents. Thanks so much.

Kari Zigan
Fine Arts Teacher

{Lifeskills: Perseverance and Effort}

Words of Wisdom from 3rd Grade

Perseverance and effort were the life skills for March which go hand in hand. Effort counts! We always remember to appreciate success but often forget to acknowledge the hard work that led to it. Perseverance leads to continuing progress. It's not only the initial effort a child puts forth in conquering a challenge that matters but the staying power as well.

Here are some books that you might want to read with your child(ren) that show perseverance and effort: *A New Coat For Anna* by Harriet Ziefert, *Where The Buffaloes Begin* by Olaf Baker for primary students and *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes* by Eleanor Coeer, *May'naise Sandwiches & Sunshine and Tea* by Sandra Belton for the intermediate grades and *Quilted Landscapes: Conversations with Young Immigrants* by Yale Storm or *Within Reach: My Everest Story* by Mark Pfetzer and Jack Galvin for Middle School or High School students.

Here is a perseverance chant that you could try at home:

I'm halfway through, no time to quit
Although I'm tired and want to sit
I won't give up until it's done
Perseverance is so much fun!

Congratulations to our 2011 Science Fair winners!

1st Place

Eli Trites
Elizabeth Ober
Kaylan Stevens
Diego Soza
Flynn Davis
Liam Murphy
Sarah Schlund
Jack Jervey
Erika Schroth
Mathew Ratekin-Dick
Micah Kuhn
Lauren Powell
Caleb Cooley
Olivia Clarke
Ian Tietz

2nd Place

Gus and Grace Daverson
Riley Farrell
Aaron Hull
Maeve Lawson
Alex Santoyo
Bea Fischer
Lucas Lantz
Spencer Christiansen
Emily Efseaff
Hannah Pembroke
Tyler Polosky
Shelby Scalise
Olivia Stover
Mackenzie Teal
Mrs. Efseaff's Class
Django Clarke
Dane Garrett
Jack Koentopf

3rd Place

Luke Eisenman
Noah Trento
Tonie Leech
Sophia Winter
Brienna Downham
Allison Efseaff
Carly Efseaff
Micaela Fox
Dylan McCowan
Madison Meuter
Leeza Coolidge
Serena Kuhn
Jelani Cornell
Jade Green
Austin Metroka
James Prefontaine
A.J. Sanseverino
Riley Snodgrass

Thank you to these folks who helped our at All School Clean on April 30

- Jimmy and Emma Pasquale
- Patrice Jackson
- Neosha Dunkley
- Mary Smith
- Jim McKenzie
- Brad Downham
- Shannon Pozas
- Anthony and Louise Wortham
- Linda Ingvoldson
- Julia Coolidge
- Geoff and Dylan Lawson
- Aaron Frandsen
- Chris Mauer & Reece Harris
- Ben Beckman
- Trenton Harris
- Joshua and Lisa Rash and Family
- Joleen Illes
- Lisa Sapp
- Luanne and Makenna Hiney

{Lifeskills: Humor and Pride}

Learning the Importance of Sense of Humor and Pride in 5th grade

Fifth grade students are an imaginative and energetic group of kids. In addition to grasping fractions, studying American history, learning about the periodic table of elements and reading a variety of literature, fifth graders are also developing their personal character by learning and practicing essential Life Skills. Our two Life Skills for April, Sense of Humor and Pride, are valuable qualities which help to build a successful character both at school as well as throughout life.

A sense of humor is a great personality trait and people enjoy it when we can make one another laugh. In helping students learn and practice this valuable Life Skill, I make a point to remind them that having a sense of humor isn't just about being funny, but having a sense and knowledge of the appropriateness of when and how to express their humor. Also reinforced in our classroom is the principle that respect is the key component which distinguishes a sense of humor from laughter at someone else's expense, and that teasing and bullying are never funny. Whether sharing a funny story, telling a silly joke or laughing with one another at Frankie the singing fish, my fifth graders are learning the important truth, as Victor Borge stated, that "Laughter is the shortest distance between two people."

Along with learning to develop a respectful sense of humor, my fifth grade students are continually striving to shape their character of pride. Each week I routinely see students practicing great study habits, such as making flashcards, staying organized and completing assignments ahead of time, in an effort to give their best. In addition to managing their weekly assignments diligently and with responsibility, I've seen my students demonstrate great pride during many of our "Being There" fieldtrip experiences as well as in the work they did on their recent school science fair projects. I consistently like to point to such experiences and prior successes to remind my class that "Having pride pays off!" and "How you do anything is how you do everything!".

— Mr. Christiansen



Mom's of Chico is featuring Chico Country Day the month of May. When guests order the 3+2+2 a donation will be made to CCDS. Hours of operation are 7:00am to 2:00pm Monday through Friday and 7:00am to 3:00pm on Saturday and Sunday with the 3+2+2 available all day.