

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

*Casis Elementary  
2710 Exposition Blvd., Austin, Texas 78703  
October 26, 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

Friday, October 26	5:30 – 8:30 p.m.	Casis Carnival
Tuesday, October 30	2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	Chess Club (Library/P8)
Wednesday, October 31		Read Alouds
Thursday, November 1	8:15 – 10:15 a.m.	PTA Executive Board Meeting (P8)
Thursday, November 1	3:15 – 4:00 p.m.	CAC Meeting (P8)
Friday, November 2		Walk To School Day
Friday, November 2		Yearbook Sale Begins
Saturday, November 3	10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.	American Indian Heritage Festival (Toney Burger Center)
Sunday, November 4		Daylight Saving Time Ends (Change your clock back 1 hour)
Monday, November 5	2:45 – 4:00 p.m.	Leadership Casis (Library)
Tuesday, November 6	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Constitutional Election (Polling on Campus)
Tuesday, November 6	2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	Chess Club (Library/P8)
Wednesday, November 7		Casis Cares
Wednesday, November 7	9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Kindergarten Field Trip to AHS Willy Wonka Performance
Thursday, November 8	7:00 – 8:00 p.m.	PTA General Meeting (Cafeteria)
Thursday, November 8		In-Class Music Performances Begin (and run through Nov. 16)
Monday, November 12		<b>No School</b> – Student Holiday/Staff Development
Tuesday, November 13	8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Casis Book Fair
Tuesday, November 13	5:30 – 8:00 p.m.	Casis Book Fair Family Night
Wednesday, November 14	8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Casis Book Fair

### Carnival

We are all looking forward to a fantastic Carnival night so invite everyone in the community to come join the fun. Please remind your children that school rules are in effect during Carnival—respect self, respect others, and respect property. We expect all students to behave appropriately so that the Carnival is fun and safe for everyone. We sincerely appreciate the generous donations of time, energy and money that will make this year's Carnival a wonderful event. A special thanks to the Carnival Committee: Elizabeth Adams, Rebecca McKee, Ashley Putman, Jay Foster, Jessica McMillen, Amy Maxon and all the parents who have come together to make this event such a huge success! We truly appreciate all of you.

### Carnival Parking/Entrance Friday, October 26<sup>th</sup>

We urge as many students as possible to walk to and from school on Friday and encourage families to walk to and from the carnival in order to decrease vehicular traffic and increase student safety. Please park in a courteous fashion and don't block the driveways of our neighbors. Keep fire lanes, entrances and exits clear for emergencies. Your cooperation will help make carnival a safe and enjoyable event for everyone. Parking will not be allowed in the teacher parking lot, as it will be the only walk-in entrance to Carnival. Please **DO NOT** park in the Casis Village Shopping Center. **A Note About the Lost and Found Booth at Carnival** – located at the front entrance to Carnival, just past the gate to the left next to the Ticket Booth. Please instruct your child to “look for the balloons” if they get lost.

### Mrs. Nichol's Wonder Book Emporium – Casis Book Fair, November 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>

Join us on Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. for Family Night at Mrs. Nichol's Wonder Book Emporium for our annual Book Fair in the Casis library. Enjoy a magical night of tax-free shopping from our super selection of books provided by BookPeople. You can also donate book money for our adopted school, Allan Elementary and have a chance to win a prize in our raffle! Dinner includes Mr. Gatti's Pizza, salad, and Teo's Gelato will be served in the cafeteria by the 5<sup>th</sup> grade class & Leadership Casis to benefit the 5<sup>th</sup> grade Port Aransas trip and the LC bike helmet drive. Book Fair hours: Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. and 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. (Family Night) Wednesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

### Upcoming PTA Meeting

Please join us for the November General PTA meeting on Thursday evening, Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Casis cafeteria. Two special guests will join us to discuss “Reading With Your Child.” Cheryl Swanson and Barbara Nichols will lead this presentation which precedes our upcoming Book Fair and hope you find it informational when selecting books both you and your child can enjoy together. Please join us!

### Leadership Casis

Congratulations to Leadership Casis and to our generous campus community for collecting over \$3,000.00 to date for the Change For Change Coin Drive program benefiting abused and neglected children. Your support is greatly appreciated.

### Casis Elementary Walk/Bike to School Day Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> – Healthy Body and Healthy Earth!

Walking and biking is good for your body and good for our earth. The Casis Wellness Committee wants everyone at Casis to think about how good and practical getting to school without our cars can be. Some Casis students already walk or bike to school everyday. Give it a try on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, then consider everyday, once a week or just once in awhile. It takes a little more time, but slowing down to "smell the roses" is good and healthy for our bodies and our world. Remember be SAFE and SMART! Buddy up with a friend or come with a parent. If you live too far, find a closer meeting place, park and walk or bike from there with a friend. Bottled water will be provided by Whole Foods Market and extra bike racks will be provided by Jack and Adams Bike Shop. This event is, in part, made possible by an award from the National PTA Health and Wellness Month promotion. For questions, please contact Martin Milliken at 472-7692 or Michelle Kinney at 542-9041.

### Email Communications at Casis

At Casis, we try to save energy and resources by sending as much information as possible to our families via email. **If you are a new family to Casis**, you should find in your Friday folder a form regarding school communications. Please consider this paperless option and send that form back to your child's teacher as soon as possible. In a few weeks EVERY family should be receiving school emails, we simply need to know those families who would also like paper. **If you were at Casis last year**, and are not receiving emails or need to change your email address in our database, please let us know. In past years, Casis would send home over 700 copies per child. We are now down to less than 200. What a savings each week! Thank you for your help in this effort. For questions, please contact Tracy Fielder at 542-0045 or [tracyfielder@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tracyfielder@sbcglobal.net).

### Casis Yearbook

The Casis yearbook sales will begin November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Look for order forms in that week's Friday folder. Orders are due by Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. **This will be the first and only time to order the 2007-2008 yearbook.** If you have any questions, please call Amy Morran at 477-9013.

### Car Wash Benefiting Austin High School's Ballet Folklorico

The Ballet Folklorico from Austin High School will be holding a car wash in the Casis circle drive this Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The requested donation is \$10. Proceeds will benefit the dance troupe's costumes and competition fees.

### Join us for the annual Casis Forest Clean-Up – Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Calling all trimmers, bush whackers, rakers and general dirt enthusiasts. We'll meet at the Forest entrance at 9:30 a.m. and work until about 12:30 p.m. Last year we had a good turnout and were able to get the job done well within that timeframe, while having a lot of fun! Bring work gloves, shovels, rakes, clippers, even chainsaws and wear clothes that you don't mind getting dirty. Children are also welcome; they become an important part of making their school a better place. We are so fortunate to have this wonderful resource, so lets get digging! Please email or call Nancy Hurd at 322-9618, [axioman@aol.com](mailto:axioman@aol.com) if you are coming or you can just show up. Thank you for helping.

### Teacher and Staff Appreciation Luncheon

Special thanks to Kristin Brakebill, Shannon Windham, Kay Planting, Ellen Miura, Leigh Simmons, Janey Marks, Kelly Mucci, and Suzanne Bell for contributing their time and cooking talents for the October 22<sup>nd</sup>, Teacher/Staff Appreciation Luncheon. If you would like to contribute either your time or cooking talents, please contact Mary Koch at [fivekochs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fivekochs@sbcglobal.net), Haden Spencer at [hspencer1@austin.rr.com](mailto:hspencer1@austin.rr.com) or Shannon Cameron at [sr\\_cameron@hotmail.com](mailto:sr_cameron@hotmail.com).

### Austin Powwow and American Indian Heritage Festival

Come watch beautiful dancing and stroll through the booths at the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Austin Powwow and American Indian Heritage Festival. This free event is Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, at the Toney Burger Activity Center, 3200 Jones Road. For information, call 448-1960 or check out the following website: [www.austinpowwow.org](http://www.austinpowwow.org).

### Weekly Health Tip

Sleep is vitally important to all of us, but in particular to the developing brain of a child. Not having enough sleep, or having an erratic schedule of sleep can be detrimental to normal neurophysiologic development and new research suggests that sleep is important to learning and memory. In fact, sleep deprivation has been linked to poorer grades, moodiness and depression. Most elementary school kids need, on average, 10-12 hours of sleep a night. Yet most kids fail to get even the low end of the recommended range. Two things that you can do to support your child's need for sleep are to follow a consistent schedule for bedtime and limit sensory input (e.g. from TVs or computers) before bed.

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

Many thanks to parent-volunteers in Mr. Morales' and Ms. Morrison's classes for monitoring the cafeteria and playground over the last couple of weeks. Thank you in advance to Ms. Noack's and Mr. Pifer's parent-volunteers who will be here to volunteer during lunch, October 29<sup>th</sup> – November 9<sup>th</sup>. If you can help, please call your homeroom parent.

Sincerely,