

# Collins Communique

May 6, 2010

Board Members: Anjali Kausar, Ben Liao, Josephine Lucey, Gary McCue, Phyllis Vogel

Superintendent: Phil Quon

## MAY 2010

- 11 ~ PTA Ice Cream Social ~ 2:10 to 3:00 p.m.
- 12 ~ "Ohlone Habitat" field trip ~ Rms. 8, 16 & 28
- 13 ~ Baylands field trip ~ Rms. 12, 18 & 20
- 13 ~ "Creepy Critters" PTA assembly
- 18 ~ Incoming kinder parent meeting ~ 3:00 p.m. ~ GLC
- 20 ~ Volunteer Tea ~ 10:15 to 10:45 a.m. ~ GLC
- 24 ~ Primary Music Performance ~ See page 3 for times!
- 28 ~ **STAFF LEARNING DAY ~ NO SCHOOL!**
- 31 ~ **MEMORIAL DAY ~ NO SCHOOL!**

**A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU GOES OUT TO ALL THE PARENTS WHO BROUGHT US FOOD DURING TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK. THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO TOOK OVER YARD DUTY AND TRAFFIC DUTY! THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED MONEY! THANK YOU TO PTA FOR ALL THEIR HARD WORK AND SUPPORT! WE APPRECIATE ALL OF YOU!!!**

Dear Parents:

**STAR** testing officially ends tomorrow. Next week will be make-ups for the few students who missed the tests. We will be back to a regular academic schedule. We want to thank all of you for your cooperation. Thank you to all the teachers and instructional assistants. Special thanks go to **Mrs. Arathi Shankaranarayana** who coordinated the test taking!

We welcome back **Mrs. Katherine Camilleri**, our kindergarten teacher in room 2. She has just returned from maternity leave. We want to thank and say good-bye to **Mrs. Kelyn Dewar** for doing a great job while Mrs. Camilleri was on leave.

We invite all of you to attend the school board meeting at **Collins School** next Tuesday, May 11 at 6:00 p.m. to show your support for **Mrs. Erin Eckland, Collins Teacher of the Year!** Mrs. Eckland, along with other Teacher's of the Year from all our Cupertino Schools, will be honored by the Cupertino Union School District board members. Come early since this is a major event!

We hope you did some major shopping and dining this past Tuesday. Tuesday, May 4 was **Community Day** for "There Future Is Now!" The campaign is doing well and is

ending soon. We want to take this opportunity to thank parents and community members, as well as teachers and staff who have made contributions to the campaign. If you haven't done so, it's still not too late. You can donate on-line at [www.ceefcares.org](http://www.ceefcares.org).

The Collins staff has begun planning for the 2010-2011 school year, including initial drafts of class lists. Student placement is done with careful consideration of the following factors:

- Balance of boys and girls
- Positive working relationships among students
- Heterogeneous (mixed ability) learning groups in all classrooms
- Social needs of students
- Class configurations (size, combination classes, etc.)
- Learning needs of students
- Leadership needs within all classrooms

The teachers and I will work together to make class assignments. Decisions we make with regard to your child's future placement reflect our best judgment as to where individual children will be the most

successful. **While we do not accept requests for specific teachers**, you are welcome and encouraged to share with us any information you feel would be helpful in determining your child's placement.

If you are interested in giving us information that will help with the placement of your child, you may pick up a "Classroom Placement Information" form in the office.

Class lists will be posted after 5:00 p.m. on August 18, the day before school starts.

**The last day for students to use the library will be Thursday, May 27. All books must be turned in on this day!!** Please take a moment and search under the beds and on student's bookshelves at home for any overdue books from the library or lost classroom textbooks. If your child cannot find these books, they will be charged for the lost books. Books are very expensive and we cannot afford to absorb the cost of lost or destroyed books. Students will not receive a report card until all library charges are paid. If the book is found after you have paid, your money will be refunded. Thank you for your understanding regarding this matter!

Jones Wong, Principal

## Speaking of Health: Tips For Raising Your Pre-Teens and Teens

**You have the greatest impact on your child's life. Set a good example.**

Kids learn by watching others, especially parents. Be the kind of person you want your teen to be. Talk to your teenager about your beliefs. Talk about what you expect of them. Most important is that you set a good example.

Children learn social skills, manners, respect and confidence just by watching their parents. They watch what you do and how you do it - whether it's eating, exercising, drinking, taking drugs, driving, smoking, or wearing a seatbelt. They also watch how you deal with anger (and other emotions) and how you treat other people. What they see will affect how they behave.

Research shows that parents' behavior has one of the biggest impacts on a teen's behavior. Research also shows that when parents are good role models, teens do better in life. They have better social skills, health habits, and coping skills. And they do better in school.

Here are some examples of ways that parents can set good examples for teens.

**Remember that nobody's perfect.** If you smoke or use alcohol, talk to your kids about the mistakes that you made. Talk to them about how difficult it is to quit. They will understand that you don't want them to make the same mistakes you did. They will respect you for being honest and for trying hard to quit.

**Admit your mistakes.** Children should know that it's okay to make mistakes. But they also need to learn from mistakes. Show your teen how to do this by admitting your mistakes, apologizing, and talking about how you can avoid the same mistake next time.

**Manage anger and avoid violence.** Talk about your problems with the person you are angry with. By keeping your cool instead of getting really mad and possibly violent, you can set an example of patience and tolerance. This doesn't mean you have to agree or never get angry, but talking about feelings (anger, for example) is a more effective solution than violence.

**Be active and eat a healthy diet.** Be active and with overweight rates rising in both teens and adults, it is important to keep your family active so that they develop healthy lifestyle habits. Do family activities that everyone enjoys (walking, biking, hiking, etc.) and eat meals together as often as possible. Eat fruits and vegetables every day and limit fat (for example, fried foods) and sugar (for example, soda). If you value your health, your teen will also.

**Do community service with your kids.** This teaches job skills and responsibility. It also puts kids in touch with good role models. It teaches them that they can make a difference by helping other people, and it builds self-confidence.

**Get involved with your child's school.** This will show your child that education is important. Talk to them early on about going to college and about careers that might interest them. Join the parent association or volunteer to help with a school event.

**Share your cultural identity and history with your teens.** Talk to your child about their country's history - the good and bad. Compare your culture to others. Talking about cultural differences will help your teen understand and respect others.

**Talk about your beliefs. Be honest.** Tell your child about why you do and think certain things. Explain that people have different beliefs and act in different ways. This will help your teen respect other peoples' points of view and beliefs.

**Be caring, fair, truthful, and responsible.** Keep your promises to your kids, if you want them to keep their promises to you. This will set an example they will follow. Tell the truth, if you want them to tell the truth.

**Remember, your teen is always watching and learning from you. Show your teen that you are responsible for your actions and they will learn to be responsible for their actions, too.**



**Mr. Wong's SURPRISE Retirement/Farewell Party ~ SSSSHHH! IT'S A SURPRISE!!!!**

As you all know, Mr. Wong will be retiring from Collins School at the end of this school year.

Come help us bid him farewell!



**Tuesday, May 11 @ 2:15 p.m.**

**2:15** - Ice cream provided by PTA

**2:30** - Present Mr. Wong with classroom and PTA gifts

**2:45** - Song by all students, directed by their music teachers

Come out and show your support for all of Mr. Wong's hard work and dedication the past 4 years!

**ALL STUDENTS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT!!**

**REMEMBER! THIS IS A SURPRISE FOR MR. WONG!**  
**DON'T SAY ANYTHING!!**

**Garden Gleanings**

The Collins Garden Club was filled with busy little bees this week. We refurbished our bird wreaths, trimmed up the Lavaterra in the planter boxes, watered our new tomato plants, began making seed packages for all the plants that are setting seed, and also began the exciting project of creating educational signs for the fence. We will be making factual signs on decomposers, birds, pollinators, and predators found in the garden!

The Collins Garden is thriving in the sunshine and we have so many flowers blooming that sitting on the sunny end of the garden, you are surrounded by the constant buzz of many different types of bees!

Children noticed all kinds of different bee related things this week. Ashwini noticed that there were more bumblebees at work than honeybees...she commented that she hadn't seen any honeybees at all and wondered if they prefer summer to spring?

Sanjana saw that the bumblebees were found more often on the poppies than any other flower, and conjectured that they must prefer the poppies to other flowers, while Karsten noticed that there appeared to be bees on all flowers, and he wondered whether bees will just go to any blooms.

While looking out for which plants were visited by insects, Isha observed that the hummingbird sage, despite its huge blooms, didn't seem to attract any bees, and she wondered if this plant only attracts hummingbirds.

Harshika noticed, along with Mr. Nutter, that one of the holes drilled into the buzz boxes has yellow pollen inside it, and after watching for a bit, we saw a striped micro bee going in and out of the hole. We are hoping this means that these holes are making good locations for micro bee nests!



## Have You Ordered Your 2009-2010 Yearbook Yet?

# YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS YEARS COLLINS SCHOOL YEARBOOK!



We have only ordered 500 copies and have already sold 383!

When they're gone, they're gone!

Yearbooks are only \$20.00 for 72 FULL-COLOR pages!

Order envelopes are available in the school office.

Please make checks payable to Collins School!

## Birthdays Book Club

Thank you to the following students for donating a book to the library in honor of their birthdays:

Vikram B. in room 27

"THE CITY OF EMBER"

Charles G. in room 18

"JUDY MOODY AND STINK: THE MAD, MAD, MAD, MAD TREASURE HUNT"

Samidha S. in the Art room

"MONDAY WITH A MAD GENIUS"

"For more info on the Birthday Book Club, visit: [http://www.collinselementary.com/book\\_donations.php](http://www.collinselementary.com/book_donations.php)

## Primary Music Performance Schedule - Monday, May 24, 2010

9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

Mrs. Austin ~ Mrs. Olsen ~ Mrs. Vadodkar ~ Miss Li ~ Mrs. Eckland ~ Miss Frogner  
Mrs. Shinozaki ~ Miss Tapece

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Mrs. Kowalski ~ Mrs. Liao ~ Mrs. Blatter ~ Mrs. Camilleri ~ Mrs. Bodnaruk  
Mrs. Gong ~ Miss Thompson

1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Mrs. Cheadle ~ Miss Johnson ~ Mrs. Koyanagi ~ Mrs. Lau ~ Mrs. Chao/Ms. Momii  
Ms. Teo ~ Ms. Arisawa ~ Miss Rousseau ~ Mrs. Wojno

PLAN TO JOIN US IN THE GLC!

April 2010

Dear Parents,

As the 2009-2010 school year comes to a close, we would appreciate it if you would take a moment to let us know where your child will go to school next year. Please fill out this form and return it to your child's classroom by May 21.

This information is very useful and your response will make our planning easier for next year.

**Please note that based on current state coding procedures, if you leave the district and do not return this form, we will be required to code your child as a "dropout" from the Cupertino Union School District.**

Sincerely,

Mr. Jones Wong  
Principal

**PLEASE PRINT**

Student Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Yes**, my child will be returning to the current Elementary School or the assigned middle school for the 2010-2011 School Year.

\_\_\_\_\_ **No**, my child will be attending a school outside of the Cupertino Union School District. District/School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **No**, my child will be attending another school in the Cupertino Union School District. School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**"THEIR FUTURE IS NOW!" FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN**

"THEIR FUTURE IS NOW!" has raised over \$1.5 million!

May 15 is less than 2 weeks away! Now is the time to join in protecting our excellent school programs.

**WIN A PARTY FOR YOUR SCHOOL!**

When 55% of families at your school contribute, the ENTIRE school can have a free party either at Strike (bowling) or Golfand Sunnysvale (mini golf). Go to [www.CEEFcares.org](http://www.CEEFcares.org) and be counted as a proud supporter of our children's education.

**99 RANCH MARKET GIVE BACK DAY - Wednesday, May 12**

Shop at 99 Ranch Market Cupertino on Wednesday, May 12 to and 3% of all sales will be donated to Their Future Is Now! Stop in for groceries, stock up on freezer and pantry items, or grab take-out lunch or dinner from 99 Ranch Market's extensive Chinese food deli and bakery. All sales from the Cupertino Village location (10983 North Wolfe Road) will count towards 99 Ranch Market's contribution. Please spread the word to your friends, neighbors and coworkers.

**SUBMIT YOUR CORPORATE MATCH**

Please process your corporate match paperwork asap! This is a significant stream of donations. **All confirmed verifications will be counted in the 5/15 deadline, even if actual disbursement is later!** Please complete the process, and send an email to let us know at [corpmatch.TheirFutureIsNow@gmail.com](mailto:corpmatch.TheirFutureIsNow@gmail.com).

**Donate directly to TFIN first, then apply for match.**

**DISTRICT HEALTH UPDATE**

McNeil Consumer Healthcare has recently called for a voluntary recall of certain over the counter infant and children's products. This voluntary recall has not been undertaken on the basis of adverse medical events.

Parents and caregivers are being asked not to give these products to their children as a precaution. While the potential for serious medical events is remote, the company advises consumers to discontinue their use. In addition, if you have medication at the school site for your child, you may want to check the lot number and replace the medication as necessary.

For further information call 1-888-222-6036 or at [www.mcneilproductrecall.com](http://www.mcneilproductrecall.com).

**2010 SUMMER SCHOOL UPDATE**

The Cupertino Union School District continues to face major budget cuts from the state. As a result, there will be no available funds to implement the district's summer school program. Starting this year (2009-2010), there will be no regular education, CLIP, or ELD summer school.

Special Education summer school is not affected and will be available for students currently identified and enrolled in Cupertino Union School District Special Day Classes (SDC) whose IEP include summer school. Registration forms for the SDC summer school will be available from the SDC teachers beginning April 2010.

**DE ANZA COLLEGE SUMMER EXTENDED YEAR PROGRAM 2010**

De Anza College in partnership with the Cupertino Union School District will offer the Extended Year Program this summer, mornings only, from June 21 to July 16, 2010.

**Students entering grades 6 through 10**

Classes will be held at Kennedy and Miller Middle Schools, and will include: Java Programming, Geometry, Intro to Algebra, LEGO Robotics, Speech and Debate, Fashion Design and many others.

**Students entering grades 1 through 5**

Classes will be held at Eaton Elementary School, and will include: Pre-Algebra Prep, Writing: Paragraphs to Essays, Reading Intensive, Mandarin Chinese, Math & Art, Mandarin, Journalism/Writing, and more!

Program brochures will be sent home in early March and will also be available at your school office. More information is available at [www.extendedyear.deanza.edu](http://www.extendedyear.deanza.edu).

Early registration is by mail only and will begin on March 8, 2010 and ends on May 21, 2010. There will also be walk-in registration available from June 1 to June 8, 2010.

**2010 CEEF BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**SAVE THE DATE! HELP OUR SCHOOL!**

Monday, June 21, 2010

11:00 a.m. Shotgun Start

Stanford Golf Course

Save the date now for CEEF's 24th Annual Golf Tournament on Monday, June 21, 2010, at Stanford Golf Course. The tournament will provide funds toward CEEF's Arts & Technology Matching Grant program that benefits every district school.