

**Casis Elementary
Website**
www.mycasis.org
www.casispta.org

Casis Elementary
2710 Exposition, Austin, Texas 78703
March 9, 2007

**Casis Elementary
Attendance Line**
414-0003

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, March 12 - Friday, March 16		Spring Break – No School
Tuesday, March 20	2:45 p.m.	Chess Club (Library)
Wednesday, March 21		Casis Cares
Thursday, March 22	9:00 – 10:30 a.m.	Prospective Parent Open House (Library)
Friday, March 23		End of Third Nine Weeks
Monday, March 26	2:45 – 4:00 p.m.	Leadership Casis (Library)
Tuesday, March 27	2:45 p.m.	Chess Club (Library)
Wednesday, March 28	12:15 – 1:15 p.m.	Casis Cares/Read Aloud Brown Bag Luncheon (P15)
Wednesday, March 28		Report Cards Distributed
Wednesday, March 28		Read Aloud
Thursday, March 29	8:00 – 8:45 a.m.	5 th Grade Parent Meeting (Library)
Monday, April 2	2:45 – 4:00 p.m.	Leadership Casis (Library)
Tuesday, April 3		5 th Grade Math TAKS
Tuesday, April 3	2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	Chess Club (Library)
Wednesday, April 4		Casis Cares
Thursday, April 5	8:00 – 10:00 a.m.	PTA Executive Board Meeting (P-15)
Thursday, April 5	3:15 – 4:15 p.m.	CAC Meeting (P-15)
Sunday, April 15	2:00 p.m.	Fun Run (O. Henry Track)

Make-A-Wish Follow-Up

Leadership Casis would like to thank the students, parents, teachers, and the Tarrytown Community for contributing to "Megan's Wish" fundraiser. Megan received a total of \$4238.67 generated from donations from our school. She is well on her way to making her wish of traveling to Australia come true. We thank you all for your generosity. Casis students have been blessed to learn that actions, no matter how small, can make a huge impact on the life of another person. If you made your contribution by check, the Make-A-Wish Foundation will send you a receipt for your donation.

PTA Volunteer Spring forms

If you have not already turned in your form, PLEASE look it over and decide where you can help this spring! We have many fundraising events coming up that depend on your involvement. If you have any questions, please contact Brooks Franklin at ebf@grandecom.net or 236-0885.

Open House for Prospective Casis Parents

On Thursday, March 22nd from 9:00 -10:30 a.m., Casis will host its final Open House for parents of prospective K – 5th grade students. Administrators, PTA representatives and the school counselor will be available at the Open House to share information, answer questions and conduct tours of the school. Please share information about the Open House with your neighbors and friends who may be interested in sending their children to Casis.

Casis Cares/Read Aloud Volunteers

The counselor, Jennifer Lyon, and Casis Cares committee would like to invite all Casis Cares and Read Aloud volunteers to a brown bag lunch on Wednesday, March 28th from 12:15 – 1:15 p.m. in Portable 15. We will be discussing what has worked well this year and what changes to think about for next year. Please join us!

125th AISD Anniversary Celebration School Portrait

Congratulations to Casis artists, Lia Irvin, Jessica Johnston and Justina Lange, for having their artwork chosen to represent Casis Elementary in the AISD Districtwide 125th Anniversary Celebration Art Show. The exhibit will be held at the Scarborough Building at Congress and 6th Street and runs from March 12th through April 16th. There will be a reception for students, teachers, and their families on March 23rd from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. inside the Scarborough Building Horizon Bank lobby.

Casis Chess Club

We will meet the first Tuesday after Spring break and we'll be starting an in-house chess tournament for Casis Chess Club students. Come and support a team!

Thoughts About Responsibility

Student responsibility is key to development and learning. Being responsible in one's civic and personal life can help a person be successful and maintain integrity throughout life. We can help our children learn this life long skill by reminding them when they should take responsibility for themselves and by teaching them how to do so.

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 donated to charity on Friday, March 9th. Please encourage your child to see if they have any items in the lost and found, as we expect each child to take responsibility for his/her property. Thank you to Casis parent, Belinda Bomer, who donated her time folding and labeling the various items and clothing in the Lost and Found so that students and parents could more easily find their belongings. Thank you Belinda.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up

Please do not drop your child(ren) off in the teacher parking lot, fire zone, the handicap parking spaces, on Exposition in front of the Circle Drive, or the Casis Village parking lot. Also, please do not make u-turns in the pick-up or drop-off areas on Hillview or Northwood. Our traffic safety rules must be followed by *all* parents/guardians so that every single one of our students is protected. Following these guidelines is even more crucial on rainy days, as visibility is limited. Please follow our school's traffic rules as you would those of the city and your own workplace.

Fifth Grade Photos

The slide show project for the 5th grade graduation is underway. We want to make sure that all the children have an opportunity to see themselves and their friends in this special end-of-year show. We are asking that each 5th grade family share three photographs of their child. These photos can be from any time or event between Kindergarten and 5th grade and can include other students. We will accept the photos either digitally or by print. Digital is preferred, but we are more than happy to have either. If you are sending prints, please put the photos into an envelope with your child's name, phone number and teacher's name on the front. Please do not write on the back of the photos. Send them to your child's teacher by March 19th. We will return the photos to each classroom teacher for distribution once they have been scanned. If you are sending digital files, please email them to Susan Sigmon at ssigmon@austin.rr.com. Thanks for your participation.

5th Grade Port Aransas Field Trip and Graduation Informational Meeting – Thursday, March 29th, 8:00 – 8:45 a.m.

All interested 5th grade parents are invited to attend an informational meeting on Thursday, March 29th from 8:00 – 8:45 a.m. in the library to discuss the 5th grade field trip to the University of Texas Marine Science Institute (UTMSI) in Port Aransas. This field trip will tie in with our lessons on habitats, adaptations, and the MARE (Marine Activities and Resources in Education) unit we'll be studying. Students will visit mudflats, sea grass beds (the Texas version of kelp forests), barrier islands, take a 2-hour voyage on a UT research vessel into Corpus Christi Bay, and participate in activities in the Pier Lab. The 5th graders and their chaperones will be staying in dormitories and eating some of their meals at UTMSI. Because of limited accommodations classes will be divided between two trips: the Nestle and Springer classes will go May 2nd and 3rd; the Deiterman and Batiansila classes will go May 3rd and 4th. Students will leave Casis at 6:00 a.m. and will return the following day between 4:30 and 5:00 p.m. We will also discuss 5th grade graduation and other topics.

2007 SafePlace Walk

The 20th Annual SafePlace Walk will take place at Waterloo Park on Saturday, April 14th. This event serves as a way to honor the memories of those who have been lost to violence, and as a way for survivors to celebrate life without violence. This walk is one of the largest awareness and fundraising events for issues of domestic and sexual violence. Please become a part of the 2007 SafePlace Walk by going to the website www.austin-safeplace.org or by calling 481-WALK.

Weekly Health Tip

Now is the perfect time of year to exercise outdoors! Sometimes it's a nice change of pace to focus on fun rather than skill. Plan fun physical activities as a family and use the outdoors as a reward. Go play miniature golf, take an after-dinner walk, practice at a batting cage, paddle a canoe on Town Lake, hike along the Barton Creek Greenbelt or play kickball in the park.

Cafeteria/Playground Parent Volunteer Monitor Thanks & Reminder

Thank you to the parent-volunteers in Ms. Pham's class for monitoring the cafeteria and playground this week. Thank you in advance to parent-volunteers in Ms. Porter's class who will monitor March 19th through March 23rd. If you can help, please call your homeroom parent. Thanks for all your help and support!

Spring Break is ahead of us and three-fourths of the school year is behind. Enjoy this time outdoors and with your family. We are fortunate to have such wonderful young learners at our campus. It is truly rewarding work.

Sincerely,