

Week of December 1, 2008



CLAS

CLAS

HIGHLIGHTS

Culture and Language Academy of Success • Aspire. Affirm. Attain.

Dates to Calendar

December 3 – Shortened Day

December 12 – Heritage Celebration – Wilshire Ebell Theater

December 17 – Shortened Day

December 19 – Last Day Before Winter Break

December 22-January 2 – Winter Break

January 5 – School Resumes

A Call to Service: More Parent Support Needed

As the Culture and Language Academy of Success continues its transition, our need for consistent, tangible parent support has increased substantially. Much of the support – presently and historically – has come from a few, not the many. CLAS' potential to be the great school we collectively believe in is linked to the support of the community, in particular our care providers. Currently, there is no active CLAS Parent Organization, known as the CPO; the student advocates have struggled to secure room parents; and when we have needed support the same parents volunteer.

We must improve our level of support for our children. How can you assist? First, by attending two very important meetings on Thursday, December 4th. The 2008 initial CPO meeting will be at 5:30. At this meeting, we elect officers and set an agenda of activities for the year. The second meeting will be our first of three Community Council meetings. At this meeting, an expulsion review board needs to be formed, a state of CLAS will be provided, and parents have an opportunity to voice ideas, suggestions, concerns, and kudos. This meeting will start immediately after the CPO meeting at 6:30. Both meetings will last one hour and will be held at Orville Wright Middle School's auditorium.



Shortened Days Begin on Wednesday

CLAS will begin its bi-weekly shortened days on this Wednesday, December 3rd, and every two weeks thereafter. School will end at 2:00PM. All students need to be picked up at 2:00, unless they participate in Champions! The purpose of the shortened days is to give the student advocates much needed collaboration and planning time. The next shortened day will be on December 17th.

Heritage Celebration 2008: A Tribute to Stevie Wonder

With the greatest anticipation, this year's Heritage Celebration is upon us. Each year, the students of CLAS perform an original musical based around their cultural heritage. The goals of the Heritage Celebration are threefold. First, all CLAS students must be a part of the musical so that every single student has the opportunity to be on stage in front of his/her family member, feeling the love, the praise, and the adulation. Second, all CLAS students learn about some aspect of their cultural and historical heritage in the process, gaining a deeper appreciation of who they are culturally. Third, our students can show how talented they are in song, in dance, and in acting. This year's theme is a tribute to the music of Stevie Wonder, revolving around the historical concert WattsStax. Written and directed by our Enrichment Coordinator Crescent McGlone with musical direction from Dr. Dawn Norfleet, the Heritage Celebration promises to top all others. Tickets are already almost sold out. Buy now! All proceeds go to the support of the Culture and Language Academy of Success.

Some Serious Holiday Cheer is Up for Grabs
HERITAGE CELEBRATION CASH
RAFFLE TICKETS TO GO ON SALE

Could you use \$2000 for some holiday spending? How about \$1000? Would you settle for \$500? Take your chances with the CLAS Heritage Celebration Cash Raffle, a fundraising opportunity for CLAS. Raffle tickets will go on sell on Thursday, December 4th. Tickets are \$2 each. Each CLAS family is asked to sell 50 tickets. If each family sells 50 tickets or \$100, we can raise over \$20,000 in one week. Support your school and win some money at the same time. The raffle will be held during

intermission of the Heritage Celebration on December 12. Winner need not be present.



SPORTS NEWS

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Football

Elementary ("jr. varsity") Scribes play in the championship game on Saturday, Dec. 6th. Game time is 10:00AM. Location is Harvard Park, located at 1535 W. 62nd St., Los Angeles, CA 90044 (on 62nd St. between Normandie and Denker). Go Scribes!

The middle school ("varsity") team playoffs start next week. Team, time and dates to be announced. The playoff schedule has not been released yet, this is the last week of the regular season. See your site's office manager for the playoff schedule.

Basketball

Middle school girls basketball tryouts are this Thursday and Friday, December 4th & 5th, from 3:30-5:15 on the outdoor courts on the CLAS middle school grounds.

Middle school boys basketball tryouts to be announced soon.



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