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November 5, 2012

Dear Magic Apple Families:

**SAVE THE DATE:** Our annual and much beloved traditional performance will be on Thursday, Dec. 20 from 4:30-5:45. There will also be a mandatory rehearsal on Wed. Dec. 19 from 1:00-4:30 (students not attending Wednesday may meet us—Resurrection Church, across from Safeway). This performance is particularly important to our students, as the admission fees will be entirely donated to causes that are important to your children. During our class meeting they discuss important community programs they'd like to contribute to and then work very hard at their performance towards "earning" funds towards their goal. There is a great deal of pride as our students learn the joys of performance AND giving as they prepare for this show. Please feel free to invite family and friends—it's really a remarkable display of talent--and we hear from many in our community that this event really puts them into the spirit of the holidays.

**WE ALSO NEED YOUR HELP** in avoiding absences or early pick-ups as we prepare for this performance. As we are busy learning new choreography and lyrics as well as practicing lines, it is especially important for students to be picked up after 4:30 for the next few weeks. As each day a different dance or song is practiced, even one absence is really a week's worth of missing practice. Many of our dances involve partnering and staging and absences impact the entire group and leave partners stranded; unfortunately students missing practices may need to be excluded from certain numbers.

**HERO OF HISTORY HELEN KELLER:** Students this week will learn the amazing story of this week's hero. Stricken with scarlet fever that attacked her sense of hearing and sight, it took another blind person (a remarkable teacher who stayed with her throughout her life) to reach her. It was Helen's determination that led her to learn to speak, push for and her insistence to be admitted and then graduate college cum laude. U.S. Presidents, royalty and diplomats celebrated Helen for her work with war vets who had lost their sight as well. She went on to write some of the most profound words ever about the joy that is life. Afterwards our students may also choose to enjoy the moving Disney film, The Miracle Worker.

**SCIENCE:** Fran has purchased sugar cane stalks for our students as he teaches about these amazing plants, their symmetry and growth patterns, etc. Fran will then discuss the history of sugar cane plantations and how they impact workers and the local community, paying particular attention to Haiti. This Wednesday, **Rowen's remarkable father, Monte Short**, has also agreed to speak to our students about his many years of work on behalf of the citizens of Haiti. Students will hear about amazing efforts to reach out medically to this impoverished nation as well as his upcoming trip (he is truly a modern "hero of history"); *our students are very lucky and we are grateful for his time.*

**POETRY CLUB LAST WEEK TO EARN A PARTY:** Students were asked to memorize either the poem, “If You Think” or our bulletin board “Words to Live By (grade 2) or both (grades 3-6). Students may choose to recite in front of the class or privately and will be treated to a taco and root beer float party. We extended the deadline for these poems by one more week because of Halloween. We feel this month’s words are especially important for students to memorize as they involve “emotional shielding” for students to refer to when they are bullied, pressured by peers, etc.—*please assist and support your student’s efforts in this important endeavor*—(SEE BELOW).

**NOVEMBER’S POEM, “MEDITATION” written by student, Indra Lyons** will be the new challenge over the next few weeks. It is a remarkable effort by Indra, and already 15 students have committed it to memory even though we’ve been calling it November’s poetry challenge—please read it below—it is fabulous (SEE BELOW).

**DRAMA:** Jan wrote a play for the entire school, “**The Alien’s Visit to Aptos on Halloween,**” or how the Barney song saved an entire planet. The students were divided into groups to create their own moves and did a great job. This week students will also perform a Jan play, “The first Thanksgiving.” Student’s also worked together to present a play about the pilgrims and their journey on the Mayflower and we continue to be impressed with their ability to work together with many grades involved , as well as the personal growth in acting and confidence among individuals.

**COOKING:** This week’s students will learn how to make “Pumpkin Bars” as we celebrate the season. Last week was the ever popular “Carmel Apples” were created using just picked apples from Magic’s orchards.

**ART:** So far we’ve learned about artists Georgia O’Keefe and Freida Kahlo with our wonderful teacher, Jasmine. After lessons we’ve been working in pastels and learning blending and shading techniques with beautiful results—we *strongly suggest you consider matting and framing some of these works and fabulous holiday gifts!* This week’s artist will be Claude Monet as we continue our lessons.

**STUDENTS AS TEACHERS:** Did you hear about Jan and Fran's retirement?? We have offered our students an opportunity to be teachers with stunning results. Originally we opened it up to intermediate grades, but now any interested students are being challenged to share their expertise. We couldn't be more impressed as students have printed up facts and quizzes, presented sports clinics, brought in supplies for art projects and shared collections--it has been such a terrific experience for all we'll be extending the employment offer this month as well--dates TBA—please SEE PHOTOS BELOW

## REMINDERS

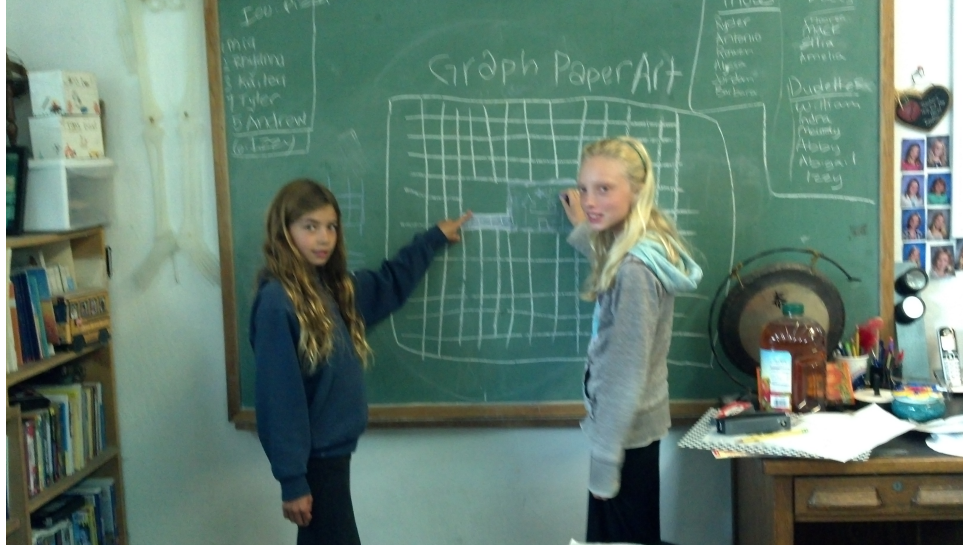
- ✓ NOVEMBER TUITION DUE by the first, late after the 10<sup>th</sup>  
ALWAYS CALL whenever your student will not be attending!!!
- ✓ PLEASE MAKE IT TO DEER PARK BY 5:30 or have an alternate plan; it will be quite dark at 5:30 now and late pick ups are stressful to all.

From: "fjimenez3@comcast.net"<fjimenez3@comcast.net>  
Subject: (No Subject)  
Date: October 22, 2012 12:01:27 PM PDT  
To: fjimenez3@comcast.net



1 Attachment, 1.1 MB

Sent from my MOTOROLA ATRIX™ 2 on AT&T



From: "fjimenez3@comcast.net"<fjimenez3@comcast.net>  
Subject: (No Subject)  
Date: October 22, 2012 12:00:46 PM PDT  
To: fjimenez3@comcast.net



1 Attachment, 1.2 MB

Sent from my MOTOROLA ATRIX™ 2 on AT&T



## **MAGIC APPLE SCHOOL WORDS TO LIVE BY**

*Taken from quotes posted on Magic Apple School's bulletin board*

1. If you tell the truth you don't have to remember anything.
2. **Common Sense**—*don't leave home without it!*
3. The only place where **success** comes before **work** is in the dictionary.
4. **Be Yourself**—*an original is always worth more than a copy.*
5. **Character**—*it's how you live your life when nobody is looking.*
6. The **optimist** sees the opportunity in every difficulty.
7. No one can make you feel inferior without your consent.
8. **Kind Words** are the music of the world.
9. People may forget what you say or do—*but they won't forget how you make them feel.*
10. **Learning**—*it's not homework . . .it's life work!*
11. **Honesty**
  - 1) Being truthful to others
  - 2) Being truthful to yourself
  - 3) Doing what's right regardless of who's around
  - 4) Being someone others can trust
12. Watch your thoughts—they become words  
Watch your words—they become actions  
Watch your actions—they become habits  
Watch your habits—they become your character  
Watch your character—it becomes your destiny

Bonus: Even Einstein asked questions

## **IF YOU THINK**

If you think you are beaten—you are,  
If you think you dare not—you don't.  
If you like to win, but you think you can't,  
It is almost certain you won't.

If you think you'll lose—you're lost,  
For out of this world you'll find,  
Success begins with your will,  
It's all in your state of mind.

If you think you are outdone—you are,  
You've got to think high to rise,  
You've got to be sure of yourself before  
You can ever win a prize.

Life's battles don't always go  
To the stronger or faster man,  
But sooner or later the one who wins  
Is the one who thinks she can!