

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

Casis Elementary
2710 Exposition, Austin, Texas 78703
November 17, 2006

**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

Friday, November 17		In Class Music Performances
Saturday, November 18	9:30 – 12:30 p.m.	Forest Clean Up
Saturday, November 18		Texas Association for Gifted & Talented Conference
Tuesday, November 21	2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	Chess Club (Library)
Tuesday, November 21		Yearbook Orders Due
Wednesday, November 22 – Friday, November 24		Thanksgiving Holiday
Monday, November 27		Classes Resume
Tuesday, November 28	2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	Chess Club (Library)
Wednesday, November 29	1:10 p.m.	5 th Grade Photo (Back Playground)
Wednesday, November 29	2:45 – 4:30 p.m.	Culture Club (P15)
Wednesday, November 29		Casis Cares
Saturday, December 2	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Magnet Fair (Fulmore Middle School)
Tuesday, December 5	2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	Chess Club (Library)
Tuesday, December 5	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.	O. Henry Middle School Prospective Parent Open House
Thursday, December 7	8:00 – 10:00 a.m.	PTA Executive Board Meeting (Portable 15)
Thursday, December 7	3:15 p.m.	CAC Meeting (Portable 15)
Friday, December 8	10:30 – 11:30 a.m.	Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders Visits Casis (P15)

Casis Book Fair Thank You

Thank you Book Fair Co-Chairs, Ashley Fowler, Carole McRoberts and Susan Wise for putting together a fun and successful book fair! We also wish to thank Casis Librarian, Barbara Nichols, and all of the parent-volunteers. Raffle winners are as follows: Kathryn Courtney, Christopher Ortega- Smith, Sam Pastor, Clay Anderson, Tommy Matson and Gus Melvin. Allan raffle winners are as follows: Bryon Sehlke, Marianne Seiler, Owen Summers, The Larned Family and Kathryn Brewer. Remember to bring new or gently used books for students at Allan Elementary. The donation box is in front of the library until December 1st. Thank you to our outstanding custodial staff, parents, teachers and students for your strong support. We had a great time at the Fair!

Join us for the annual Casis Forest Clean-Up – Saturday, November 18th, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Bring work gloves, shovels, rakes, clippers, and even chainsaws and wear clothes that you don't mind getting dirty. Children are welcome. Call or email Nancy Hurd at 322-9618 or axiomian@aol.com for more information. Thank you for helping.

Casis Yearbook

The Casis yearbook sales have begun. Look for order forms in today's Friday folder and on your email. Orders are due by Tuesday, November 21st. **This will be the one and only time to order the 2006-2007 yearbook**, so please, if you would like one, don't miss this opportunity. If you have any questions, please call Leslie Winter at 479-0075 or Amy Morran at 477-9013. Thanks!

Coats for Kids

With your warm and caring hearts, please bring coats to the school for the cold weather months ahead as Leadership Casis will be collecting coats for the "Coats for Kids" project in Austin from November 13th through December 1st. Any size coat, from infant to adult, would be greatly appreciated. There will be boxes located at the main entrance of the school for drop-off. Thank you for helping to keep a child warm.

Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

Many thanks to our very own chef, Fernando Saralegui, who treated our teachers and staff to a wonderful feast of chorizo and squash empanadas and pork tenderloin. We appreciate him sharing his culinary expertise! Several other parents also contributed their time and talents: Tami Scott, Stacy Auler, Cari Ezell, Stephanie Morrison, Lisa Radebaugh, Joni Guerrero, Mary Koch, Amanda Friedman, Thresa Nasi, Kay Planting and Susan Nicklos. Thanks to the Teacher Appreciation Chairs: Sharon Hornfischer, Diana Patterson, and Lisa Terrill for organizing these wonderful luncheons for our staff.

Nominating Committee

The nomination process to select the PTA Nominating Committee will begin on November 27th and will end on December 21st. This committee is responsible for recommending a slate of officers for the 2007-2008 school year. The Nominating Committee will be elected at the general meeting of the PTA on January 18, 2007. You will find nomination forms and box at the sign-in desk beginning November 27th. If you have any questions, call or email Julia Howry at 474-6006 or jhowry@austin.rr.com.

Parking

Please do not park in the fire lane at any time. You may be ticketed. We must allow access for ambulances and fire engines to get into our campus at all times. Thank you for following our traffic and safety requests

Casis Safety Patrol Ponchos

We would like to give a huge thank you to Steve Huey, Casis parent, and the Radisson Hotel & Suites for supplying us with bright, beautiful rain ponchos that will keep our safety patrol members and staff dry and protected. Thanks Steve for your generous donation!

5th Grade Photo

On Wednesday, November 29th we will be taking the 5th Grade Photo for the 2006 – 2007 school year. If at all possible, please make sure your 5th grader is present that day. We will meet promptly at 1:10 p.m. on the back playground.

Volunteer Judges Needed for Casis Science Fair – Tuesday, December 19th

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 Tuesday, December 19th, and your help is needed between 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Please contact Casis teacher, Martha Olvera, at 841-5577 or via e-mail at molvera@austinisd.org if you are interested.

Upcoming Middle School Opportunities & Magnet Fair

The Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders will visit Casis 5th Grade girls on Friday, December 8th at 10:30 a.m. in Portable 15. Parents are invited to attend. The entire 5th grade will also visit O. Henry Middle School on Friday, December 15th from 8:45 – 11:00 a.m. Students and parents who are interested in attending a magnet school in 2006-2007 are invited to visit with representatives from the AISD Magnet Schools on Saturday, December 2nd. This is a great chance to get information and applications from Fulmore Middle School, Kealing Middle School, Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders and LBJ High School. The Magnet Fair will take place 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at Fulmore Middle School located at 201 E. Mary St. 78704. For more information, please contact the Department of Advanced Academic Services at 414-9986.

O. Henry Open House for 6th Grade Prospective Parents

O. Henry Middle School is holding an open house on Tuesday, December 5th from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. All parents of 5th or 6th grade students are welcome to attend this informational evening in the O. Henry cafeteria. Students, parents, and staff will highlight O. Henry's "Pursuit of Excellence" in academics, fine arts, and extra-curricular activities. Parents are welcome to bring their students. A question and answer session will conclude the program. If you have any questions, you may contact O. Henry's office at 414-3229.

Culture Club

The 5th grade Culture Club took a tour of Umlauf Sculpture Gardens. The children had a great time seeing the work of this renowned Austin sculptor. They broke into teams and participated in a sculpture safari that had them traversing the grounds identifying the various pieces of art. Afterwards Melanie Sherwood led a small group discussion with the children. It was a great way to mix art with fun. Thanks to Karen Thompson and Cindy Fowler for helping with car pool. Contact Sue Phillips or Melinda Longtain for more information.

AISD Parent Surveys

In today's Friday folders you will receive an AISD Parent Survey. We encourage you to fill out and return these forms to the main office or your child's teacher as soon as possible. You may also return them directly to AISD's Program Evaluation office. Please remember to fill these forms out in pencil and to put the name of our school in the designated area. Your responses to this survey are completely anonymous. You may complete the AISD Parent Survey 2006-07 online at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=976072792252>. The deadline to return these forms is December 15th. If you have any questions you may contact the AISD Department of Program Evaluation at 414-3641. In the coming months you will also receive a campus-based parent survey. Thank you for your cooperation in gathering this data.

No Child Left Behind Act

The federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) requires that each district publicly report progress toward meeting the requirements that teachers be highly qualified. This typically means that teachers are to be certified in the area(s) that they are teaching. In response to the requirement, I am sending you this summary of information for the district as a whole, and for our school, in comparison to state targets. This data is as of the last day of school for 2005-06. The district and campus have Highly Qualified Teacher Plans to ensure that we are making progress toward the 100% requirement.

Cafeteria/Playground Parent Volunteer Monitor Thanks & Reminder

Thank you to the parent-volunteers in Mr. Martinez's class for monitoring the cafeteria and playground this week and again on November 20th and 21st. Thank you in advance to Ms. Proffer's parent-volunteers who will be here to volunteer during lunch November 27th through December 1st. If you can help, please call your homeroom parent.

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, we will not distribute the Principal's Newsletter next week. Have a safe and joyous Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,