



# Carmichael Mustang News

January 30, 2012

## Professional Development at CMP ~

One priority of the administration of the California Montessori Project is continuing professional development for all staff. Each year opportunities are made available to attend conferences, workshops, and presentations. We all recognize the importance of sharpening our educational skills, as well as being kept up-to-date on the latest in research.

### Important Dates

2/2: CAC Meeting 5:30 p.m.  
Gibbon's Room (all invited)

2/3: Pancake Breakfast-  
hosted by Sting Ray class

**100<sup>th</sup> Day of School**

2/15: Wax Museum 5:30 p.m.  
(4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades)

2/17: No School  
Club M Open

2/20: No School or Club M  
– Presidents Day

2/24: Pancake Breakfast-  
hosted by Sea Lion class

3/1: CAC Meeting 5:30  
Gibbon's Room (all invited)

3/6,7: STAR Writing Test  
for 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades

3/9: Pancake Breakfast-  
hosted by Orca class

3/15,16: No School –  
Montessori Conference

3/21: Evening Science Fair  
3/19 thru 3/23: Book Fair

3/21,22,23: Parent/Teacher  
Conferences- minimum days

Last Friday, after the noon dismissal of their students, all of the credentialed teachers, and many of the teaching assistants, from CMP's six campuses gathered in our Gibbon's Room for an afternoon of information sharing and collaboration.

In the first hour, the staff listened to a presentation about brain function and multi-sensory treatments of students with Autism, Aspergers, AD/HD, and sensory processing disorders. Teachers were able to ask questions and obtain additional resources in order to delve further into the topic.

Following the presentation the staff broke up into grade level groups. The Kindergarten teachers met together to brainstorm the most effective ways to communicate academic and social progress to parents through our reporting system. The lower and upper elementary teachers observed some of their peers giving Montessori lessons and then had further training in our new Accelerated Math program. The middle school and special education staff met in their own groups to collaborate and plan.

Friday was one of several days within the school year where professional development and collaboration are the focus. The highlight of this year, and one we are all looking forward to, is the Annual Conference of the American Montessori Society, held this year in San Francisco. The vast majority of our staff are attending, and we will all have opportunities to interact with Montessorians from around the world while participating in numerous workshops and keynote addresses.

I have had the pleasure of attending 20 years of Montessori conferences both as a teacher and an administrator. I remember loving the chance to shop in the large ballroom full of vendors selling Montessori and other enriching materials for my classroom. Once I became an administrator, I enjoyed being the one with the school checkbook and having excited teachers dragging me from one vendor to another asking if they could purchase a great item for their students.

With that in mind, if you would like to give a donation to provide funds for the teachers to purchase some of these wonderful materials at the conference, please make your check to the Montessori Foundation (a non-profit organization which supports CMP). These purchases will be used to enrich the classroom academic environment for the children. Your generosity will be very much appreciated.

Sincerely, *Ms. Kim*

### **Congratulations!**

**As of 1/19/12, our student attendance rate is an average of 96.4%. Keep up the good work!**

## Box Tops for Education

**Box Tops will be turned in for cash at the end of February. Please bring in your labels in the next few weeks so we have a good return.**

**The collection box is in the front office, or they can be given to teachers to deliver.**

## \$ GRANT FUNDS AWARDED \$

Leigh Bartoo, our campus grant writer, met with California Native Plant Society at our school, and they awarded us \$100 to purchase native plants from Elderberry Farms. Elderberry Farms gives a 50% discount to schools, so we should get a good deal of plants for our garden this spring!

*Thank you, Leigh, for all of your hard work researching and writing grants.*

Dear Parents,  
If you have experience in researching &/or writing grants, please call Ms. Kim. The more grants applied for, the greater chance of awards coming our way.

Remember Recycling  
on Thursdays & Coral  
Reef Café on Fridays

## CMP Basketball is Underway...



The upper elementary and middle school students who have signed up to participate in our inter-campus basketball teams will have their first games this Friday at the Arcade Middle School gymnasium. Friday games will be at Arcade, and the Monday games will be at the La Sierra gym.

The game schedule will be posted within the week, so look for it under Athletics on our website, and plan an evening to come cheer on our own Carmichael Campus Montessori Mustangs!

## TOURS HAVE BEGUN for New Families

**If you have friends or family interested in enrolling, please inform them that tours are now being scheduled for Tuesday mornings, with 2 evening tour options. Please ask them to call our office to set a date.**



Please remember when using the side drop-off by the 700 wing to enter and exit at Engle. We are hoping to reduce the traffic on Gibbons during our drop-off time.

Also, students are not to be dropped off at the 300 gate. Students are supervised only at the area near the office.

Lastly, thank you for turning right when exiting onto Gibbons to keep traffic flow moving and safe.



If you are interested in purchasing lunch for your child/ren, check out the website for Lunch Masters at <http://thelunchmaster.com>.

The meal choices are extensive, with both hot and cold choices. The food is organic and packaged in recyclable or compostable material. Orders are placed on-line weekly.