



SUNRIDGE BULLETIN

MAY 12, 2010

SUNRIDGE SCHOOL

487 WATER TROUGH RD.
SEBASTOPOL, CA 95472

PHONE: 707.824.2844
FAX: 824.2861

AFTERCARE: 824.2276

WWW.SUNRIDGESCHOOL.ORG

CALENDAR

Wednesday, May 12, 6:00 - 8:00pm:
**Class 5 Parent Appreciation
Dessert**

Monday, May 17, 6:30 - 8:00pm:
Next year's 1st Grade Meeting

Monday, May 17, 7:00 - 9:00pm:
Class 4 Parent Evening

Tuesday, May 18, 7:00 - 8:30pm:
Middle School Parent Meeting
In our community room

Thursday, May 20:
Farmers' Market hosted by the
Kindergartens

Thursday, May 20, 6:00 - 9:00pm:
Charter Council Meeting

Tuesday, May 25, 6:30 - 8:30pm:
Kindergarten Parent Evening

Thursday, May 27, 6:30pm:
Class 2 Parent Evening

8th Grade Projects location TBA
Tuesday, May 26, 6:30 - 9:00pm
Wednesday, May 27, 6:30 - 9:00pm

May 31: School Closed for Memorial Day

Important Request from Mr. Mark

Many Hands Make Light Work! Can you spare 30-60 minutes for SunRidge? We are scheduling a short weed-a-thon for this Saturday morning so that we can quickly beautify our front berm area and the ground in our amphitheater in preparation for our 8th grade graduation. Here's the plan: I will be here from 8:30am until 11:00 this Saturday morning. If everyone who possibly can shows up sometime during that time and gives only 30-60 minutes to some quick weeding, we can get it done easily without anyone having to do too much. Are there 30 or 40 (or more) SunRidge parents and children who can give 30-60 minutes of their Saturday morning to help SunRidge shine? We have no groundskeeper for this kind of job, and no one wants to spend all day weeding. Let's join forces, get it done quickly, and still have most of our Saturday for other chosen activities.

Bring gloves, weeding tools, pruners, etc. SunRidge Needs YOU—many thanks!

A Beautiful May Faire

Colorful ribbons, children dancing, music in the air, what a beautiful day at SunRidge. The Festival Committee would like to give our sincere THANKS to: Parent Council for purchasing the new ribbons (made from recycled plastic bottles)...Owen for raising the pole... Parents for baking yummy shortcake and bringing in delicious strawberries... Kindergarten parents for all the beautiful flowers for garlands (the display and guidance was excellent)... Middle-Schoolers for a lovely procession... Green Man for a dramatic heralding of Spring... Teachers and students for their songs or dances around the maypole... Musicians for gracing the space with joyful sound... 5th and 6th grade parents and students for preparing and serving dessert... A clean-up crew that was fabulous, ensuring everything was left spotless... And, of course, Mother Nature for her lovely weather. Many of us thought this May Faire was our best yet. Thank you to everyone who helped make it so.

Middle School Parent Evening Next Tuesday, May 18, 7:00-8:30 pm

If you are a middle school parent considering your choices for middle school for your child, or if you just want to hear the latest news about our middle school program, please plan to attend this meeting. We will provide information and answer questions about our plans for next year, discuss preparation for High School, and hear from parents who have kept their children at SunRidge through 8th grade as to whether and why they believe that decision was a wise one. We will be meeting in our own community room for this meeting.

Save the Date—May Farmers' Market! ~from Hassanah (MorningStar)

Dragonfly and Morning Star kindergartens are hosting the next Farmers' Market on Thursday, May 20, and would love for you to come. Please, save the date so that you can join in the fun! Details to follow in the next newsletter. Thank you!

Congratulations Eddie!

Eddie Guthman, our strings teacher, just completed his Masters in Education at Sonoma State University. For his thesis, he wrote a curriculum for studying American Cultural History with American folk music as the main vehicle. Congratulations, Eddie, on your 225 pages of hard work.

The following article is quoted from the Richmond Waldorf School newsletter:

The Three R's of Waldorf Middle School Education: Rome, Renaissance, Revolution!

"The goals of the Waldorf middle school are to encourage and inspire the children:

- To think clearly and independently and to question the status quo;
- To learn out of their own experience and not to be satisfied with second or third-hand knowledge;
- To study and work not in order to pass an exam or get a good grade, but to satisfy their own desire for learning;
- To have a sense of their own dignity as human beings; and
- To have a sense of belonging to the world and of being needed in the world.

At our school we offer a curriculum uniquely designed to meet the challenging stages of adolescence. While from the outside we may see what appears to be cynicism or self-absorption, internally the students are asking themselves profound questions such as, "Is there such a thing as absolute truth?" "Is the world essentially a good and beautiful place?" and, "What will be my unique contribution to the world?"

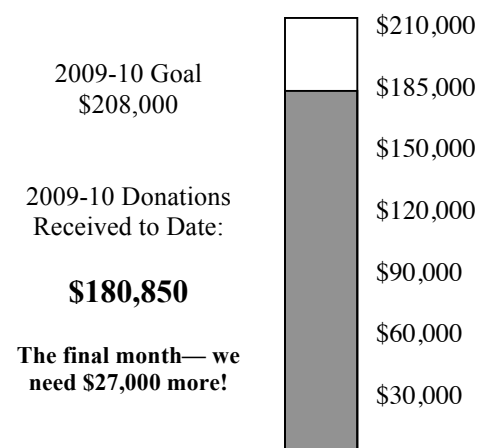
Sixth grade students begin to experience a natural hunger to study "something real". To meet this need, they are introduced in sixth grade to the world of the Romans, whose strength of will created a system of laws and architecture that endures today.

Typically, seventh graders feel an urge to question existing boundaries, so they study the Renaissance, an era when artists and scientists rejected the accepted beliefs of their culture to search for deeper levels of truth based on their own experiences.

Seventh graders have had it, but eighth graders are going to do something about it! The Waldorf curriculum offers the eighth graders the opportunity to study the history of revolution. From Martin Luther to the modern struggle for civil rights, the students are asked to hone their understanding of the history of great ideals, and what happens as they are implemented in the world.

In the physical sciences through the study of acoustics, optics, and mechanics middle school students begin to develop their capacities to hear and observe along with the objectivity to stand outside of an experiment and describe what they see happening. At a time in their lives when rapid physical growth and hormonal changes cause powerful emotions, the study of magnetism and chemistry speaks to the students' interest in the laws of attraction as well as the explosive potential of natural substances. Along with a new self-consciousness and interest in romance and sexuality, the students also begin their study of anatomy and physiology.

2009-10 Pledge Program Report



Waldorf education meets students where they are developmentally. The curriculum allows students to experience the past, understand the present, and prepare for the future under the guidance of a caring and clear authority figure. Students will graduate able to think for themselves, experience their own personal authority, and be ready to face the challenges of adolescence and adulthood."

Please Buy Whole Foods 4% Scrip Cards

Such an easy fundraiser: just remember to buy your scrip cards before you shop. The best place to go is **Infusions** tea and chocolate shop 4 doors west of Whole Foods. They have generously offered to sell the cards for us. Please bring a check as they will not accept cash.

We will also make scrip available at **Farmer's Markets**, and **every Wednesday Scrip will be available in both the lower and upper driveway.**

At quiet moments, Scrip can be purchased **in the school office** (remember, exact amount only).

Calendar Sales Needs Help!

Are you looking for a great place to dedicate some of your energy? We need more people working with the Patrick Amiot calendar project. If you have some time and energy to help with the project please contact Heather Thurber at 480-4376 or heathert@sonic.net.

Note from Mark: This calendar project brings in over \$6,000 to our fundraising efforts every year, at little cost to our school community. Please help if you can.

Community Service Hours Reporting

Here is the link for reporting your community service hours for the month of **April**. Thank you for helping us have good data on the impressive number of hours parents give to our school.

Report **April** community service hours here:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RZ7H3XV>

If you have any problems with entering your data, please contact Melissa Morgan, melissa_morgan@mac.com.

Community Events

Earth Camp Benefit

Come enjoy live local music and organic food @ Laguna Farm! Coyote Grace Concert Saturday, **May 22nd, 7:00pm**

\$10 Suggested Donation. All proceeds will go to provide children with scholarship to attend Earth Camp! Laguna Farm is located at 1764 Cooper Rd in Sebastopol Visit www.coyotegrace.com for more info about the music...

Maker's Faire Ticket Deals

Is anyone out there thinking of going to the Maker's Faire? Bob Poole has five tickets that you can buy from him, and all the money goes to SunRidge!!! These tickets will work for either adults or children, and are normally priced at \$25.00 for adults, \$15.00 for children. Make him your best offer and give to SunRidge at the same time!!! Contact Bob at 823-8324, or robtpoole@gmail.com.

SunRidge Spring Concert: Thursday, June 3, 6:45pm, featuring 4th through 8th grade strings, orchestra, and choir performances.

Balance, unicycle, leap, juggle, perform!

from Mr. T

This summer Alex Boshell (Movement Teacher from Novato Charter/Live Oak) and I will run a one-week Circus Camp this summer here at SunRidge. We're offering a 5-day intensive to teach, develop and sharpen skills like Poi spinning, Rola Bola balancing, acrobatics and tumbling, unicycling, stick, ball and ring juggling and more. This camp is open to next year's 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. SunRidge gets priority signup; then we'll open registration district-wide and to the downtown charter school. If this sounds intriguing, you can learn more at www.waldorfcircus.org. Registration forms are available online. The week is **July 5-9**, and the camp runs 8:30am - 12:30pm or 2:30pm.

Sebastopol Super Summer School

The Sebastopol Community Center is sponsoring a half-day summer school program. Children entering 3rd through 7th grade may choose up to 3 subjects to focus on from a long list that includes: arts and crafts, cooking, dance/gymnastics, science, basic math and reading, etc.

Hours: 9:00 - 12:00 noon, Monday through Thursday

Dates: June 14th - July 8th

Cost: \$350 for the entire 4 week program with discounts for siblings.

Contact: Rebecca Worsley at 874-1025 or rebworsley@yahoo.com

Summer Day Camp with Rick Concoff

Camp Chai is at Finley Community Park!

*Session I: June 21-25 * Session II: June 28-July 2

For kids entering K - 9th grade Monday through Friday 9:00 to 3:00pm

Ask about our 3 night/4 day Adventure at Hendy Woods July 7 - 10.

Jewish traditions, active games, art & crafts, storytelling, singing, recreational swim.

All are welcome!

Brochures are available in the school office.

Call Beth at 707 528-2549 or visit www.jccsoco.org for more information.

Tae Kwon Do for everyone

at the Occidental

Community Center (OCC) with Alexander Laszlo. Kids

Class for anyone 8-17 on Thursdays from 3:30-5pm, and

Adult Classes for those 18-80 on Thursdays from 5 - 7pm

and Sundays from 11am-1pm. The cost is \$5/class or

\$15/month for kids and \$5/class or \$25/month for adults,

plus a membership fee of \$20/year. For more information,

check the OCC website at

www.occidentalcommunitycenter.net/tae-kwon-do.html, or

contact Alexander at 874-6030

Classified

(We can list rentals, parents selling used items, free items, lost and found, or trades. We cannot list for-profit business ads)

Missing Cello

A ½ sized cello that was stored in the community room has gone missing. For all of you cellist out there, please check amongst your things to see if, by chance, you have an extra cello that doesn't belong to you. If found, please call Barbara Chapman at 829-0203.

Rental needed for single parent and 10 year old daughter new to Sebastopol area; 2-3 bedrooms, outdoor space for playing and gardening, close to SunRidge Charter School; starting in July. Contact Crispin at 510-333-1433 or crispinalee@yahoo.com.

Wanted Home for Rent: Mama and daughter seek 2 bedroom lovely home in country setting. Employed, good references, organic, and conscious. We have 2 old kitties who don't hunt. Can pay up to \$1100. Please call Triya 527-2609 or email triyacrises@gmail.com. Thanks!

Childcare Provider Available

Former Summerfield farm camp teacher/Waldorf subject teacher/RSC eurythmy student and experienced childcare provider/administrative assistant seeks opportunity to provide full-time/part-time consistent and warm childcare and/or motivated & organized administrative help this summer. Also in need of summer house sitting or other housing opportunity. Please call Ashlee (254) 749-1918.

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