

School to Church

News and Information

February 2010

Miramonte School: Eighty-nine years of working together to educate students for this life and for eternity.



February

15	M	NO SCHOOL: Presidents' Day
16	T	NO SCHOOL: Teacher Planning Day
18	Th	5 th & 6 th grade excursion to the Spaghetti Factory
19	F	5 th grade trip to the San Jose History Museum
20	Sat.	Central California Conference Bible Challenge at the Fresno Westside Church, 3 PM
23	T	School Board Meeting at 7:00 PM in ASC Room
24	W	2 nd grade trip to Lindsay Wildlife Museum
26	F	Chapel presentation by Camp Wawona staff

March

4	Th	Curriculum Fair and Open House, 6-8:30 PM
6	Sat.	Spring Gala, 7:30 PM
11	T	Central California Conference Spelling Bee at Monterey Bay Academy
14	Sun	Daylight Savings Time begins, spring forward!
16	T	1 st grade visit Barns and Noble
17	W	5 th grade trip to Monterey Bay Aquarium

Affording Education

It takes all of us working together to keep a Christian education possible at Miramonte

School. As we mentioned in last months newsletter, the local constituent churches and the Central California



Conference contributions make up 22% of our budget. These subsidies keep the tuition charges much lower than the actual costs. In addition, the school budgets \$40,000 in tuition assistance. These funds are then allocated by each constituent church to their own members based on an amount negotiated among the pastors.

There are also other scholarships available---

- **Central California Conference Endowment fund:** This scholarship is available for church members and based on financial need.
- **Minority Scholarship:** Available to members of a minority church. The scholarship is administered by the local church.
- **Baybarz Scholarship:** Two students are eligible to receive an award from each school. The students are selected based on financial need and scholarship. This scholarship is usually awarded to upper grade students.

- **New Member Evangelism Fund:** This program helps newly baptized members enroll their students in a Adventist school for the first time.

Most of the churches assist families based on financial need if there are funds available, so please check with your pastor.

We also accept donations to our tuition assistance account to help students attend Miramonte School. With all of us (parents, church, and school) working together, we want to make it possible for each student who desires to attend able to attend. Thank you for your support.

Spring Gala

It is almost time for the Miramonte School Spring Gala. Our Home & School presents "A Night in Paris". Please mark your calendars for a very exciting event which will take place on March 6th, in the Miramonte Gym. This year's Celebration and Fundraiser event will be held on a Saturday evening and will begin at 7:30 PM. We will be serving desserts and drinks as you enjoy the silent auction and entertainment! If you have items that you could contribute to the auction, please contact us.

Multi-cultural Day

Students in Grades Jr. Kindergarten through 4th Grade experienced Multi-Cultural Day at Miramonte this month. The day began with worship together. Mrs. McCulloch welcomed



everyone, drawing attention to the blessing of learning about each other. After opening prayer, Mr. Koubong and the 4th

Grade Class led out in singing. Then Mr. Koubong told an exciting story about climbing Mount Kinabalu, the tallest mountain in Southeast Asia, with his dad. Then the students learned how to sing a song in Malay.

After worship, the students marched in a costume parade around the school. What a beautiful sight! There



were many colorful costumes and flags from around the world. When the parade was over, the students

divided up into mixed-age groups and visited the classrooms. Each classroom represented a different culture.

In Russia, students practiced counting to five in Russian, and saying "Good Morning", "Hello", "Goodbye", "Please", "Thank you", and "You're welcome." They also learned about the fine arts of Russia. They listened to the music of Tchaikovsky and viewed art forms like Gzel, Hocolma, and Dimka (toys peasants made for their children out of clay because they had nothing else).

In Puerto Rico, students got to see a PowerPoint and hear stories of Ms.

Carballo with her family, growing up in Puerto Rico. Students also got to taste fresh mango, papaya, coconut soda, and coconut juice, straight out of the coconut.



Other students went to Holland. They watched a

PowerPoint with scenes of Holland and learned how Holland created more land by using windmills to pump the ocean back. They read the book, The Boy Who Held Back the Sea, and practiced the art of Delft, the famous blue and white pottery of Holland.

Those who visited Peru learned about the culture of Iquitos, a major city on the Amazon River. They



learned about the animals of Peru, and they got to make a Peruvian poncho.

In Malaysia, students watched a DVD on Malaysia, learned the bamboo dance,

watched as Mr. Koubong demonstrated how he cut tropical fruits as a kid in Malaysia (then of course they got to taste it). They also practiced common Malay greetings and phrases.

At lunchtime, everyone enjoyed a delicious potluck with exotic dishes from around the world.

Student Life—3rd Grade

Life at Miramonte School is centered around getting to know God, and the 3rd grade classroom is no exception. Our worship and Bible time includes stories, singing, scripture, and prayer. The theme of our Bible curriculum is that God has always had, and still has, a plan. We learn about the “Great Controversy” between God and Satan. We begin with the story of the angels in Heaven, and Lucifer’s fall. We study the Garden of Eden, and Adam and Eve’s sin. We listen in as God shares

His plan to save humanity through His own suffering. We follow that plan through stories of Noah, Job, Abraham and Isaac, and the prophets. Then we get to the best part: Jesus comes! We learn about God through many stories about Jesus. This week we are at the part of the plan where Jesus’ love is so strong, He allows Himself to be arrested, and put on trial for us. Later this year, we will study the growth of the Christian church, and finally, the 2nd Coming of Jesus.

Our Reading and Writing program includes

literature themes. We recently finished the theme book, Spiders! a nonfiction chapter book about arachnids and insects. During the unit, each student researched a different bug to teach the class about. We used some Reading time to do the research, and some Writing time to create reports. For homework, each student created a diorama illustrating their little creature



in its habitat. Our program includes lots of time for “free” reading, and writing activities at Literacy Centers.

Our Social Studies is centered on the study of our local community. We’ve

visited the Los Altos Library and Police Station. To learn more about the Ohlone people who lived in this area, we will participate in a "Cultural Immersion Program" at Coyote Hills Regional Park. The students will live a day in the life of an Ohlone. Later



this year, we'll study local maps more closely as we practice map skills. One special aspect of our

community is the cultural diversity. Just this week we participated in a Multi-Cultural Day with Grades JK-4th. In addition to wearing costumes and bringing ethnic food to share, the 3rd graders prepared posters on their family history to present to the class.

Ski Trip

Each winter, the 7th and 8th grade students have the opportunity to participate in a group ski trip. This year we scheduled the trip for



February 7-9. The first day, we traveled to Leland Snowplay for tubing. Since this was Super Bowl Sunday, there was no line or waiting as the students used the tow system to move up the hill or located an empty space for sliding down. The group stayed at Mother Lode Adventist School and then skied at Dodge Ridge on Monday and

Tuesday. Each day of skiing also included ski lessons with each student grouped into one of six lesson groups. The students had a great time, the snow was well groomed with no ice, fresh snow greeted us each morning on the slopes, and the weather was great. (Except for occasional hours of heavy fog, overcast days, and hard crystal snow falling. But it was beautiful from about 9 AM to 1 PM on Monday.) We appreciate the parents who were willing to take their time for transportation and supervision. Without their help, this type of trip would not be possible.

Basketball Tournament

On Sunday, January 24, Miramonte School hosted the Central California Conference elementary basketball tournament. Eleven teams participated in the games which began at 8 AM and concluded at about 5:45 PM. The students and observers had a exciting day! We appreciate all of the parents who spent part of their day helping with the event. Their assistance was vital to making the tournament a success. It is gratifying to see the students work together as a team, exhibit high levels of sportsmanship, and encourage other students, whether they were on the same team or an opposing team.

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