

# THE SOULARD SCHOOL NEWS

March, 2011  
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 tickets + donations

## from the PA president

As many of you know, the efforts of the volunteers at our Soulard School Oktoberfest beer stands generated more than \$10,000 for the PA. WOW! This was more than we have ever raised at this event and it provided a great opportunity for the PA to address some monetary needs of the school. At an open meeting in December, families were invited to learn about what funds had been requested and offer opinions as to how they would like to see the money distributed. We listened to your opinions, did some debating and finally doled it out. Our desire is to spread the wealth as fairly as possible. The following is a breakdown of how we distributed and are distributing funds thus far. This is in addition to some other expenses towards classroom supplies for each teacher, Christmas gift baskets and other miscellaneous expenses. Thanks to all the great volunteers for making this possible!

- Michele Rigsby, Acting Pres., TSS PA & Fred & Ada's mom)

### General

Website \$420

### Landscaping

Sod \$300; Pond cleaning \$390

### Equipment

Smart Board/Projector \$600; Care Team \$300; Recess equipment \$300; Driveway Protective Gates \$500; Handy Helpers \$300

### Classroom

Mosaic Class Jeff City Trip \$410; Professional Development \$1000; Library \$800 this year and to be an ongoing funding until needs fully meet; Studio \$300



save the date **SATURDAY MAY 14, 2011** McGurk's

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS NOW AT SOULARDSCHOOL.ORG

*Finally able to play outside again after several days of prohibitive weather conditions, Nigel smashes ice in celebration of warmer days and to help speed up Mother Nature's process.*



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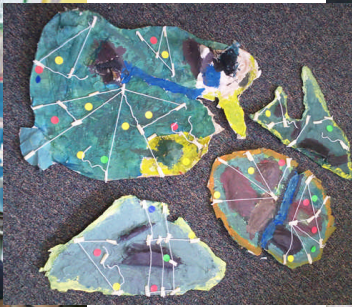
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**note:** Over the next few weeks you will be seeing several new faces as prospective families and students visit our school. Be sure to extend a friendly and helpful "Hello" and show what an amazing community we have.



# class work

## alchemy notes



We have just begun a free program with Junior Achievement in the Alchemy class. Every Wednesday, our teacher/volunteer, Terry Perkins, comes to our classroom to lead a lesson related to city functions. So far, we have learned how city planners divide an area into zones based on the function of the land. There are industrial, business, residential, multipurpose, farming, and hospital zones that make up a city and its surrounding land. We were able to directly apply this new learning to our land project. →

### Land for Sale!

The Alchemy class is currently involved in a land project, in which they will be able to purchase land and later build something for their emerging mock community. The land project idea blossomed from our study of Plymouth Rock, in which we learned how the first settlers designed their community. With this foundational interest, we presented the students with the idea through a topographical map. Using the map, we discussed what kind of land-forms our land would have and began a discussion concerning what a community needs to thrive. Here's the catch, they would first have to save money to purchase land and then later, save again to purchase their building of interest. Through this project, the students in Alchemy are not only learning about communities, but are also learning how to earn, save, and spend money wisely. Keep your eyes posted for a new addition to the neighborhood!

## mums notes

Math in the Mum's room has been all about measuring lately while we compare sizes, measure length, explore capacity, and use pan balances. To end our unit, students completed books about things that were heavier than their bodies and took part in their first "author's chair" experience.

When asked to reflect on the experience students had positive things to say:

**"I liked it because it was really fun reading to the class. It was a good book."**

- Sorena

**"It was fun because you got to read your own books that you made"**

- Tedda



Gavin shares during his first author's chair experience. 2

# soiree

save the date **SATURDAY MAY 14, 2011** McGurk's

Join us Saturday, May 14 at our Annual Soiree hosted by John D. McGurk's and held in their beautiful outdoor patio & pavilion. This year our theme is "Never Grow Up with The Soulard School" We are evoking the good old days of youth; worry free indulgence, freedoms and distractions.

Sarah Christman is the Soiree Chair, overseeing logistics, donations, sponsors and PR.

Diane Keaggy is the Soiree Co-Chair (Sorena, Mums and Liam, Alchemy) in charge of decorations and the evening's volunteers.

## HOW CAN I HELP?

This event takes the effort of our entire community, which is why at the Volunteer Rally it was mandatory for each family sign-up for a Soiree Committee. Committees have begun meeting and planning, others will gather closer to the event date. Log onto Basecamp to see your Soiree committee or contact Eleanor White if you are unsure of your committee commitment. Below are the ways you help make the most out of this event beyond your committee.

## TICKET SALES

Each family is expected to sell 4 tickets. The advertised ticket price is \$65 but families are able to sell tickets for \$55 each. Our goal is to have 350 attendees. The family requirement is not intended to be a hardship, you are asked to sell these tickets because a varied group of guests is important.



## SPONSORS + DONATIONS

We are looking for sponsors. Sponsorships are opportunity for growth in this fundraising effort. Levels range between \$500 and \$5000 and include tickets to the Soiree along with, advertisement on the Soiree invitation and poster. Please let Sarah Christman know if you have a personal connection with a local business that might be interested in taking advantage of this opportunity.

Our silent and live auction items are focused on experience based, family or group activities. For example a 6 week class at Craft Alliance, a Book Club Starter Kit donated by Left Bank Books, restaurant gift certificates, and movie passes. If you have the ability to donate time at a vacation home or travel opportunities

we would like to have more items to offer in that category. Please email Sarah Christman first if you have contacts for donations, there are many businesses we will be asking and we do not want to overlap our efforts.

**VIP TICKETS** *NEW this year! Sold for \$75 each and limited in number. This ticket entitles the guest to an exclusive one hour of extra Soiree fun and early silent auction bidding.*

## FROM THE P.A.

Hello Soulard School Families.

The snow is melted. The haze of winter is lifting. We are all feeling more jovial as the sunny days are growing in number. With spring just around the corner, so is the best party in Soulard, The Soulard School Soiree. This is our time to enjoy each other's company as we promote our school in what is our school's biggest fundraiser. What's more, it is our opportunity to share and promote the amazing family that is our school by inviting our family, friends and acquaintances to take part in helping us raise money for the school through ticket sales and bidding on the amazing items up for auction at the Soiree. Funds raised at the Soiree help a great deal to defray tuition costs for families of Soulard School students. Take this early reminder as an opportunity to start thinking about whom you will be selling tickets to. As well as who may be able and willing to contribute to the school through auction donations, future financial support or by helping to sponsor our Soiree. Should you have ideas for sponsors or item donors please contact Sarah Christman. Let us all begin our efforts now to have a terrific Soiree.

- Michele Rigsby, Fred and Ada (Nursery) and Acting President, Soulard School PA

**PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS NOW AT SOULARDSCHOOL.ORG**



# happenings

## orchestra concert w/ trigger 5

The Soulard School orchestra will be joining my band Trigger 5, for another show. It will be Friday, April 29 at 6 PM, in the Fox Hole at the Atomic Cowboy. Admission is \$5 at the door. We will be collecting any old and/or unused violins of all sizes for the school. In addition a portion of the proceeds will go to the school for music and instruments. Last year this show was a huge success, and I think this year will be even better!

Friday, April 29, 6:00 PM



*The 2010 Soulard School Orchestra members take a moment before going onstage with Matt King and Trigger 5. The group played an inaugural benefit concert at Atomic Cowboy last April.*

## enigma notes

The Enigma Class made 100th Day Trail Mix. What's the recipe you ask? You have to be exact or it just won't taste right: 100 cheezits, 100 cherrios, 100 peanuts....



*Emily and Zac help with the mixing and counting.*

# 2010/11 calendar + more

**note:** Spring Break is March 14—18. Enjoy!

## March

1	Tu	8:30am	Parent Coffee – hosted by pre-K
5	Sa		Mardi Gras
8-10	Tu-Th		Conferences: Parent, Teacher (& Student K+)
11	F		End 2nd Trimester
14-18	M-F		<b>School Closed- Spring Break</b>
28	M	2:30pm	Assembly: Birthday Book

## April

1	F		<b>School Closed- Prof. Development</b>
5	Tu	8:30am	Parent Coffee – hosted by the Enigmas
8	F	6:00pm	Soulard School Birthday Party
20	W	7:00pm	PA Board Elections
22	F	10:30am	Teaching Peace Parade
25	M	2:30pm	Assembly: Birthday Book
29	F	6:00 pm	Orchestra Concert w/ Trigger 5

## May

3	Tu	8:30am	Parent Coffee – hosted by the PA
13	F		<b>School Closed- Records Day</b>
14	Sa		Soulard Soiree
23	M	2:30pm	Assembly: Birthday Book
25	W	6-8pm	Student Art Show & Concert
27	F		Last Day: Field Day & Portfolios

\* event added/changed this month      + mandatory attendance



## soulard school birthday

Save the Date!

Friday, April 8, 2011, 6 to 8:30 p.m., we will celebrate The Soulard Schools 6th birthday. Plan on the following: **A pot luck, good company, good entertainment and fun for kids.** Location and more details will be forthcoming after Spring Break.

Brought to you by the Parents Association.

Friday, **April 8**, 6:00—8:30 PM

## student led conferences

As we did last year, this trimester our parent/teacher conferences will be student/parent/teacher conferences, emphasis on **STUDENT**. This is a natural connection from our approach with our students where they are expected to have responsibility in their role in their school community. This experience becomes a **new bridge of communication** for all the individuals responsible for a student's education, including the student.

As part of their responsibility in their work, they are asked to be reflective about their own learning –not just to learn, but to think about their learning. In their work, students are asked to reflect on and collect documentation of their own learning in portfolios. This is modeled by the teacher in the younger grades to create more autonomy in the older grades. In these conferences, the students will use conference forms they have completed with their teacher, and use their artifacts in their portfolio to frame the conversation about their work, learning, and process. In these forms, students have reflected (with varying degrees of teacher input appropriate to their grade level) on their interests, strengths, challenges, and goals, both academic and personal.

When you arrive at your scheduled conference, please use the first 15 minutes to read the report with or to your child. Remember to use a strengths-based approach, always begin with the successes because how, why and when a child is successful holds the key to the challenges.

## parent association elections

It's Parent Association election time.

The Parent Association will hold a meeting March 22, 7:30 PM @ Foam. This is not an open meeting but we do encourage anyone who is interested in a position on the Board to join us and watch the Board in action.

Elections for new officers will be held on April 20, 7:00 PM in the McGurks room in an open meeting. All parents are invited. Openings are: Vice President, Social Committee Chair and Community Out Reach Chair. Anyone interested in joining the fantastic group that is the PA Board, please contact Michele Rigsby (Fred & Ada's mom).

Wednesday, **April 20**, 7:00—8:00 PM



# happenings

## culinary arts/nutrition in jefferson

Earlier in the year, The Soulard School was approached by members of Metropolitan Churches United, a local group trying to initiate change for healthier public school lunches. Members of the group inquired about the Culinary Arts and Nutrition program and visited to see us in action. MCU has worked hard to initiate Senate Bill 162, which has been introduced in the Missouri State Senate. The group invited representatives from the Soulard School to accompany them as they head to Jefferson City to meet with legislators to discuss the bill. Mosaic students Iris Redmond, Isabel Sherman and Paige Waskow will travel to Jeff City on March 8 to learn first hand the process of a bill becoming a law.

- Mary Waskow, Culinary Arts Director

**"I think going to Jefferson City would be very educational because I would get to learn a lot more about politics. It would also expand my knowledge on the House of Representatives and the State Senate. It would be a cool and exciting trip I would hold with me forever."**

-Iris

**"I think I would make a good representative for the school. Nutrition is important to me and I would like to explain that. I also think I could explain to my class what we did."**

-Paige

**"I've always admired the way that our school eats, and our nutritious meals plus the healthy lunches. I would also want to go because if this bill gets passed, it would mean a lot more healthy choices at more schools."**

- Isabel



It is hard to believe but summer is just around the corner and it is time to start thinking about camp. Camp Soulard's mission is to bring back the laid back but productive days of summer vacation when hours were spent exploring the park, digging in the sand, playing in the sprinkler, hailing the ice-cream truck, and reading in the shade. Through planned activities, small group exploration, and structured free time our camp gives children the opportunity to apply and build skills learned during the school year in a fun and natural way.

**June 6-10 and 13-17: Games**

**June 20-24: Urban Camping**

**July 11-15 and 18-22: Meet Me in St. Louis**

**July 25-29, August 1-5: Culinary Arts Camp**

**August 8-12: Wet and Wild**

Check out the Camp Soulard Facebook page to read the descriptions of our camp sessions and check out pictures of last year's fun. While you are there, "like" Camp Soulard to extend the impact of our advertising campaign.

