



Handprints



Frisco Montessori Academy Parents Organization

November/December 2009

In This Issue:
**FMA's Toy Drive in
Support of
Frisco Family Services
Begins Nov. 16
See p. 4**



Mark Your Calendars

November

- 16 Frisco Family Services Toy Drive Begins
- 19 Thanksgiving Classroom Party
- 19 Sally Foster Fundraiser (Delivery)
- 23-27 School Closed for Thanksgiving Break

December

- 7 Toy Drive Ends
- 18 Winter Classroom Party (Last day of Classes)

January 2010

- 4 Extended Care Only
- 5 Montessori Classes Resume
- 12 Levels 1&2 Elementary Info Night, 7:00 pm
- 14 Levels 3&4 Elementary Info Night, 7:00 pm
- 15 Kinder & Elementary Parent Conferences
- 18 Pre-Primary, Primary Parent Conferences

A Letter from the President

What a great start to a great year! We've had so many activities going on and thanks to you, each has been very successful. Here are some highlights of our recent activities:

- ~ We had a Sports Night with FC Dallas in October. We had a great turnout and the students participated in the Tunnel Rally. We exceeded our number of tickets sold and raised over \$750 for the Parents Organization!
- ~ We did well with our Sally Foster fall fundraiser and raised more than \$3500 for the Parents Organization!
- ~ We had over 200 attendees for our Grandparents Social!
- ~ We had over 250 attendees for Donuts for Dads!
- ~ We sold 100 school directories. (We have a few more available for \$15.)
- ~ We met our goal on advertising thanks to our wonderful advertisers.
- ~ We sold more than we had budgeted at our August PO Stock Uniform Sale.
- ~ We had a great time at our FMA Discovery Nights for Computers in September and Foreign Language and Music in November. Everyone that attended learned a lot about how our children are being taught these incredible subjects at school.
- ~ We participated in our annual Frisco Family Services Food Drive. Each room created a Thanksgiving meal package for families in need.

It is because of the students at FMA that our organization exists, and it is because of you that we are successful and are on track to reach our goals this year. Thank you to all of you who have participated in these events and to our volunteers as well for helping to make them successful.

Over the next upcoming months, we have more great activities planned and hope that you will make time in your schedule to participate.

- ~ Our "Children Helping Children" Toy Drive for Frisco Family Services starts Nov 16th and will go through December 7th. We are collecting toys for children ages 0-12. This program provides toys for over 700 children.
- ~ Look out for these great events in 2010: Alumni Night in January, FMA Discovery Nights in February, First Annual Spring Walk-A-Thon and the Art Exhibit.

Join our email list, if you are not already on it. If you are unsure if you are on the list, email us at fmaponews@gmail.com. It's not too late. (Add us to your address book so we won't end up in your junk folder.) Also, don't forget to check out our website at WWW.FMAPO.ORG for the latest updates and information about FMA or the FMAPO. As always, please feel free to contact me with questions, ideas or concerns.

Since the PO does not publish a newsletter in December, on behalf of the PO board, we would like to wish all FMA students, families and staff a happy and safe holiday season. Happy Holidays!



Samantha Lollar
FMA PO President

FMA Director's Corner

FMA is truly blessed by all of our children and their wonderful parents. Our Parents Organization continues to support the very core of our philosophies and community. We have such a strong presence of communication that we all feel so much more connected. We commend all of those parent volunteers and board members that make this happen every single day.



The Family Sports Night at the FC Dallas was so much fun for the families. This was a great opportunity to socialize and visit with other FMA families. It was a night enjoyed by all. We appreciate Saleema Syed and Samantha Lollar's contribution of endless hours of organizing such a wonderful event.

The children enjoyed the opportunity to share their school with their Grandparents and Dads during the Grandparents' Social that took place on October 16th and Donuts for Dads that took place on November 6th. The children showed them work from their classrooms, introduced them to all their teachers and shared refreshments. Most of the children made a little keepsake to take with them. Thanks to all the Grandparents and Dads that were able to participate. We would like to thank the FMA Parents Organization for sponsoring such wonderful events.

The Scholastic Book Fair was another success with sales of over \$5,000. Thanks to all the parents that participated. The school will be able to purchase more books for the children's library with the percentage received from the sales. The teachers also want to thank the parents who made their wish lists come true by donating a book in their child's name to the classroom. The classrooms will enjoy these books for years to come.

The Room Moms and Volunteers did an amazing job planning and helping with the fall parties. The children had a great time participating in all the crafts, games and other activities. Thanks to all.

The weather was absolutely beautiful for the Fall Harvest Hayride that took place on Tuesday, November 3rd. Once again, Mr. S.W. Christie drove his tractor and trailer complete with bales of hay and fall decorations made by Ms. Stanfill. Our gratitude to all the teachers, Ms. Stanfill, and especially Mr. Christie for their help. The children had a wonderful time!

Discovery Night was held on Tuesday, November 3rd, with over 45 people in attendance. Ms. Madsen and Ms. Alexander did a fabulous job providing the parents and teachers with information on what the children learn in Music and Spanish class. We are looking forward to Discovery Nights starting up again in February, 2010.

An Elementary field trip has been scheduled for Wednesday, December 9, 2009. The children will be traveling to the new Sci-Tech Discovery Center in Frisco. The students will enter the world of Grossology: The (Impolite) Science of the Human Body. Here they will find the answers to many questions they always wanted to ask and they will experience many aspects of the human body first hand, such as crawling and sliding through a 30 foot model of the digestive system, climbing a wall of human skin, becoming a dust particle in a giant nose, etc.

It's already that time of year with the holiday's right around the corner. This is an opportunity where we can teach our children a valuable lesson on sharing and caring. Talk to your children about food banks and their purpose. Ask your child to help assist you in cleaning out your pantry and together choose several items that might be appropriate for donation. Sort through toys and find organizations such as shelters that might like gently used items. Have your child participate in our Toy Drive and explain to them how it helps low-income children in our area during this special time of year. Model the behavior you expect from your child. Examples of kindness and giving will have a true and lasting effect. With the economy still suffering, the less fortunate are even more vulnerable to the hard times. Thank you for all you do.



Happy Holidays from the FMA staff!



Ms. Rosen
Director

FMA Photo Gallery



FMA students demonstrated works for their grandmas and grandpas during the annual Grandparents Social, October 16.



FMA's Family Sports Night at Pizza Hut Park was a smashing success October 17. FMA students were on the field to high-five the players before the game. Our kids were thrilled as FC Dallas beat the Colorado Rapids 2-1!



Perhaps one of the most popular events the FMA PO sponsors, Donuts for Dads hosted over 250 attendees on November 6.



Parents enjoyed discovering how and what their children are learning in Music and Spanish during FMA's Discovery Night November 3.

Left: Ms. Madsen demonstrates how she teaches her students the recorder.

Right: Ms. Alexander explains how repetition of vocabulary and using words in writing and conversation are keys to success in learning Spanish.



"Children Helping Children" – FMA Toy Drive Begins Nov. 16

The FMA PO proudly announces our support of Frisco Family Services this Holiday season. With the theme, "Children Helping Children," FMA will be collecting new toys for under-privileged children, ages 0-12.

This is the perfect opportunity to teach our children the joy of giving. The next time you are shopping, ask your child to select a toy he/she would like to donate. Please bring your unwrapped gift and place it in the gift box in the FMA lobby between **November 16 and December 7**. The FMA PO will make sure all donations reach FFS in time for distribution.



With your child's help, FMA can make a difference in many children's lives during this glorious time of year! Thank you for your support! For information, contact: Sherry Miller, Vice President.

Sally Foster Fundraiser: Win a Free Digital Video Camera for Our School

Thanks to all FMA families who generously supported our Sally Foster Fall Fundraiser. Orders can be picked up at FMA on November 19.

Good news! There is still time to earn money for our school! **FMA will continue to earn profits on Sally Foster internet orders until June 2010.** AND, the school with the highest total of internet sales from now through December 14, 2009, will receive a Free Digital Video Camera (3.1 mega pixel)!

Simply shop at www.sallyfoster.com, indicate FMA's name on your order, and our profits will continue to grow! For more information, contact Monique Pentony, Fundraising Coordinator.

Box Tops For Education



We are still far from this year's goal of \$700 for Box Tops For Education. You can help the PO earn money by clipping Box Tops from hundreds of your favorite products or by shopping online at your favorite store through the Box Tops website. For a complete list of products and internet shopping websites, please visit www.boxtops4education.com. Your child can help too by gluing/taping the Box Tops on the collection worksheets as you clip them. If you have questions, please contact Wendi Berge, Social Coordinator.

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Please contact us with questions or comments...we want to hear from you!

Check out the boards inside the school lobby and outside at the school entrance for the latest information!

