



Principal's Newsletter

From the desk of Principal Rasnik



Upcoming Events

Date	Time	
October 12	8:30am	Pastries with the Principal – NEW DATE
October 12	9:30am	Community Event and Fundraising Meet and Greet – NEW DATE
October 13	6:00pm	Board of Trustees Meeting
October 16	10:00-4:00pm	Family Portrait Day
October 18		No School, Professional Development Day
October 19		School Picture Day
October 20	6:00pm	Parent University
October 27	1:00-4:00pm	Pumpkin Patch
October 29	7:00pm-11:30pm	Oktoberfest at Old World Village
November 11		No School, Veterans Day

* Shalom * Salaam Aleikum * Peace Be Upon You *

That was the theme at City Hall today (Friday) where I attended the welcoming ceremony of the Consul General of Egypt to Los Angeles. It was the Consul General of Israel, Jacob Dayan and the Mayor of Los Angeles who organized and led the welcome proceedings. As I stood in the architecturally stunning Rotunda, and listened to the impassioned speeches of both dignitaries, my heart almost burst out of my chest. I was overcome with emotion as I listened to the words echoing through the marble covered hallway calling for peace in the Middle East. What my ears also heard is peace for the entire world and I consistently referred to our Goethe community in my mind representing a microcosm of diverse ethnicities. An Egyptian and Israeli song were sung so melodically they penetrated my heart and brought tears to my eyes. I instantly realized that even though the academic languages of choice at Goethe International Charter School are English and German, the language of the heart that brings people together must transcend all that we do at Goethe.

I was grateful to have been invited to this event as it left a deep impression and reaffirmed my belief that it's all about your/our children. Prejudice and hatred are not innate in children. Unfortunately these are concepts taught to children by ignorant adults. Internationalism, tolerance and caring cannot just be words they learn through the spoken or written language. But as an International School we must strive together to ensure that each day as the children grow, these principles are practiced so that they become internalized feelings that solidly reside in their and our hearts. Empathy, understanding, cooperation and respect for one another must reveal themselves in the actions we take, adults and children alike. It is not trite when we say our children are our future and my hope for the future is peaceful coexistence based on mutuality of respect.

La paz está con usted

Geh mit Frieden

*I believe that children are our future
Teach them well and let them lead the way
Show them all the beauty they possess inside
Give them a sense of pride to make it easier
Let the children's laughter remind us how we used to be*



Morning Drop off and Afternoon pickup – Please refrain from parking in front of our neighbor’s driveways or making U-Turns in front of the school.



Parent University- The Nurtured Heart Approach - The second Parent University will be held on Wednesday, October 20th at 6:00 p.m. in the MDR Library. Parents are encouraged to attend.

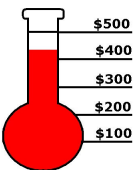
School Picture Day: School Picture day is Tuesday, October 20th and picture order envelopes are being sent home today. Envelopes can be returned to the teacher with payment any time before or the day of pictures. Students should come in uniform for class and individual pictures.



Family Portraits - There are only a few slots left so don’t miss out and have your family portraits taken just in time for the holidays! GICS has talented photographers who are donating their time and equipment to participate in this fundraiser. Create wonderful memories while having fun! Photos will be taken at Goethe International Charter School from 9am-4pm. The cost is \$55 which includes a 20 minute photo session along with a cd of all your photos. Payable by cash or check, in advance, or the day of the event. To sign up e-mail pambrisette@yahoo.com.



Pumpkin Patch – Wednesday, October 27th - Look for the flyer coming home soon. Come join us as we transform our garden on the west side of the campus into a beautiful pumpkin wonderland. Goethe families will be invited to come from 1pm-4pm to purchase pumpkins and carve and decorate them. In addition we will have a bake sale, 2 crafts (preferably something nature inspired!), and a farmers presentation on organic farming by Farmer Tanaka from our CSA program. For more information or to sign up to help email the Chair Jessica Miro jhopman579@yahoo.com



Annual Giving Pledge Drive

Thank you to everyone who has donated so far to the Pledge Drive. We have **\$70,000** in pledges so far which is getting us closer to our goal to raise **\$90,000**.

Our other goal for the Pledge Drive is **to achieve a participation level for the whole school of 85%**. As we apply for grant money from Foundations one of the questions they ask us is whether we have already asked for financial support from within our own parent body. If we have a high percentage of parent participation in our Pledge Drive we can answer with a resounding ‘Yes’ and move to the next level in the funding process. So please consider giving whatever you can whether it is \$5 or \$5000 (or anything in between).

All classes that achieve an 85% participation rate by November 5th will receive a Pizza Party! *Please write Pledge Drive and your child’s name and class on your check and place it in an envelope (also labeled Pledge Drive) in the Fundraising mailbox. The amount you give will be kept confidential (only the Fundraising Co-Chairs have access to the Fundraising Mailbox).

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



Introducing the Westside Pavilion School Cents Program: -

There is now a receipt collection box in the school office for the School Cents program. So if you shopped at the Westside Pavilion and forgot to go to Guest Service's to log the receipt go ahead and drop it in the box and we will do the rest. You can shop and log receipts from any of Westside Pavilion's stores and

restaurants between September 15, 2010 and May 15, 2011. GICS will earn five points per dollar with lots of additional bonus point opportunities. In fact, we earn points if you trick or treat at the mall on Halloween, October 31st. For more information please email our School Cents Coordinator Marisol Orozco: orozcomarisol@yahoo.com



Eco-friendly products fundraiser for GICS! – October 22nd -

November 1st: Did you know that you can get eco-friendly products and gifts and support GICS? We are conducting a fundraising drive on October 22nd – November 1st.

Any products purchased during the drive will have an added incentive – free shipping! 40% of the sale proceeds will go to GICS. They have a variety of great gift ideas, just in time for the holidays. Please order on their website: www.ecolabelfundraising.com. Help the environment, help GICS – what could be better! If you have any questions contact Tara Barauskas tarute@yahoo.com

Fundraising/Community Events Meet & Greet – Tuesday, October 12th -

We will have another Meet & Greet with the Fundraising and Community Events team after the next Pastries with the Principal. Enjoy coffee and pastries and learn more about how you can get involved. We will also be discussing the upcoming Fundraising and Community Events. For more information contact Fundraising Co-Chairs Christine Thompson Thompson.christined@gmail.com or Biggi Schilcher bs@ontera.com or Community Events Chair Natalie Kurtz natalie@kurtzworld.com



International Dinner Club – Chalet Edelweiss in October:

Join other Goethe Families for a Family Dinner Night at Chalet Edelweiss on October 19th. Reservations are recommended. If you can't make it that night, visit Chalet Edelweiss any time in October and GICS will receive a percentage of the proceeds. 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 Chalet Edelweiss Gift Card and the school receives a further 10%. Guten Appetit! If you have questions contact Carol Earle the Chair of International Dinner Club prosystemson@yahoo.com



Community Supported Agriculture CSA – Tanaka Farms:

If you would like to receive fresh and locally grown fruit and veggies once a week and raise money for GICS then look no further. Order a box for \$30(or share one) and a portion goes directly to our school. Delivery is once a week on Thursday mornings at 10:00am (location to be determined). Please contact the Chair of our CSA program Kendall Severson to find out the details kendallsev@gmail.com.