



Le Journal de L'Académie Lafayette

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Issue #33

May 7, 2010

CALENDAR

May 3-17	6 th Grade Trip
May 13	Parent Forum, 7:00 p.m. (Auditorium)
May 14	Mandatory Talent Show Rehearsal
May 18-June 3	French kids in Kansas City
May 20	Spring Concert, 6:00 p.m.
May 21	4 th Grade Musical
June 2	Talent Show
June 4	Field Day
June 8	8 th Grade Graduation, 10 a.m.
June 9	Last Day of School for K-7

Board mtgs are held on the 2nd Mon each month at 6:00 p.m.

FROM THE DESK OF ERIC NELIS

When we are talking about education, we often mention goals such as "going to a great high school", graduating from an Ivy League university, and so on. Many people believe that education is about adapting children to our "competitive and cruel world". "It's a war out there" (here is that word again). "You must be tough, life is hard, people are mean, stop crying like a baby, fight..." In other words, we are creating skilled and educated businessmen, lawyers, scientists, "fighters" whose goals become selfish and totally materialistic, adapted to the world we live in.

They will continue to put money first, and people second, not to mention way behind other living creatures. As I am writing this, the Gulf of Mexico is being robbed of its life. We will talk about this for a few days, politicians will apologize, damages will be paid (as if you could with money, repair the destruction and give lives back). And this major mess is created by "intelligent animals", with college degrees.

And believe me, we are all in on this, we are all guilty. It is not like it is someone else doing it. It is each and every one of us who is responsible.

When will we wake up to see what we are doing, with our "education"?

Adaptability is a good thing; it is a natural thing that our fellow animals use everyday in nature. Being educated is a good thing. But our higher goal, as educators, is not to make sure our children become machines of competition in a chaotic world led by greed, competition and violence.

Our goal, as educators, is not to adapt children to today's world. Our goal is much more ambitious. It is to change the world into a world of human compassion, peace, and respect for all living beings. Our children are the only hope we have to make the world a better place. As educators, we can never lose sight of this higher goal and we can never compromise for just "adapting".

Have a great weekend!

Eric

AL STUDENTS RECOGNIZED AT UCM

Congratulations to students who were recognized Monday, May 3 at a ceremony at Benjamin Banneker Academy. The program is an annual celebration sponsored by the University of Central Missouri.

Sarah Cozad
MarQuan Crowder
Fee Pauwels
Maddie Rafael
Jonathan Reese
Averie Stapp

The students were honored at the ceremony in which Dr. Yvonne Chan, a pioneer in the charter school movement, spoke to the assembled audience.

YEARBOOKS FOR SALE

We have a small number of yearbooks for sale. If you missed the order deadline, and want one, they are available on a first come-first serve basis for \$15 each from Carlos McClain in the office.

PARENT FORUM

There will be a parent forum on May 13th at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium, as a follow up from the recent letter from Académie Lafayette Board President, Dave Cozad. Please come and feel free to ask questions.

PARENT ASSOCIATION NEWS

The last day of school is quickly approaching and field day is set. It will take place on **Friday, June 4**. *NOTE - this IS NOT the last day of school...that is June 9.* As in the past we will need volunteers to help with this event. If you are interested in helping with the field day, please contact Annie Moren at briggs@morenfamily.com.

Enjoy your weekend.

Eric Peterson
Parents Association Vice President
peterston0529@sbcglobal.net

TALENT SHOW REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Remember: rehearsals are mandatory. Unless you've made arrangements with Andrea Yeager, Moulaye Seydi or Katie Hendrickson you are expected to be present.

Friday, May 14 (4-5:30pm-ish)

Wednesday, May 26 (4-5:30pm-ish)

Tuesday, June 1 (4-5:30pm-ish)

CHEER AND DANCE FOR GIRLS

Lynn O'Brien Cheer and Dance classes are non-competitive and fun. A great way to introduce your child to the world of cheerleading.

Girls learn cheer and dances to perform at community events. Girls also learn and discuss topics such as nutrition, fitness, dangers of smoking, healthy body image, being a good friend, giving to your community and more!

Classes are for ages 3-12, and are at three locations (OP, Leawood and Lenexa.)

Contact Lynn at 913-424-2919 for more information.

SPEED WARNING AT WORNALL CAMPUS

A reminder that the reduced speed (school zone) signs are now up at the Wornall campus. Officers will be enforcing the new speed during school transition hours.

EIP SIGNS

If you had an EIP sign in your yard, please return it to Katie Hendrickson at school. We will reuse them next year. Many thanks!

U.S. FOOD AND DRUG RECALL

McNeil Consumer Healthcare, Division of McNeil-PPC, Inc. in consultation with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), is voluntarily recalling all lots that have not yet expired of certain over-the-counter (OTC) Children's and Infant's liquid products manufactured in the United States.

Some products may not meet required quality standards. This recall is not being undertaken on the basis of adverse medical events. However, as a precautionary measure, parents and caregivers should not administer these products to children.

Go to www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ for more information.

ASTHMA CAMP INFO

Super Kids Camp is a one week program for asthmatic children who have finished grades 1-6.

Your child will learn about asthma management through games, crafts, and other fun activities from experienced health care professionals. Our teen counselors, who have asthma, will help reinforce that asthma does not have to slow you down.

Cost: \$30

Dates: Grades 1-3, July 12-16

Grades 4-6, July 26-30

Time: 9 am – 4 pm

Where: Jewish Community Center, Overland Park, KS

What: swimming, activities, games, field trip

More info: www.aafakc.org 816-333-6608

ACADEMIE LAFAYETTE
3RD ANNUAL SOCCER DAY
FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2010

The Académie Lafayette community is invited to enjoy a fun afternoon at the soccer field & playground – bring your chairs or a blanket!

COME HUNGRY!

Pizza and water will be available for a small donation to the Athletic Department.

SOCCER -- MUSIC -- FOOD -- COMMUNITY

SCHEDULE:

GAME 1 4:00 – 5:00

A/L MS Students & our French visitors

GAME 2 5:15 – 5:45

Teachers v Parents

GAME 3 6:00 – 6:30

Teachers v Parents

(last year so many parents wanted to play, this year we are having two-30 minute games)

PLAYER SIGN-UP

Teachers' contact: Coach Fall – alfall.lafayette@gmail.com

Parents' contact: Hans Thomas – 816.444.1298 – hans@htaarchitects.com

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Contact Mary Lou Martin accountingarts@earthlink.net

All children must be accompanied by an adult, except for the Middle School students playing in the game at 4:00. Please help keep the kids safe by providing or arranging for supervision for your children. MS soccer players report to the field at 3:30

Kindergarten Friday Folder Newsletter

Académie Lafayette Kindergarten Center, 406 W. 74th St., Kansas City, MO 64114
Phone: 816-333-0936, Fax: 816-333-3945

May Curriculum Spotlight: Oceans Movie Field Trip



Last Monday, our kindergarten students went on a field trip to see the movie *Oceans*. This field trip concludes our theme of Plants and Aquatic Life. The students saw amazing footage of the sea life and they also gained more respect for the earth. A big thank you to all the parents who came with us!

Dates to Remember:

Spring Farm Field Trips:
Tuesday 5/11: Nelis, Israel,
Chabanis & Hyer

Wednesday 5/12: Mazari, Suarez,
Thomas & Marchand

Grand Spectacle: Friday, May 28th,
9:00-10:30 at the Main Campus

No School: Monday, May 31st,
Memorial Day

Thank you, Pete and Tracy!

We would like to give an extra big thank you to Pete and Tracy Herber who generously hosted the Teacher and Staff Appreciation Party last Thursday night at the Terrace on Grand. The space was beautiful and we had a great time.

Thanks again!

Routines for Daily Activities:

Routines can be comforting to children. When you follow a routine consistently it helps your child develop a sense of order and structure. For example, set up a morning routine for your child so he or she knows what to do and when to do it: 1) get dressed, 2) make bed, 3) eat breakfast, 4) brush teeth. When your child accomplishes tasks and routines without being distracted, be sure to give compliments.