

MAGIC APPLE SCHOOL

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November 27, 2012

Dear Magic Families:

MUSIC/DRAMA: It's a busy time at Magic as we learn 15 songs and dances. This is a great deal of effort and requires a lot of quick learning for our students *in a very short period of time*—from lyrics to choreography to partners and staging. Please help us by picking your student up after 4:30—thanks for your help. Unfortunately those missing as we learn choreography may have to be excluded. Our intense practice schedule is below

Monday: Grades 5-6 Winter Wonderland Gr. 2-3 Drummer Boy & Jingle Bell Rock (Jan) Grade 4 Santa's Back (Zach)

Tuesday: Do You Hear What I Hear--bells, choir, chorus—2-6 (Jan)

Wed: Grade 2 What You Want For Christmas Gr. 3 Santa Baby
Gr. 4 Jingle Bells Gr. 5 Christmas Rappin Gr. 6-Drummer Boy-(Gina)
Gr. 2 Jingle Bell Rock & Drum Boy (Jan) Gr. 4 Santa's Back (Zach)

Thur Gr. 2-6 Chorus (Kathleen) Gr. 5-6 Mrs. Claus (Ronnie)
Gr. 3-4 Run Run Reindeer

Friday: Gr. 2-3 Alvin, Gr. 5-6 Grinch (Ashley), 4 Santa's Back (Zach)

HOLIDAY SHOW: Dec. 20, Thursday 4:30-5:45 Tickets will be sold at the door with 100% of proceeds going to charities chosen by students. ***Do not miss this amazing display of talent and holiday spirit and be sure to invite family and friends—you will be moved!*** Funds raised will be split between funds for helping the needy in our own community as well as Haitian medical care.

Dress for the show should involve nicer clothes in red, white and black and all students will need a Santa Hat. On the day of the show students attending Thursdays will be transported directly to the church (Resurrection, directly across from Aptos Safeway and Wells Fargo bank) so you might want to pack clothes in a bag.

MANDATORY REHEARSALS: We will perform in a gorgeous church setting that has a round central area and quite honestly the staging is very challenging. We need our students to attend on two Wednesdays; Dec. 12 and Dec. 19 from 1:00-3:15—thanks for your help with this. Entering and exiting, where to sit in between numbers, when to come on, where to stand when performing, insuring all have partners, costumes, etc. will all be reviewed on those days—*students not attending Wednesdays may be brought directly to Resurrection church.*

CHARACTER EDUCATION/HERO OF MODERN HISTORY: Special thanks to Monte Short, Rowen's wonderful father who shared his work in Haiti. Monte arrived concerned about technical problems and not having visuals but our students were captivated nonetheless with Monte's amazing volunteer efforts in many countries over many years. Magic Apple students were remarkable in their level of comprehension and their questions were so thoughtful and mature. Monte shared his work in organizing volunteer doctors, dentists and nurses and his stories were captivating. We learned how difficult it is to bring medical supplies into Haiti, how most people sleep out waiting for their arrival and how different these people live compared to us. Students are thrilled to support his efforts a tiny bit with our holiday show proceeds and will long remember this presentation!

FRAN'S THANKSGIVING was another remarkable experience for your students that you might have heard about. He promised a

feast and then proceeded to share very small pieces of bread and a simple cup of water. He then talked about the tremendous amount of people in our world (and even our local community) who are hungry and asked students to reflect on how lucky we all are. It was a powerful presentation and our students loved it; one student even remarking that this was his best Thanksgiving ever.

ART: Our remarkably talented art teacher (and former student) Jasmine, taught about the works of Claude Monet and then assisted students in blending and shading to create their own lilly pad art. The results were lovely and we are framing and wrapping many of our student's best works so that families will have a special holiday gift—you'll be amazed to display these great works

DOMINICAN OAKS CONCERT: Students in **grades 5-6** will perform for the residents of Dominican Oaks on **Thursday, December 13**. Please remind your student to have a Santa Hat and dress in red, white or black. We will sing and dance from 3:00-4:15 and then return back to Magic Apple

POETRY SOCIETY: Please don't forget to encourage your student to memorize Indra's wonderful poem, **Meditation**, by the end of the month. Students who accomplish this will also earn a special dessert party and membership in Magic Apple's Poetry Society; *see poem at the bottom of this note.*

SADAKO and the THOUSAND PAPER CRANES: Students will learn about the lively and athletic young girl who became ill with leukemia, an aftereffect of the atom bomb that fell on her city when she was an infant. We will read the book and then watch a short film showing the actual statue in Japan. Later students will learn to fold our own paper cranes.

MAGIC APPLE REMINDERS:

- ✓ *Always call when your student will be absent; please take this responsibility seriously*
- ✓ *December tuition due on the first; late after the 10th*
- ✓ *Rain will soon be upon us; please send umbrellas and warm weather clothing (yes we know many students will still insist on shorts). Please note also that we do make an exception for Deer Park pick-ups if the rain is significant—parents may pull in a single line directly up to the bus doors and we'll help your student get into your car. PLEASE NOTE this is only for heavy rain; all other times parents must park and walk over to get their children.*

MEDITATION by Indra Lyons

Open your mind
Open your heart
Breathe in with courage
Breathe out with pride
Find yourself deep within
Only you can tell yourself to hide

Ease Yourself
Sit up straight
Circle your fingers
And calmly meditate

Say Farewell to your wondering thoughts
Think from your passion
Think of your clock
Think of how fortunate you are
Think of how far you can go than far

If you're having a day that you hate
Just sit down and meditate

