

Come Meet Your Child's Buddy!!



Hellenic American Academy

Academic Achievement, Cultural Awareness and Pride, Spiritual Enrichment

Socrates Hellenic American Day School



Weekly Newsletter

January 29, 2010

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

We have had a terrific week and have a lot of GREAT things ahead. I want to touch on just a few.

OPEN HOUSE/FUN FAIR THANK YOU

On behalf of the entire school, a heartfelt THANK YOU to our amazing PTO and Open House Committee for their tireless efforts, upbeat attitude (*it's contagious!*) and commitment to organizing a successful evening and promoting our wonderful school. When you step back and reflect on our fabulous students, the amazing dedication of our teachers and staff, our outstanding test scores and you combine that with a close-knit community that cares about each other... *and* loves to Greek dance. WOW! We have a lot to be proud of and to boast about to prospective new families... so thank you to everyone!!!

MOTIVATION SKYROCKETS.... MEET YOUR CHILD'S BUDDY!

Our *Special Buddy* program has been a tremendous hit and there's more in store. As you'll recall, our Special Buddy program is an enrichment program that serves students in 4 Year Preschool through 8th grade. We pair an older student from the next grade level with a younger student to enhance reading and writing skills as well as build camaraderie. We currently have about 35 buddies who meet once per week (*during school hours and under teacher supervision*) to work cooperatively on academic projects as well as social interactions.

OUR GOAL

Our goal is to gently encourage our younger students to a higher level of both academic and social advancement as we begin to prepare them for the next grade level here at Socrates. For our older students, we reinforce basic learning skills (and important character lessons) by encouraging them to be a learning mentor to a younger student. We also believe all students benefit from the opportunity to develop lasting friendships with students of varying ages.

How have our students responded to the Special Buddy Program? Ask your child!! The input we've received has been terrific.

"*Motivation skyrocketed!*" was one teacher's observation on the impact on her class.

Dates to Remember

- Saturday, Jan. 30 - *Three Hierarchs Feast Day/Greek Letters Day (Plan to arrive @ 10:15 a.m.)*
- Friday, Feb. 5 - *Report Card Day*
- Saturday, Feb. 6 - *Aprokriatiko Dance*
- Monday, Feb. 8 - *Holy Trinity Jr. Goya Bowling Night*
- Tuesday, Feb. 9 - *Holy Trinity Philoptochos Membership Reception*
- Monday, Feb. 15 - *President's Day (NO SCHOOL)*

WHAT'S AHEAD

We have a variety of fun and educational events planned for the upcoming months. *Parents of our younger students are especially encouraged to attend these programs which are a great way to help prepare your child for the next grade.*

- *Lunch with My Buddy* - Your child will have lunch with the "big kids" and join his or her Buddy in the cafeteria. Parents are encouraged to attend and meet your child's Buddy!
- *Teacher Switch* - We plan for teachers from an upper grade to occasionally pop in to teach a lesson for one period to a younger class. This allows students to be introduced to more advanced topics and also become acquainted with their future teachers.
- *Social Events* - We are also hoping to plan a few group activities for all our buddies. Activities may include parents as students for a day, pizza socials, craft nights, dances or a bowling night. If you have a suggestion, please stop by to tell me or email me at angie.maglaris@haamail.net

If your schedule is tight, please let me know and we'll work with you to try to accommodate ways for you and your child to further benefit from our Special Buddy Program. Thanks and stay tuned for more information!!

THREE HIERARCHS FEAST DAY/GREEK LETTERS DAY

On Saturday, Jan. 30, students and faculty are invited to attend Divine Liturgy at Holy Trinity Church officiated by his eminence Metropolitan Iakovos of Chicago. Following the Divine Liturgy, students will present a short program for Hellenic Letters Day.

Students are requested to be at church no later than 11am.

We ask that your child/children be dressed in their dress uniform; white blouse and shirt / jumper, shirt & tie, blue pants and dress shoes.

APOKRIATIKO DANCE

LAST CHANCE!!!

TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE

The Hellenic American Academy PTO's invite you to the Aprokriatiko Glendi on Saturday, Feb. 6, at the Chateau Ritz Banquet, 9700 Milwaukee Ave., Niles

Adults - \$60 & Children - \$25

(Advance Reservations recommended)

(Additional \$10/person will be charged at the door)

Call Amy Theodoropoulos on 773-213-0746 or email her at amytheo@sbcglobal.net

You can also make a payment at the school office.

Please also consider donating an item for our silent auction or a basket for our raffle.

HOLY TRINITY PHILOPTOCHOS

You are invited to join us at the Holy Trinity Philoptochos Society Membership Reception:



SUBJECT: Women & Finances
DATE: February 9, 2010
TIME: 6:30 p.m.
WHERE: Chateau Ritz Banquet, 9700 Milwaukee Ave., Niles



Domina Tingos (*Guest Speaker*) is the Regional Vice President with PFS Inc. and has a degree in economics from the University of Chicago. Domina is very passionate about educating women about the state of their finances. As statistics show, women tend to be worse off than men when it comes to making sound financial decisions. Appetizers and desserts will be served.

YOUNG CHEFS - IT'S BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Our very talented Ka. Vicky will be teaching a six (6) week cooking class for PreK4 & Kindergarten students beginning Thurs. Feb. 11, thru Thurs. March 18. Space is limited to 15 students. This program is being offered on a first come first serve basis. If you are interested please complete the attached form and return it to your child's teacher by Feb. 4.

SEND SOMEONE SPECIAL A VALENTINE GRAM!

Know someone special? (*Teacher, Principal, Parent, Sibling or Friend*) Send them a **Cookie Gram!** Baked by our very own Ka. Vicky with **love**, and decorated by the Student Council. The proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit the Red Cross Haiti Relief Fund and the 3rd - 8th grade Washington D.C. trip. Beginning next week you will be able to fill out an order form, attach payment and on Valentine's Day (*Friday, February 12*) your *Grams* will be delivered by a Valentine's Angel.

PRESCHOOL SCREENINGS

Northbrook School District 27 is holding its Preschool Screening for children ages 3 to 5 who attend the Hellenic American Academy Preschool.

When: Tuesday, Feb. 23
Time: 9:00 am. - 2:30 p.m.
Where: Shabonee School
 2929 Shabonee Trail, Northbrook

To make an appointment or for more information please call: Marianne at 847-498-2610 ext. 5130 by Feb. 17.

A vision and hearing screening will be conducted as well as screenings in motor, language and concepts skills.

Holy Trinity Bowling Night -- Date Change

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HOLY TRINITY JR. GOYA
 (5th thru 8th Graders)

The date of our annual bowling night has changed to

Monday, February 8 -- 6:15 pm to 8:30 pm

at

Pinstripes

1150 Willow Road, Northbrook, IL

Phone: 847-480-7676

\$15 per child (*this includes bowling & pizza*)

We apologize for the mishap! Please RSVP no later than Wednesday, Feb. 3, to Mrs. Kiki Chaniotakis at 847-219-7776 / email: konna316@yahoo.com or Fr. Sotiri at 847-317-1063 / email: smalamis@yahoo.com