



Miraloma Gazette

Miraloma Elementary School, San Francisco, CA * November 26, 2003

Volunteer Opportunities

Library Volunteers always needed. We are very flexible! We need you whenever you can help! Stop by the library during school hours or call Catherine Sparacino 664-5214.

Yard Duty – Noon time volunteers to monitor and lead activities. Contact Marcia Parrott.

Computer Lab – Needs help finding a part-time computer lab aide \$25/hr, 3 hours/day, \$10k for the year. Other volunteer help needed, contact Marcia Parrott.

PTA Committees – Maintain Parent Room, Parent Involvement, Parent Outreach, Parent Education, Grant Writing, Fund Raising, Budget, Hospitality, Arts, Yearbook, gardening, Physical Education, and Spring Festival. Please contact any PTA mailbox in the School Office.

Read-a-thon - Parent volunteers are needed to help make the read-a-thon a success for all students in all classes. Please contact Anita Dennis at anita@anitadennis.com or 415-337-8280 if you'd like to help organize the event.



The Potty Parade at the First Annual Rummage Sale

Fund Raising

Fundraising Update

Contributed by Anita Dennis

The Miraloma PTA's fundraising efforts so far this year has been very successful: In total, we've raised more than \$16,000--right on target with our goals. The Annual Giving Campaign has raised \$9,100 toward our new performing arts curriculum (and checks are still trickling in!); the Sally Foster Gift Wrap Sales Drive raised \$3,500 for assemblies; and our First Annual Rummage Sale raised \$3,700 for a new kindergarten play structure.

Many thanks to all of the volunteers who've worked so hard to make these events so successful: Tanja Gubser, Laurrie Petrelli, Elizabeth Halperin, Ellie Rossiter, Lorraine Woodruff-Long, Linda Rodriguez, and many, many others.

Save Those Box Tops!

Remember to clip and save Box Tops 4 Education from participating General Mills products, visit www.boxtops4education.com for a detailed list of participating products. While there, register as a Box Tops Booster and do your holiday shopping online through the Box Tops Marketplace! Get your shopping out of the way and earn money for our school!

Donate Used Printer Cartridges

Save your used printer cartridges and drop them off in the collection box in the parent room. Miraloma receives \$3 per recyclable printer cartridge. Note: Epson cartridges can not be refurbished.

Upcoming Events

Get Ready for the Read-a-thon

Contributed by Anita Dennis

Get ready, students and parents: when you come back from the Winter Break it will be time for the Second Annual Miraloma Spring Read-a-thon. Again this year, the PTA is sponsoring the read-a-thon to raise money for our **California Poets in the Schools** curriculum and other programs.

What's a read-a-thon and how does it work?

First, students gather sponsors who pledge to pay a certain amount of money for each book that the student reads. Then the students read, read, read as much as they can for four weeks. Finally, they tally their pages and collect their pledges. Not only does the read-a-thon support an important academic program but it also encourages positive reading habits and builds literacy. The top readers in each class will receive prizes--free books at the next Scholastic Book Fair! The one class that reads the most books cumulatively will win an ice cream party!

So mark your calendars and watch your Wednesday envelopes: students will gather sponsors in January, read in February, and winners will be announced in March.

Parent volunteers are needed to help make the read-a-thon a success for all students in all classes. Please contact Anita Dennis at anita@anitadennis.com or 415-337-8280 if you'd like to help organize the event.

Kindergarten Open House

Contributed by Amy O'Hair

Thursday December 4th, 7 to 8pm, the school is holding an open house for parents looking for a school for next year. It features a presentation from a school district representative about the enrollment process, information about Miraloma, and introductions to the kindergarten teachers, the principal, and current parents. The K classrooms will be open for visiting. Childcare and refreshments provided. Tell anyone you know who is looking for a school!

School Site Council

Do you have a younger child starting Kindergarten next year? Avoid the long lines downtown and apply by December 5th at Miraloma!

Contributed by Lorraine Woodruff Long

Children with an older sibling currently at Miraloma who will be starting Kindergarten in the 2004-2005 School Year qualify for early assignment if the enrollment application is submitted by Friday, December 5. Enrollment applications are in the Miraloma office and contain a full and detailed description of the SFUSD enrollment process and deadlines.

Please note that you **MUST** turn in an enrollment application to enter any child into the San Francisco Unified School District. No sibling is guaranteed a Kindergarten spot unless they complete the enrollment process.

There are several advantages to enrolling by December 5th:

1. It's much more convenient for you.

Completed applications for younger siblings can **ONLY** be received at the Miraloma office before December 5th.

After that, applications will **ONLY** be received downtown at the SFUSD Educational Placement Center at 555 Franklin. Historically, the lines are long and the process is much more time consuming.

2. Your child will have a guaranteed kindergarten spot at Miraloma earlier than all others entering the district for the first time.

Your child will receive a pre-assignment letter in January and be given the opportunity to enroll in February before all others entering SFUSD begin the enrollment process.

If you do not put in your application by December 5th, you can still be part of the first round of enrollment if you turn in your application at SFUSD headquarters by January 17. Miraloma has become a much more popular choice for all parents in recent years and to be guaranteed a spot at Miraloma next year, it is important to submit an enrollment application no later than January 17 for Round One. Siblings are, however, given priority at any point in the SFUSD enrollment process. For further information, please contact Lorraine Woodruff-Long at 841-0114.



HAPPY

THANKSGIVING

From the Miraloma
Gazette Staff

Monday 12/01	Tuesday 12/02	Wednesday 12/03	Thursday 12/04	Friday 12/05	Saturday 12/06
			3-5 Sing Along	K-2 Sing Along	
Monday 12/08	Tuesday 12/09	Wednesday 12/10	Thursday 12/11	Friday 12/12	Saturday 12/13
PTA Meeting 6:30 PM Library			3-5 Sing Along	K-2 Sing Along	
Monday 12/15	Tuesday 12/16	Wednesday 12/17	Thursday 12/18	Friday 12/19	Saturday 12/20
School Site Council Meeting 6:30 PM Library	ELAC Meeting San		School Advisory Committee	Parent Principal Chat 8:15AM Parent Room	

PTA News

Thank you!

The Officers of the PTA wish to express their deep thanks to Ellie Rossiter, Lorraine Woodruff-Long, and Linda Rodriguez, who along with helpers made the Rummage Sale the great success that it was. This was due to a great deal of initiative and hard work on their part. In particular we would like to applaud Ellie Rossiter's efforts -- Ellie is a kindergarten parent whose work on this project actually began before her child was here! Lorraine's efforts at publicity made sure there were plenty of people there to buy the items, and Linda's organization and cheery speed in the check-out process kept everything moving. We are now \$3700 closer to realizing our goal of a new kindergarten play-structure.

--Heidi Edwards, Amy O'Hair, Moneka Urbanske, Patsy Taoyama, Anita Dennis, and Anne Schwarz.

Holiday Shopping Can Make Money for Miraloma

Go to www.escrip.com to register your credit card with eScrip -- enter Miraloma's number (5109134) to be sure we get money from the program. Then print out the list of sponsoring stores -- look for ones where you can do holiday shopping. While at the website, also register your Safeway card, where we get 2% of all your purchases. Shop online through www.boxtops4education.com and earn money for Miraloma! Register as a Box Tops Booster and then start shopping in the Box Tops Marketplace!

PTA Meeting -- Monday December 8th

Agenda items include Read-a-thon, Spring Festival, kindergarten play-structure. Please join us. You need not be a member to attend, or you may join the PTA at any time.

Many Thanks to the Regular Wednesday Envelope Stuffers!

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Many Thanks to the Regular Wednesday Envelope Stuffers!

Contributed by Amy O'Hair

Led by Cathy Yee, a regular and semi-regular group of parents having been stuffing our Wednesday envelopes. Debora Tingley, Lori Lack, Ellie Rossiter, Chester Hartsough, Peter Li, Lorraine Woodruff-Long, Elizabeth Halperin, Heidi Edwards, Kathleen Wydler, and others.

Spotlight On:

School Tours Help Spread the Word

Every Tuesday at 8:30am Miraloma parent volunteers lead twenty to twenty-five prospective parents on a tour of the school. This important work is led by Elizabeth Halperin, helped by Ellie Rossiter, Angie Blackwell, Kathleen Wydler, Lorraine Woodruff-Long, Heidi Edwards, and others.

Katie Handelman has been providing childcare. Several fifth grade students have volunteered to talk with prospective parents: Chris Bassett, Ben Halperin, Gloria Yee, Destiny Sacks, Mo Ying Tsui, Kimberley Chow, and James Lee. As well as Ms Parrott, our Principal has been taking generous amounts of time to talk with these prospective parents every week.

If you have friends who are looking for a school for their pre-schooler, encourage them to come on a tour!

Student's Corner:

Super Hognose Saves the Day

by David Liang Rm 105

One day there was a dog named Hognose. Hognose was a good dog. But one day he got stricken by lightning. Hognose turned into Super Hognose. Then, a monster from Planet X came and invaded the earth. The monster was a terrible monster! He killed a bee and squished a helpless ant. Everybody was so scared that everybody ran away. Then Super Hognose came and tried to kill the monster. To do this, he let go of his stink bomb and then the monster smelled the fumes. So, the monster returned to his space ship and went back to Planet X.

"I'm Thinking"

by Karry Jane Farebrother Rm 105

I'm thinking about a mermaid. I'm thinking about the mermaid's friends. The mermaid's friends are all the fishies in the sea. The mermaid's best friend is the sea is a whale.

The mermaid's next best friend is Mrs. Dolfin and Mr. Dolfin. Mr. Dolfin and Mrs. Dolfin have Junior Dolfin. They just call him George or George, junior. George went on an adventure one day with the mermaid.

And the adventure was great. They went fishing for humans! But they threw them back on shore because they were vegetarians. They only ate veggies-if they could find some.

Junior Dolfin and the mermaid went to a magical place in the little lake. And they turned into humans. Then, they went on shore and used flowers and grass for clothes. The girl made the grass was there into a hula skirt. Then they sprouted wings and they flew up in the sky. And they went back and brought all the other sea animals up and lived happily ever after.

THE END

Contributors: Amy O'Hair, Lorraine Woodruff Long, Wandaline Perrelli, Anita Dennis, Kathleen Burkett & Marcia Parrott

Please email all Submissions to miralomagazette@yahoo.com
Or drop submissions in the **Miraloma Gazette** submissions box in the Parent Room