

# SUNRIDGE BULLETIN

APRIL 22, 2009

## SUNRIDGE SCHOOL

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## CALENDAR

Friday, April 24:

**7<sup>th</sup> grade Explorers' Tournament  
at Ragle Park**

April 27- May 8: **STAR testing**

Tuesday, April 28 - 3:15 in Class 3  
**Diversity and Parent Ed  
Committees Combined Meeting**  
Everyone Welcome

Wednesday, April 29, 6:30-8:30pm:  
**Kindergarten parent evening**

Thursday, April 30, 7:00-8:45pm:  
**Parent Ed evening, "Unraveling  
Whiteness,"** see article on page 2

Friday, May 1: **Class 5 play**

Saturday, May 2: **May Faire**  
**10:00am - 2:00pm** see article

Tuesday, May 5, 6:30pm:  
**Parent Council meeting**

Wednesday, May 6, 7:00-8:30pm:  
**Class 3 parent evening**

Monday, May 11, 6:30pm:  
**Class 2 parent evening**

### **Auction Opens for Bidding This Friday! SunRidge.cmarket.com**

It has been almost a year in the making, and it's finally time. We have all worked hard to bring in items. Now we need bidders for all those wonderful items. As of yesterday morning, our entire catalog was valued at \$33,800.00. This does not mean that's how much we will make!!! We only wish it was that easy. It means that is how much the items are worth, not how much people will pay. So we need to get the word out and spread the wealth, so to speak. Anyone anywhere can bid on an item. Physical items can be shipped. There are lots of ways to help with this.

1. When you get the email announcing that the auction is open, forward that to your entire address book. Who would not want to both support our school, and get something great for themselves?
2. If you are on Face Book or any internet blogs, invite everyone there to take a look at the auction and pass it on to all of their blogger friends.
3. If you're on Twitter, you can tweet about the auction. Same type of information - just shorter! :)
4. Put flyers (from the office) up in windows and community boards everywhere!!!
5. Keep some post cards (also from the office) with you and pass them out to everyone.
6. Think of people you know who have resources to spread the word. Ask people to spread the word on their work emails, or at groups they belong to.
7. Be creative. How can you let people know about our auction?

**Remember: we need this revenue to keep our educational programs as intact as possible—if everyone joins the effort we will be successful!**

### **SunRidge May Faire Just Around the Corner, Saturday, May 2**

A favorite festival and community gathering is just over a week away. Here are the approximate details:

10:00: Garland making

10:45: The procession begins

11:00: Blessing and May Pole dancing by each class

12:30: Bring your own picnic

1:15: Strawberry Shortcake

1:45: Clean-up

Clover has generously donated whipped cream but we need every family to bring a small basket of washed strawberries (organic please).

There are also sign up sheets for each class to contribute 4 trays of shortcake (recipe is available in the office or on bulletin boards). We also need lots of flowers and vines for garlands. Come one, come all, and enjoy a day celebrating spring and the joy of being alive.

### **2008-09 Yearbook Orders Now Due**

Yearbook order forms are now available. Orders for these beautiful books must be in by Friday, May 1. Every child and class will be included. Don't miss out!

### **Lost and Found Overflowing**

Our lost and found is spilling out of the lost and found area under the back breezeway and is now partially displayed on the railings between class 4 and 5. Please stop by and claim your child's missing clothing. Anything not claimed will go to charity.

**Unraveling Whiteness: Tools for the Journey**  
**Laurie Lippin, PhD in Adult Education,**  
**presenting on**  
**Thursday, April 30, 7-8:45 pm**  
**SunRidge Community Room**

The Diversity and Parent Education Committees are proud to co-sponsor the next and last parent education event of the year. Dr. Laurie Lippin will present a workshop on race and class to SunRidge parents, including discussion of white privilege and class disparities, and providing tools for examining what it is to be white in the United States, for addressing fear and guilt as barriers to dismantling racism, and for identifying the small daily acts and larger organized movements that further the struggle for social justice and equality.

Laurie is a partner in Equity Action, specializing in training, consulting, coaching and teambuilding in the areas of diversity and cultural competence. Equity Action is based in Sonoma County and has a local, national, and international client base. She is a regular part-time faculty at UC Davis and is also Certifying Instructor for the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator® (MBTI®) and delivers MBTI trainings in the US and in Canada. Laurie co-authored (with Helfand) the 2009 publication of **Unraveling Whiteness** (Kendall/Hunt). The focus of her diversity work with Equity Action is to eliminate the negative results of racism and other oppressions. This will be accomplished in our lifetime, by bringing about real behavior change on the part of employees, students, teachers, community leaders, and most important: parents.

Please mark your calendars now and come to this exciting evening.

**Emergency Supplies Needed**

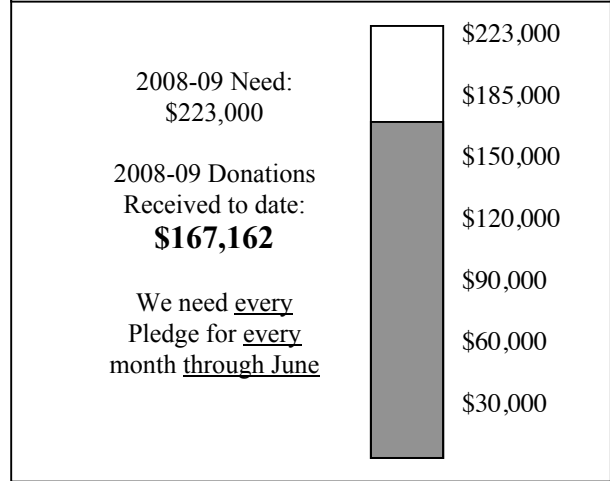
If you haven't already, please remember to send in your child's emergency supply bag. We are restocking now so everything will be in place for the beginning of school in August.

Also, our **safety committee** has identified some disaster supply needs that would be great donations if you have any of them to give: blankets (wool or fleece), 5 gallon plastic buckets, camping stoves, flat sheets, sledge hammer, large axe, crow and pry bars, crank radios, flashlights, ropes and tarps, leather gloves. Items may be dropped off at the office.

**STAR Testing Next Week**

Our annual STAR testing for grades 2-8 begins next week. Testing days will vary for each class with some completing the test during four Main Lesson periods and others spreading it more gradually across 5-8 days. Check with your teacher regarding the schedule for your child's class. Please help us make the testing a successful experience by ensuring that your child has plenty of rest, a nutritious morning breakfast, and arrives to school on time. Thank you for supporting the school in meeting the State requirements for administering these tests.

**2008-09 Pledge Program Report**



**Can't Say This Too Many Times...**

We are currently projecting a \$20,000 - \$30,000 shortfall in our pledge budget this year, unless we can raise enough funds to close that gap. One way we can help is for everyone who can to pledge a bit more for April, May, and June, or to make a one-time donation in addition to your regular pledge. I am also proposing that we ask all faculty and staff to join in this effort with parents, to the degree that they are able. At the other local Waldorf schools, *everyone*—parents and employees—is asked to contribute to this group effort. Remember, there are well over 300 adults who call SunRidge their educational community. Even a small donation multiplied by that number adds up to make a big difference (\$10 per month x 3 months x 300 = \$9000!). Give what you can and feel great about it!

**The Good News: Attendance Up = \$\$\$**

To date this year our attendance is at 94.3%, over a percentage point higher than last year. Doesn't sound like much, but in terms of state funding it equals over \$12,000 in additional revenue. Is there an easier way to raise \$12,000? Thank you to everyone who made that extra effort to minimize absences this year. The increased attendance was the result of a many people making some relatively small, conscious decisions. Imagine what we could do if everyone did the same thing...

**Cell Phone Alert!**

Apparently not everyone is aware of our policy regarding students and cell phones. It is on page 30 of the Parent Handbook. Basically it says that students are not allowed to bring cell phones or other electronic devices to school, unless they are authorized to do so by their parent, in which case they must be left in the school office during the school day. A cell phone seen in a student's possession during school will be confiscated and will only be returned to the parent. Please help us keep cell phones out of the classrooms and off the playgrounds.

## Community Events of Interest

### Rising Moon Playback Theater

Improv in honor of Mother's Day, Saturday, May 9, 7:30pm, Sebastopol Center for the Arts. Requested donation: \$15-20; no one turned away for lack of funds.

### Joseph Chilton Pearce for a weekend workshop on the topic of "Raising Healthy, Creative Children in Troubled Times".

This event takes place Friday, May 8 at 7:30pm and Saturday, May 9, 8:30am - 5:00pm, at Rudolf Steiner College in Fair Oaks.

Workshop Friday and Saturday: \$95; Students/Seniors \$70

Friday, May 8 Lecture only, please pay at the door: \$15; Students/Senior \$10

Saturday Lunch: \$13.25

You can register online at [www.steinercollege.edu](http://www.steinercollege.edu) <<http://www.steinercollege.edu>> . Click on Spring Events.

### Joseph Chilton Pearce will also be San Francisco for an evening lecture: Sunday, May 10, at 7:30pm.

For more information, please call 916-961-3932.

### Hot Lunches Made Easy

The May/June Hot Lunch order form is available in the office and on the SunRidge website. Please fill it out and submit it along with your payment to the Office three days before any lunch you want, i.e. by Thursday for the Tuesday Hot Lunch and by Tuesday for the Friday Hot Lunch. Before submitting your form, please check with your child's teacher for field trip dates etc. as it is extremely time consuming to credit hot lunches onto a future date. If your student does not receive a Hot Lunch that you ordered, contact Valorie at 794-7370. The Class of 2011 thanks you for your order.

<http://www.sunridgeschool.org/forms.html>

### Faculty Lunch Schedule

It is a much-appreciated tradition at SunRidge for the parent body to provide lunch for weekly faculty meetings every Thursday. The schedule for the remainder of the year is:

April	Class 5
May	Morningstar Kindergarten
June	Dragonfly Kindergarten

\* Check our web site for the weekly bulletin, and many school forms: <http://www.sunridgeschool.org/>

## Student Games Events from Mr. T

**7th grade Explorers' Day @ Ragle Ranch – Friday, April 24th.** Parents can assist with scorekeeping the teams, setting up the running and orienteering routes, and hold/create the feeling of a journey of exploration and survival in a strange new land. (Cost is \$5 per student for materials and awards.)

### 8th grade MSSL Track Meet @ Bailey Field, Santa Rosa Junior College, Friday, May 8th.

Parents are needed to help time running events, assist as chaperones and event helpers. (Cost is \$5 per student.)

### 5th grade All-in-Peace Pentathlon at Summerfield – Friday, May 15th.

Parents can help shepherd the city-state of Corinth through the events; can chronicle the event for the school bulletin; can help Mr. T with the judging of the discus/javelin (TBD). Please contact Angela Kindle or myself. (Cost is \$25 for medals, t-shirts and site prep – please get payment in soon – thank you!)

### 6th grade Mayacamas Medieval Tournament @ Cloverleaf Ranch in Santa Rosa – Friday, May 22nd.

Parents can take the role of royalty (king, queen, noble court), jesters, heralds; of helping to get the site decorated and prepared for the day; and to act as a Guide, an important role for leading children from activity to activity and keeping tabs on their locations. This is our 1st annual event, and it promises to be loads of fun, and an important milestone/rite of passage for the students of the 6th grade from 5 different Waldorf charter schools – SunRidge, Sebastopol Independent Charter, River Oak of Ukiah, Stone Bridge of Napa, and Woodland Star of Sonoma. Please contact Josie Martin or myself – I do have a more specific breakdown of volunteer roles and tasks.

Of all the events, this is where I need the most parent help, and so far, at least 6 have offered to help – thank you! – and we need more, if possible. (Cost - \$25 per student, please get payment in soon – thank you!).

Contact me with questions, offers, concerns, and miracles at [movement@sunridgeschool.org](mailto:movement@sunridgeschool.org) or 591-1044. - Mr. T

### Farmers' Market

The Farmers' Market is a monthly event held after school one Thursday of each month at Ragle Park. If anyone (whether you are in the hosting class or not) has an abundance from your garden and would like to contribute, you can leave contributions on the bench outside the office on Thursday before pick-up.

**The Farmer's Market** Schedule for the rest of this year:

May - Kindergarten

June 10 - All school potluck

**Thank you for an incredible basketball season** *from Mr. T.*

After the final game, as the 8th graders and I stood arms around one another at the jump circle, I felt a surge of joy, a sense of relief and inner calm, and a wash of gratitude. I wanted to make sure I did something right away to pass that feeling on to everyone who has been part of our season.

So I take this moment to express my thanks to:

\* all the players for coming together as a team so strongly, and with beautiful moments of passing and seeing one another on the court. We learned so much about ourselves, our ability to stand up to adversity - and something about the game of basketball, too.

\* all the parents and faculty who vicariously felt the ups and downs of every game all season as spectators, who drove players to games, who continued to support the success of their children in this, and who provided snacks to nourish the players.

\* to fellow students, who showed up to support their friends, cheer them on, and keep them laughing and at ease before and after the game and at school.

\* the Class teachers of the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades who supported the students to balance their academic responsibilities with their play on our team and who cheered in the stands.

\* to our Director, Mr. Mark, for talking up our team, and keeping the community informed in the bulletin, and for showing his support with attendance at many games. And to Theresa and the office, for fielding many phone calls about the games and handling the operations side of the season.

\* to Gregg Wrisley, whose excellent efforts to coordinate communication and snacks made this season SO much easier on my end, and secured nourishment for our players.

\* and to Curt, who stepped up this year as a fellow coach, who was very dependable for driving, kept our scorebook which is a vital role in helping the coach and team, and did everything asked of him, and more, in working with the players to improve their play. Curt is a tremendous asset to the team, and a knowledgeable and insightful coach-partner.

I don't know about you, but I hope to bask in the afterglow of the season for quite some time. I told the girls to "remember this moment", because it is a special one, one achieved by hard work and dedication, by the inner seeking, and the outer doing, through teamwork and unselfish play.

Everyone, have a great Spring Break. I hope to see everyone the afternoon Wednesday, April 22nd (or maybe some other day) as we'll close the Valkyrie 2009 season with a celebration. I will be talking to the girls today about possibilities (and to get some rest ;) )

Thank you,  
Dale