

Principal's Newsletter

From the desk of Principal Rasnik



Upcoming Events

Date	Time	
November 8 th	8:00pm	Special Board meeting via Conference Call
November 9 th	1:15pm	Awards Assembly
November 10 th	6:00pm	Board of Trustees Meeting
November 11 th		No School, Veterans Day
November 12 th	4:30-6:30pm	Lantern Fest at GICS
November 12 th		Goethe Spirit Store Order Due
November 15th – 19th	12:20/12:40	Minimum Day Dismissal – Parent Teacher Conferences
November 16 th	8:30am	Principal Pastries & Fundraising/Community Events Meet & Greet
November 23rd	1:00-4:00	Grandparent and Special Friends Day (please note new date)
November 23rd		Make Up Picture Day
November 25 & 26 th		No School – Thanksgiving Holiday
December 1 st	6:30pm	Silent Auction – “A night in Paris” info meeting at GICS
December 12	2:30-4:30	Ice Skating Fundraiser
December 17 th	12:20/12:40	Minimum Day Dismissal
December 20 th – January 7 th		Winter Break



Principal's Message

I.B. Conference in L.A. - Four teachers and I attended a four day I.B. workshop right here in L.A. from 10/22 – 10/25. This included attending on Saturday and Sunday from 8:00 – 4:00 p.m. The Teachers attended the I.B. PYP Level 1 training and I went to the Administrators sessions. Although the workshops were very intense, they were chock full of information which is instrumental in planning the I.B. units. This year we are working on constructing and teaching two I.B. units. The first one will roll out after our return from Winter break.

Big Shout out to the Prop 39 team - I'd like to give a huge shout out to the Prop 39 Team for the amazing feat of completing this tome. Prop 39 Application is the voluminous binder that is submitted annually giving us the opportunity to ask for classrooms and other spaces for the next school year. It was a tremendous amount of work preparing all of the documentation, but the team forged through and it was accomplished by the November 1st deadline. Congratulations! (I can't name individuals because I am afraid I will leave someone out)

Comfort Station – Although the Comfort Station still looks as it is, many, many phone calls and e-mails have facilitated taking a few more steps towards getting it ready for use. The Trailer itself has been

leveled. The double gate has been moved to the other side of the Trailer so that the Water and Electricity can be hooked up. As soon as that is completed, a “ramp” can be installed and a privacy fence placed in front of the Trailer. I will keep you posted.

Telephone capability – I know it may be hard to believe, but our phones are now functioning so that the office can receive phone calls and you can actually talk to a live person. Better late than never! Next steps – access gate on the side.

Lanternfest: Just a reminder that the GICS community lantern festival will take place on Friday afternoon 11/12 (See calendar for more details). This is a GICS community building event to celebrate one of Germany’s oldest traditions of the story of St. Martin, which celebrates empathy, caring and sharing and connects with the season of Thanksgiving. Due to permit issues, liability and space constraints we were unable to invite other German organizations such as Kigala and the Saturday German School. However, we all look forward to collaborating on future events that can be opened to the public.

Gift of Time: During last month’s Awards Ceremony the staff and I announced that I made a commitment to give each class time for me to visit the classrooms and either play guitar and teach a song or a read-aloud a book. I have been to almost all classes and will continue with the few left next week. It is one of the most enjoyable moments of my job as Principal. I love getting to know the kids one on one and I hope the kids enjoyed this time as well.

German Consul General – I wanted to shout it off the roof tops on Monday 11/1 - Thank you, thank you Herr Wolfgang Drautz . Goethe International received a check from the German Government to support our German language program. We can really use the money to be able to acquire some very sorely needed German educational materials. Here is the proof of the pudding.



Goethe Spirit Store Order Due November 12th You should have received the Goethe Spirit Shop order form and flyer. If not you can download in the Yahoo files and in the Fundraising section of the GICS website. We have a wide range of GICS branded items available from Adult t-shirts to Stainless steel coffee mugs. This is a great chance to get holiday gifts for family and friends so don’t miss out. Your last chance to view the items is on Tuesday 11/9: orders are due Friday, if you have not gotten your order in you can find the flyer online in the Fundraising section of the www.goethecharterschool.org under Fundraising Events Calendar - Goethe Spirit Store Order Due. Extra order forms are in the school office. Any questions contact Sandy Mar, Chair of the GICS Spirit Store sandy_mar@ca.rr.com.

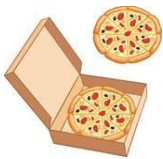


Grandparents and Special Friends Day - November 23rd 1:00-4:00pm (please note date and time correction)

We are hosting the first Annual Grandparents or Special Friends Day on Tuesday November 23rd from 1-4pm. A flyer with more information will be going home soon. Grandparents or Special Friends are invited to the Marina del Rey Middle School Courtyard for a special presentation by GICS students and then will be invited to share in an activity in the classrooms. Grandparents and Special Friends will have an opportunity to have their photo taken with their grandchild or special friend (cost \$20). Please RSVP your child's guest by November 15th and sign up for the photos as there are limited time slots. There will be a Grandparents & Special Friends Day sign up at drop off 11/10, 11/12 and 11/15. Contact Maya Desai Maya.Desai@fox.com for more information or to RSVP.



Minimum Days and Conferences: Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled for the week of November 15th. This entire week will be minimum day dismissal, with K-1 out at 12:20 and 2-5 out at 12:40pm. After school care will be available from dismissal until 6:00pm for that week. If your child attends Ocean Charter for afterschool care, please be sure you have registered with them for the additional time.

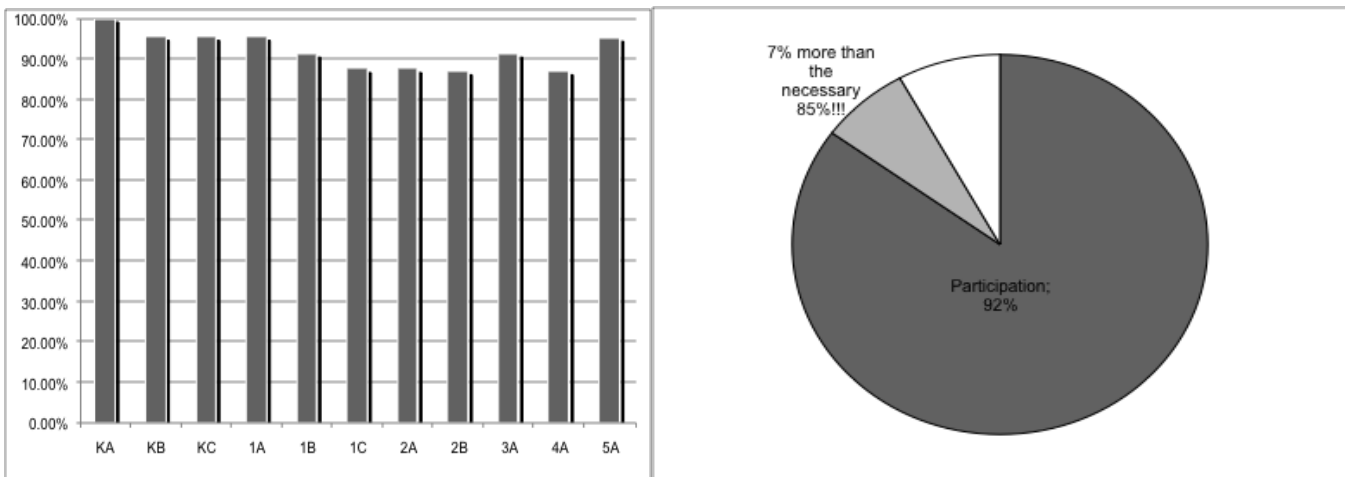


Pizza Party: Congratulations to the entire school community. Not only did you send a message that we donate to our school – you shouted that message from the mountaintop! **We have raised almost \$85,000 in the Pledge Drive and our whole school participation is 92%. Every single class has reached and exceeded the goal of 85% and will receive a Pizza**

Party! A huge thank you to everyone who participated in the Pledge Drive and to the Room Parents for all of your efforts to help reach our goals.

We are so close to 100% in most classes; wouldn't it be amazing to be able to show funders that our families give at 100%? So please, even though the deadline has passed donate to the Pledge Drive (\$5 or whatever you can). Also, if you have pledged but still need to write your check please do so as soon as you can.

The class breakdown is as follows:



Congratulations to KA you have achieved 100% participation in the Pledge Drive.

The following classes are also close to 100%!

KB 1 to go to 100%

- KC 1 to go to 100%
- 1A 1 to go to 100%
- 1B 2 to go to 100%
- 1C 3 to go to 100%
- 2A 3 to go to 100%
- 2B 3 to go to 100%
- 3A 2 to go to 100%
- 4A 3 to go to 100%
- 5A 1 to go to 100%

If you have any questions contact the Fundraising Co-Chairs Christine Thompson at Thompson.christined@gmail.com or Biggi Schilcher at bs@ontera.com



Come to the first GICS Lantern Fest to celebrate this special German tradition. This is a non-fundraising community event where we will come together and learn about this tradition through a student play and sing German songs that the students will learn in class. We will take a short walk through our garden carrying the lanterns the children will make in school.

You can find the event flyer with detailed information on the GICS website, for further questions please contact Co-Chairs Eva Soler solereva@gmail.com or Jessica Miro jhopman579@yahoo.com



International Dinner Club – California Pizza Kitchen in November: Join other Goethe Families for a Family Dinner Night at California Pizza Kitchen on Tuesday, November 16th.

Reservations are recommended. Just let them know that you are a GICS family so you can fill out the GICS Dinner Club ticket. You can also purchase a California Pizza Gift Card and the school receives a further % back- look for weekly Gift Card sales coming soon. You can also still go to Chalet Edelweiss until the end of October! If you have questions contact Carol Earle the Chair of International Dinner Club prosystemsone@yahoo.com



Ice Skating Fundraiser– December 12th 2:30-4:30pm A flyer will be sent home soon about the Ice Skating fundraiser at the Toyota Sports Center in El Segundo. 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. Ice

Skating tickets will be on sale starting the week of November 15 and you can come check out the raffle baskets as well. If you have any questions, contact the Ice Skating Chair Kendall Severson kendallsev@ca.rr.com.



Thank Yous!

We want to thank Jessica Miro and her hardworking Pumpkin Patch committee raising \$3000!

We want to thank Katja Jahn for organizing a fabulous Oktoberfest fundraiser raising over \$2000!

We also want to thank Sage Raval, Daniel Enzler and Nicole Lenz who worked on the Major Donor Gift and Event.