



# Principal's Newsletter

## From the desk of Principal Rasnik



### Upcoming Events

#### Applications are available for the 2011/2012 school year

December 9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup>		Winterfest at GICS – Fundraiser for 5 <sup>th</sup> Graders
December 12 <sup>th</sup>	2:30-4:30	Ice Skating Fundraiser at Toyota Center
December 13 <sup>th</sup>		Goethe Café during drop off – Ice Skating Raffle Basket winners will be announced, and a live music performance
December 12 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup>		Scrip Gift Cards for Sale
December 16 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Pastries with the Principal
December 16 <sup>th</sup>	9:00am	“A Night in Paris” Auction info session following the Principal Pastries
December 16 <sup>th</sup>		‘A Night in Paris’ Donated Items Drop Off Day
December 16 <sup>th</sup>		Goethe Spirit Store Item Pick Up
December 16 <sup>th</sup>	5:00-8:00	Soup Plantation Dinner Night
December 16 <sup>th</sup>	10:10-11:10	Kinder/1st Grade Winter Performance
December 16 <sup>th</sup>	12:30-1:30	2 <sup>nd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Winter Performance
December 17 <sup>th</sup>	12:20/12:40	Minimum Day Dismissal
December 17 <sup>th</sup>		Free Dress Day
December 20 <sup>th</sup> – January 7 <sup>th</sup>		Winter Break
January 10 <sup>th</sup>		School Resumes
January 18 <sup>th</sup>		No School – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 28 <sup>th</sup>		Family Dinner Night 6pm

***Please refrain from parking in front of our neighbor's driveways or making U-Turns in front of the school.***



***Apply Now For Siblings:*** Applications for the 2011/2012 school year are available online and in the office. Current students do not need to reapply, however all siblings planning to attend in the fall **MUST** apply during the lottery application period (December 1 to February 28, 2010). **Siblings that do not apply during the lottery application period will not be able to keep their sibling preference.**

## *A message from the Principal*

As we approach the last two weeks of school before we start our Winter break, please check the website daily as we have a number of fun activities taking place. I would like to invite all the parents who can spare the time during the day to join us on Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, for the winter celebration performances in the MPR. Please look at this newsletter and the website for class times.

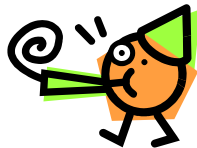
Thoughts for the Winter break that come to mind bring up the I.B. terminology: being balanced, being reflective and being a thinker.

It is important that the break in the academic school year be balanced for the student between taking time to relax and yet keep being a thinker by reading something every day. Whether it is a favorite book, a magazine, informational material for an upcoming trip, a recipe to be tried out, a poem or lyrics to a song. Whatever it may be it is always good to take a bit of time out to relax and read.

The end of a year and beginning of a new one is traditionally known to be an opportune time to reflect. To celebrate accomplishments, no matter how big or small and to dream about what ever it is that's next. The beginning of the New Year is also an excellent time to organize and plan concrete and attainable steps to accomplish this dream.

Happy Holidays

Happy New Year



Bonnes fêtes

Nouvelle année heureuse



**Silent and Live Auction Fundraiser– “A Night in Paris” March 26<sup>th</sup>** Now that you have the Red Envelope – what do you do with it? To find out more information to help solicit donations and sponsorship for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual GICS Silent & Live Auction Fundraiser come to the **Q & A session after the next Principal Pastries on December 16<sup>th</sup>**– learn our Hot Tips on soliciting donations and how you can get involved with our biggest fundraiser of the year! These Auction materials are also available in the GICS Yahoo Group Fundraising folder under Silent Auction and in the Fundraising section of the GICS website. You can bring completed donation forms to the school office in the enveloped labeled “Completed Donor Forms” and pick up a blank one to solicit more! **Our first donation drop off day will be on 12/16** either at drop off, Principal Pastries or the Winter Assembly – so bring your bigger items on that day. We will have more drop off days in January and the **final deadline is February 4<sup>th</sup>**! If you have any questions you can contact the Auction Chair, Stephanie Baca [sbaca@hlw.com](mailto:sbaca@hlw.com) and Sage Raval the Event Chair [sage@sageraval.com](mailto:sage@sageraval.com).



[maureensautter@yahoo.com](mailto:maureensautter@yahoo.com)

**WinterMarket Fundraiser – December 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>** You should have received information about the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Winter Market Fundraiser. Stop by December 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> at GICS drop off and pick up for coffee, muffins and other fun goodies. All proceeds go towards a special fund which aids current (and future) 5<sup>th</sup> grade students to attend a week of Outdoor Science School. If you have any questions contact Maureen Sautter



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**Ice Skating Fundraiser– December 12<sup>th</sup> 2:30-4:30pm** Don't miss out!! Only a few tickets left. The Ice Skating fundraiser will take place at the Toyota Sports Center in El Segundo- you should have received the flyer and order form. If not go to the website or there are extras in the office. Tickets are \$10 in advance and you will receive a free raffle ticket with each ticket purchased. There are 7 fabulous raffle baskets to choose from and raffle tickets will be \$5 for 1 or 5 tickets for \$20. Tickets are on sale now - look for the table with the raffle baskets and get your tickets before they sell out! **The raffle winners will be announced after drop off on December 13<sup>th</sup> at the Goethe Café.** You can also purchase a CD of music by our very own talented GICS musicians featuring our students. If you have any questions, contact the Ice Skating Chair Kendall Severson

[kendallsev@ca.rr.com](mailto:kendallsev@ca.rr.com).



**International Dinner Club – Souplantation December 16<sup>th</sup> 5pm** Join GICS families at the Souplantation for Family Dinner Night on Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at the Marina del Rey location 13455 Maxella Ave. Marina Del Rey, CA 90292. Please bring the Souplantation flyer with you or we will not receive the proceeds from your dinner (flyer saved as an attachment in Yahoo Groups folder and will be sent home). You can also use a Souplantation Gift card being sold at GICS to get double the \$ for the school. If you have any questions, contact Carol Earle, Chair of International Dinner Club [prosystemson@yahoo.com](mailto:prosystemson@yahoo.com)



**Shop for Goethe** Do your holiday shopping and benefit GICS by visiting the Shop for Goethe section of the GICS Fundraising section of our website. If you will shop at Amazon for the holidays, GICS will receive proceeds if you go through the link on our website. Sign up for a Target Redcard and GICS receives a portion of what you spend. If you shop at the Westside Pavillion, turn in your receipts at the Customer Service Counter and we receive points for the School Cents program. These are just a few of the many examples of how your holiday shopping can benefit GICS so please visit the website before you make those purchases! For more information contact the Shop for Goethe Co-Chairs Eric Deyerl [sandyanderic@ca.rr.com](mailto:sandyanderic@ca.rr.com) and Jenny Van Le [jtmx@yahoo.com](mailto:jtmx@yahoo.com)



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**Gift Card Sales** Just in time for the holidays, we will be selling Gift Cards to some of our favorite stores – Starbucks, Whole Foods, CPK, etc. Look for the Scrip Sales table at GICS on 12/10 and 12/13 and 12/16. If you cannot come to school and would still like to purchase a Gift Card contact Pam Brissette [pambrissette@yahoo.com](mailto:pambrissette@yahoo.com).



### **German Book Sale**

The German Book Sale has been postponed until next year. Any questions contact Natalie Kurtz, Community Events Chair [natalie@kurtzworld.com](mailto:natalie@kurtzworld.com).



### **Goethe Spirit Store**

If you ordered any items from the Spirit Store they will be available for pick up on December 16<sup>th</sup> at the Winter Performance or the 17<sup>th</sup> at drop off. If you have any questions, contact the Spirit Store Chair, Sandy Mar [sandy\\_mar@ca.rr.com](mailto:sandy_mar@ca.rr.com)



### **Thank You!**

Thank you to Maya Desai, Chair of the Grandparents & Special Friends Day and to her whole committee for putting on such a wonderful event. A huge thank you to the GICS parent photographers Andrew Parke & Jesus Decolongon who volunteered their time and took wonderful photos.

*Dear Parents,*

*It is our privilege to have been elected to the Board of Trustees to represent the parent body of Goethe International Charter School. We want to thank you for your trust and assure you that we will represent you and your children to the best of our abilities.*

*As members of the board of trustees, our role is two-fold: While we are the voice of the parents in board decisions, we are primarily advocates and protectors of the school's charter. We are elected to listen to all of your questions and concerns, but please know that the board's tasks are focused on the school's long-term strategic plans and rarely include curricular or administrative decisions. We hope that our experience and expertise will be beneficial in shaping our still young school.*

*As the elected representatives of the Goethe Parent Association, we would like to invite you to attend our first parent forum on December 10 after morning drop-off, during which we will update you on what has been discussed and motioned on at the most recent board meetings, as well as items on the agenda*

*that are being worked on, followed by an open discussion. We hope you can make*

*it on the 10th and wish you and your family a blessed and Happy Thanksgiving*

*Holiday.*

*Stephanie Jaeger and Donata Takahashi*

*P.S. For those who can't make it on the 10th we'll send out minutes after the meeting.*