

Mission Statement

Our **mission** is to provide a learning environment that will enable each student to work to potential in his/her quest to be a life-long learner and a productive member of society.

Calendar Items

Monday, April 28	2:45 – 4:00 p.m.	Leadership Casis (Library)
Tuesday, April 29		TAKS Math – Grades 3 & 4
Tuesday, April 29	2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	Chess Club (Library)
Wednesday, April 30		TAKS Reading – Grades 3 & 5
Wednesday, April 30		Read Alouds are Cancelled
Thursday, May 1		TAKS Reading – Grade 3
Thursday, May 1		TAKS Science – Grade 5
Monday, May 5	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Grade 3 Field Trip (Aquarena Springs)
Tuesday, May 6	2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	Chess Club (Library)
Tuesday, May 6	9:00 – 10:30 a.m.	Kindergarten/New Student Round-Up (Cafeteria)
Wednesday, May 7		Teacher Appreciation Day
Wednesday, May 7		Casis Cares
May 8 – 16		Spanish Open House
Friday, May 9	8:15 – 10:15 a.m.	PTA Executive Board Meeting (Portable 8)

TAKS Testing—April 29th, April 30th and May 1st

On Tuesday morning (April 29th), 3rd and 4th graders around the State of Texas will be taking the math portion of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) exam. The following day (April 30th), 4th graders will take the reading portion of the TAKS. **There will NOT be Read Alouds on April 30th.** Finally, on Thursday (May 1st), 5th graders will be taking the science portion of the TAKS. We are excited about all of our students' and teachers' efforts and acknowledge the extra efforts of 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students and teachers. Testing will begin by 8:15 a.m. each morning; please make every effort to be on time to school on these testing days.

Casis Fun Run – Thank You

Thank you to EVERYONE who helped make our Fun Run an amazing event. It was a gorgeous day and our students had a wonderful time. Thanks to the Wellness Committee and Fun Run Committee members: Tracy Anderson, Lisa Christian, and Amanda Ogden. Thank you to all the generous Casis families and community members who were sponsors and thanks also to the 5th graders who worked hard on this event to raise funds for their annual Port Aransas study trip.

Kindergarten and New Student Roundup

Kindergarten and New Student Roundup is scheduled for Tuesday, May 6th from 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. All children who are five years of age before September 1, 2008 are eligible for Kindergarten. Please bring your child, along with copies of your child's birth certificate, social security card (if available), a current immunization record, proof of residency (i.e. your electric bill or lease) and your driver's license/photo ID that shows your date of birth. Please be aware that in order for children to attend school in Austin ISD, their immunizations must be up-to-date. If you have specific questions about what this entails, please contact the Casis health office at 414-7169 or AISD Student Health Services at 414-6171. Encourage your neighbors and friends to attend with their new Casis Cougars!

Path of Excellence

The PTA is now accepting orders for brick pavers for the Path of Excellence that leads to the main entrance of Casis. The Path of Excellence is a great way to remember students, family members, and friends, express thanks to teachers and staff, or show appreciation for someone who volunteers at Casis. If you would like to purchase an engraved brick paver, please submit your order form by May 30th. For more information on the Path of Excellence, please email Blanche Gill at bbgill@grandecom.net. Thank you.

Handicapped Parking Spaces

Please be mindful not to park in the handicapped spaces unless you have a handicapped permit. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Spanish Open Houses for Grades K-4

The K – 4th grade Spanish classes will be hosting open houses during your child's regular Spanish time from May 8th through 16th. Families are invited to come and see what we have been working on in Spanish class this year. Look for a detailed invitation either via email or in your child's Friday Folder.

National Teacher Appreciation Week

Next week is National Teacher Appreciation Week, with Wednesday, May 7th being National Teacher Appreciation Day! Let's let our teachers know how much we appreciate them!

Student Packets for 2008-09

In this week's Friday folder, you will receive a student packet for each Casis student. Please pay close attention to the enclosed time-sensitive documents listed below:

- **Student Registration and Data Verification Form 2008-2009:** This document is essential for re-registration because it includes emergency contact and health care information. Please review the preprinted form and correct or add any needed information. Please also be sure to sign in ALL the designated areas on both the front and back of the legal sized card.
- **School Supply Order Form:** If you are interested in placing an order for your child's school supplies, please complete this form and return it to your child's teacher, along with your check (payable to Casis PTA). **The final deadline to order is May 23rd.**
- **Student Directory and Communication Form:** Please fill out the school directory/communication form for publication in the Casis 2008 – 2009 directory.
- **PTA Spring 2008 Contribution Form:** This form contains options to contribute to the technology program and the Casis Beautification Fund. It also includes options to purchase school supply kits and recorders. Please make sure to complete one form per child. All forms are due May 23rd. Checks can be made payable to Casis PTA. Additional forms can be found at www.casispta.org and are also located in the main office. Please contact Wendy Thompson at winifredpage@aol.com with questions.

Please return all of the above-referenced documents to your child's teacher no later than **May 2nd, 2008**. The deadline for all school supply orders is **May 23rd, 2008**. *No orders will be accepted after that date.*

Casis Anthology Permission Form—IMPORTANT

If you have not yet sent in your Anthology permission form, please do so as soon as possible in order to have your child's work featured in the upcoming Casis Anthology. In last week's Friday folder we sent home the "Casis Anthology Order Form", which enables parents to purchase **additional** copies. Like last year, each student and teacher will receive one free copy of his/her grade level's book. They only need to order if they would like to purchase an additional copy or a copy of another grade level's book. These forms will need to be returned to the PTA basket in the office by Monday, April 28th.

Casis Chess Club

We want to thank Cindy Deterling for volunteering to co-chair the Chess Club with Diana Graves for the 2008-2009 school year. The Austin City Scholastic Chess Championship Tournament will be held at Kealing Middle School on May 3rd. There is a special beginner section (JV for K – 3). Pre-registration and information can be found at www.austinchesstournaments.com. We have six more chess club meetings before the summer break and it's not too late to join. Call Diana Graves at 480-0782 for info.

Casis Organic Garden

Calling all Casis students, parents and families: The Wellness Committee is looking for volunteers to help build our school-wide organic garden on Sunday, May 4th. Everyone is welcome and needed. Come get down to earth, get your hands dirty and help work the soil with us any time between 12:00 and 4:00 p.m. Extra shovels and a wheelbarrow or two will be helpful. There will be information about gardening programs, both for the upcoming 2008 – 2009 school year and this summer. We also need 12-15 able-bodied volunteers to work all or part of Saturday, May 3rd, doing more intensive preparation involving basic carpentry, etc. If you are able to work Saturday, please email Martin Milliken at martin@raleighavenue.com or call 472-7692 or 796-6087.

5th Grade Port Aransas Field Trip and Graduation Informational Meeting Recap

Mark your calendars for the Port Aransas trip! On May 14th, 15th, and 16th our 5th grade will travel to the University of Texas Marine Science Center in Port Aransas for their annual marine science field trip. The Batiansila and Nestle classes will leave on the 14th and return the 15th and the Springer and Pasko classes will leave on the 15th and return on the 16th. This is an amazing educational opportunity for our kids. Then Graduation will take place on Wednesday, June 4th. The ceremony begins at 8:30 a.m. and will last until approximately 9:30 a.m. A pool party will follow graduation at Northwest Pool. There will be a graduation dance with details to follow. Watch your Friday folder materials and emails for more info. Please contact Leisa McLelland at 512-478-1710, or at leisamcl@yahoo.com with questions. Thank you to all of our 5th grade staff and parent volunteers, the PTA and 5th grade students who have come together to make this all possible.

Teacher Appreciation Luncheon Gratitude

The staff thoroughly enjoyed the delicious luncheon provided by the PTA Teacher Appreciation Committee: Shannon Cameron, Haden Spencer and Mary Koch. Thank you also to volunteer contributors: Nan Alexander, Suzanne Bell, Kasandra Cruzcosa, Thresa Nasi Sara Marler, Gaye Pate and Sherri Underbrink. Thanks so much!

Summer Camp Flyers

As you may have noticed, summer camp brochures have begun to appear in Friday folders. We are not recommending these camps, only forwarding the information. Many different organizations offer summer camp programs, but we don't always send flyers home due to the sheer volume we receive. Brochures for additional summer camps can be found outside the office near the sign-in table. Feel free to pick one up at any time. Please note: AISD or PTA funds or resources are not used for the printing of any of these materials.

Cafeteria/Playground Parent Volunteer Monitor Thanks & Reminder

Thank you to parent volunteers in Ms. Bryant's and Ms. Carter's class for monitoring the cafeteria and playground over the past couple of weeks. Thank you in advance to Ms. DeGennaro's and Ms. Dvorak's parent volunteers, who will be here to volunteer during lunch, April 28th – May 9th. If you can help, please call your homeroom parent.

Sincerely, Patty Martin