



**Calendar
Highlights**

January

- 22 **Basketball
Tournament**
- 24 **School Board
at 7 PM**

February

- 1 **100th Day of
School,**
- 5-7 **Grades 7-8 Ski
Trip**
- 6-10 **Cupid Express
8th Grade
Fundraiser**

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School to Church

News and Information

January 2012

**Miramonte
School**

Ninety-one years of working together to educate students for this life and for eternity.

Recess Time

School recess—most children love it! Yet, there has been a push against recess in some sectors as a “waste of time”, “an accident waiting to happen”, or “a time when bullying runs rampant”. However, throwing out unstructured recess time also throws away the benefits that are available. During recess, students are able to create and imagine. They actively move and develop motor skills. Students are engaged in interper-

sonal development activity as they negotiate what they will do next and how they want to do it. According to the National Association of the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), research also shows that activity improves attentiveness when returning to the classroom and reduces the stress in a child’s day. At Miramonte School, we understand the value of recess. We

know that supervision is important to ensure safety, but children need the chance to explore and develop in ways that are not always structured. We believe that recess is part of a balanced curriculum that will help us guide children to a growing relationship with God.



Monterey Bay Aquarium

The first day of school following Christmas Break, the 5th grade class headed over to



Monterey for a visit to the aquarium. Besides being a great day for a visit to the coast, it was also an excellent way to return to classes. The highlight of an educational visit to the aquarium is the hands-on classes

that are taught on site. Besides the beauty of the area, students were able to explore the design of nature.



Geography Bee

Each year, National Geographic sponsors a Geography Bee. Each school that chooses to participate organizes a school-wide bee in order to select a school winner. This student then takes a qualifying test that is sent to National

Geographic and corrected. The top 100 students from each state are then invited to participate in the state finals. Winners of each state final qualify to enter the national competition. This year, our school winner

was 8th grade student Jessica Magalang. We also congratulate the two participants from

each classroom who qualified to represent their class in the school competition.



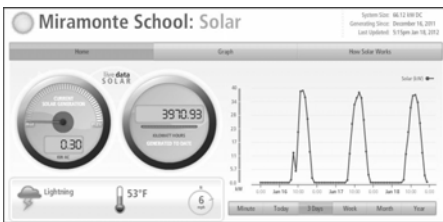
Solar Panels are Online

Our solar panel project is nearly completed. All systems were made operational on December 29 when PG&E swapped out our old meter with a new meter that will reflect our ability to produce power. After almost three weeks of operation, the online monitoring system shows that we have generated a

just over 3970 kilowatt hours of power. Our typical use at the school during this 3-week time period is around 6300 kWh. Our production was about 63% of our total usage. However, since this is January with short days and a low sun elevation, our production will increase during the year. Using some simple

online tools, we are able to monitor our production. The accompanying screen shot shows that at the time it was taken, production was almost non-existent since the day was ending. It also shows the cycle of our latest three days production. The drop in the morning of the 1st day was due to some clouds passing over in the mid-morning. A link will soon be placed on our school web site so that anyone will be able to observe our power generation statistics.

The installed 66.12 kW solar system is designed, over the year, to produce 86% of our needed power and cover 99.9% of the electrical costs.



Lunch Fundraisers

With the assistance of parent volunteers who prepare as well as provide some of the food, Friday

lunch is provided by one of the classrooms. This lunch fundraiser helps offset some of the

costs of fieldtrips and other classroom activities. If you have the time and skills, please

consider volunteering to help with one of these meals.



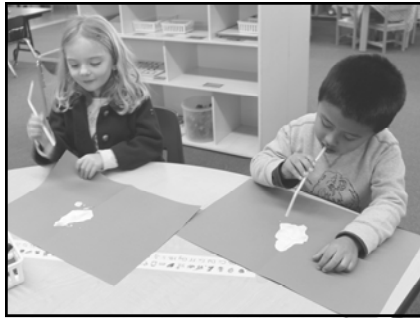
JK Meteorologists

In the month of January, children in Junior Kindergarten became meteorologists and kept a close eye on the weather and environment around them at school. We talked about what kind of clothes we need to wear during different weather and seasons of the year. We also learned about daytime and nighttime. During our outdoor time, checking for clouds and bright sunshine became a regular routine for the children. During morning circle time, they have been taking turns to announce the weather to the whole class.

As a part of this theme, the children enjoyed "Cloud Blow Art". They

used their imagination when guessing what their cloud looked like. B.J. said "Mine looks like a rocket ship!" Kathryn said "Mine looks like an angel!"

Another activity they enjoyed was "Shadow Tracing".



Teacher traced each student's face silhouette using a projector, then, the children glued their silhouette on a bright colored paper. They had fun guessing each other's shadows.

During our independent learning time, some children collaboratively worked on tracing shadows of different objects on a large piece of paper.

Through learning about weather and seasons, the chil-

dren began to notice patterns and the cause and effect of natural events. They also recognized and appreciated the wonderful natural environment God created for us.



"Mine looks like an angel."

"Mine looks like a rocket ship."

We Need Your Help!

Each year we have a number of families that need additional tuition assistance to keep their children enrolled in Miramonte School. This year there has been an even greater number of families that need

funding. While we have had a few donations come in, we are still thousands of dollars short of meeting the need. Please help us keep these children enrolled. This year Miramonte provided over \$42,000 in

tuition assistance to church families. We also know that various churches are supporting the children from their own church. But, the need is still very great. Thank you for your support of Christian education.

We are able to accept donations by cash, check, credit card, working vehicles, stocks, and bonds.

Miramonte School

JK through 8th Grade Christian Education

Conveniently located near highways 101, 237, 280, and 85

1175 Altamead Drive
Los Altos, CA 94024

If you have a child or know of a family whose child should be enrolled in Miramonte School, please contact us. We would be pleased to offer an individualized tour of the school and an explanation of our school program.

We are currently registering students for the 2nd Semester of the 2011-2012 school year. Help your child experience a lasting education!

Visit us at

www.miramonteschool.org

Office Hours

8:00-4:00 M-Th
8:00-2:00 F



Adventist Education

Miramonte School Mission: We are committed to providing opportunities for students to achieve their personal best, become responsible & productive citizens, and embrace lifelong learning in a safe and positive environment, while developing a growing relationship with God.

Basketball Season

January marks the beginning of basketball season for students here at Miramonte. Students in grades 5-8 have the opportunity to play on the teams after participating in the try-outs. While we would love to have teams representing both the grade 5-6 students and for the grade 7-8 students,



we are limited by the availability of volunteer coaches. Our school teams participate in the tournaments sponsored by the Central California Conference as well as play in the local Silicon Valley League composed of other private schools.

In order to participate in any of the sports pro-

gram activities, students need to maintain GPA and citizenship standards. Yet, sports provides valuable lessons in teamwork, sportsmanship, and how to deal with losses in a positive way. We believe that sports is an important part of a balanced educational program.



Whom Do You Know?

During a recent chapel, students in grades 4-8 were divided into classroom teams and given Bible trivia questions. Some questions were difficult to answer, while others seemed to be very easy. Some of the sixth grade students assisted their teacher in keeping score for each of the teams. At the end of multiple

rounds, one team in particular had just not been able to answer many of the questions. But during the final round question, all this fourth grade class needed to do was identify one picture in order to be declared the winner. Every student in the class was immediately able to identify a picture of Jesus. The summary message provided by



the teacher was very simple; while what we know can be very important, it is the person whom we know that makes us a winner and provides us salvation. The students know Jesus as the answer to the most important question.

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