

Ram Review

Principal's Message

Annual Fund

At the beginning of the school year, you received a flurry of requests for fundraising: gift wrap & cookie dough, Monte Foundation, Harvest Festival and Annual Fund letters all went out within a few weeks. Although these fundraisers have been successful this year, school leadership is currently reviewing best practices for strategic fundraising at other PreK-8 schools in order to help us sharpen our fundraising focus and our calendar for next year.

As you may recall from Back to School Night, monies raised each year by the Annual Fund support

new educational initiatives like enrichment programs, supplementary materials, and other current year expenses which offer a better, continually improving educational experience for your children. By now all constituencies have received Annual Fund letters: current families, Board, faculty, staff, grandparents, alumni and friends of Good Shepherd. Since the first letters went out in early October, we have received \$2,500! If you've already made your gift or pledge, thank you for your support. If you have not yet done so, please take a moment and do it now. Donations of all amounts are welcome since our goal is 100%

family participation. No amount is too small!

The hard cost of educating a child at Good Shepherd is almost \$7,000 per student each year. Tuition covers about 75% of this cost. We rely on fundraisers and your tax deductible donations to make up the difference. Please consider what you will give to the Annual Fund this year. It helps provide a richer education for your children and keeps tuition affordable! Thank you for making Good Shepherd a philanthropic priority and remember to find frequent updates from our chair, **Sandra Gresham**, in the weekly eRam.



Volume 12, Issue 11
October 27, 2009

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Swine Flu update

Please read the attach Emergency Preparedness notes for an H1N1 epidemic.

NOW: Students with flu-like symptoms (fever over 100 degrees and a sore throat or cough) MUST stay home for at least 24 hours after the last sign of a fever without fever-reducing medication.

IF AN EPIDEMIC IS DECLARED IN SANTA CRUZ COUNTY: And IF we experience a significant number of diagnosed cases at our school, we will move to the "if influenza severity increases" level of our preparedness plan. This means:

If a sibling or family member of a Good Shepherd student has been diagnosed with the H1N1 virus, that student is encouraged to stay home for five (5) days following the diagnosis.

Computer class will be canceled and Spanish class will be taught within the homeroom classes. Middle school teachers will move from class to class, students staying in one room.

Note: Per our absence and tardy policy in the handbook, exceptions will be made in extreme cases for students needing to stay home for an extended period. These 5th-8th graders may still qualify for Honor Roll as appropriate. All efforts should be made to receive make-up work from the teacher(s).

Principal
[Dan Anderson](mailto:Dan.Anderson@gsschool.org) Extension *812
danderson@gsschool.org

Vice Principal K-4
[Patty Duffy](mailto:Patty.Duffy@gsschool.org) Extension *821
paduffy@gsschool.org

Vice Principal 5-8
[Angela Rebol](mailto:Angela.Rebol@gsschool.org) Extension *825
arebol@gsschool.org

Preschool Director
[Sue Matteucci](mailto:Sue.Matteucci@gsschool.org) Extension *813
smatteucci@gsschool.org

SEP Director
[David Teherani](mailto:David.Teherani@gsschool.org) Extension *814
dteherani@gsschool.org

Bookkeeper
[Teri Dawn](mailto:Teri.Dawn@gsschool.org) Extension *811
tdawn@gsschool.org