

The Weekly Read-It

John Muir School PTA Newsletter

March 28, 2006

Urgent Creek Clean-up this Saturday, April 1st!



Calling John Muir parents/guardians, students and adult friends to an urgent creek clean-up this **Saturday, April 1st, from 9:30 to 12:30!** We have an outbreak of geraniums and oxalis that is threatening to take over the creek area if they go to seed. (No April Fool's Day joke.) Let's get them out now before Spring break! We also have some mulch to spread around the over 200 native plants and grasses planted by fourth graders from Rooms 8 and 10 last Wednesday during school. With a little work now, we should have a glorious spring at the creek!

Please come prepared to work, get a little dirty and have some fun. We'll be happy to supply you with tools if you need them. And, if time is tight, come for just an hour or two. As always, there will be banana bread and juice for all the workers who come! If you have any questions, please contact **Karyn Smith** at **654-8511** or karynsmith@earthlink.net. We look forward to seeing you!

THANK YOU THIRD GRADE FAMILIES!

DATES TO REMEMBER:



- Friday, March 31**-End of Third Grading Period (secondary) **AND** Cesar Chavez School Day of Service and Learning **AND** March Nutrition Event 9:00am to 3:00pm
- Saturday, April 1**-Creek Clean-Up, 9:30
- Tuesday, April 4**-Full Belly Farms Delivers
- Thursday, April 6**-Middle School Open House
- Friday, April 7**-Kids' Village Parents Night Out 6:00 to 11:00pm; \$25 first child/\$10.00 each additional child (toilet trained)
- Monday, April 10-Friday- April 14** Spring Recess, **NO SCHOOL**
- Tuesday, April 18**-JMS PTA Meeting, 6:30-8pm **AND** JMS Staff Lunch (Fourth Grade Sponsors)
- Monday, May 1**-Elementary School Testing Begins
- Friday-Sunday, May 5-8**-Cody's School Daze Book Sale
- Thursday, May 18**-MAY FAIR
- Friday, May 19**- Malcolm X's Birthday Holiday, **NO SCHOOL**
- Friday, June 16**- Last Day of School

JMS Teachers and Staff were smiling ear to ear last week after feasting their eyes and their appetites on the beautiful and delicious spread of food catered by 3rd Grade families! Teachers/Staff wrote a note saying, "We love you! Thanks so much for doing this!" BIG THANK YOU's to the families of the following 3rd graders for bringing food: Albert, Ben, LaLuna, Ruby, Moewana, Sandra, Fikre, Gordo, Jordan, Day'mon, Emma, Zachary, Sarah and Delaney. And thank you to Clarissa's (2nd grader) mom, Cecelia Sandvik for making her delicious pot stickers! THANK YOU also to non-3rd grade parents, Locke and Rachael for stepping in the last moment to help out with the luncheon - it was a huge help!



(Not So Silent) 3rd Annual JM Silent Auction

ATTENTION: JM Community- Parents, Guradians, Teachers and Staff

We are currently taking donations for this year's Silent Auction that happens during the May Fair festivities, and is the other fundraiser besides the raffle ticket proceeds. Some examples of items donated in past auctions are: homemade breakfast, homemade dinner, aromatherapy facial, one-of-a-kind art, handmade scarfs, handmade jewelry, voice lessons, A's tickets, outing with teacher, outing with Principal, a birthday-theme package including Mr. Bush soccer party or garden party complete with birthday cake and personalized banner, any much more! So get creative and think of what you can offer to the Silent Auction this year. If you have something to donate, pls. contact **Gina Lim**

(bartandginas@abglobal.net)

Want a Box of Produce Once a Week for \$15??

Full Belly Farms, a small organic farm in the Capay Valley (and supplier to Star Market), will be providing organic vegetable/fruit boxes weekly for pickup at John Muir beginning on **April 4, Tuesday**. Your child is also bringing a brochure home in his/her homework folder.

Since 2003, Full Belly has donated produce in support of John Muir's school-wide effort to teach kids how to take good care of their bodies through healthy eating habits and an understanding of where food comes from. As you know, our children participate in cooking/nutrition, gardening and creek/nature classes and, most recently, the school "lunch initiative". You can continue this education at home by buying a box of organic, seasonal vegetables and fruit for your family (recipes provided in the weekly newsletter in the box).

If you would like to get a box of Full Belly's vegetables and fruit, please mail in your subscription directly to Full Belly Farm and also please let me know so I can ensure that we have a minimum number to make this program successful (minimum per week is 30 members). Mail to the farm in Guinda is very slow so to make April's delivery schedule, please mail your subscription a week in advance. In return for our participation in their community supported agriculture (CSA) program, Full Belly will donate an additional \$100 per month in seasonal produce for use in John Muir's cooking and gardening programs. Chef Carrie has generously offered to teach two afterschool cooking classes for families on how to use the produce in your Full Belly box, tentatively scheduled for the end of April and May. Look for an announcement in the Weekly Read-It for Chef Carrie's cooking classes! You can also feel free to call me with any questions at home at 510-652-1606. Thanks Elena Eger (Ari's mom, 2nd grade, K. Fowler's class)

Hello John Muir Community,

In the front office you will find a book called *The Guide to the Good Life*. This book was created with the students of UC Berkeley in mind, but includes reviews of 250 East Bay and SF restaurants, extensive information on local arts, entertainment and shopping.



There is also information on popular weekend travel destinations, as well as an overview of the goings on in various Berkeley and SF neighborhoods. At the back of the book you will find great coupons that are really useful such as: two for one to Ice Land (although hurry since they might close soon) and to the Oakland Zoo. Discounts to Tilden Park Golf Course, Solano Cyclery, Funky Door Yoga, Downtown Berkeley Y and many others!

The book is on sale for \$10. Seven of the ten dollars will go to the PTA Council which has earmarked the proceeds for diversity education, which will help the PTA's of Berkeley build bridges between all the various communities that make Berkeley great. Even better news is that if we can sell enough books this year, the greater the possibility that a new one for next year will be created. The next years' version will focus on parents/guardians that reside in Berkeley and will include the BUSD schedule, City of Berkeley programs for kids, information on the individual schools and other relative information. John Muir PTA gets to keep \$7 per book. This is a great opportunity for the BUSD PTA's to make money, save money, be informed, and promote diversity. Please make checks out to John Muir PTA and leave with Kelly in the office. Thanks for your support!

