

THE SOULARD SCHOOL NEWS

January, 2010
www.soulardschool.org

from the head of school ...

At our Monday afternoon assemblies, we spend the first 10 or 15 minutes in a whole group pow wow.

During the first trimester, we discussed responsibilities, reflection, fairness, empathy and gratitude, and philanthropy.

The children brainstormed all of their responsibilities in their job as students. Learning, one of their key responsibilities, requires risk-taking and making mistakes. Neither of which are productive unless followed by reflection. In the pow wow on fairness, we discussed that being treated fairly does not mean that everyone will be treated the same. Respecting one another as individuals is also echoed in developing empathy and gratitude. And gratitude fosters a spirit of philanthropy.

Each time we meet, we begin by reflecting back on the topics of the weeks prior. When I ask students to recall what we talked about in the first, second, third... week, they confidently raise their hands. Initially, it was primarily the older students who were most successful in the ability to recall. But as we continue to learn and explore these important topics together as a community, younger and younger students eagerly share what they remember. Now into our second trimester, we have begun to explore other important elements of character that concretely connect two or more of our original concepts. This week we talked about integrity. The students defined it as "doing the right thing even if no one is watching." This, of course, is not a new concept – the kindergarteners have integrity monitors for group visits to the bathroom. However, it is new that we all come together to talk about what these things mean collectively as a school. These are more than elements of character; they are part of our philosophy.

And our philosophy is not what we do to our students, but who we are with our students.

- Kelly Bock, Head of School

Experience the energy of

THE SOULARD SCHOOL

Join us for our annual Open House



Spread the Word!

Join us for Work Night
on Thursday, 1/21 from 5-8PM
(come when you can, for as long as you can)
and check out the
refreshment & volunteer sign ups
(on the Circular Drive Board)



Max, Ella, Everett & Gabe demonstrate their enthusiasm, math skills and sense of philanthropy in tallying classmates' contribution to the Annual Giving Campaign. For more on Annual Giving, see page 3.

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events & information

annual giving

Nursery: 89%

Bliss
Bock
Kryah Burmeister
Diamond
Fair
Chance McGrath
Pupillo
White

Quietude: 100%

Binder
Smith Blasingame
Buettner
Kryah Burmeister
Bock
Caramane
Hunt Carlton
DeLaHunt
Diamond
Fair
Jarvis Bohne
Keaggy
Lawing
Leonard
Mothershead Jones
Nea
Severance
Sharpe Schmitz
Tabscott

Subjunctive: 87%

Allen
Bliss
Cooper
Corey
Gavril
Mack Hartzler
Hyser
Mothershead Jones
Lawing
Cortazzo Nemens
Quick Harris
Pendergast Garvey
Syverson

Enigma: 92%

Cooper
Davison
Holt
Lenzen
Linde
Keaggy
Miller
Moomey
Nea
King Sherman
Waskow

Mums: 86%

Binder
Bock
Broussard
Corey
Carlton
Gibbs
Goodwin
Grodeon
Koester
Leslie
Beall Marshall
Chance McGrath
Panzeri
Pulsipher Hufmann
Richardson
Scallions
Stinson
Syverson
Wilson

Thrive: 100%

Binder
Broussard
Burke Greene
Fields
Gibbs
Fields
Han
Quick Harris
Koester
Leslie
Moseley
Mothershead Jones
Reamey

Mosaic: 92%

Broussard
Gibbs
Holt
Hyser
Kitipitayangkul
Leslie
Mack Hartzler
Barnes Mulvihill
Rogers
King Sherman
Waskow
Weimann/Redmond



Thanks to everyone who attended this year's State of the School meeting. The meeting gave our community an opportunity to come together, discuss how we're doing, and ask questions. Perhaps most surprising (but perhaps not) also to see a few tears shed as people talked about what the school has meant to them, their children, and how grateful they are for each other. Especially the teachers – ALL of whom are returning next year. Thank You!

orchestra benefit concert



Orchestra students will be the opening performance for Matt King's (Stings Instructor) band, Trigger 5.

Held at Atomic Cowboy on Manchester in the Grove

Saturday, April 10th at 6pm.

All ages welcome,
\$5 admission charge.

More information to come, but mark your calendar now!

nursery toy request

The nursery seeks your donations. Are you cleaning out old toys, books, or games after a busy holiday? The nursery would love donations of used items appropriate for infants, toddlers, and two-year-olds. Bring donations to 2116 South 13th Street. Items we do not use will be given to Goodwill or saved for the yard sale. Thank you.

events & information



outdoor cold weather policy

We believe that children need to go outdoors as much as possible. They need to fill their lungs with fresh air, and have space to develop their large motor skills. In order to understand the seasons, they need to experience them, hot, cold, wet or dry. The warm sun, cool wind, crackling leaves, wet rain, dry air and the smell of green spring leaves are all wonderful. We avoid taking the children out in a heavy downpour, but you may see us out in a light rain. If you do not wish for your child to go outdoors, because you believe their cold will worsen, we ask that you keep your child at home on those days as our staff ratio requirements cannot be met if one teacher is inside with one child. If children get wet while playing outside we make sure that they are changed into dry clothing as soon as possible. Please make sure that you always send clothing to keep your child warm, and dry. If we feel that your child does not have sufficient clothing to keep them warm we will find something extra for them to wear from our spare clothing box.

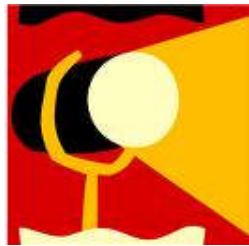
All children will play outside for an appropriate length of time if adequately dressed (hands and head must be covered) when:

Toddler & Pre-K: Wind chill is above 0 degree Fahrenheit with 15 degrees wind chill. (According to Caring for Our Children National Health and Safety Performance Standards: Guidelines for Out-of-Home Child Care Programs.)

Elementary: 0 degrees Fahrenheit with 0 wind chill. (According to the American Academy of Pediatrics.)

We will check the temperature 5 minutes prior to scheduled recess @ weather.noaa.gov/weather/current/KSTL.htm as reported for St. Louis Missouri. We will use the wind chill calculation chart, that considers both temperature and wind chill, to determine these minimum requirements. NOTE: Children must have appropriate waterproof wear (i.e. boots) in order to play in the snow (the yard), as wetness increases frigidty of temperature.

Baby...
it's COLD
outside!



Sarah + Tim Bliss

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

At the Soulard School, each family is asked for three volunteer hours a month, or twenty seven a year, a number that Tim and Sarah Bliss have had no problem trouncing. This school year, most of their hours have gone toward making a large reproduction of a snake designed last year by Lily K., a Mosaic student.

Last year approximately 2,500 hours were given by parents volunteering, and Sarah estimates that she and her husband have spent about two hundred on the snake by themselves, and combined with the hours by students and parents assisting them, the hours would be about doubled.

The snake was supposed to be about nine feet long, but Sarah's husband Tim, who was in charge of sculpting the snake, really got hooked on the project and it is now about twelve to thirteen feet long.

Sarah says that parent volunteer work is extremely important because it shows students what can be accomplished when parents work with each other, and that if enough of them come together the possibilities and ideas are endless. Volunteer work to her is a good example for students and "really just awesome."

Not only is the snake great for volunteer work, but for the community as well. Sarah thinks what is so great about the snake is that students will not only appreciate it for what it is but also because all of the work that was put into it. She says it will be great for students to see the snake and point to a piece and proudly say "oh I did that part!"

Overall Sarah believes that this has been an exciting process and can't wait to see it set in the spring.

- by Acadia Broussard, Thrive Class

first tuesday coffee



Join us **Tuesday, February 2nd** at 8:30 AM (after dropping off your child/ren) for some good company & great treats.

events & information

Ian: When they cut away the wall there was cool patterns like, pushed in wood or pushed out wood, pushed in wood or pushed out wood.

Susan: We were looking for things that could have been toys that could have been used.

Recently, the Mum's visited the Pulitzer Foundation for the Arts to see the current exhibit "Urban Alchemy" – a collection of artist's Gordon Matta-Clark's work. Created in the 70's, Matta-Clark, an architect by trade, used homes or buildings as his canvas. Some were dissected, cut apart or in half, and on display using photography or as sculptures or relics. Guides, clipboards and pencils in

Gwyn: We were drawing and adding what the rest of the house would be.

Austin: It was a roof but it was cut apart.

Harry: It was four pieces of a tiny bit of the roof, from about 100 years ago.

J.J.: There was a cool sculpture made from trash. I found scuba diving equipment, a fan petal and a cell phone. It can probably help you learn to reduce trash and reuse it in a sculpture.

hand, the students moved about reflecting on patterns, repetition, layers and considering what the building may have been used for previously. Our visit was an extension of the time spent during Studio Arts where they have been assembling doors and gateways from scrap wood. The class will continue to explore architecture as artwork, panoramic photography and sculpture over the next few months as they take ideas and inspiration from Matta-Clark.

culinary arts

soba noodles with chicken and vegetables

- 1/2 cup chicken broth
- 3 tbsp low-sodium soy sauce
- 2 tbsp oyster sauce
- 2 tbsp mirin (sweet rice wine)
- 1 tsp Sriracha (hot chile sauce, such as Huy Fong) **we used only 1/2 tsp
- 1 (10 oz) package soba noodles
- 1 tbsp canola oil

- 1 tsp garlic
- 1 tsp peeled grated fresh ginger
- 1 lb. chicken breast, cut into bite size pieces
- 1 large carrot, cut into julienne strips
- 2 large zucchini, cut into julienne strips
- **we substituted 1 head of broccoli
- 1 tbsp sesame seeds, toasted

1. Combine first 5 ingredients in a small bowl.
2. Prepare noodles according to package directions, omitting salt and fat. Drain and rinse with cold water; drain.
3. Heat canola oil in a large non-stick skillet over medium-high heat. Add garlic, ginger and chicken to pan; sauté for 3 minutes, stirring constantly. Add broth mixture, carrot and zucchini to pan; cook for 3 minutes stirring constantly. Add noodles; cook for 2 minutes or until thoroughly heated, tossing well. Sprinkle with sesame seeds.

This was a VERY popular entrée with the students!!!

One the 3rd Thursday of the month the Kemper Art Museum is inviting parents and children (2 and up) to come to the museum at 11:00am for a story and activity hour. Lead by Emily Bryant, former SS Studio Arts Instructor.

2009/10 calendar

JANUARY 2010

5	TU	8:30 AM	First Tuesday Coffee
6	W		Open House Work Night
9	SA	5:30 – 10:30 PM	PNO – Parents Night Out
13	W		State of the School
15	F	all day	School Closed – Professional Development Day
16	SA	6:00 PM	Trivia Night
18	M	all day	School Closed - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
21	TH		Open House Work Night
23	SA		Open House
25	M	2 :30 PM	Student Assembly – Families Invited (+ birthday books)

FEBRUARY

2	TU	8:30 AM	First Tuesday Coffee
* 10	W	all day	100 th Day of School + Pajama Day
13	SA	(various shifts)	Mardi Gras
15	M	all day	School Closed – President's Day
22	M	2 :30 PM	Student Assembly – Families Invited (+ birthday books)
26	F	all day	School Closed – Records Day

MARCH 2010

2	TU	8:30 AM	First Tuesday Coffee
9-11	TU-TH		Parent /Teacher Conferences
12	F		End of Second Trimester
15-19	M-F	all day	Spring Break Victor Campus – Closed
17-19	W-F	all day	Spring Break 13th St Campus (Nursery) – Closed
29	M	2 :30 PM	Student Assembly – Families Invited (+ birthday books)

APRIL

tba			Parent Association Elections
2	F	all day	School Closed – Professional Development Day
6	TU	8:30 AM	First Tuesday Coffee
22	TH		Teaching Peace Parade
26	M	2 :30 PM	Student Assembly – Families Invited (+ birthday books)

MAY

tba			Soulard Soiree
4	TU	8:30 AM	First Tuesday Coffee
14	F	all day	School Closed – Records Day
20	TH		Student Art Show & Strings Assembly
24	M	2 :30 PM	Student Assembly – Families Invited (+ birthday books)

* event added/changed this month + mandatory attendance

no worries!

Don't miss out...
REGISTER NOW!
School Daze Camp

- Jan 18th: [Viva La Revolution](#)
- Feb 5th: [Dazed & Confused](#)

Spring Break Camp: POP Goes the Artist

Make your Spring Break pop at SCOSAG's Spring Break Camp: POP Goes the Artist. Join SCOSAG teaching artist Emily Hemeyer in exploring and creating all kinds of modern art including POP art, graphics, cartooning, as well as anything else that goes POP! Spend the week creating art, telling stories, making music, playing games, visiting the Missouri Botanical Garden, and exploring Tower Grove Park! Plus, we'll visit the Tower Grove Food Cart for ice cream or hot cocoa/cider.

[Don't miss out... register for Spring Break Camp now!](#)

March 15–19, 2010
9:00 am to 3:00 pm
\$165 for full session
50% deposit reserves a space

Extended Care Available:
• 7:30 to 9:00 AM : \$25
• 3:00 to 6:00 PM : \$50

SCOSAG
 Saint Louis City Open Studio and Gallery

mardi gras

FUNraising at its best!

Saturday, February 13th

Each year McGurk's reserves one of their booths for the school to run and the oodles of tips go directly to us. While we have a good

start on **volunteers to man the booth**, we will be looking for people to fill in holes. Always a good time and never a dull moment, bring your friends to help too and make a day of it. Sign-up sheets will be out the last week of January.

