

Quick Notes

Thursday, February 11, 2010

Community School 7815 Williamson Rd. Roanoke, VA 24019
540/563-5036 <http://www.communityschool.net> fax 540/362-1183

School Calendar

Thursday	Feb. 11-16		Marginal Arts Festival - Sponsored by Community High (See information below.)
Monday	Feb. 15		School Closed for Presidents' Day
Tuesday	Feb. 16	7:00 p.m.	Fat Tuesday Celebration - Sponsored by Community High (Fitzpatrick Hall, The Jefferson Center)
Wednesday	Feb. 17	12:15-12:45 p.m. Bake Sale	Lunch-A-Month (12:05-12:45 for middle school) – Parents Welcome (cheese bagel bites, chocolate granola bars, orange slices, lemonade)
Saturday	Feb. 20	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Monthly Parent Work Day
Wednesday	Feb. 24	12:15-12:45 p.m. Bake Sale	Pizza Day (12:05-12:45 for Middle School) - Parents Welcome No pizza day for Seminar students.
Thursday	Feb. 25	7:00 p.m.	Preschool & Kindergarten Information Session (Early learner & lower elementary classrooms)
Sunday	Feb. 28		Deadline for Submitting Financial Aid Application to SSS
Wednesday	March 3	12:15-12:45 p.m. Bake Sale	Lunch-A-Month (12:05-12:45 for middle school) – Parents Welcome (mini corn dogs, chips, chocolate pudding, lemonade)
Monday	March 8		School Closed for Staff In-Service Day



Please read the attached flyer for important information on the
Strawberry Festival!



<p>Arts Festival Fundraiser Postponed</p>	<p>The Arts Festival Fundraiser Dinner and performance has been postponed due to the weather. In the next few days, we will be making a decision concerning a reschedule or a cancellation. Your payment has not been deposited yet, so we can refund your money if we cancel this event or if we reschedule it to a date that is not convenient for your schedule.</p> <p>If your child was in the “Fractured Fairy Tales,” PLEASE PICK UP YOUR CHILD AFTER SCHOOL TODAY, February 11, since we will not be going to Salem for rehearsal.</p> <p>Thank you for your support of this event. We will update you as soon as we have a decision on rescheduling or canceling.</p>
<p>Marginal Arts Festival Starts Thursday, Feb. 11</p> <p>Visit www.marginalarts.com for more information.</p>	<p>Passports to the Marginal Arts Festival are available for sale in the CS office for \$20.00. Passports give free admission to all Marginal Arts Festival events, as well as free admission to the Taubman Museum of Art and the O. Winston Link Museum (during their regular opening hours and for events throughout the entire Festival, February 11-16). If used for all paid admission events and admission to the museums, the passport has a value of over \$50. Get yours today! See www.marginalarts.com for a complete listing of events.</p>
<p>Tuition Payments & Tax Information</p>	<p>February 20 is the due date for those families/caregivers paying tuition on a monthly payment plan. If you need a statement of services or tuition for your 2009 tax return, please contact Sue Nelson at sue@communityschool.net. Statements are only sent by request.</p>
<p>Monthly Parent Work Day Feb. 20 (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)</p>	<p>Please join us for a parent work day on February 20. You will be working on painting projects with Gene Lurker, our maintenance and repair supervisor. Please call the office, so we will know how many people to expect. Thank you!</p>
<p>Preschool & Kindergarten Information Session</p> <p>Thursday, Feb. 25 7:00 p.m. (Snow Date: March 4)</p>	<p>Join us for our annual Preschool and Kindergarten Information Session. This event is open to the general public, but we encourage current CS parents with rising preschool and kindergarten students to attend the session and learn more about our incredible early learner and lower elementary programs. If you want to take advantage of our free childcare during the session, please call the school office.</p> <p>Do you know a family that might be interested in CS? Cards and flyers with information about this event are available in the school office. If the family enrolls, you can receive a \$250 credit on your fall tuition. Referral cards are available in the main office and the admissions office. If you have any questions, please call Victoria.</p>
<p>Financial Aid Application Deadline: February 28</p>	<p>Link to the 2010-2011 financial aid application from our Web site at http://www.communityschool.net/apply_tuition_aid.html. We will no longer be mailing financial aid application forms to families. The Financial Aid Committee will notify families of tuition grant awards in late March. Questions? Contact michi@communityschool.net.</p>

<p>New Student Welcome</p>	<p>Welcome to the following new students and their families:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Gracie C. (Katlyn's class), 2) Zhenya P. (Katrina's class). <p>Their phone numbers and addresses are available in the school office.</p>
<p>Clearing Up Twitter Misconceptions</p> <p>Why Use Twitter? You will be notified of CS closings instantly by text message if you have connected your phone to your Twitter account. Just "set it and forget it."</p>	<p>Misconception One: It's difficult to set up. Really, if you have a cell phone and a computer and can read and follow instructions, it's very easy.</p> <p>Misconception Two: I can look at the webpage or TV for closings. If we have to call an early closing mid-day, you may not be near a TV or be able to login to the webpage.</p> <p>Misconception Three: I already Twitter and follow lots of people. I don't want a message from everyone that I already follow. You can set up your phone to only get messages from us! (See below.)</p> <p>How to Use Twitter: Twitter and CS don't charge for this service, but standard text messaging rates may apply from your carrier. Set up your phone with your Twitter account by clicking on the "Mobile" tab on your Twitter page. There you will find simple instructions for setting your phone for use with Twitter. You send a text message to Twitter (40404) and then quickly exchange three or four more messages with them to confirm the command. If you follow lots of folks and don't want tweets from everyone, then use your phone to text: ON CommSchoolRke to 40404 (the Twitter number for our area). You will get a text message from us and only us. At this time, we are only tweeting early dismissals, cancellations and closings. Twitter has an extensive help page at https://twitter.com/help/start. Twitter does occasionally go "down," but so do computers and TV. That's why we want as many open avenues of communication open as possible. :-) Lelia</p>
<p>On-line Software Orders</p>	<p>Lelia will no longer be offering Scholastic Software orders on-line.</p>
<p>Substitute Teachers Needed</p>	<p>Community School is in the process of interviewing for substitute teachers. If you love children and have a degree in education, child development, or a related field, please contact Holly at 563-5036 or hollyh@communityschool.net.</p>
<p>CS Students' Paintings on Display</p>	<p>Nine portraits of past Nobel Peace Laureates painted by select middle school students are on display now through the month of February in Roanoke's Main Library.</p>

The Power of a Penny

It might be a pittance to us, but to a child in Afghanistan or Pakistan, a penny can purchase them a new world.

Pennies for Peace is a service-learning program designed to broaden our students' cultural horizons while teaching them about their capacities as philanthropists--one penny at a time. Founded by Greg Mortenson, author of *Three Cups of Tea*, Pennies for Peace raises funds to open schools in central Asia. To date, Mortenson's efforts have built over 100 schools serving over 28,000 students throughout Pakistan and Afghanistan.

The Middle School's Service Friday Group is spear-heading the Pennies for Peace Drive. Participating students are visiting classrooms to read the storybook version of Mortenson's book. Each classroom has received a specially decorated milk jug for the pennies. Between now and April, when Mortenson visits Hollins University, we hope to fill these jugs.

Pennies do not mean a great deal in the First World, but in Central Asia:
1 penny = one pencil, 2 pennies = one eraser, 15 pennies = one notebook, \$2 or \$3 = one teacher's salary for one day, \$20 = one student's school supplies for one year, \$600 = one teacher's annual salary, \$5,000 = support for existing school for one year, \$50,000 = one school building and support for up to five years.