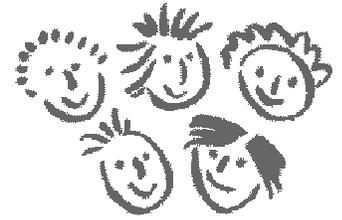


MIRALOMA GAZETTE

MIRALOMA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
SAN FRANCISCO, CA + JAN. 11, 2006



Martin Luther King Day Is

Monday, Jan. 16

No School

**Lunes 16 de enero—Conmemoración
por el nacimiento del Martin Luther King Jr.**

1月16日, 星期一

馬丁路德金紀念日

Staff Development Day Is

Friday, Jan. 27

No School

**Viernes 27 de enero—Día de capacitación
para el personal**

1月27日, 星期五

教師專業培訓日

Parent-Principal Chat on Friday, Jan. 20

Join us on Friday, Jan. 20, in room 109 (MEEP), from 8:15 to 9:00 a.m. This is a great chance to hear from Ms. Parrott, meet other parents, and have your questions answered. Refreshments served. Younger kids are welcome.

Parent Lucy Pozzoni has overseen the coffee and treats for this event in the past, but her family has just moved. Are you interested in coordinating the goodies? Contact volunteer coordinator Katie Handelman at 920-9593 or poppy3@jps.net.

Meeting for Parent/Guardian Tutors, Jan. 24

On Tuesday, Jan. 24, from 6 to 7 p.m. in room K1. This meeting will include a check in for current tutors and helpful tutoring strategies. There are still openings for tutors. If you are interested, please come to this meeting or contact Stacy Moore at 824-6189 or stacy@walstads.net.

GATE Informational Session on Jan. 30

By Christie Kitsuda, GATE Coordinator for Miraloma

There will be a GATE (Gifted and Talented Education) informational and question-and-answer session on Monday, Jan. 30, from 1 to 2 p.m., in room 103.

Note: this is not the GATE parent workshop that is offered later in the spring, which will still be held then.

If you have questions, contact Christie Kitsuda at christiej527@yahoo.com.

See's Candy Fundraiser Starts Today

Check today's Wednesday envelope for your packet of materials for the See's Candy Valentines fundraiser. We have only two weeks to gather orders—ask your friends and family members if they'd like to purchase. Several different items are available. Orders are due Thursday Jan. 26.

If you did not receive the packet, or need additional materials, please contact Janet Razvaliaeff at 648-0697 or Raz1094@sbcglobal.net.

Winter Music Festival on Friday Jan. 20

Come see the upper grade students perform compositions on recorder, violin, and flute. Held at 1 p.m. in the auditorium.

The Next Chevy's Night Is Thursday, Feb. 2

Mark your calendar now. Thursday, Feb. 2 will be the next Chevy's night to benefit Miraloma. Meet up with other Miraloma families at the Stonestown Chevy's, enjoy a meal, and the restaurant will donate 20% of the proceedings to our school. Details later.

Parent Surveys: Your Input Counts!

The School Site Council solicits parent input via a yearly survey. Take this opportunity to share your reflections on your child's school. You may either take the survey online—which is most helpful for the parent volunteers tabulating results—or answer the questions on the paper version coming home in next week's Wednesday envelope. The online survey will be announced on the Miraloma listserv. Surveys are due back by Jan. 27.

Featured Staff Member

Interview by Amy O'Hair

Name: Janet Pandolfi

Years at Miraloma: I've been at Miraloma for 17 years, and with the school district for 27. I'm a San Francisco native, and went to Hillcrest Elementary School.

What she does: I am the Student Advisor. Most schools have a student advisor, but they do different things in different schools.

I coordinate the Student Success Team (SST). A staff member and/or parent who has a concern about their child may request an SST. Parents may also contact the school or teacher and begin this process themselves.

A meeting is held, with the principal, myself, the teacher, the parents, and another teacher who represents the teachers as a whole. The parent may also bring along someone else, such as a social worker. Other staff members sometimes attend, such as our school psychologist, USF interns, the speech therapist, or the resource specialist. We all work together to meet the needs of the student so they can succeed in school.

We meet once a month. I record the meeting. I coordinate and monitor follow-ups and seek additional resources if needed. I keep track of the whole process with files and keep a master log for all SSTs. Then I provide support for these students in the classrooms and on the yard.

Another job I do here is coordinate and oversee Conflict Managers. That's a program for fourth- and fifth graders where they are trained to help their peers resolve conflicts on the yard during recesses. Some teachers also use their conflict-manager students in the classroom. The managers learn to help students resolve their own problems. They ask questions such as "What would you do different next time?" and have the kids come up with their own answers.

I have also been training second and third graders to act as conflict managers on the kindergarten yard. Now they have their own trainees!

I also monitor tardiness. When students have a problem getting to school on time, I follow up with phone calls or letters home. Once a week I meet with Ms Parrott and Eliska [the school secretary] to review attendance issues. I make it a point to give positive feedback, praise, and incentives for students who've made improvements. We've even bought alarm clocks for parents!

Other things I do include resolving bus issues, such as when students break the rules on the bus. I am also on yard duty each lunchtime recess, creating a fun, positive, and safe environment. I try to make myself available to parents around the school for any questions they may have.

What she likes about Miraloma: The kids. The most exciting part is when a light bulb goes off and a student says "I can do it!" or "I'll try!" When they smile all of a sudden and it all comes together.

A special memory from her student days: I liked school. I loved to play kickball. I was one of the few girls who played kickball. Math and science were my favorite subjects.

We had May Day. Hardly anyone knows what that is anymore. We'd all dance—dances from different cultures around the world.

Other interests: I love my garden. I love bowling and baseball. I'm an usher for the Giants and the 49ers. I love spending time with my family, especially my grandchildren.



Featured Volunteer

Interview by Leslie Kirk Campbell

Name: Lucy Pozzoni

Children at Miraloma: Isabella Scott in fourth grade (pictured) and Olivia Scott in second grade.

Years as a Miraloma family: Five

Favorite thing about Miraloma: When I first toured, I loved the school facility. It really looked like a school! And it was in great shape. After meeting Marcia Parrott, I knew for sure that this was the right school for my children.

Later on, I found the staff here to be absolutely amazing. The entire school community is warm and welcoming—like an extended family. As I look back, I know that Ms. Howard and Mr. Marples, two of my daughters' teachers, will be friends for life.

How you volunteer at Miraloma: For the last two years, I have coordinated refreshments for the monthly Principal Chats. I have volunteered once a week for five years in my children's classrooms, working one-on-one with individual kids doing math games and reading, and going on countless field trips. I'll do anything anyone asks me to do as long as it's a one-time shot. I need that flexibility.

Best part about volunteering: The best part is hanging out with my kids and seeing them in their classroom environment, seeing who their friends are and what they are like.

Impact volunteering has on your children: For them, it's a given that my husband and I are around and part of their lives. They've come to rely on it. Just last week, I told Ms. Rosen's class that I couldn't stay that day. "What do you mean you're not going to stay?" the students asked, my daughter Olivia included, "It's Tuesday! You're supposed to be here with us."

Advice to parents about volunteering: Look around. There are ample opportunities for everybody. Do what works for you. If you have interests outside the organized structure, you can always find something that fits. Whatever you do, you'll make a difference, not only for your own kids, but for all the students.

Other interests: I love to read: history, biography, trashy beach novels. I'll read anything you put in front of me, even toothpaste ingredients. I also love to cook, browse food magazines, and eat. I like sticks, rocks, and shells. When hiking or backpacking, I'm always on the lookout for the ones that most need to be in my life.

Lucy Pozzoni and her family moved to London, England on January 8, 2006. They will be gone for at least two years. We will miss them!

Last words from Lucy: I know that we're going to miss what we have here at Miraloma. After having to move to London for a while three years ago, we were so happy to be back home.

Email Lucy and her family at lucypozzoni@yahoo.com.



Principal's Corner

Parents, Guardians, Staff, and Students,

A very Happy New Year to all of you! We have such an exciting 2006 to look forward to—construction of our new kindergarten play structure, expansion our educational gardening areas on the upper floor terrace, technology and math workshops for staff and parents, our Winter Music Festival, lots of field trips, fundraisers, and family activities!

This is also the time to review the progress towards our goals for student achievement as described in our Academic Plan. It is very important for you to complete our school survey, so we can assess areas of accomplishment and areas of challenge. Students will also complete surveys to express what they think and how they feel about their learning experiences. We will have community meetings on February 13 and March 13 to share this information and plan ways to improve our 2006 Academic Plan for student achievement. We hope to have 100% participation in this process!

Thank you for all your support and involvement in our children's "years of wonderment."

—Marcia Parrott, Principal

Heifer International Fund Drive

By Rebecca Hilario

Our student's generosity spirit has proven itself once again. Together, all of the classes brought in \$505 in December towards the goal of purchasing animals that will be sent to families worldwide.

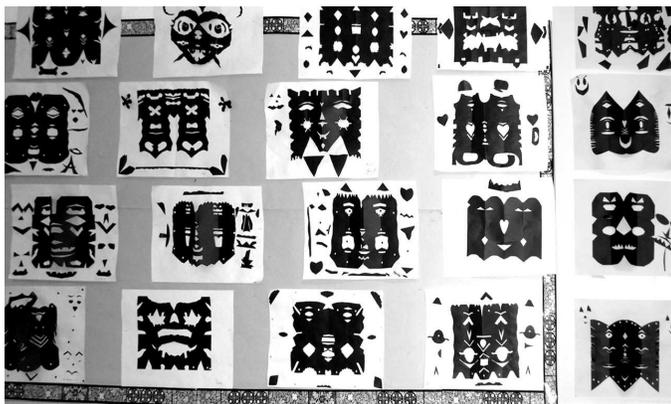
Seven flocks of chickens, two flocks of ducks and geese, four trios of rabbits and shares in goats, llamas, and a buffalo were purchased by our children to help sustain the future of families around the world. Congratulations Miraloma for your kind hearts and generous spirit in a year when so many were pulling at our heart and purse strings. If you would like to know more about Heifer International, visit their web site at www.heifer.org.

Yearbook Volunteers Needed

Help the yearbook team put together an excellent souvenir. We're looking for volunteers to help out the following areas. Contact Julie Clark at oregonclark4@aol.com, 584-3264 or 359-7587.

- **Sales.** Sending home and processing order forms. Pair up with a friend and work together.
- **Montage pages** for MEEP, KASPER, and Sports4Kids.
- **Other graphic/layout tasks.** Experience a plus, but not necessary.

Room 10 Cuts Up



Fifth graders in room 10 made striking paper cutouts in December. Check them out in the downstairs hall.

Home Sweet Home: Room 112 Makes Gingerbread Houses

By Hana Huang, first-grade teacher

First graders in Room 112 had their annual Gingerbread House Project right before the winter break. Students had so much fun decorating their house with many different candies, such as M&Ms, red vines, marshmallows, gum drops, and more—all donated by parents.

There were some "finger-licking" moments when the students claimed that the frosting got stuck to their fingers and wouldn't come off! Some houses had gardens and even a chimney made of marshmallows. Some roofs had so much candy on top that they caved in! Each house was different and special in its own way. We had such a blast putting our houses together.

Please come by in a few weeks to see pictures of our houses.

Photos: Above, Michael Halperin shows off his creation. Below, left to right: Amir Boddie, Lucinda Walstad (rear), Jarod Angst, and Sam Garcia hard at work.



Lucinda Walstad uses icing to glue on her candies. Photos by Hana Huang.

Arts Education: Dance

By Jeff Kaliss, Miraloma Arts Committee Chair

This is the first in a series of profiles Jeff Kaliss will be presenting about the San Francisco Arts Education Project (SFAEP), a program that is now in its third year at Miraloma.

We'll get our profiles off on the right foot with the man who's been teaching dance to our kindergartners and first, second, and third graders, Michael Koob.

"To them, I'm Silly Michael, the guy who gets them to play Monkey," he points out. But Michael is in fact an experienced dancer and choreographer. Nine years ago this week, by mayoral proclamation, TRANSIT/The Benefit Project Day commemorated Michael's TRANSIT dance company and their success in raising funds for non-profits.

Here at his Miraloma day-job, Michael applies some of the same multi-ethnic, expressionistic techniques he studied in his native Philadelphia under Hellmut Gottschild, an assistant to influential German choreographer Mary Wigman. And he manages to integrate all that into elementary academic curriculum, and make it fun!

"Kindergartners are still working on how to go to school," notes Michael. "In second grade, we're working on a lot of fractions and money-counting. We have The Money Dance, where each kid pretends that he or she is a quarter. They'll be dancing around, and we'll stop. And I'll say, 'I need a fifty-cent shape'. So they have to figure out that it takes two kids to make that shape. Or for a dollar, they have to run around and scramble to have four of them together. By third grade, they start watching each other improvise and have to describe what they see."

Michael currently serves SFAEP at one private and four public schools, and finds Miraloma in particular to be "a blend of everything socioeconomically, ethnically, and religiously, which is fun. If it's an African [dance] tradition and you're white, I say cool, go ahead and do it. I don't like segregation of things."

Although some Miraloma staff may not have known what to expect when Michael first appeared here three years ago, they've come to appreciate his enhancement of their teaching. Now, he says, "they're all very engaged, working with the kids and dancing and stretching with them." Even parents join in. It's a peak experience in everyone's week.



Michael Koob (right) leads Mrs. Simmons' happy kindergartners through their weekly exposure to dance. Photo by Jeff Kaliss.

Seen in the Hall



Four students from Ms Kirman's fifth-grade class worked together in the hallway on a science project on a recent morning. Clockwise from top: Alan Ly, Stephen Huang, Jammy Yu, and Brent Regis. Photo by Amy O'Hair.

New PTA Money Forms

By Jay Vyas, PTA Treasurer

The work of the Miraloma Elementary PTA involves a fair and growing amount of monetary activities, such as receiving donations, fundraising, reimbursing community members, teachers, and vendors for expenses incurred, and so on.

As part of the continual development and improvement of procedures surrounding this activity, there are now two new forms related to expense reimbursements and to deposits that people involved in these activities should use. These new forms are being put in place to minimize confusion as to money flows and to provide a clean audit trail.

The expense reimbursement form (which can also be used as a check request form for the time being) is simply an updated version of the previous form. The update is fairly minor—there are now instructions on the bottom for filling it out.

The deposit form is new, and will be an important tool in our record keeping and audit and reconciliation activities. Simply put, if you have checks or cash that you are delivering to the PTA for deposit, you need to fill out one of these forms and detail the cash amounts, the check amounts, the totals, etc. Most people had been doing this already, but sometimes it was on the back of an envelope or on a post-it. This form simply formalizes and systematizes what we've generally been doing.

One important change to the deposit process has to do with cash. If you are handing over more than \$250 in cash, you will need to get the amount verified by one of the PTA board members prior to putting it in the PTA box or giving it to the Treasurer. If the cash amount is greater than \$1000, you will need to coordinate with the PTA Treasurer (contact info below) directly.

The above description is more complicated than the actual forms, so no need to be daunted!

Both forms are located in the PTA mail box in the office (below and to the right of the teacher mailboxes).

The PTA Treasurer, Jay Vyas, can be contacted best via e-mail: jay_p_vyas@yahoo.com or second best, by phone 585-4327 (home).

Second-Grade Ceramics: Holiday Pots

Below are photos of students from Ms. Shivers's, Ms. Vezinaw's, and Ms. Rosen's classes. Text by Ms. Vezinaw.

The second-grade classes created their first pottery project in December. The process started with molding clay into bowls and then firing. After the first firing the students glazed their pots, which is like painting. After the second firing, the students wrapped their pots and took them home for holiday presents.

Excellent work, second graders!



Alia Kairy and Jhullia Ferreira dos Santos (a visiting fifth grader) concentrate on the construction and decoration.



Kali Kecskemeti measures her work carefully.



Bruno Montez-Avila and Jonah Bentzien are satisfied with the first stage of the process.



Once the pieces are fired, students apply colored glazes. Romel Greene coats his pot with bright colors.



Ariana Li and Shalia Kairy paint glaze on their pots. Then the pots went back for another firing.



These student artists look pleased with the final results of their efforts!

Photos by Amy O'Hair.

Jingle Bell Rockers

By Lisa Petrie

On Saturday evening, Dec. 9, fifth-grade teacher Kay Kirman and Miraloma student guitarists created a festive holiday air at the Presidio Theater on Chestnut Street. The event was sponsored by Starbucks and Little Kids Rock. The crowd enjoyed "Jingle Bells" and Starbucks treats under the snow machine brought in for the occasion.

Little Kids Rock is a nonprofit that sponsors guitar instruction for elementary-school-age students. See www.littlekidsrock.org.



Ms. Kirman warms up her musicians with hand exercises.



Marika Stuurman and Clover Austin-Muehleck strumming.



Michelle Chin, Karry Jane Farebrother, and Noam Baruch all rock. Photos Wandaline Perelli and Lisa Petrie.

Classroom Family Potlucks: A Miraloma Tradition

By Leslie Kirk Campbell

On Monday evening, Dec. 5, Ms. Campbell's third-/fourth-grade combination class threw a family potluck that drew 56 people to eat El Salvadoran samosas, homemade tamales, and freshly baked apple pie. With a one-foot by two-foot, bright red, snowflake-covered invitation coming home to the parents from our children, how could we refuse?

On that memorable night, room 14 was party heaven. The students had spent the week decorating the walls and chairs and preparing a performance for their parents and siblings. The room soon filled with the chatter of parents and the laughter of exuberant children, followed by the sweet sound of these same children thundering up and down the halls. Ms. Campbell's favorite cool jazz played on the boom box and everyone, regardless of their leg length, sat elbow to elbow happily eating and drinking on grade-school chairs.

Ms. Campbell had organized her students to perform some skits they were learning as part of the SF Art Education Project (SFAEP). There was a poetry reading, in which many students shared poems they had written under the inspired direction of our poet in residence Sally Doyle. The entertainment included a holiday choral performance, with the room 14 students who are members of the Miraloma Chorus. In the end, no one wanted to leave!

The Classroom Potluck has become a Miraloma tradition. Many classrooms have thrown a party as a way of bringing their students, families, and the teacher together to enjoy the pleasures of community. Every year, the room parents work hard to get full participation by all families in classroom parties.

After the party over, you're likely to find party-goers saying hello to each other in the halls. New friendships begin. Classroom potlucks for families are one more ingredient that makes Miraloma the warm and welcoming place it is.



Fourth-grader Emily Rich (L) hangs out with mom Libbi Rich, and two other parents, Moneka Urbanske and Robert Muehlbauer.



Clockwise from top: Bing Regis, Binky Regis, first-grader Maria Olmos, and her mother Veronica Perez.

Photos by Leslie Kirk Campbell.

Kindergarten Playground Plans Are Shaping Up

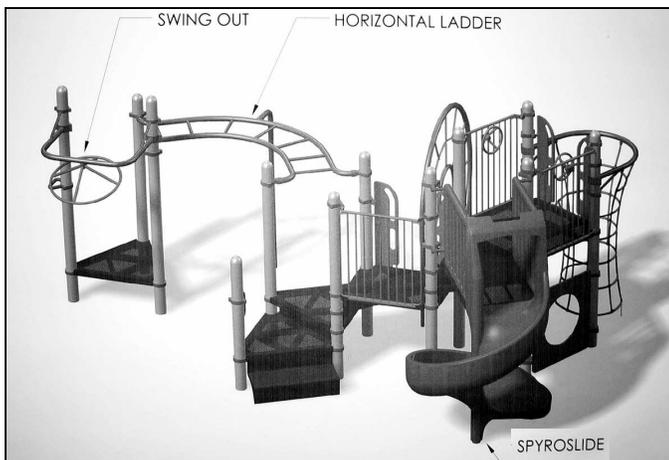
By Amy O'Hair, with reporting from September Jarrett

The exciting news: You may have seen the drawings of the proposed playground renovations in the hall near the library. If not, below are photos of just two of the new items that will be part of the renovated kindergarten playground area. Construction is due to begin this spring.

The background: Through a combination of parent volunteer efforts, teacher input, and Ms. Parrott's support, Miraloma is the recipient of a grant for \$70,000 from the Mayor's Office of Community Development. This is in large part due to the work of parent September Jarrett. This grant greatly accelerated the process of replacing the play structure in the kindergarten yard, which has been long recognized as inadequate to the needs of five- and six-year-olds.

The details: Besides the new play structure (see below), there will be a special play area to support dramatic play, providing a "store" and other open-ended, versatile elements. The sand play areas will remain as they currently are. A labyrinth that will also serve as a meeting circle will be created on the ground in the center of the area. There will be some space for quiet play. Even though all this sounds like it might crowd the admittedly small area, there will still be open space for running, jumping rope, and the like.

The play structure: The structure is a collaborative design effort of grounds committee parents and teachers, in conjunction with Dan Wolf of Paulett Taggart Architects, and is a unique combination of play structure components. One important element that the committee was keen to include was the "swing out" (see below) which provides a swinging and twirling experience for the kids hanging on. This offers vestibular (i.e., related to inner-ear balancing) stimulation and promotes balance, something not always found in play structures.



Above: South view of play structure. Below: North view



Kindergarten Yard renovation, cont'd

The People: Many teachers and parents have contributed time and energy into this project. Besides September Jarrett, the progress of the Grounds committee has depended upon Sara Vellve, Rich Kecskemeti, Ellie Rossiter, Dirk Kellum, Linda Rodriguez, Jennifer Howard, John Long, Kim Appelquist, and our principal, Marcia Parrott. Many thanks to all!

Spring Festival Needs YOU!

By Kathleen Wydler, Spring Festival Chair

Planning is underway for another fun and fabulous Spring Festival on Saturday, May 6. As many of you know, Spring Festival is our biggest annual schoolwide event—a community fair held right here in Miraloma's school yard. Friends, families, teachers, and kids all work together and turn out for an afternoon of games, laughter, prizes, delicious food, brilliant bargains, and this year, the final opportunity to throw a whipped cream pie at Ms. Parrott, ever the good sport.

Many thanks to the volunteers who have already signed up to help organize and work at Spring Festival. If you haven't yet joined a team, please get in touch with the leader of the team of interest to you to find out how you can help:

Games Team: Plan, prepare, and staff games booths. Team Leaders: We are currently looking for one or two leaders for this crucial team.

We're looking for talented handypersons to make ten sturdy booths that can be disassembled and stored for use throughout the years. Last year's games will be spiffed up and new games added. We need carpenters, painters, and games prizes coordinator(s), as well as plenty of folks to run the games the day of the festival.

Entertainment Team: Book and schedule performers; arrange for audio/visual needs. Team Leaders: Jeff Kaliss, 585-8844; jefkal@jeffkaliss.com and Seth Affoumado, 334-0433; seth@affoumado.com. Cinco de Mayo will be highlighted as one theme for spring festival. Performers are welcome!

Food Team: Solicit, prepare, and serve food and beverages. Team Leader: Linda Kahrau-Rodriquez, 821-9734; wilnel@rcn.com. We'll need folks to staff the BBQ, dish out the servings, etc. And the ever-popular tamale-making party will ensure we'll have lots of homemade tamales to enjoy.

Publicity Team: Design and produce flyers and street signs; publicize event to community. Team Leader: Sharon Gillenwater, 643-5327; sharon@sanfranciscogroup.com.

Raffle Team: Produce and distribute raffle tickets for sale; obtain and award prizes. Team Leader: Charlotte Worcester, 333-2549 or misc@ubirata.eti.br. This is a Miraloma tradition. Kids sell tickets to family and friends for the chance to win great prizes. We'll continue collecting more prizes, and are calling for donations from our families and others in the community. If you'd like to participate, please place a new toy or game valued \$2-10 in the Raffle Prizes collection box in the parent room at school.

Auction Team: Collect donations, set up and run auction and closing. Team Leader: Caroline Cory, 334-0433 or ctcory@sfcc-cpmc.net. The annual silent auction will be offered for the third time, featuring great bargains on goods, services and handcrafted items, such as hats and jewelry. Get in touch with Caroline when you have your item in hand.

Solicitation Team: Solicit businesses for bigger ticket auction and raffle items. Team Leader: Gina Ciccirelli, 626-1823 or livigray@pacbell.net.

This team is already hard at work asking local businesses for donations of goods and services, and making it easier for the rest of us to do the same. It's not as hard as you think to ask friends, family, and businesses you frequent if they'd like to donate

Spring Festival, cont'd

something to the auction—their donation is tax-deductible and all proceeds go to our school programs.

Bake Sale Team: Organize and sell donated baked goods. Team Leaders: Maria Mraz, 824-5089; mmraz@mindspring.com. We'll need lots of bakers!

Please let me know if you have questions, concerns, or ideas to share; you can reach me at 863-5737 or kath@blackketter.com. The next planning meeting will be held on Friday, January 13 from 8-9 am in the parent room—all are welcome.

In the Spirit of Things



In December, School Spirit Day was Pajamas. Here are some students who knew how to get into the spirit of the day (left to right): Marly Miller, Nina Guevara (both second grade), Edie Miller, and Jesse Guevara (both kindergarten). Photo by Wandaline Perelli. **On Friday, Jan. 20, the student council is sponsoring another School Spirit Day—Sports. Come in your favorite sports outfit.**

Workshop for Parents of Learning-Disabled

Students Presented by Michelle G. Winner's Center for Social Thinking (see www.socialthinking.com), these workshops are designed to help parents and professionals understand the inner minds of persons high on the autism spectrum, with ADHD, non-verbal learning disability, and related disabilities. Participants will learn functional treatment strategies they can use at school and at home, as well as come to understand better these students' responses.

The workshop will be held Feb. 9 and 10 in Santa Clara. To register, visit the website: www.socialthinking.com and click Workshops, then Workshop Schedule. Or call (408) 557-8575 ext 303. You can attend one or both days.

		Wed. Jan. 11 AIMS Concert 3rd, 4th, 5th grades See's Fundraiser begins	Thur. Jan. 12	Fri. Jan. 13	Sat. Jan. 14
Mon. Jan. 16	Tue. Jan. 17	Wed. Jan. 18	Thur. Jan. 19	Fri. Jan. 20	Sat Jan. 21
Martin Luther King Day NO SCHOOL		Room 10 to Glen Canyon Park	<i>Gazette Deadline, 1pm</i>	School Spirit Day –Sports! Parent-Principal Chat 8:15am Winter Music Festival 1pm	
Mon. Jan. 23	Tue. Jan. 24	Wed. Jan. 25	Thur. Jan. 26	Fri. Jan. 27	Sat Jan. 28
	Rooms 107, 112 to the Zoo	Rooms K2, K8, 103 to Legion of Honor <i>Next Gazette Issue</i>	ALL SEE'S CANDY ORDERS NOW DUE	Staff Development Day NO SCHOOL (Inservice day with Dr. Wu)	

Here's a Quick Start for Scrip on Our Website

Visit the Miraloma website (<http://miralomasf.org>) and click "Fundraising." There you'll find a comprehensive list of scrip programs that benefit Miraloma. Scrip is a nearly effortless way to raise money for the school, in support of our academic programs. Many different companies and stores participate.

Many thanks to Tristan Needham, dad to first-grade twins Faith and Hope, for his work on this useful page on the website.

Miraloma Girls' Basketball Team: Their First Games

In December, Coach Andrea Naugle shepherded the newly formed girls' basketball team through their first game at Hillcrest Elementary School, against another team from an SF school. They played a second game a week later, and are scheduled to play again today, Jan. 11.

Go team!



Back row: Beatriz Regis, Karry Jane Farebrother, Noam Baruch, Kendra Johnson, Karisa Coleman. Center: Coach Andrea. Front row: Rachel Edwards, Emma Petrelli, Josephine Olmos, Deonna Jones, and Kristina Jones. Photo by Doris Weaver.

Submissions. The Gazette welcomes submissions from all members of the community. The next deadline is Thursday, Jan. 19, 1 p.m. The next issue is Wednesday, Jan. 25. Submissions are subject to approval by the school administration. Contact Amy O'Hair, editor, at 334-5154 or amy@ohair-sherman.com.

Photos by Amy O'Hair, Wandaline Perelli, Doris Weaver, Hana Huang, and Jeff Kaliss.

Proofreading by Caroline Pincus.