

**Casis Elementary  
Website  
[www.mycasis.org](http://www.mycasis.org)  
[www.casispta.org](http://www.casispta.org)**

*Casis Elementary  
2710 Exposition, Austin, Texas 78703  
October 13, 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

Saturday, October 14		TX XC Invitational Run (Hancock Golf Course)
Monday, October 16	8:00 a.m.	Reading Buddies Meeting (Library)
Monday, October 16	2:45 – 4:00 p.m.	Leadership Casis Field Trip to City Hall
Tuesday, October 17	2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	Chess Club (Library)
Wednesday, October 18		Fall Picture Make-Up Day
Wednesday, October 18		Read Alouds
Wednesday, October 18		Report Cards Distributed
Thursday, October 19	2:45 – 4:00 p.m.	4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Book Club (P14)
Saturday, October 21	8:30 a.m.	Walk With Your Doctor 5K (Zilker Park Hillside Theatre)
Saturday, October 21	10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Austin Family Music Festival (Pioneer Farms)
Tuesday, October 24	2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	Chess Club (Library)
Wednesday, October 25		Casis Cares
Wednesday, October 25	2:45 – 5:00 p.m.	Culture Club Field Trip (Umlauf Sculpture Garden)
Friday, October 27	5:30 – 8:30 p.m.	Casis Carnival
Sunday, October 29	11:00 a.m.	Texas Book Festival - Authors Readers Theatre (Paramount Theatre)
Sunday, October 29		Daylight Saving Time Ends (Change your clock back 1 hour)

### TX XC Cross Country Run

The TX XC Cross Country Run for Elementary Schools is Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. The run will be at the Hancock Golf course located at 811 41<sup>st</sup> St. Students who attend AISD or other area schools (private or home-schooled) may participate. Children in the age range of 5 – 7 will run a half-mile and children in the age range of 8 – 12 will run one mile. Trophies will be given to the top ten boys and top ten girls in each age division as well as blue finish ribbons. Participation plaques will be given to the top twenty schools that bring the most students. Register on line at [www.Runtex.com](http://www.Runtex.com) or if you have questions, call Cindy Samok at 841-5546.

### Gifted and Talented Parent Symposium

The Gifted and Talented Parent Symposium will be held on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Bedichek Middle School located at 6800 Bill Hughes Rd. 78745. This event is sponsored by AISD Advanced Academic Services. Registration is free and no pre-registration is required. For more information, please contact Rhonda Boyer at 414-0279.

### Picture Day Retakes

Retakes will take place on Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> on the stage in the cafeteria. If you would like your child to retake his/her picture, please have him/her bring their original photo package to turn into the photographer. The photographer will do retakes only if the original photo package is turned in. If your child was absent during the original picture day and wants to order pictures for the first time, we will have order envelopes in the office. Please contact the main office at 414-2062 if you have questions.

### Grade Level T-Shirts

Unfortunately, grade level t-shirts did not arrive this week. The new distribution date will be Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers, please meet in Portable 16 on this date at 9:00 a.m.

### Congratulations Casis Students

The following 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students have their beautiful artwork on display at the Baker Professional Center (located at 3908 Avenue B) throughout the month of October: Michael Young, Alexandra Seiler, Langley Allen, Carter Pace, Hoyt Taylor, Samantha Knaggs, Claire Cannatti, Chelsea Chase, and Balie Griffith. Congratulations to all!

### AISD Student Information Packets

In this week's Friday folder each student received the 2006-07 Student Information Packet. Please review the contents and sign the acknowledgment of receipt in the back of the packet. Please return these forms to your child's teacher to keep on file. Thank you.

### Congratulations to Ms. Samok!

We would like to congratulate Cindy Samok, our full - time P. E. teacher, who participated in the Women's Masters Race at IBM and won! Way to go Cindy!

### Report Cards

On Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, your child is bringing home the first report card of the year. Report cards are sent home every nine weeks (four times each school year) and are just one of the many ways we provide feedback and communicate with parents and students about student progress. In Pre-Kindergarten-2<sup>nd</sup> grade, student progress is reported by subject on a number scale of 1-4. Students in grades 3-5 receive traditional letter grades: A, B, C and F. A variety of assessment tools and assignments are used to measure and document student progress and performance. These include, but are not limited to: teacher observations, samples of student products and processes, writing journals, rubrics, portfolios, tests, quizzes, etc. On the right side of the report card, a 1-4 scale reflects your child's personal development. The Special Area teachers provide grades for Art, Music, Physical Education, Computer Lab and Spanish. In these areas, students receive two grades, one for skill and one for behavior. As educators, it is often difficult to assign a number or letter to your child's abilities, strengths and progress over time. We are well aware that children, grow, mature, develop and learn at different rates. Be assured that your child's teacher will contact you to discuss any serious concerns regarding your child's progress in any area. Please contact your child's teacher if you have questions or concerns regarding your child's progress.

### Leadership Casis

Leadership Casis will meet Monday October 16<sup>th</sup> immediately after school outside the library. Please wear your Leadership Casis t-shirt to school that day. We will visit City Hall for a tour. Please make sure your child has turned in a signed transportation permission form or you will need to make arrangements to transport them to and from the field trip. Pick up will be in the circle driveway at 4:00 p.m. If you have any questions please contact Margie Medrano 451-5506 or Marcia Millikin 482-9205.

### Reading Buddies

It's time to get matched with a Reading Buddy! Reading Buddies is a wonderful and beneficial way to volunteer your time at Casis. You get to spend 30 minutes per week with your buddy reading and/or working on other schoolwork at a time that's convenient for you. There will be a meeting Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. in the library to match volunteers with buddies. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Carlson at 453-1495 or [bbcmai@austin.rr.com](mailto:bbcmai@austin.rr.com).

### Culture Club

The first Culture Club field trip of the year was to the Blanton Museum which was great fun and very interesting. The docents talked about thematic elements and historical or cultural contexts for individual paintings. The penny sculpture was also a lot of fun. Blake Bush, a Casis dad/artist, gave a background talk on sculpture at the October 11<sup>th</sup> meeting to prepare the students for the upcoming field trip on October 25<sup>th</sup> to the Umlauf Sculpture Garden. Culture Club meets in room 205. For more information contact Melinda Longtain at 482-8704.

### 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Book Club

If you love to read and talk about what you've read, please attend the second meeting of the 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Book Club on Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> from 2:45 to 4:00 p.m. in Portable 14 (note location change for this month). We'll be discussing "Which Witch" by Eva Ibbotson. Snacks are provided. Please contact Michelle Dante at 416-6842 if you have any questions.

### A Message to Read Aloud Parents

If you are participating in Read Aloud for your child's class, please note that this year we are pulling books for you that relate to the Casis Cares character lesson for each grade level. These books are sorted by grade level and topic in the library, under the spiral staircase. Please feel free to take advantage of this resource, bring an appropriate book of your choice from home, or read the book selected by the teacher. If you are interested in helping pull books for Read Aloud, please contact Jennifer Lyon at [Jlyon@austinisd.org](mailto:Jlyon@austinisd.org).

### Casis Chess Club

On Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, there will be a chess tournament at Wooldridge Park from 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. Any Casis student can participate in this just-for-fun outdoor event. The on-line applications will be posted next week at [www.austinparks.org](http://www.austinparks.org). Contact Diana Graves at 480-0782 or [diana-graves@sbcglobal.net](mailto:diana-graves@sbcglobal.net) with any questions.

### Carnival Volunteers Needed/Carnival Booth Donations

Please sign up to volunteer for the Casis Carnival. A volunteer interest form has been included inside the carnival newsletter packet in this week's Friday folder. Parents if you have gently used white sheets that you would like to donate for the M.A.S.H. unit tent, please drop them off in the designated box in the main entrance outside of the office no later than October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Thanks!

### Cafeteria/Playground Parent Volunteer Monitor Thanks & Reminder

Thank you to the parent-volunteers in Ms. Morrison's class for monitoring the cafeteria and playground this week and on October 16<sup>th</sup> through 17<sup>th</sup>. Thank you in advance to Ms. Bunce's parent-volunteers who will be here to volunteer during lunch October 18<sup>th</sup> through October 20<sup>th</sup> and again on October 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>. If you can help, please call your homeroom parent.

Sincerely,