
The New School News

A monthly newsletter for TNS families and staff

Editor: Jill Staubitz

November 2002

Auction Update

“ Blooms In Spring” is the title of this year’s New School Auction fundraiser. Co-chairs **Beth Cullen Canarie** and **Ann Abbott** are looking for lots of parent volunteers to make this event a success. If you haven’t yet returned your volunteer form, please do so right away – they need help in all areas, especially in soliciting business donations, closing the silent auction and helping with kitchen clean-up. The Auction is Saturday, March 1 so mark your calendar now!!

Snow Policy

‘Tis the season for snow, so a reminder about TNS snow day policies is in order. In case of snow, our plans will be announced on WLW radio (AM 700) and on TV channels 5 and 12. You will also receive a call via the phone tree as to whether school is closed or delayed (Check with your child’s classroom teacher if you need a copy of the phone tree calling list.) Delayed opening is at 10:00 - please do not bring children before that time if we have a delay.

Staff Holiday Gift

For parents interested in contributing to the staff holiday gift fund, the deadline is Friday, December 13. There is an envelope on the mantel in the office for donations; checks should be made out to “The New School” with a designation of “Staff Holiday Gift” in the memo space. Contact **Maryellen Daston** at 861-4389 or **Yiping Wang** at 531-8838 for more information.

Winter Break Care

Friday November 29 is the deadline for enrolling children in TNS’s Winter Break childcare program. The program is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. December 30 and 31 and January 2 and 3. Final payment of tuition is due on Friday, December 20.

News From the November Board Meeting

Director Eric Dustman reviewed plans for this year’s ISACS accreditation activities. By early January, the Steering Committee will have completed the self-study document, detailing TNS’s current operations. A team of teachers and administrators from other ISACS member schools will visit TNS in early March, using the self-study as a guideline for their analysis.

The Board has established an Operating Endowment Committee. Members include **Mel Bedree**, **Patrick Borders**, **John Hutton** and **Barbara Gray**. Marketing Chair **Al Beaupre** reported on a recent meeting of the Website Taskforce. Plans are to expand the use of photos and information about TNS events on the website. The committee hopes to find a parent volunteer to update the website layout and design as well. Thanks to **John Powers**, **Kay Kinoshita** and **Scott Campbell** for their work in creating and maintaining the site.

Diversity Committee chairs **Madhu Vrishnabhendra**, **Yiping Wang** and **Regina Hodnett** have met with their committee of parents (**Joretha Johnson**, **Dawn Togli** and **Russell Peguero Winters**) and staff (**Ceara Thalinger**, **Laura Muntz**, **J. White**, **Mary Ohlinger Pray**, **Eric Dustman**.) The group’s primary goals are to raise awareness of diversity within TNS community and to increase the diversity of both its families and staff. In addition to developing a diversity strategic plan, they want to use parent surveys, regular parent/teacher diversity forums and marketing tools like the Open House, T-shirts, a photo display board and TNS monthly newsletter to reach those goals. Anyone interested in assisting with this work should contact one of the three co-chairs.

In addition to reporting on diversity-related activities at TNS, this newsletter would like to focus on the varied backgrounds and experiences of members of TNS community. If you are willing to be part of this effort, please leave a note for **Jill Staubitz** in her mailbox in the office.

ISACS Survey Results Strongly Positive

In the fall of 2001, TNS parents, staff and alumni were asked to complete a survey as part of the ISACS accreditation process. Over 2/3 of the respondents were current parents, and TNS’ s small size makes analysis a little tricky. Overall, the responses were strongly positive in themselves and in comparison with the average scores for other ISACS schools. Those surveyed rated TNS especially high on quality of education, student development and strength of community, all of which are seen as key values of the school. TNS is seen as caring, innovative, and committed to a racially diverse enrollment. Curriculum areas of English/ language arts, math, geography, social studies, science and public speaking were all rated significantly above the ISACS benchmarks as was the extended day program. TNS was also seen as very strong in areas like character and leadership development, social/emotional development and behavior. Areas identified by the survey for improvement include funding, computer technology, special programs and after school activities, many of which have been addressed this year.



Generous Donors Give Annual Giving a Great Start

The New School's Annual Giving Fund 2002-03 has grown to over \$48,000 as of November 22. We appreciate the generous contributions of the donors listed below who have already done their part to support the school's operating expenses. Because Annual Giving benefits every child at TNS, it is vital that every family make some donation. We hope those families who have not yet donated will do so right away; extra pledge envelopes are available in the office. Gifts received by December 20 may be tax deductible in the current year.



Robert Siegel & Claudia Reilly
Daryl & Regina Hodnett
Tariq Siddiqi & Elizabeth Clark
Alann Schwartz & Kay Kinoshita

Mansion Society

Patrick Borders & Helen Adams
Sandra Gross & John Hutton
Jim & Susan Boney
Anonymous

Friends of the Children

John & Beth Powers
Melvin & Kathleen Bedree
Michael Thomas & Megan Kessler
Frank Satogata & Heather Hallenberg
Madhu & Leela Vrishnabhendra
Matthew Clemens & Laura Bolte



*Pictures on this page
thanks to Shawn Dougherty*

New School Associate

Lei Yu & Yiping Wang
Michael Schwartz & Maria Palermo
Richard & Lisa Kagan

Paul Patterson & Sylvia Mitchell
George & Maryellen Daston
Michael & Kym Nelson

Sponsor

Kerry & Bonnie Burte
Richard Anderson & Paige von Hoffmann
Kenneth Katkins & Linda Dynan
Karl Stukenberg & Christine Mayhall

Andrew Jeavons
Egbert & Estrelita Powell
James & Leah Turner

Denise Jeavons
Keith Thurman & Virginia Reid
Brooks & Beth Ewing
George & Julia Wadih

Helping Hand

Polly Whittaker
James & Barbara Powers

Karl & Donna Grummich
Joel & Dorotea Hoffman

Lorrence Kellar

Take-Out TNS December Menus

Kitchen Manager Myra Daugherty will continue offering Take-Out TNS dinners after the Thanksgiving holiday. Sign-up for each Tuesday's dinner begins Friday at 7:30 a.m. and ends Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. Except for the salads, of course, all dinners are freezer-friendly. Here is a preview of Take-Out TNS menus for December (vegetarian entrees are listed in parentheses.)

- **December 3:** Italian Sausage Casserole (Eggplant Parmesan), Minestrone Soup, Garden Salad and Garlic Bread.
- **December 10:** Beef Stroganoff (Seitan Stroganoff), Hearty Vegetable Soup, Garden salad, Home-baked Herb loaf.
- **December 17:** Chicken Pot Pie (Tofu Vegetable Pie), Garden Salad, Cranberry Molded Salad, Cornbread

Materials Wanted

Preprimary needs thin ribbon (to wrap presents), a 35 mm auto-focus camera with zoom capabilities and 35 mm film and a variety of birdseed (thistle, black oiled sunflower, safflower, suet cakes and mixed.)

Elementary art classes need old shoes, old bright colored fabric/clothes (like t-shirts) and mesh bags (e.g. onion or potato bags.)

News From the Classrooms

From the 9 to 12 Class: Students have been participating in the Scholastic Books reading program. They recently met the requirement to read 100 books so that Scholastic will donate 1,000,000 books to needy children in their honor. During December, the class will be studying the culture and traditions of India. Thanks to **Lauren Evans** for doing a great job of assisting in the classroom while **Mendy Hyatt-Hensley** is on maternity leave.

From the 6 to 9 Class: Thanks to **Polly Whittaker** for providing a corn snake, a toad, an anole (a lizard) and food for the new terrarium. Thanks to **Dr. Khalily**, Cyrus' and Camille' s grandmother for the presentation on Ramadan. Thanks to classroom helpers **Maria Palermo, Helen Adams, Susan Martell Adams, Bonnie Burte, Sara Beaven, Kathy Collins, Claudia Reilly and Lisa Kagan**. The class will be studying a variety of multicultural holiday traditions after Thanksgiving.

From the 3 to 6 Class: Preprimary children will enjoy visit from the Schoolhouse Symphony on December 5. Kindergartners will conclude their study of different artists with a trip to the Art Museum on December 12. Thanks to **Julia Wadih, Laura Fidler, Ann Abbott, Regina Hodnett and Kay Kinoshita** for driving kindergartners to Krohn Conservatory. Thanks to the **Stuckenbergs**, the **Peguero/Winters**, the **Groden/Bradys** and the **Fidler/van Woensels** for donating supplies for the classroom pets. Thanks to the **Sesler/McClearys** and **Vicki Young** for classroom materials, to **Mary Hanley** and **Ann Abbott** for bringing snacks for the swimmers and to **Rebecca Arbona**, her mother, and **Liza Hedrick** for assembling a purple martin house for the outdoor space. Many thanks to the families who have done laundry this fall and to all of the kindergarten parents who have driven to swimming.

From Elementary Special Programs: Spanish Teacher **Jonathan Howells** wants to thank all the parents who have offered feedback about Spanish homework. Art Teacher **Robin Hartmann** recently made a presentation to a group of art teachers at the Art Museum. The presentation included Native American artifacts such as masks, a totem pole and head pieces made by 6th year students at TNS incorporating the designs from a native blanket in the museum's collection. **Peggy** and **Luke Mossbarger** assisted Robin during the presentation.

Currently, 6 to 9 students are working on texture collages while 9 to 12 are creating ads for The New School as part of their study of advertising. Thanks to **Regina Radin, Kathy Giglia, Beth Canarie, Shawna Khalily** and **Patti Walters** for help with the art classes. Robin will be teaching a class in acrylic painting for mentally disabled adults in December.

Thanksgiving Celebrations at TNS

The New School's observance of Thanksgiving follows traditional patterns again this year. In the seasonal spirit of sharing, TNS families are invited to bring contributions of food and/or clothing for the FreeStore/FoodBank, a community organization which benefits many people in this area. Donations will be delivered to the FreeStore in time for Thanksgiving.

On the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, each Preprimary classroom will celebrate with a "feast" instead of the usual morning meeting. A collection of beautiful things will serve as the "centerpiece" for each feast. Each child will have the opportunity to talk about things that s/he feels are special and about being thankful. Then, everyone will enjoy pumpkin pie, made by the kindergartners.

Elementary students and parents will gather Wednesday afternoon for their Thanksgiving celebration. 6 to 9 students will present their "Happy Thanksgiving" activity. Fourth graders will share pictures and writing about family traditions, fifth graders will give a silent performance and recite poetry while sixth graders present projects about historic Thanksgiving traditions and symbols. Last, a group of 9 to 12 students will recite Spanish poetry regarding thankfulness and then, of course, pumpkin pie!



Halloween pictures on this page and page one thanks to Helen Adams

After School News

The Early Winter Session of after school programs for Elementary children at TNS started the week of November 18. Current offerings include group lessons in acting, art, chess, cooking, fencing, guitar and science. Yoga classes are also available with one session for adults only and one for parents and children. In addition, students can schedule individual piano lessons at TNS. With the continued popularity of these programs, TNS Director **Eric Dustman** expects to sponsor two more 7-week sessions this school year. Please direct any comments or suggestions about current or future programs to Eric.

Calendar of Events

November 28 and 29	Thanksgiving
December 18	Preprimary Fest
December 19	Board Meeting
Dec. 23 – Jan 3	Winter Break



Calendar of Upcoming Events