

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

Casis Elementary
2710 Exposition, Austin, Texas 78703
September 8, 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

Monday, September 11	2:45 – 4:00 p.m.	Leadership Casis (Library)
Tuesday, September 12	2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	Chess Club (Library)
Wednesday, September 13		Picture Day (Portable 15)
Wednesday, September 13	2:45 – 4:00 p.m.	5 th Grade Culture Club (Room 205)
Wednesday, September 13	5:00 p.m.	Gifted & Talented Parent Information Night (Library)
Thursday, September 14	8:00 a.m.	PTA Meeting (Portable 15)
Thursday, September 14	9:00 – 10:30 a.m.	Casis Cares/Read Aloud Parent Volunteer Training (Cafeteria)
Friday, September 15		Gift Wrap Sale Ends
Monday, September 18	6:00 – 7:30 p.m.	Make-up Training for Casis Cares/Read Aloud Parent Volunteers (Cafeteria)
Thursday, September 21	2:45 – 4:00 p.m.	4 th & 5 th Grade Book Club (Library)
Friday, September 22	12:00 p.m.	Principal's Brown Bag Lunch

Leadership Casis

Attention all Casis 5th Graders, the first Leadership Casis meeting will be Monday, September 11th after school in the library. We will plan the year's activities including the new student social on September 29th. Parents can pick up their children in the circle driveway at 4:00 p.m. If you have questions please contact Marcia Millikin at 482-9205 or Margie Medrano at 451-5506.

Fall Pictures-September 13th

Picture Day is coming up! Individual pictures will be taken on Wednesday, September 13th. Please complete the order forms that were enclosed in last week's Friday folder and return them to your homeroom teacher on or before Picture Day.

General PTA Meeting September 14th - Time Change

Please note the change of time for the General PTA Meeting. The new time is 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 14th in Portable 15, so please join us - everyone is welcome.

Last week of Gift Wrap Fundraiser

Don't stop selling yet...the CELEBRATION continues for one more week. Please turn orders in to your teachers by September 15th. Remember that our goal is 75% school-wide participation so if you don't sell, please turn in your packet with a "No Thank You". The top seller in each class will win a \$35 gift card from Barton Creek Mall. Also, remind out-of-town family and friends that they can support Casis at Innisbrook.com. Don't forget to register your child so they get credit for their sale. Orders will be shipped at the end of October. Please call Frances Thompson at 542-9262, Ashley Crider at 477-6416 or Paula Duke at 482-8545 if you have questions.

Campus Advisory Council (CAC)

Our first meeting of the year was held on Thursday, September 7th. According to AISD guidelines, CAC's function is to insure that the goals and plans of the district and our campus are focused on student learning, are created through parental, staff and community involvement, and are reviewed and evaluated annually to improve the performance of students. A summary of what was discussed will be included in next week's newsletter. Please feel free to contact any of the following CAC members for information or to provide input. This year's CAC parent members are: Marla Kiger, Lynn Boswell, Charlotte Smith, Sally Ward, Anne Wynne Ellis, Kathy Mauro, Karen Brimble, Julie Kocurek, Kathy Odom, Tracey LaQuey Parker. CAC staff members are as follows: Mia Roldan, Elizabeth Wallace, Bonnie Carter, Martha Olvera, Colleen Carr, Jose Martinez, Larry Chauvin, Derek Springer, Cheryl Swanson, Barry Aidman, Patty Martin and Jennifer Lyon.

Vision and Hearing Screenings

Thank you to the following parents for volunteering for Vision and Hearing screenings on September 5th and 6th: Gaye Holden Pate, Tish Miller, Patricia Wappner, Allison Dwyer, Debbie Polan, Cilia Silva, Molly Benson, and Jeannette Williams. We appreciate you taking the time to help.

4th and 5th Grade Book Club—First Meeting

If you love to read and talk about what you've read, plan to attend the first meeting of the 4th and 5th Grade Book Club on Thursday, September 21st from 2:45 - 4:00 p.m. in the library. We'll be discussing "Jumping the Scratch", by Sarah Weeks. Snacks are provided. Please contact Michelle Dante at 416-6842 if you have any questions.

Casis Cares/Read Aloud Volunteer Opportunities & Training Sessions

Jennifer Lyon, school counselor, is looking for parent volunteers to assist in classrooms with Casis Cares (our character education program) and Read Alouds. This program takes place on Wednesday afternoons from 2:00 -2:45 p.m., except for second grade which is from 1:15 - 2:00 p.m. Training for parent volunteers will be held in the cafeteria on Thursday, September 14th from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. (Please note this new time.) Make up training (for those who are not able to make it on Thursday) will be held on Monday, September 18th from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. If you are interested in helping, please contact Jennifer Lyon at 414-7167 or jlyon@austinisd.org.

Parent Information for Gifted and Talented

The AISD Gifted and Talented Program serves students in grades K – 12. The fall nomination process begins September 13th and lasts until September 30th. If you are interested in learning about the Gifted and Talented Program, please attend the parent meeting on Wednesday, September 13th from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. in the library. Nomination forms and a brochure about the G/T Program will be available at the meeting and in the office. If you have questions, please consult with your child's teacher or call Assistant Principal, Patty Martin, at 414-7166.

5th Grade Culture Club

From the Gutenberg Bible to Keep Austin Weird, Austin culture has it all. The 5th Grade Culture Club will meet twice a month and will go on four field trips. The first meeting will be held September 13th from 2:45 – 4:00 p.m. in Ms. Deiterman's classroom. To sign up, please contact Sue Phillips at mfphillips@sbcglobal.net, 477-5529, or Melinda Longtain at [mlongtain@austin.rr.com](mailto:m longtime@austin.rr.com), 482-8704. Parents are to pick up participants in the circle drive at 4:00 p.m. Hope to see you there!

Helping Hands Book Drive

Starbucks is sponsoring a book drive for the Helping Hands Children's Home from August 21st through October 1st. Helping Hands is a home for children who have been displaced or removed from their homes. Gently used books are needed for all ages. Please drop off donations at the Casis Village Starbucks. Thanks for your support.

BoxTops for Education

Thanks to everyone who turned in, collected, cut and bundled boxtops this past school year. Please remember to save your boxtops and turn them in to your child's classroom teacher.

Casis Chess Club

We had a tremendous turn out for our first chess club meeting. We meet in the library from 2:45 to 3:45 p.m. every Tuesday. All 2nd thru 5th graders are invited to attend. Beginners and all ability levels are always welcome. Parent volunteers are needed. Parents of interested Kindergarten - 1st graders, should call Diana Graves at 480-0782 or email diana-graves@sbcglobal.net.

Celebrate Mexico's Independence Day

Casis will celebrate the 16 de septiembre (Mexico's Independence Day) with a fiesta in the cafeteria during lunch on Friday, September 15th. The Ballet Folklorico from McCallum High School will be performing and the kids will each get a cookie that looks like the Mexican flag. In preparation for the fiesta, the students will work on a Mexican-themed craft project during their Spanish classes. The artwork will then be used to decorate the cafeteria for the fiesta. Parent volunteers are needed to help hang the artwork and pass out cookies the morning of the 15th. Please contact Lynn Boswell at lynnboswell@villitaproductions.com if you are able to help out.

AISD 125th Anniversary Parade

Come one, come all to the Austin Independent School District 125th Anniversary Parade on Saturday, September 16th beginning at 9:00 a.m. The parade will start at the Capitol on Congress Avenue and will feature high school bands, floats, antique cars and lots of old fashioned fun!

Opportunities for All Students

At Casis, we would like all students to be able to participate in school activities, obtain needed school supplies, wear a grade level shirt, attend the carnival and partake in after-school enrichment activities regardless of financial circumstances. Our PTA and campus administration are committed to making a reasonable effort to provide all students the opportunity to participate in all school related activities. If you need assistance in any way, please contact Barry Aidman, principal; Jennifer Lyon, counselor; at 414-2062 or Kathy Mauro, PTA president at kathy.mauro@spcorp.com.

Cafeteria/Playground Parent Volunteer Monitor Thanks & Reminder

Thank you to the parent-volunteers in Mr. Springer's class for monitoring the cafeteria and playground this week. Thank you in advance to Mr. Chauvin's parent-volunteers who will be here to volunteer during lunch September 12th through September 15th and again on September 18th. If you can help, please call your homeroom parent.

Custodial Staff Changes

We are sorry to say that Leo Guzman our beloved custodian of 13 years, and Maria Lara Vazquez have transferred to campuses closer to their homes. In their places we welcome Bennie Espinoza and Frances Torres. We look forward to working with them.

Sincerely,