

Summit Times

December 2006

Important Dates

January <i>Return from Break</i>	3
Preschool / Kindergarten Noon Dismissal	8
Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday	15
PTA Meeting 7:00-8:00 P.M.	16
Kindergarten Night	18
Toddler Pre-K Parent's or Special Person's Evening	25
Elementary Parent's or Special Person's Evening	30

Quick Snapshots



Thanksgiving—a time for families



From the Administration

There have been so many events this past 30 days my head is still spinning. What an incredible Thanksgiving Feast—hats off to Evelyn Swid and all the wonderful volunteers. All the left over food, beyond what was left for staff, went to families in need. This was my first thanksgiving feast at Summit and I felt like I was spending it with my family, thank you very much.

The children were absolutely amazing and brilliant at the Holiday Program. Their voices and purity of heart shined forth like a brilliant sun bathing us in their warmth and love. What an incredible experience for all of us. You are truly blessed to be their parents and we are truly blessed to have them at our school. The preschoolers were spectacular in both their singing and behavior. The elementary children voices and personalities shined forth brilliantly and the upper elementary had us rolling in our seats, they were all incredible. The upper elementary class seemed to become as one as they performed, great job to all the teachers, assistants and staff to make this program a great success. My wife and I live by the concept of constant improvement, so yes we will have a better venue next year, one that more closely suits the beauty of our children.

The Musical Recital was another brilliant performance and you can read more about this in the After School Activity section.

Academically our school is moving into new ground with beginning algebra being taught to a few of our third graders along with some of the upper elementary. Yes, you read that right, our third graders. Summit has brilliant Montessori teachers that bring out our children's genius. For this reason the school from preschool through 6 years of age is full. The spaces that will open from children reaching 3 years of age and moving up in January 2007 are also already taken. We have no spaces until August 2007 and we currently have a waiting list of families wishing to register.

For this reason we will begin registration for the 2007-2008 school year on February 10th, 2007 at Winter Fest the public at large will be invited to register for any remaining spaces. A more detailed letter will be mailed out shortly.

As many of you have heard Miss Desiree will be retiring after 21 years of dedicated service at Summit. Please see the special note to her, she will be dearly missed. Summit is an incredible school serving preschoolers through 6th grade and we wish to make it even better and will be sending out a parent survey for your suggestions, ideas, and visions, on the question "How can we make Summit Private School even better"? Let's do this for our children.

The Book Fair was a smashing success with sales breaking a school record, hats off again to Evelyn Swid, our librarian Sheila, Chris Patel and all of the wonderful volunteers for their time and dedication.

In January we will be having a school wide incredible presentation on how to build your child's self-esteem, confidence and intellect and several children in different age groups will be showing you their genius.

Have an Awesome Holiday, Happy New Year and be certain the Best is Yet to Come!!!

Best Regards,
The Drs. Mike

Classroom Notes

Miss Jo & Miss Marcela

We had a wonderful time at our holiday party in the park. The children sang their songs and can you believe your eyes—it actually snowed in Florida! Many thanks to Susan Fusari for her work in coordinating the refreshments for this event. Caitlyn turns 3 this month - Happy Birthday! We wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday break. See you in 2007.



Miss Desiree & Miss Irene

It is so sad to be saying goodbye to my family here at Summit. It has been a wonderful honor to take care of your children and I wish them all the best in the future. I know their journey here will be a wonderful one. They are in good hands. Good Luck and Have a Safe and Happy New Year.

Ms Stefanie

The Upper Elementary had a fantastic time presenting their holiday show to all Summit families that showed their support for our performance. The class put in an enormous amount of effort to create a show that represented the diverse personalities of each individual student.

As the end of the first half of the school year approaches the class is busy studying the Sumerian culture in history and animal tissues in science. Starting in January the students will use their knowledge of cells and tissues and apply it to the human body and each system that make it up.

Please remember that the Upper Elementary is heading up a cell phone drive for the Spencer Crawford Foundation and the children are patiently waiting upon your donations. Thank you to everyone who has already participated.

Have a wonderful vacation,
Happy Holidays!

Miss Rachelle & Miss June

We hope you all enjoyed the lovely holiday performance. The children worked hard and it showed with those beautiful angelic voices. Our garden is doing well. The tomato and bean plants are growing and hopefully after winter break we will see some flowers! The class has been busy completing their lessons and working diligently on their holiday craft projects. The holiday International luncheon was a huge success. A big thank you goes out to our volunteers: Martha Vrela, Anne Herren, Eithne Keane, Sarah Purseglove, Chris Patels and Alyssa Sussman. The children had a fun time with the "chinese" gift exchange. We thank you all for the thoughtful and generous gifts. Have a very happy and safe holiday and we'll see you all in 2007!!:)

Miss Cindy & Miss Nena

We have had a very busy month again. The holiday programme took place earlier this month and as always the children were very precious as they sang their little hearts out. Everyone has been very excited with the holidays fast approaching. Our classroom looks very festive and we have spent time with the children doing our special holiday gifts and have also made beautiful frames which are being sold as a fundraiser. The book fair

was a huge success again and we would like to thank Evelyn for her hard work and time. Thank you to everyone whom purchased books for our classroom. It was most generous and the kids and us always appreciate books. Andres Restrepo (4) and Max Eisenberg (4) celebrated birthdays this month, a very happy birthday to both. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support these past months and wish you and your fami-

lies Seasons Greetings. We hope that you all have a wonderful holiday and we will see you back in 2007.



From the PTA

Busy is an understatement to describe what's been going in the classrooms and around the campus this Fall. The PTA wishes to express sincere thanks to all Summit families for their on-going support of the staff, parents, and children.

As we move out of December, I am pleased to share that the Book fair was a huge success (Thank you Evelyn and volunteers!!); the profit goes directly into the school library. Before winter break, we excitedly begin to plan Winterfest and other activities and events to include a "Date Night" and "Race for Education" in the Spring. We welcome your ideas and we wish to hear from you. Feel free to contact myself or any Board member with your ideas and/or concerns.

Please be advised the next annual

PTA Member Meeting is on January 16th at 7:00 PM in Ms. Rachelle's classroom. This meeting will address budget spending, (this year and next), and we need your input. I look forward to seeing you there.

Remember that the PTA exists to support and enhance the learning environment and the learning of our children at Summit. We understand the necessity to streamline our communicative efforts and are working to that end with this goal in mind. Look to the school's website for our link and please continue to help us by continuing your contact and support of Summit PTA.

At this time of the year, as I recall and recount all that I am thankful for, I can say that I am thankful to be a proud member of Summit PTA.

Ann & Miss Maria

"Tis the season to be jolly" and, as the lyrics go, it certainly started out that way with the very festive Thanksgiving Day Feast, the enchanting Holiday Program, and the delightful production the "Snow Queen" at Mizner Park.

We would like to send a big thanks out to the Cole, Albino, Ligon, Wilens, Boggess, Swid, Yamasaki, Sussman, Zakka, Robertson, Trieschmann and Hill families for the wonderful additions to our classroom library with the books purchased from our Wish List at the book fair. You were most generous as usual.

Our "Action in Action" charitable campaign grossed \$285.00, with which the children donated \$100.00 toward the building of a school, a goat, a llama, a blanket and two soccer balls to children and families less fortunate than themselves. The concept of giving, instead of getting, during this season was truly embraced by the children and they really put their hearts into their Pollack-type paintings. We hope that the artworks are really brightening up the homes of you art collectors who purchased the paintings. We are sure that the donations purchased with the proceeds are brightening up the lives of the children and families who are in such need.

Last, but not least, we wish you a Happy Chanukah, a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a joyous and healthy New Year. Love, Miss Ann and Miss Maria



We say Goodbye to our Ms. Desiree

As you have heard Miss Desiree will be retiring after 21 years of devoted service to Summit Private School. She has touched the lives of so many little ones and families here at Summit we will miss her dearly. Her husband, who is a physician, is taking more time off and they are planning to travel and spend more time together. We are truly grateful for her service and dedication. We wish her well and plan to see her at times for pictures and other events on campus!

We are pleased to announce that Miss Jeaneth Jaramillo will take over for Miss Desiree at the end of January. Miss Jeaneth has her American Montessori Society certification from Montessori Training Institute in Princeton, New Jersey. She is fluent in both English and Spanish and has been working with young children in a Montessori school in New Jersey since 2001. Miss Jeaneth has also taught abroad at the University of San Francisco, Quito, Ecuador teaching International Language Studies. She has special interests in art and is a certified swim instructor and dance instructor. She will start at her new position at Summit on January 29th and will be taking care of our children in the Toddler aftercare program as well. We look forward to her arrival and are confident that Miss Jeaneth and Miss Irene will make a wonderful team for our children! Miss Josephine LoPiccolo, who is a substitute teacher at Summit and is currently pursuing her Montessori certification, will be filling in until Miss Jeaneth arrives.

More pictures from the holidays!



Specials

Here is a quick update from some of your specials' teachers.

Computers: We just completed an art project the students completed in Microsoft Word. They used all the drawing toolbar functions such as shapes, textures, patterns, 3-D and word art. Next time you need assistance, ask your child—they may be able to help you out!

In the spring, we begin our next big project, The Romans. We will briefly review the Egyptians and Greeks first and then undertake the Roman culture. The students love to explore ancient cultures!

Miss Angela

Art Department

Miss Leah is tackling a project centered around recycling after the winter break. She will be exploring the Dada movement and will be creating a collage. For this project, we need shoeboxes, cereal boxes or boxes of a similar type style and size.

If you have any of these boxes left from the winter break, please send them to school with your children. All your assistance is greatly appreciated. Thank you so much.

Have a Safe & Happy Holiday!

Special Thanks to the PA & our Homeroom Mothers for all their support of the school and its teachers.

We could not do it without you and all our volunteers.

The Staff