



MEEP News

March 2010

MESSAGE FROM ARMEN DILANCHIAN

Happy March everybody!

I still can't believe it's already March. I'm still grappling with the fact that our son, Carlo, is turning two in April. Where did the time go? My wife keeps telling me that it seemed like yesterday that we just took him from the hospital as a newborn.

Well, enough for going down memory lane!

So many exciting developments are going on at our wonderful school. One of these developments includes the upcoming auction. Over the years, MEEP has received such great support from the school and parents. Once again, as we did with last year's auction, we will be offering two spots within our MEEP Summer Day Camp program to the school auction as a token of our appreciation.

Just a few reminders regarding several important dates coming up:

We are now accepting applications for our Summer Day Camp which will begin June 14th thru July 23rd. This year we have planned great field trips and exciting themes for those weeks. We are also in the process of setting up transportation with the SFUSD to ensure our students get to our destination in a safe manner instead of relying on the Muni.

To obtain information and application, please visit our website at www.meepinc.com and click on the tab labeled "Forms" There you will find a pdf titled Summer Camp Registration form. **The deadline to turn in your applications is May 10, 2010.**

Our registration for 2010/2011 for existing students has already begun. Open registration will commence March 15th. I strongly encourage you to register prior to March 15th. We are beginning to get inquiries from new parents and our priorities have been with existing students and our goal is to accommodate all our family's needs. We have 115 spots available for 2010/2011. As of March 2nd we've had 35 spots already filled for next year and this number is climbing. Should you have any questions regarding registering for next year feel free to contact me at meepgo@msn.com or our Assistant Administrator Jacynth Roberts at meepoffice@gmail.com or by calling us at 415-584-7080.

I also wanted to especially thank our teachers and staff for doing such a wonderful job every day. They have been tireless in their efforts to engage our students daily and ensuring upon our student's arrival to MEEP that the kids are in a safe and a nurturing environment. Our staff has been continuing their education and attending professional development courses to bring fresh and new ideas. The MEEP lead teachers also meet with your student's day teachers on a monthly basis to ensure we are meeting their student's needs. This also helps the MEEP staff to be in communication with the school teachers on a regular basis. I'm also happy to report that all of our staff members have just renewed their CPR and First Aid certification. Most Afterschool programs usually need only two or three people on their staff to be certified however we wanted MEEP to go one step further to make sure the entire staff has their certification. In my humble opinion I find these group of people creative, dedicated and most importantly a great bunch of people to work with. So won't you join me to appreciate their hard work the next time you see them in the hallways or the classrooms.

Here is hoping to have sunny days ahead!

With warm regards,

Armen Dilanchian Chief Administrative Director

Jactnrgh Roberts Administrative Assistant

Thank you,

Armen Dilanchian--Chief Administrative Director

MEEP

Reminders:

--MEEP Summer camp registration is here! You can find the forms and information at www.meepinc.com

--Want to register for the 2010/2011 school year? All the information you need is at www.meepinc.com

--Want to know where your student is when you come to pick them up? Check out the grade level schedules posted outside of the MEEP office!

--Tuition is due around the first of every month. Keep an eye out for invoices in your inbox!

--Please make sure to sign your student's out. We appreciate it!

Kindergarten Corner:

Hello Everybody! This month has really flown by in MEEP Kindergarten. The sun is coming out and the flowers blooming and we get to play outside a little more. It is a joy seeing the Kindergarteners play well together and learning so much too!

Here's what we did in February:

Week 1: Storytelling and Art Projects. We kicked off the week with some fun and creative projects. The first was a "decorate your name" project. We talked about our names and where they come from and then we made beautiful signs out of our names. The Kindergarteners can all write their names but they also learned to create more decorative letters, block letters, and learned about decorating the foreground and the background. Next we did a collaborative storytelling exercise. Mr. Daniel wrote down sentence after sentence from each student as we created a funny and fantastical story about a juggling frog with three magic balls. The Kindergarteners then made some great illustrations for our story. We also reviewed geography this week, engaging in another round of the outdoor continent game and talking about continents, countries, and cities.

Week 2: Introduce Homework Time and Review. We started our "homework time" this week. Tuesday and Thursday from 3:00-3:45 the Kindergarteners did homework or had the option of some math dittos or independent reading. They worked quietly and seriously during homework time and even earned extra recess for doing such a good job. We also reviewed anatomy lessons like digestion this week by watching "Magic School Bus Gets Eaten." And the Kindergarteners made hanging mobiles representing a DNA strand. At the end of the week we had our Valentines Day party, with the Kindergarteners earning popsicles and an extra recess time with all MEEPERS.

Week 3: Properties of Light. This week we studied light, how it works, and how our eyes see things. The Kindergarteners watched a demonstration of laser pointers shining light on different solid or transparent objects, to learn how light particles bounce off a reflective object such as a mirror, shine on a solid object such as a wall, or travel through a clear object such as a window or our eyes. We engaged in different experiments throughout the week to explore the properties of light, even getting to watch a 3-D movie for Friday movie day!

Week 4: Energy in Particle Physics. We built on our exploration of particles of light to look at different energies created by kinetic, heat, and chemical reactions. We watched "The Way Things Go," a video that demonstrated the different forms of energy transfer. And did hands on activities to explore different physical properties and how they interact.

Way to Go Kindergarteners!

Sincerely,

Mr. Daniel and Ms. Elizabeth

First Grade Corner:

Spring is almost here! First grade is hoping for less rain this month! We miss Sandy Park! While the rain has been pouring we've been learning and having a blast with our new math games, art activities, puzzles, and, of course, our weekly Brain Bowl.

This month we are continuing to make dollars and cents make sense by learning about the value of quarters. In Language Arts we are reviewing descriptive words and sight word spelling. Also, Mr. Dom and I will begin to give out awards for students who show the best attitude during the brain bowl.

Keep your fingers crossed for more sun, first grade!

Ms. Heather—Lead Teacher
Mr. Dominic—Assistant Teacher

Second Grade Corner:

Dear 2nd Grade Parents,

Patrica and I are hoping everyone is doing well and am excited to write that the 2nd graders are doing great. As far as academic themes for the month, we will be focusing on length measurement with respect to units of inches, feet, centimeters, yards, and meters. In addition, I will be having them practice their multiplication times table with 0,1,2,5,10. The other big theme coming up will be their oceans unit with an emphasis on the sandy sea shore. They'll be learning about some of the wildlife in this particular habitat such as seals, clams, birds, and crabs. Also, students will be learning about their family history through family trees. For phonics they will be working on double final consonants, plural endings, and -ing endings.

As usual if you have any questions, concerns, or just want to talk don't hesitate to contact me,

As always Patrica and I thank you all for your support with the MEEP Program.

Louie Ngo and Patricia Nolan

Third-Fifth Grade Corner:

Dear Parents,

February has been an eventful month for the 3rd-5th Grade class. With Black History month we had plenty of discussions about famous African Americans. For our Black History Assembly Kali and Sienna recited Martin Luther King Jr.'s famous speech. Valentine's Day brought an opportunity for the boys to express their affection for that special someone in their lives, be it Mom or a classmate. So for Boy's Club they made Valentine's Day Cards.

In our Mental Math activity, the group as a whole has been enthusiastic about Multiplication War and Dominoes. Some in the group have taken on the challenge to defeat Ray or Pam in this lively game where they have to use subtraction and addition and skip counting skills within a few seconds of their turn to rack up points...the teachers have yet to be defeated. Other students have even created math games and have taught others in the class to play them!

In the month of March, we invite the parents to come to MEEP around 5 p.m. Wednesday night March 10 and March 24 to come challenge our students to Multiplication War, Division War, Dominoes, and also the original games they've created. We hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Pamela Robinson—Lead Teacher/MEEP Operations Director

Ray Dellosa—Co-Teacher and Soccer Coach