

# THE SOULARD SCHOOL NEWS

May, 2008  
www.soulardschool.org

## FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL ...

I recently attended a **panel discussion of Critical Issues in Urban Education** sponsored by the College of Education and Public Service at St. Louis University. Certainly, urban environment issues differ from their suburban or rural counterparts. However, even with this shared commonality, the issues and opinions are as varied and unique as our students. Principal Kevin Lee from Loyola Academy brought up a consideration I have heard often: Since we no longer live in the agrarian environment from which our current school system was structured, why do we still maintain its schedule? Given the conditions of our country today, **why do school days end at three; and the school year run for only nine and a half months?** It's a valid question. The majority of children today are part of a dual income family or single parent family. Scheduling after school or in the summer can be a real hassle. **Summer can be a real inconvenience – for us adults.**

Since the agrarian schedule was created by adults, we certainly can change it to better suit our needs today. Frankly, that would be easier than the alternative. However, a more evolved approach begs us to **consider the bigger picture.** One size does not fit all – in any element of education. In fact, this is arguably the most significant reason why schools struggle. For some students, extra time in the classroom may be a real gift. Hopefully, they are in schools where the community has a shared vision and a leader like Kevin at Loyola. **At The Soulard School, we embrace all the people, places and experiences from which we learn and grow.** Eleven ten (1110) Victor and 2116 South 13th Street are two of those places; friends, teachers and administrators are some of those people; and school days are many of those experiences. **Summer is an experience from which we learn and grow as well.**

**This year has been terrific.** Our nautical inspiration has carried us full circle. Like all great seamen, we have **worked together as crew** to launch the ship, hoist the masts, and raise the sails. When we had to navigate the course, we were like those in movies...with agility, speed, strength, and coordination - adjusting and readjusting. Then there is that moment, a pause, and the pay off – our enormous sail captures the wind. First, there is the definitive sound – *whoomp* (May 23<sup>rd</sup> – last day); high fives and hugs (Ice Cream Social); and then we sit back and enjoy the breeze (Art & Garden Festival.)

The sea is vast and endless. **Enjoy the lazy days of summer.** Act like a kid – or if you can't - then at least, let your kid be a kid.

- Kelly Bock

## Garden Work Day

Spend some time helping the kids and the landscape committee get the yard ready for summertime

THURSDAY, MAY 8<sup>th</sup>  
starting at 2:30PM

## – REMINDER –

**RECORDS DAY** | The third trimester Records Day will be **Friday, May 16.** There will be no school or Vacation Care for elementary students. Pre-K students will be dismissed at 12:00, with no lunch served that day.

Join us for the  
school year's last

## TUESDAY COFFEE

May 5<sup>th</sup>  
McGurk's Room  
8:30 AM

and thanks to Diane Keaggy (Liam, 4/5 & Sorena, 2/3) for pulling it all together!



## LOOK WHAT I MADE!

Jay Gibbs & Susan check out the student artwork at the Student Art Show at Boots Gallery this week.

## NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

The Soulard School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. The Soulard School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school administered programs.

# HAPPENINGS



## A FEAST FIT FOR ROYALTY

The Enigma class staged a wonderful **Medieval Feast** on May 28 during lunch as part of their culmination of study of Medieval times. The Feast included roasted drumsticks, bean soup, salad and a custard tart, all eaten with fingers instead of utensils. Only the "honored guests" (parents) were allowed to use forks, knives and plates. The **peasants (students and teachers) used bread for plates**. The Feast included entertainment after each course: a **Medieval Branle dance**, a **poem**, a **sword fighting tournament**, and a **play**. A merry time was had by all! Thank you to the Thrive class for helping with parts in the play. **Collin Mack** exclaimed to his mom,

*"Medieval Day is the best day I've had at school so far!"*



## POETRY MONTH

The month of April was poetry month, so there has been a special emphasis on poetry at The Soulard School for the past few weeks. Students have been learning about various types of poems, reciting poems for each other, and writing original poems. Here are two examples of their wonderful creativity.

Wonderful Fall  
One by one birds sing  
Singing through the trees, leaves go  
Good Morning to fall

A Haiku by **Paige Waskow**, Mosaic Class

Third Planet from the Sun  
Earth,  
Big, Round,  
Running, Breathing, Moving,  
People, Wars, Sky, and Sea-  
Fighting, Flying, Swimming,  
Peaceful, Crazy,  
My Planet

A Diamante by **Aidan Rampy**, Enigma Class

## TEACHING PEACE ALL THE WORLD AROUND

The annual Teaching Peace Parade was held on Earth Day, April 22. We **paraded indoors** in the morning because of rain, but the elementary students marched up and down 12th Street in the afternoon, **carrying signs and singing their song**.



*Gianni, Ronnie & Harry raise the banner and lead the charge.*

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## ART & GARDEN FESTIVAL

Each year, Art & Garden Festival/Picnic Portfolio Day is our way of celebrating our students and the school.

Most importantly, the festival is a place for our FAMILIES, FRIENDS & RELATIVES to enjoy a day created by the children.

**SATURDAY, MAY 31<sup>ST</sup>**  
**2:00 - 5:30 PM**  
**1110 VICTOR**

Join us for.....

- Art
- Games
- BBQ
- Dance Performance
- Pre-K Class Performances
- 4/5 Pre-K Graduation
- K-5 Portfolio Displays
- Activity Booths  
created & staffed by students
- Strings Concert  
conducted by Matt King, our instructor



**LAST DAY OF SCHOOL** | Elementary students will celebrate the last day of school, May 23, with a **water day at Pontiac Park**. Students need to bring: a swimsuit or change of clothes, water friendly shoes, sunscreen, a sack lunch, a water bottle and lots of energy!

We will play water and other games at the park and have a picnic lunch.

At 2:30, Pre-K and Elementary families are invited to join us at school for an **Ice Cream Social** in the Circular Drive. We'll shut the driveway gates, so please park on the street and join us!

**Students need to bring:**  
 a swimsuit or change of clothes, water friendly shoes, sunscreen, a sack lunch, a water bottle and lots of energy!

**FINAL ELEMENTARY ASSEMBLY** | The **end of the year Strings and Piano concert**, along with an assembly for **May and summer (June and July) birthday books**, will be held on **Friday, May 9 beginning at 2:00 p.m.** Remember, this assembly starts at **2:00 p.m.**, not the usual 2:30. We will begin promptly with the Chrysanthemum class performing with their violins, so **plan to arrive early**. Extended families are welcome! This is a wonderful opportunity for students to demonstrate all that they have learned this year, and for you to show your support for their achievements. See you there!



## Strings & Piano Concert

**ANNUAL GIVING UPDATE** |  
**Total percentage of families participating**

**52%**

Thank you and **congratulations to the Mosaic Class!** We will celebrate with a **Gus' Pretzel Party**

on Thursday May 8th. Make sure your child's class gets in on the Pretzel Party fun! There will be another party on Thursday May 15th for all other homerooms that have reached 100%.

While contributions will be accepted through the end of the school year -

**PRETZEL PARTY donation deadline is Monday, May 12th.**

Remember: We want 100% participation - Every contribution matters regardless of amount! (Contact Kelly at [khbock@sbcglobal.net](mailto:khbock@sbcglobal.net) if you can't remember if you donated.)



see calendar page for updates!

**CAMP SOULARD** | Calling All Campers! You should have received a brochure for Camp Soulard. Please let us know as soon as possible if you are planning to attend. Registration for camp is open to non-Soulard School students. Please spread the word to neighbors, friends and family. It's going to be a great summer! For more information or if you have questions, please contact Teresa.

May 27 -30

**Get in the Game**

*(creating a life-size board game and playing our favs)*

June 2-13

**On Stage** *(creating and performing a play)*

June 16-20

**Run, Jump, Kick!** *(a sports camp)*

August 4-15

**Feel the Beat**

*(rhythm, percussion and dance with performance)*

August 18-22

**Cirque du Soulard** *(circus practice and performance)*

August 25-29

**Art Smart** *(drawing and painting, sculpting and creating!)*

# HAPPENINGS

## SOULARD SOIREE

### A Swashbuckling Success!

For anyone who wasn't in the Courtyard at 1200 Russell on the evening of April 19th, I want to let you know the stories you have heard are True!

A Mermaid greeted guests, pirates perused tantalizing auction items, and sea-creatures were spotted through the spectacles.

The buccaneers and wenches served up a right tasty beverage to all who were on board. The Adventure-tini and Davy Jones lockers went down smoother than the ocean waves.

And speaking of ocean waves, the galley served up fare unseen in these waters before! The Tuna, Scallops, Shrimp, and Calamari were worth walkin' the plank, not to mention the spicy wings, artichoke dip and toasted ravioli. **Jason Greene** and **Juliet Poncez** did an unparalleled job in converting McGurks into a sea-side resort ready to pamper our Soiree attendees.

Thanks to **John Holt** for lending his talent in tickling the ivories, and **Heath** (with his posse) spinning the tunes. **The Binders** did a great job serving tasty morsels, and our bartenders **Jim Lake**, **Julie Beal-Marshall**, **Danielle Reaney** and **Charles Bock** were awesome with the drinks. **The Prices**, **Shannon Chance**, **Sarah Christman**, **Rhonda Holt**, **Diane Keaggy**, **Greg Redmond**, **Eleanor White** and **Stephanie Byrd** and several others showed great stamina in checking in and out guests.

The set up crew; **Patsy King**, **Lisa Maher**, **Heather Lake**, **Kelly Bock**, **Sarah Christman**, **Rhonda Holt**, **Teresa Mulvihill**, **Amy DeLahunty** and **Laura Smith** showed more efficiency than swabbing the deck in getting the tantalizing auction items, sign up parties, and raffle displayed. **Teresa Mulvihill** and **Carla Gibbs** sold tons of Raffle tickets, which really helped fill the sails.

A Big Sailor Salute to **Erin Scallions** and her crew who changed **Paradowski Design** into a "Making the book" Club for a few days. Their tireless efforts, snappy design and dogged fact-checking really paid off.

**Erin Quick**, **Greg Redmond**, **Danielle Reaney** and countless others did a fantastic job searching the Seven Seas for fantastic and unique donations, while **Anne Nea** scribed every ticket. **Rhonda Holt** and **Teresa Mulvihill** tallied ticket sales and invitation lists to ensure we were working our constituents.

And who better to top the night entertaining us with his own Jack Sparrow act than **Dave Tabascotti**. Dave helped us raise thousands of dollars for the Scholarship Fund from our generous guests. The night ended on an endearing note as **Jay Gibbs** was honored with the Adventurer Award for showing us all how to yearn for the vast and endless sea.

Thanks to the extremely generous support of **Jim Holleran** and the "gold standard" team at McGurk's, The Soulard Soiree "netted" more than **\$25,000** for the school. With the talents and donations of our parents and staff, we were able to plan and present this shindig for very little cost. Our final numbers have yet to be tallied, but rest assured this was the most successful FUNraiser for The Soulard School yet!

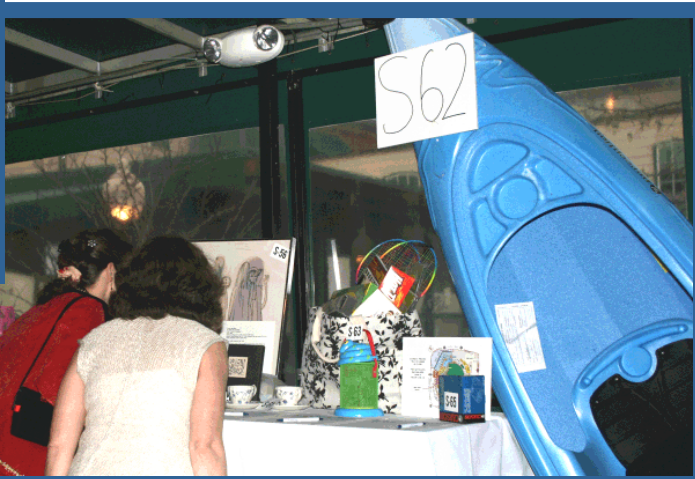
The Soulard Soiree thanks **Kelly Bock** for the vision, **Heather Lake** for the experience, **Rhonda Holt** for the task-listing and **Sarah Christman** for the perseverance, and planning of a really wonderful event. The night would not have happened without Sarah!

Thanks to all of you who contributed – big and small – in making this truly a Swashbuckling Success!

- **Beth Hyser**, FUNraising Chair



Shannon Diamond and Kathy Sotelo enjoy the nautical theme.

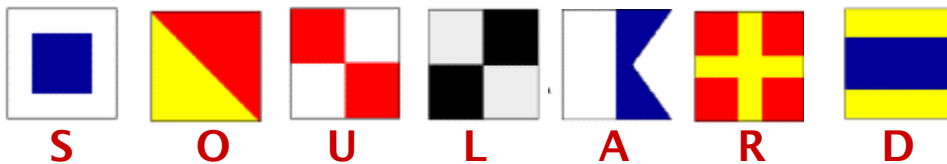


Head buccaneer, Kelly Bock, raids the treasure chest.

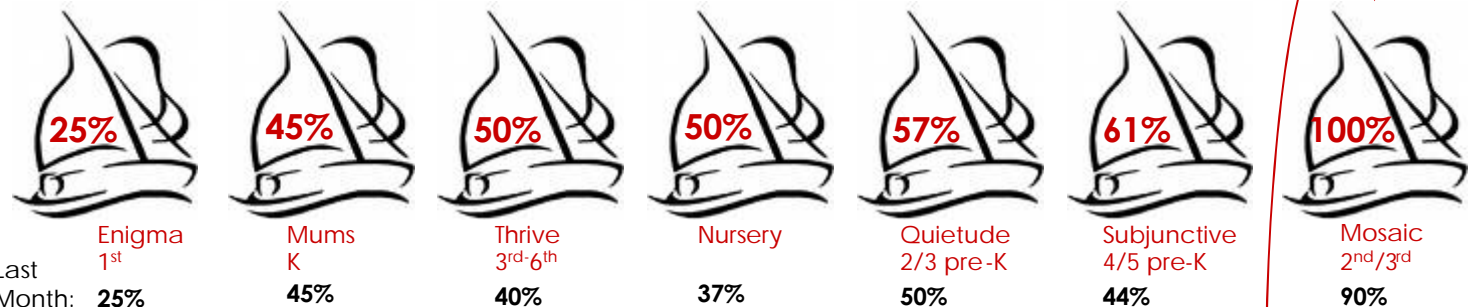
May			EC	EE
* Saturday, May 3	11:00 – 2:00 PM	" Only Connect" Student Art Show @ Boots – ALL WELCOME	○	○
Saturday, May 3	5:30 – 10:30 PM	Parents' Night Out	○	○
Tuesday, May 6	8:30 – 9:30 AM	Monthly Coffee for Parents	○	○
* Thursday, May 8	2:30 - ??	Garden Work Day	○	○
Friday, May 9	2:00 PM	Assembly – Strings & Piano Performance		○
* Monday, May 12	6:00 PM	Annual Giving – Pizza Party donation deadline		
<b>Friday, May 16</b>	<b>All Day closed 12:00 – 6:00 PM</b>	<b>School Closed</b> – Records Day (EE) <b>School Closed</b> – Records Day (EC closes @ 12 PM)	○	○
Friday, May 23	2:30 PM	Last Day of School – * Ice Cream Social in the Circular Drive	○	○
<b>Monday, May 26</b>	<b>All Day</b>	<b>School Closed</b> – Memorial Day	○	
Tue., May 27 – Fri., May 30	9:00 AM – 3:00 PM	Camp Soulard – "Get in the Game"		○
* Saturday, May 31	6:00 PM	Annual Giving – 2008 Campaign deadline	○	○
Saturday, May 31	* 2:00 – 5:30 PM	Art & Garden/Picnic & Portfolio	○	○
June			EC	EE
* June date TBA	6:30 – 8:30 PM	New Officer Welcome (King/Sherman's – 3625 Flad Ave.)		
Mon., June 2 – Fri., June 13	9:00 AM – 3:00 PM	Camp Soulard – "On Stage"		
Mon., June 16 – Fri., June 20	9:00 AM – 3:00 PM	Camp Soulard – "Run, Jump, Kick"		
August			EC	EE
Mon., Aug. 4 – Fri., Aug. 15	9:00 AM – 3:00 PM	Camp Soulard – "Feel the Beat"		
Mon., Aug. 18 – Fri., Aug. 22	9:00 AM – 3:00 PM	Camp Soulard – "Cirque du Soulard"		
Mon., Aug. 25 – Fri., Aug. 29	9:00 AM – 3:00 PM	Camp Soulard – "Art Smart"		

\* **New (or revised) events** are noted with an asterisk.

Revised 5/2/08



### ANNUAL GIVING "REGATTA" UPDATE



**Remember:** No dollar amount is too small.  
What we need most is 100% participation!  
This is a critical piece of information when large donors consider gifts. Also remember that family contributions are applied to all children of the family in the school.

**Way to go Mosaics!**