

The Eagle Eye

Garden Oaks PTA Newsletter

May, 2009

First PTA Teacher Grant Awarded

The Garden Oaks PTA began a new program this year to help put more money directly into the hands of the teachers who need it for their students. We are pleased to inform you that the first grant has been awarded to Ms. Pousson for a new art curriculum program. Teachers may apply for grant funds through May 15 for this year. Any money in the grant fund not used this year, will carry over to next year's grant fund. If you would like to serve on the grant fund committee for 2009-2010, please contact Helle Johnson at hellej@earthlink.net.

Montessori News

New Classroom

This summer, the Montessori Program will add a new Lower Elementary (1st-3rd grade) Classroom! We sure could use some help! If you are handy with carpentry, sewing, coloring, cutting, laminating, etc. please let us know! Contact the front office, 713-696-2930, for workdays! We will host many workdays (9am -2pm) throughout the summer.

Friends of Montessori and HISD Strategic Planning Workshop

If you are an interested stakeholder in the direction our Montessori Program is headed, please plan to join us May 2nd & 3rd, here on campus (8am-2pm on Saturday & 1pm-4 pm on Sunday).

This will be an engaging and visionary workshop, the objective of which is to develop a long-term strategy for success. We hope to involve a broad cross-section of parents, administrators, teachers, funders and other collaborators. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to friendsofmontessori@yahoo.com.

The PTA President's Corner

With only a little over a month left of this school year, I am very excited to say that we have most PTA board positions filled for next year. We are still looking for all the help we can get. If all give a little, no one will have to give a lot! We are all here for the children and they truly appreciate seeing you and knowing that you care enough to be here to help. Please email me if you are interested in helping, even just for one Friday sale or one hour at the Fall Festival: hellej@earthlink.net.

We will have our last PTA board meeting April 28th. Feel free to join us right after drop off in the parent workroom.

I would like to thank all of our board members for all they have done...it's been an amazing year and I truly have enjoyed working with each of you. Most of you are staying at the school, but 3 board members are leaving.

Jane Ann Roberts is leaving after 15 plus years at G.O. Her daughter Emily is moving on to Middle school. Jane Ann has done everything from GOPHER (1992), founding member of the Montessori program, fundraising and not to mention Troop 20: Chris and Steven (her 2 sons) and 2 friends Daniel and James—they helped with the butterfly garden, the arbor, the fruit orchard, the labyrinth and the dry creek bridge.

Also a BIG THANK YOU to our awesome Translator Isela. She is like an extra hand for all of us, always there to help out. Her youngest son Wes is also moving on to Middle school..we hope to see you around the neighborhood....

We all wish Theresa and her family the best of luck in California. They will be missed at Garden Oaks. Theresa has done so much for our PTA, our school, our children and the HISD Council.....Thank you again for ALL you have accomplished and good luck to all of you....We will miss each of you...

*Helle Johnson
PTA President*

2nd Annual Teacher Talent Show!

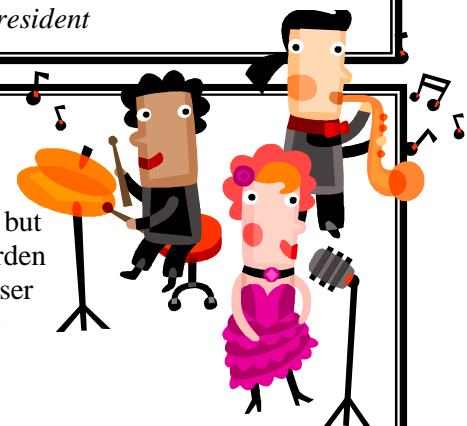
Friday, May 15, 6pm

We already know that Garden Oaks Elementary has the best teachers and staff, but did you know that they also have some hidden talents? Well, get ready for the Garden Oaks PTA 2nd Annual Teacher Talent Show! This year, the event will be a fundraiser and will include a delicious spaghetti dinner. Tickets for the evening will be \$5 for adults and \$3 for students 12 years old and under.



Help Needed!

We will need lots of help with set up, serving dinner, decorating and clean up, so start thinking about how you can contribute. Contact Helle Johnson at hellej@earthlink.net if you can help or have questions.



Be sure to mark your calendar. You will not want to miss it!

Mark your Calendars!

Friday, May 1	4th Grade Austin Fieldtrip
May 4 – 8	Teacher Appreciation Week
Tuesday, May 5	Civic Club Meeting, 7pm
Tuesday, May 12	PTA Meeting & 5th grade Slide Show
Wednesday, May 13	SDMC* Meeting, 3:30 pm
Thursday, May 14	FOM* Board Meeting, 6 – 8 pm
Friday, May 15	Teacher Talent Show & Spaghetti Dinner, 6pm
Sunday, May 17	Neighborhood Picnic at the SPARK Park
Friday, May 22	Attendance Awards
Monday, May 25	Holiday
Wednesday, May 27	Class Parties
Thursday, May 28	5th Grade Ceremony, Early Dismissal at 1pm, Last Day of School

**PTA (Parent/Teacher Association), FOM (Friends of Montessori),
and SDMC (Shared Decision Making Committee)
meetings are open to all!*



Box Tops for Education

Cut off those box tops now and bring them to the office! We receive 10¢ for each box top.

The Tid-Bit:

Ten Thoughts on Whole Living

Some of the most **amazing** moments in your life will take you by surprise. Let them.

Live **sustainable**. Fix rather than replace things in your home.

Don't discount the value of simple **pleasures**.

Try not to let the lure of electronics strip away your ability to be **here** now.

Eating does more than quiet hunger
It allows you to **thrive**.

Consider traveling **solo** for a day, or longer
Give yourself the gift of time alone.

Ease your sugar intake. Look for alternative ways to bring **sweetness** into your life.

See criticism as a **lesson** in disguise.

Everyone has an inner child. Be **kinder** to yours, and compassionate towards others'.

Don't be too quick to close doors on your future. Instead, find more to **open**.



*May 2009 by
Terri Trepicio
Submitted by Helle Johnson*