

Collins Communique

May 27, 2010

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

Superintendent: Phil Quon

MAY 2010

28 ~ STAFF LEARNING DAY ~ NO SCHOOL!

31 ~ MEMORIAL DAY ~ NO SCHOOL!

JUNE 2010

3 ~ Gold Dust or Bust performance

7 ~ Field Day ~ 2nd grade ~ 9:00-12:00

8 ~ Wilson Park field trip ~ 3rd grade ~ 10:00-2:00

8 ~ Ortega Park field trip ~ 5th grade ~ 10:30-2:00

8 ~ Portal Park field trip ~ 1st grade ~ 10:35-1:30

9 ~ All kinders attend 8:40 to 12:10

JUNE 2010 - Continued

9 ~ Peers Park field trip ~ 2nd grade ~ 9:15-1:45

9 ~ Portal Park field trip ~ 4th grade ~ 10:00-2:30

9 ~ 5th grade farewell ceremony ~ 10:45-12:00

10 ~ All kinders attend 8:40-12:05

10 ~ Last Day of School!

**ALL STUDENTS WILL BE RELEASED AT 12:05
ON THURSDAY, JUNE 10!**

**PLEASE MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO HAVE YOUR
STUDENTS PICKED UP PROMPTLY @ 12:05 P.M.**

Dear Parents:

Remember that this **Friday, May 28** is our district wide **Staff Learning Day**. There is no school for students. **Monday, May 31** is **Memorial Day**. We hope you will have an enjoyable and safe four-day weekend.

We say good-bye to **Mrs. Stephanie Bodnaruk** for now. She is going on maternity leave for the last two weeks of school. We welcome back **Mrs. Kelyn Dewar** who will take her place in her kindergarten class (room 31) until the end of the year.

We hope that all parents had a chance to attend the **Primary Music performances** that took place this past Monday. As usual, the students did an excellent job thanks to the hard work of **Mrs. Kathy Disney** and **Ms. Krissy Weston**.

The annual **Americana Festival** presented by the 5th grade students was held yesterday, Wednesday, May 26 during the day for all Collins students and in the evening for the 5th grade parents and families. This is always an exciting event as the students relive important periods in American history. Thanks to **Ms. Debbie Calcany**, **Mrs. Beth Wichmann**, **Miss**



Laura Goorvitch and **Mr. Wayne Yeung** for coordinating this event.

June 4 is an important day for **Collins School**. **Mr. Wong**, **Ms. Calcany**, **Mrs. Wichmann**, **Miss Thompson** and **Mr. Nutter** will travel all the way to the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim, along with ten other Cupertino Schools and over 400 schools from the state to receive the **California Distinguished School Award**. This is quite an honor to be recognized for educational excellence. Of course, we need to share this honor with all other teachers, staff, students and parents. Your cooperation has made this award possible.



Things to remember before the end of the school year:

•Return all library books and school textbooks.

•Notify the office if you will not be returning next year or will be starting late. Students return on August 19, 2010.

•Make sure your student's Health/ Enrollment card is current with phone numbers, employment information and emergency contacts.

•If your child has medication in the school office, please pick it up on the last day of school, Thursday, June 10.

•All hot lunches must be pre-paid for the rest of the school year. Students who owe for past lunches are expected to pay these charges prior to the last day of school. If your child has a balance at the end of the school year, it will be carried forward to the next school year. If you have any questions, please call the kitchen at 408-252-6002, ext. 132.

Congratulations to Aditi Thambala, a first grade student in room 20. Aditi was selected by the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge Complex to receive a **Special Achievement Award** for her Junior Duck Stamp design which was submitted in the 2010 California Federal Junior Duck Stamp Design Contest. Aditi has been invited to an awards ceremony in Sacramento on July 10. **Congratulations Aditi!!**



Jones Wong, Principal

Speaking of Health: Why Recycle?

Recycling is one of the best ways for you to have a positive impact on the world in which we live. Recycling is important to both the natural environment and us. We must act fast as the amount of waste we create is increasing all the time.

The amount of rubbish we create is constantly increasing because:

- Increasing wealth means that people are buying more products and ultimately creating more waste.
- Increasing population means that there are more people on the planet to create waste.
- New packaging and technological products are being developed, much of these products contain materials that are not biodegradable.
- New lifestyle changes, such as eating fast food, means that we create additional waste that isn't biodegradable.

Environmental Importance

Recycling is very important as waste has a huge negative impact on the natural environment.

- Harmful chemicals and greenhouse gasses are released from rubbish in landfill sites. Recycling helps to reduce the pollution caused by waste.
- Habitat destruction and global warming are some of the affects caused by deforestation. Recycling reduces the need for raw materials so that the rainforests can be preserved.
- Huge amounts of energy are used when making products from raw materials. Recycling requires much less energy and therefore helps to preserve natural resources.

Importance To People

Recycling is essential to cities around the world and to the people living in them.

- No space for waste. Our landfill sites are filling up fast.
- Reduce financial expenditure in the economy. Making products from raw materials costs much more than if they were made from recycled products.
- Preserve natural resources for future generations. Recycling reduces the need for raw materials; it also uses less energy, therefore preserving natural resources for the future.



Medications in the Office

If you have stored your child's medications in the Collins Health Office, please make arrangements to take them home on the last day of school. Any medication that remains after the close of school will be discarded. If your children are attending summer school and will need the medication during the shortened day, please take it to that school site's main office on the first day of classes.

If it will be necessary for your child to receive medication during the school day next year, please pick up a blue **Medication Authorization** form at the school office before the last day of school, June 10.

In order for either prescription or over-the-counter medications to be given at school, both the doctor and the parent must sign the form. When completed, bring the **Medication Authorization** form and the medication (in the original container) to the secretaries in the school office.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me: 408-252-3000, ext. 471 or email hull_sandy@cusdk8.org.

Have a happy and healthy summer!



Birthday Book Club



Thank you to the following student for donating a book to the library in honor of their birthday:

Sreya M. in the Art Room
"OLIVIA ACTS OUT"

"For more info on the Birthday Book Club, visit: http://www.collinselementary.com/book_donations.php

Garden Gleanings

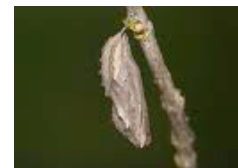
This week in Garden Club was a busy one! Students are harvesting poppy seeds and putting them into packets. We continue making educational signage that will in time be displayed on the fence. In addition, we replanted our tomato plants, as our first try did not take off well due to cold weather during their first weeks in the ground. Children also planted cosmos flowers left over as decorations from the Volunteer Tea last week. A layer of mulch was set out in the flower beds outside the staff room to keep weeds down and conserve water. Finally, upper grade students helped to sink a sign in recognition of Mr. Wong into concrete to be placed next to the solar fountain. Thank you PTA!

Now on to our observations!



Akash noticed that the milk jug bird feeders the club made are empty. He thinks that the birds may have brought their friends to the feeder!

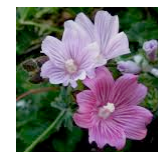
Simran was making observations when she touched something pointy: a California poppy seed pod. When she brushed against it, it popped, sending poppy seeds everywhere. Now she knows why the poppy has its name!



Saana noticed that the painted lady pupa placed on a piece of paper onto a tomato plant cage are now gone. Her interpretation is that the pupa either hatched and have flown away, or that the wind blew them away.



Many students noticed a swarm of termites under one of the stumps. Jai theorizes that they like the log as it provides wood for them to eat.



Ashlesha is keeping an eye on the wild strawberry plants mentioned in last weeks Garden Gleanings, and is observing that the fruit is starting to get redder. She thinks this means that it is getting ripe. Miss Thompson wonders how long until a hungry bird happens upon it!



Finally, after seeing it growing so well in the rich soil by the compost pile, Dev and Alex noticed that the cheeseweed looks a lot like the checkerbloom. They wondered why we pull the cheeseweed while leaving the checkerbloom to grow. Both plants are members of the mallow family of plants. It turns out that the cheeseweed has a fast life cycle and sets lots of seeds, so if left to grow, it would take over the garden!

PTA News

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 2010

6:30 p.m. ~ Popcorn and drinks

7:00 p.m. ~ Slide Show

7:15 p.m. ~ Movie



PTA would like to invite all the students and their families to our annual Movie Night.

Come enjoy some popcorn and drinks, watch a slide show of the activities and events that happened this year and watch your favorite movie!

DISTRICT NEWS SECTION

2009-2010

2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR FURLOUGH DAYS

In response to the unprecedented reductions in education funding from the state, all district employees have agreed to a temporary work year reduction of five days for the 2010-2011 school year. This represents \$2.5 million in salary savings, which will help minimize the severity of employee layoffs and lessen the impact of budget cuts on the district's education programs. This furlough agreement only applies for next year. As a result, next year's school calendar will be adjusted with the following furlough days:

- **November 22 and 23, 2010** (the first 2 days of the week of Thanksgiving)
- The last 3 days of school:
 - **June 8, 9 and 10, 2011** (all school except Murdock-Portal Elementary School)
 - **June 15, 16 and 17, 2011** (for Murdock-Portal Elementary School)

After much consideration, both of these blocks of time were selected to minimize the impact on classroom instruction. Specifically, the district traditionally experiences abnormally high absence rates during the two days of school held during the week of Thanksgiving.

DISTRICT CALENDAR 2010-2011 (NEXT SCHOOL YEAR)

Note: Due to the addition of the furlough days (November 22 & 23 and June 8, 9 & 10), Thanksgiving recess has been extended and the last day of school will now be June 7.

August 16, 17 & 18	Teacher Work Days
August 19, 2010	Students Return
September 6, 2010	Labor Day
September 17, 2010	Staff Learning Day
October 25, 2010	Staff Learning Day
November 11, 2010	Veteran's Day
November 12, 2010	CSEA Non-Duty Day
November 22-23, 2010	Furlough Days
November 24, 25 & 26	Thanksgiving Recess
December 20-31, 2010	Winter Recess
January 17, 2011	Martin Luther King Day
February 21-25, 2011	Mid-Year Recess
March 14, 2011	Staff Learning Day
April 18-22, 2011	Spring Recess
May 27, 2011	Staff Learning Day
May 30, 2011	Memorial Day
June 7, 2011	Last Day of School

PROTECT ARTS & TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES AT OUR SCHOOL

Join CEEF in raising funds that will directly benefit all school arts and technology programs.

CEEF Cares Donation Drawing Grand Prize: 2 BR/2B Beach Villa at Seascape Resort on Monterey Bay for five days with s'mores Beach Bonfire Package. Tickets are \$20 each or 6 for \$100. Our school will win 2 tickets to the 2011 CEEF Gala if we sell the most drawing tickets! Register to win on the CEEF website at www.ceefcares.org.

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.

District Golf Championship: Recruit a foursome to represent our school at the CEEF Golf Tournament and a chance to win individual prizes, as well as a Flip camcorder for our school. Handicaps will be used so every team has a chance to win. Tournament proceeds will provide critically needed funds for arts and technology resources at our school. Email CEEF at golf@ceefcares.org for more information or to receive a tournament invitation in the mail.