

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

*Casis Elementary
2710 Exposition Blvd., Austin, Texas 78703
September 28, 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, September 28	12:00 p.m.	Principal's Brown Bag Lunch
Friday, September 28	2:00 p.m.	New Student Reception
Friday, September 28		Gift Wrap Sale Ends
Tuesday, October 2	2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	Chess Club (Library)
Wednesday, October 3		Read Alouds
Thursday, October 4	3:15 p.m.	CAC Meeting (P8)
Monday, October 8		Student Holiday/Parent-Teacher conferences
Tuesday, October 9	2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	Chess Club (Library)
Wednesday, October 10		Casis Cares
Friday, October 12	8:15 – 10:15 a.m.	PTA Executive Board Meeting (P8)
Saturday, October 13	9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Gifted & Talented Parent Symposium (Ann Richards School)
Sunday, October 14		Buddy Walk benefiting Down Syndrome Association (Georgetown)
Monday, October 15	2:45 – 4:00 p.m.	Leadership Casis (Library)

It's A Wrap for Gift Wrap!

Thank you to everyone who sold Innisbrook gift-wrap and chocolate. We had such a great response. Orders were due today, September 28th. If there are any stragglers, please send in your envelopes on Monday, October 1st. We'd like to send a special thanks to all of those volunteers who helped wrap boxes and decorate the school this summer. Teachers and staff, your support is much appreciated. We have recruited many classroom volunteers and accounting volunteers to help tally. This is a huge job and we thank you in advance for your time. If you have any questions, please contact Ashley Crider, 477-6416.

Gift Wrap Thank You

We also wish to thank this year's Gift-Wrap co-chairs, Ashley Crider, Julie Kocurek and Ellen Muira and their volunteer team. You all did a wonderful job coordinating, decorating the school, promoting the gift-wrap sale and drawing it all to a close! Thank you for your support!

Microwaves and Lunch Items

Over the past couple of years we have helped a small number of students in the nurse's office with heating up their food. Unfortunately this has become quite a popular thing to do and we are sorry to say that we are no longer able to accommodate this service. Please remember to send lunch foods that do not require cooking or heating up. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Leadership Casis Update

The Leadership Casis students have been hard at work planning this year's enrichment programs. This Friday, September 28th, at 2:00 p.m. all 1st through 5th grade students new to Casis are invited to an ice cream social. The Leadership Casis students will pick up the new students at their class for a welcome party. Leadership Casis is also collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. Collection will be September 26th – October 3rd. The class with the most pop tabs will receive a root beer float party.

A Message to Casis Cares/Read Aloud Parents

Thank you to all the wonderful parent volunteers who donated their time and efforts preparing Casis Cares materials. Thanks also to many parents who were able to attend the orientation sessions. Casis Cares/Read Alouds will begin on October 3rd with both teachers and Casis Cares/Read Aloud parent volunteers in the classroom. Please contact Jennifer Lyon at 414-7167 (jlyon@austinisd.org) if you have questions.

Booksigning for Casis 5th grader David de la Garza

Join Casis 5th grader, David de la Garza, as he signs copies of *The Great, Great, Great Chicken War*, a children's book he illustrated and wrote in collaboration with his parents. The official publication date is October 1st, but BookPeople is hosting a pre-publication party and signing at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 29th. A portion of the book's proceeds will be donated to Doctors Without Borders.

BoxTops

We could win 10,000 Bonus Box Tops. Ten schools will each win 10,000 Bonus Box Tops from Cheerios® Spoonfuls of Stories®...and our school could be one of them! Be sure to register at <http://www.boxtops4education.com/cheerios> and enter this promotion so we have a chance to earn \$1,000 for Casis. The sweepstakes ends October 31, 2007. As always, keep clipping box tops & the special bonus box tops. We send them in twice a year. Please turn in your clipped tops into the *box tops bag* in your classroom by **Friday, October 19th**.

Mustang Round Up

Join us on Friday, October 12th at O. Henry Middle School from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. for the annual Mustang Round-Up! Activities will include: carnival games, sports booths, exciting raffle items and tasty food booths. Tickets may be purchased at the door. Come join the fun!

CAC Meeting

The second meeting of the year will be held at 3:15 p.m. on Thursday, October 4th in Portable 8. Agenda items will include the following topics: Campus Improvement Plan review and approval; PTA update; discussion about the Future Cougar Academy playground, and Friday folder contents. The meetings are open and anyone interested is welcome to attend.

Parent-Teacher Conference Day – Monday, October 8th

The official parent-teacher conference day for elementary schools in AISD is Monday, October 8th. There will be **no school** that day for students. The goal of the conference is to provide an opportunity for parents and teachers to discuss students' academic progress and to set goals for learning success for the rest of the school year. Teachers will share information about beginning of the year assessment results and classroom performance. Our teachers are eager to meet with you and welcome your questions. Please prepare for the conference by thinking about specific questions you might have for your child's teacher and specific things you would like to share that might help the teacher better know and assist your child. Together, you and the teacher will develop an action plan designed to promote academic growth. This parent-teacher conference is just one of the many opportunities for communication between you and your child's teacher. We are excited about working with you to help your child be successful.

Casis Book Donation Box

A collection box is located beside the school's front door for donations of new or gently used children's books. Donations will be accepted throughout the school year. All books will be distributed throughout the Casis campus as needed. When cleaning out your children's rooms, remember the collection box!

Good Neighbor Program from Randalls

Spend a minimum of \$50 at Randalls through Sept 30th and you'll receive a Community Buck. Please bring all Community Bucks to your classroom teacher, marked PTA- Randalls. The bucks must be mailed to Randalls by Oct. 24th. Casis will receive \$1.00 for every Community Buck the PTA sends to Randalls.

Grade Level T-shirts

All Grade Level T- Shirts have been distributed. If you have ordered and not received your shirt, please contact Laura Wieland at lmwieland@yahoo.com. Thank you. Thank you to Laura Wieland and Susan Wise and their team of volunteers for coordinating this year's Casis T-shirt sales. We also wish to recognize AJL Advertising (the Lundins) for printing them.

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 Tuesday, October 16th 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.

Casis Chess Club

The Casis Chess Club will meet every Tuesday in the library from 2:45 to 3:45 p.m. All 2nd through 5th graders are invited to attend. All ability levels are welcome and it's not too late to join. You don't even have to know how to play. Parents of interested Kindergarten and 1st graders can call Diana Graves at 480-0782 or email @ diana-graves@sbcglobal.net.

Library Volunteer Orientation

A volunteer orientation will be held on Monday, October 1st from 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. in the library. If you have an interest, feel free to contact the library volunteer coordinator, Mary Estrada 236-0884 or MBEstrada@aol.com.

Gifted and Talented Parent Symposium

The Gifted and Talented Parent Symposium will be held on Saturday, October 13th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders located at 2206 Prather Lane 78704. 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.

Weekly Health Tip

Chicken Nuggets/Tenders are popular kid menu items that contain compressed fat, sodium, high-fructose corn syrup and in some form, chicken. An option if cooking at home is to grill chicken breast and cut it into dipping-size then try using a healthier dipping option such as high fructose free ketchup, marinara sauce, mustard or a yogurt-based dip. If your child likes a breaded chicken, using a beaten egg and then rolling it in cornflake crumbs before baking can be a crunchy, tasty alternative and not as fatty.

Cafeteria/Playground Parent Volunteer Monitor Thanks & Reminder

Many thanks to parent-volunteers in Mr. Springer's and Mr. Chauvin's classes for monitoring the cafeteria and playground over the last couple of weeks. Thank you in advance to Mrs. Hilger's and Ms. Lindsey's parent-volunteers who will be here to volunteer during lunch, October 1st – 12th. If you can help, please call your homeroom parent.

Sincerely,