

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, December 10	2:45 – 4:00 p.m.	Leadership Casis (Library)
Tuesday, December 11	2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	Chess Club (Library/P8)
Wednesday, December 12		Casis Cares
Friday, December 14	8:15 – 10:15 a.m.	PTA Executive Board Meeting (Portable 8)
Monday, December 17	9:00 – 11:00 a.m.	Grade 1 Field Trip (Bob Bullock IMAX Theatre)
Tuesday, December 18	2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	Chess Club (Library/P8)
Wednesday, December 19		Read Aloud
Thursday, December 20		End of Nine Weeks
Friday, December 21-Monday, January 7		Winter Break—No School
Monday, January 7		No School /Staff Development
Tuesday, January 8		Classes Resume
Wednesday, January 9		Report Cards Distributed

Leadership Casis

Leadership Casis will be making care packages and homemade cards for our troops. We would like to know if any of our Casis families are particularly touched by the war with family members or friends who are deployed at this time. If Casis does have any family in the armed forces, please notify Allison Laughlin at alilaughlin@aol.com by December 7th. We would like to make a special package for them. We will make sure the packages are received by Christmas. The next Leadership Casis meeting is Monday, December 10, 2007 at 2:45 p.m. in the library.

Coats for Kids

Coats For Kids – Thank you Casis for your continued generosity! Casis collected 205 (and counting) coats for “Coats For Kids.”

Canned Food Drive

The 4th grade team is sponsoring a canned food drive that will benefit the Capital Area Food Bank. Please send canned food items and non-perishables to your child’s classroom beginning Monday, December 10th, through Friday, December 14th. We will graph the progress in the hallway outside of the library. Thank you for your help in providing food for families in need.

Children’s Business Fair

Congratulations to Casis students, Grace Horvath and Wyatt Williams, who participated in the recent Children’s Business Fair that was sponsored by Acton MBA in Entrepreneurship. We are very proud of Grace and Wyatt for their creativity and dedication to their business fair projects. Way to go!

Teacher and Staff Appreciation

Special thanks to the following Casis parents who contributed their time and cooking talents to the November Teacher/Staff Appreciation Dessert Day: Suzanne Bell, Karen Kocher, Lou Gift, Dinny Peterson, Paula Duke, Beth Cunningham, Susan Fairbairn, Martha Bradshaw, Leisa McLelland, Wilbert and Rosie Ceasar. Special thanks to our community businesses who provided coffee and donated door prizes: Starbucks, Food!Food! Tarrytown Pharmacy, Galaxy Café, Zocolo Restaurant, Austin Kula Yoga, Blanton Museum of Art, Ceasar’s Auto Detailing, and Randall’s. We truly appreciate everyone’s contributions to help support our staff and our school. Thanks also to the wonderful committee chairs Mary Koch, Haden Spencer and Shannon Cameron for all their hard work and organization that makes these events so wonderful.

Nominating Committee for 2008-2009 Slate of PTA Officers: Nominations for the PTA Nominating Committee for 2008 – 2009 are underway and will conclude December 20th. This committee is responsible for recommending a slate of PTA officers for the 2008 – 2009 school year. The nominating committee will be elected at the January general meeting of the PTA on January 18, 2008. Please submit your nominations in the office. If you have questions, please contact Cami Hawkins at hawkins2048@sbcglobal.net or 478-0552.

5th Grade Photo

On Thursday, December 13th we will take the 5th Grade Photo for the 2007 – 2008 school year. If at all possible, please make sure your 5th grader is present that day. We will meet under the blue canopy promptly at 1:15 p.m. Thank you to parent/photographer, Mark Matson who will be taking the photo.

Casis Science Fair – Wednesday, January 23rd & Thursday, January 24th

All 4th and 5th grade students participate in the Casis Science Fair. Students in the younger grades may participate on a voluntary basis. The goal is for students to apply their knowledge of the scientific process to an actual experiment that answers a question they are curious about. The steps of the scientific process are taught at school and students are expected to complete their project at home. Teachers have distributed packets of information to students with due dates for completing each step of the process. We appreciate parents' appropriate involvement in the Casis Science Fair and encourage you to talk with your child's teacher if you have questions.

Volunteer Judges Needed for Casis Science Fair – Wednesday January 23rd

We are looking for volunteer judges to help with this year's Science Fair! No experience is necessary. This is a great opportunity to appreciate our students' scientific proficiency. The judging will take place on Wednesday, January 23rd, and your help is needed between 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Please contact Casis teacher, Larry Chauvin, at 841-5552 or via e-mail at lchauvin@austinsd.org if you are interested.

4th & 5th Grade Book Club

If you love to read and talk about what you've read, please attend the 4th & 5th Grade Book Club on Wednesday, December 12th from 2:45 to 4:00 p.m. in library. We will be having a book presentation about *The Dangerous Book for Boys* by Conn & Hal Iggulden and *The Daring Book for Girls* by Miriam Peskowitz and Andrea J. Buchanan. Please contact Sharon Hornfischer at 771-5513 if you have any questions.

Principal Interview Process

Save the date – Thursday, January 24th, Claudia Tousek, Associate Superintendent, will meet with Casis parents from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. in the library. The purpose of this meeting is to give parents the opportunity to give input into developing a principal profile. Applicants for the principal position will be screened based on information gathered at this meeting.

Bus Rider Procedures

Parents please remember to obtain a bus pass from the office if your child is accompanying another student on the bus. It is advisable to have the form filled out ahead of time as the bus leaves Casis promptly at 2:50 p.m. If you want your child to permanently ride the bus, please contact the AISD transportation office at 414-6520.

Lost and Found Items

Please check the Lost and Found located in the hallway between the cafeteria and the 200-wing for items you are missing. All unclaimed items will be sent to charity on December 21st. Please encourage your child to check for any items in the lost and found, as we expect each child to take responsibility for his/her property.

Weekly Health Tip

Health experts say we should drink eight glasses of water a day. Make it a habit that's easy to maintain by keeping an 8 or 16 ounce bottle of water with you at all times that you can refill throughout the day to meet your quota!

Cafeteria/Playground Parent Volunteer Monitor Thanks & Reminder

Thank you to parent-volunteers in Mr. Martinez' and Ms. Nelson's classes for monitoring the cafeteria and playground over the past couple of weeks. Thank you in advance to Ms. Underwood's and Ms. Abshire's parent-volunteers who will be here to volunteer during lunch, December 10th – December 20th. If you can help, please call your homeroom parent.

Thank you to parent volunteers and community members whose generosity help make Casis a special place to learn and work.

Sincerely,