



Willard Magnet Elementary

An International Baccalaureate School

Monthly Newsletter



“Committed to Success”

301 S. Madre Street, Pasadena, CA 91107

<http://willard.pasadenausd.org>

Dr. Debra J. DeBose
Principal

April 2011

Special Points of Interest:

- Message from the Principal
- STAR Testing: May 2–May 13
- PTA Corner
- Willard Annual Fund Update
- Birthday Book Club
- Math Field Day 2011
- 2011 Yearbook Sales begin in April

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From the Principal’s Desk

Greetings:

Spring is here! This season is frequently celebrated in poetry because it easily lends itself to poetic language that speaks of natural beauty and our personal feelings of joy and optimism. I hope that you experience the beauty and delights of the season.

In California, spring also sig-

nals the beginning of the testing season. The California Standards Test (CST) will be administered in PUSD from May 2 – May 13.

Through standards-based instruction and exposure to the test format and test-taking strategies, our teachers have been preparing your children (Grades 2 – 5) for the CST since the beginning of the

school year. We are confident that most of our students will do well. I ask that you read the article below and follow the listed recommendations.

Enjoy the Spring Break (April 11 – 15). When your children return to school on April 18, I trust that they will be rejuvenated and energized for the work ahead.

S.T.A.R. Testing: May 2—May 13

At Willard School, we are committed to success and focused on student achievement. Throughout the school year, teachers have measured the academic progress of our students, through daily work, weekly tests, quarterly assessments, and long term projects. We have kept you informed of your child’s progress through graded and returned tests and projects, report cards, conferences, and telephone conversations.

Now, we are approaching that time when our students will sit for the California Standards Test (CST). The CST according to the California Department of Education (CDE), is a test used to determine how well students have learned specific information they have been taught. The California academic standards are the basis for these tests. Results are

reported according to performance levels that show a student’s achievement of grade level standards.

To ensure that your child (Grades 2 – 5) is ready for the CST, we recommend that you do the following:

1. Make sure that your child completes his homework, including reading, every night and is prepared for school every weekday morning.
2. Make sure that your child is at school every day. Do not plan any doctor or dental appointments on test dates.
3. Have your child eat a good breakfast at home or arrive at school in time to have breakfast in the school cafeteria.
4. Make sure your child gets to bed around 8:30 p.m. Your child will per-

form much better when she/he has had adequate sleep the night before.

5. Encourage your child to follow all test-taking directions given by the teacher and/or read from the test booklet.

6. Encourage your child to do his/her best.

7. Visit <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sr/css05rtq.asp> for the CST Released Test Questions in English Language Arts and Math. This CDE webpage gives a link for CST questions used in prior years. For each grade level you will see the standards assessed on the English–Language Arts and Math tests and released test questions. I recommend tha you review a few of the questions with your child.



STAY CONNECTED – receive weekly email updates! If you haven't already, please sign up for the Willard email loop to receive information on upcoming school events, school news and volunteer needs. Just visit: <http://willard-pta.org/subscribe> to subscribe.

THANK YOU! to all Willard families who came out for the Chuck E Cheese restaurant fundraiser! Please continue to show your support for Willard as our fundraising restaurant nights come up throughout the school year. It's an easy and fun way to support Willard.

THANK YOU! to our PTA Fundraising Chair, Juan Urias, for organizing the restaurant nights throughout the school year. Here are some results from those restaurant nights and other fundraisers, as well.

Chuck E Cheese: \$816.30
Islands: \$550.23
Baja Fresh: \$225.00
Daphne's Greek Cafe: \$186.11
Kids are First Catalog Fundraiser: \$8,864.41
Movie Night: \$1,711.77
E-Waste Collection: \$1,013.35.

THANK YOU! to all who have participated in these events - your participation directly impacts the PTA's monetary support for the following programs for our kids: students' field trips, academic assemblies, classroom supplies, uniform clothing for kids in need, classroom holiday gifts, library birthday book club program, musical program support, healthy Handclens program, technology support, and Thanksgiving baskets for Willard families in need. Although this is not an all-inclusive list of programs supported by the PTA, it's a sampling of the programs that are directly impacted by parent participation in out fundraising events throughout the year. Thank you for your participation and commitment to Willard school. Willard parents rock!

PTA Board Elections for 2011-2012: At the March Association meeting, the PTA elected a new board for the 2011-2012 school year. A **BIG THANK YOU** goes out to the Nominating Committee, chaired by Liz Jackson, for filling the seats with nominees AND to the following parents who stepped up to serve.

Deb Wong, President
Margit Schmitt, Secretary
Dierk Esseln, Treasurer
Sara Dachel, Programs Chair
Marcia Nelson, Publications Chair
Judy Balian, Room Representative Chair
Natasha Mahone, Auditor
Libby Shiner, Health & Safety Chair
Inga Grabis, Membership Chair
Anne Anderson, Hospitality Chair
Juan Urias, Fundraising Chair;
Nicki Edmondson, Fundraising Support
Rebecca Little, Historian



APRIL HIGHLIGHTS:

NEW WILLARD IB T-shirts (with new IB logo) and other uniform items will be on sale at the Spring IB Celebration on Thursday, April 7, from 6:30-8:30pm. Modella donates a percentage of all sales to the Willard PTA. Stop by to make a purchase and help the PTA! Can't stop by – then visit Modella online at Modellauniforms.com. Online sales help the PTA, too! Be sure to check out the new Willard IB T-shirts!

SPRING IB CELEBRATION: Thursday, April 7, 6:30-8:30pm. Join us for a spring celebration IB style. Experience the international flavor at Willard through a series of student performances. Check your kids' backpacks for a flyer with all the details. Don't miss this fun event that will celebrate the pride and success of Willard's International Baccalaureate program. Food and Childcare will be provided.

TOWNLOOP: PASS IT ON... tell your friends, neighbors, relatives, co-workers about Townloop, the new website that will offer daily deals from local businesses and give 20% of the proceeds to local schools. That's right, every time you buy a deal from Townloop, they'll give money to Willard. Just go to the link below to join at no risk, no cost, and with no worries (your email address will not be passed on or sold). And then start spreadin' the word! Pass the link on to all your contacts! Encourage them to sign up. The more folks connected to Townloop through Willard, the more \$\$ for Willard.

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS SIGN UP! It's FREE. It's EASY. Go to <http://willard-pta.org/townloop> to sign up! Type in your email address and your zip code. That's it! You're done.

As a subscriber, you'll receive a daily email with an excellent deal on restaurants you love, places you want to go, and even everyday errands. So spread the word! The more people that join, the more money we raise. If you would like to get more information or be more involved with this cool new way to raise money for our school, please contact Liz Sanchez Jackson at lizjacksonsf@yahoo.com.

NEWS FROM THE WILLARD ANNUAL FUND



The Willard Annual Fund was formed by parents in 2009 as a means to retain important teaching and resource staff that would otherwise be lost from state budget cuts. Please help keep our school strong by supporting our fundraising events or by making a direct contribution. Checks can be made out to Willard Annual Fund and dropped off in the front office.

So far we've raised \$15,800. Our goal is \$100,000 -- every contribution helps!

WAF ANNUAL REPORT

We recently mailed out the Willard Annual Fund Annual Report. Please take time to read this report – it provides details on how money was raised and allocated. If you have any additional questions about the report please contact Karla Romero, WAF Chairperson at willardannalfund@yahoo.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Willard IB Spring Celebration
Thursday April 7th Please join us in the Willard Auditorium for an evening where we celebrate and showcase the IB program and learn about how the Annual Fund will help us retain this pro-

gram. 6:00 - 6:30 International Food Tasting. 6:30 - 7:30 program and student performances.

See's Candy Sale April 18th – 22nd Perfect for Easter Baskets

You will have one more chance to buy delicious and festive See's candy before and after school April 18th – 22nd.

Silent Auction Night Saturday May 14th

Please join us for community building and fundraising! This will be really fun night of dinner, dancing and a great silent auction. Please work with your teacher and room rep to make a contribution to your child's class basket that will be auctioned off at the event. Some great themes are coming in from teachers and classrooms...like "Family Game Night", "A Day at the Beach".

Carnival in June – more details to follow.

Thank You New Donors:
Lynda & James Callahan,
Kristine & Michael Gonzales
Jacquelin Lindstrom
Linda Stone
Oi J. Martel
Jacqueline Suzuki
Fabio Tesei & Leslie Jasperson

Corporate and Volunteer Grants:
City National Bank
Time Warner (Warner Bros)

Individual/Family Donors

- Anonymous (3)
- Erick and Alejandra Aguilar
- Bank Family
- James and Debra DeBose
- Guy & Galith Baruch
- Chuan Chen
- Marilyn Gamboa
- Jill and Paul Garnett
- Mr & Mrs Brian Golfarb
- Alan Ho
- Vivian Holmes
- Kyung-Soo Inn
- Cole Jackson
- Miles Jackson
- Sherry & Geoff Johansing
- Benjamin Karish
- Haley and Marc Karish
- Michael Karish
- Kebok Foundation
- Chuan Chen & Yufeng Lin
- Rebecca Little
- Chris & Rowena McDonald
- Karen Montgomery
- Andrea P. Nelson
- O'Rafferty Family
- Pan Pacific Fiber, Inc.
- Matt and Corrine Parker
- Rene & Regina Parola
- Cynthia Rosedale
- Max and Libby Shiner
- Philip & Rosa Shiner
- Leslie & Fabio Tesei
- Hua Wang
- Fon Wong & Debra Holmes Wong
- Susan M. Yang
- Billy Yin

March Birthday Book Club Donations

Thanks for your continued support of the Willard School Birthday Book Club. This program gives our students the opportunity to donate a book to the school library during their birthday month. Our special thanks to the students who donated **BIRTHDAY BOOKS** in March:

- Jason Atcitty
- Avalon Blumenthal
- Lucas Errico
- Elisabeth Eubank
- Alyssa Felix
- Alonso Fittipaldi
- Juan Carlos Gathman
- Steve Hamalian-Juarez
- Jesus Aberham Garcia



- David Goldfarb
- Shawn Latzke
- Rachel Lee
- Rachel Miranda
- Mekhi Reese
- Maya Saporito
- Maddie Stukel
- Juan Valdez
- Diane Ariel Vazquez



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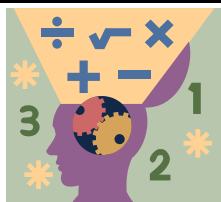
Phone: 626-396-5690

Fax: 626-744-3375

Website: <http://willard.pasadenausd.org/>

Committed to Success

Profile	Attitudes
• <i>Inquirers</i>	• <i>Appreciation</i>
• <i>Thinkers</i>	• <i>Commitment</i>
• <i>Communicators</i>	• <i>Confidence</i>
• <i>Risk Takers</i>	• <i>Cooperation</i>
• <i>Knowledgeable</i>	• <i>Creativity</i>
• <i>Principled</i>	• <i>Curiosity</i>
• <i>Caring</i>	• <i>Empathy</i>
• <i>Open-Minded</i>	• <i>Enthusiasm</i>
• <i>Well-Balanced</i>	• <i>Integrity</i>
• <i>Reflective</i>	• <i>Independence</i>
	• <i>Tolerance</i>
	• <i>Respect</i>



2011 Math Field Day Winners Announced

Willard School fielded two teams each in grades 4 and 5

for PUSD's 26th annual Math Field Day competition. Math Field Day, a district-wide competition for students in grades 4-9. In the annual contest, school teams solved math problems, that tested students' number sense, problem solving skills, knowledge of geometry, and proficiency in statistics and probability.

School teams were honored with gold, silver and bronze medals at an awards ceremony held in the Eliot School Auditorium.

Willard School's four teams received a total of six bronze medals in the competition, with at least one team medal in each of the four categories.

Congratulations to Team Willard for its excellent performance. The members of Willard's 2011 team are:

4th Grade: Jocelyn Borys, Maxwell Callahan, Kamilla Cox, Isobel Jordan, Aude Claire Moats, Alan Sitzman, Noah Syed, and Jennifer Yu.

5th Grade: Elizabeth Eubank, Halston Harper, Valeri Htun, Anthony Ramirez, Maya Rosental-Saportio, Susan Yang, and Kristina Yin.

The teams were coached by teachers, Jason Garcia and Linda Wittry.

Yearbook Sales Begin in April

Mrs. Parker and the 2011 Yearbook Staff

The Yearbook is back! This year the yearbook is being made by our very own 5th graders in the Yearbook Elective class. The yearbook staff is working hard taking pictures of each class and of all school events throughout the year. If you would like to reserve a copy of the Willard's Yearbook please make sure to do the following:

- Complete the Yearbook Order form clearly)**
- Payment of \$16.00 (April & May)**
 - Cash or checks made out to Willard P.T.A.
 - The yearbook will be sold beginning on April 1st through May 31st for \$16.
 - New Payment Option:** Pay half now and half when you receive the book. Just \$8 will reserve a book for your child.
- Return Order form and payment in provided envelope.**

Completed order forms and payment will be submitted to the classroom teacher. A small number of yearbooks will be available for purchase during the last week of school.

Yearbooks sold in June will be \$18 while supplies last. Quantities will be limited, so please buy now!

Attention 5th Grade Families

The 5th grade dedication pages were a huge success last year that we have decided to include them again. 5th grade families will have the opportunity to purchase a section of the yearbook (1/6 of a page for \$12). In this space you may send a special message to your student including pictures, to let them know how proud you are of them. The yearbook staff will create a design for you including your message and pictures. Please include additional payment and contact information on the purchase sheet. Only 30 spots are available!