

**MONDAY MEMO**

**January 18, 2010**

**EVENTS CALENDAR**

**Monday, Jan. 18**

No School  
EDP CLOSED  
MLK Jr. Holiday

**Tuesday, Jan. 19**

Beg. Band, 7:30am  
Liturgical Choir, 7:35am  
Parents in Prayer  
Chapel, 8:35am  
Chess Club, 3:15 - 4:15pm  
Writing Club, 3:15 - 4:15pm  
SERT, 3:15-4:30pm  
Honk! Rehearsal, 3:15-5:30pm

**Wednesday, Jan. 20**

Adv. & Beg. Clarinet Rehearsal, 7:30am  
Health Screening  
Early Dismissal, 2:15pm  
Woodworking, Rm. 234, 2:15-3:45pm

**Thursday, Jan. 21**

Beginning Band, 7:30am  
Jewelry Making, Rm. 234, 3:15-4:45pm  
Honk! Rehearsal, 3:15-5:30pm

**Friday, Jan. 22**

Free Dress/Box Top Store  
Villa Voices, 7:30am  
Preschool Mother goose Day  
Ski Bus, 3:30-10:00pm

**Monday, Jan. 25**

Advanced Band, 7:30am  
Science Adventures, 3:15 - 4:15pm  
Middle School Math Club, 3:15-4:15pm

**Dear Villa Academy Families,**

A new calendar year and the rapid approach of the second semester of the school year afford all of us with an opportunity to “take stock” and conduct a reality check about how things are going. With busy lives and many priorities to balance, it’s a good time to consider what is important both short- and long-term, what we have the ability to influence, and how we handle events and situations we don’t have the ability to influence. It is important for us parents and educators to slow down and consider these questions periodically for our own benefit. It is also important for us to role model “taking stock” for the children. Over time, their lives promise to be as full, if not fuller, than ours – the pace of life and change promises to be as fast or faster than it is currently.

At Villa Academy the teachers and staff work very hard to build in time for reflection, to provide day-to-day consistency, to know each child personally, and to engage the students in a high quality educational experience. These are the elements of a “whole child” education in the Cabrinian tradition and they help to provide a strong and effective road map for your child’s continued growth and success, no matter what the amount of, or pace of, change. It is my hope that your child is benefiting from the foundation we are providing through our partnership. We know the future will bring a world that we cannot imagine and that the fundamentals our students are acquiring now will serve them well, no matter what they encounter in the coming years.

Let me be clear – we do not seek to isolate the students from the world. On the contrary, we seek meaningful and developmentally appropriate approaches to engaging them in the larger community knowing that relevant experiences are critical learning opportunities. As you begin to hear more and more from us about “connecting” our students and “building partnerships” in the local

community, you will note that we are actively preparing the children for their futures.

We speculate, anticipate, vision, propose, guess, hypothesize, consider, and contemplate what tomorrow may bring, but as parents and educators, we simply cannot accurately predict the world our children will navigate. In the upcoming days and months, the faculty and staff will be focused on "21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills" that will encourage the attitudes and mindset to embrace and implement change, to value reflection and introspection, and to sharpen the development of skills that will be critical no matter what the course or pace of change in the world. We already know that skills such as collaboration, problem identification and solving, communication, and conflict resolution are as fundamental to success as reading, writing, and math.

Taking time to think and take stock, in the here and now, paves the way for thoughtful insights and gives us valuable perspective. Taking time to consider the future is also important in light of the strong core values that provide our students with a sturdy foundation. The future will come, and we are working hard to ensure the children will be well prepared through their values, attitudes, and competencies. Let's remember to not take for granted these vitally important elements, and to purposefully pass them on to our children.  
God Bless,

*Polly Skinner*  
Head of School

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Parents In Prayer** will meet every other Tuesday beginning January 19. Join us in the Chapel after morning drop off for an opportunity to pray as a community.

**4<sup>th</sup> Annual Villa Poker Showdown:** Friday, January 29. Click below for details.  
<http://www.thevilla.org/community/NewsandEvents/index.html>

**Talent Show Dress Rehearsal:** Thursday, February 4, Gym, 3:15-5:15  
**Talent Shows:** Friday, February 5, Gym, Part I- 10:30  
Part II- 2:00

**Preschool and Kindergarten Mitten Tree service project.** Thank you to all who participated. Read more: <http://www.thevilla.org/community/NewsandEvents/index.html>

**Science Fair Judges Needed:** Read more:

<http://www.thevilla.org/community/documents/ScienceFairJudgesInfo2010.pdf>

- To sign up, click here:

<http://www.thevilla.org/community/documents/MiddleSchoolScienceFairJudgesRegistrationForm.pdf>

**Attention Band Members:** Practice on **Wednesday, January 20, is for the clarinet section only**, with a focus on learning the "high notes"! *Other Advanced Band members will get a free day* that we will use later this winter for other instrument sections. Our Beginning Band clarinets are also invited and encouraged to attend on Wednesday. Thank you and keep 'em practicing!

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## HEALTH NEWS

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**H1N1 Vaccine is now widely available. Call your local pharmacy or health care provider.**  
<http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/preparedness/pandemicflu/swineflu.aspx>

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**FROM THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE**

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**VILLA AUCTION – MARCH 6, 2010**

The procurement deadline for this year's auction is January 28, 2010.

To donate or register online, please visit:

<https://thevilla.ejoinme.org/MyEvents/PalmBeachGetaway/tabid/168803/Default.aspx>

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

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**FROM THE PARENT ASSOCIATION**

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**Parent Association "Gift to School"**

Funds raised through Villa Parent Association activities support the Faculty & Staff Grant program and the annual Gift to School. Read more: <http://thevilla.org/community/parentassociation/index.html>

To learn more about the criteria and process, please read the following

<http://www.thevilla.org/community/documents/GifttoSchoolGuidelinesandProceduresSpring08.pdf>.

If you are interested in submitting an idea to the VPA, Gift to School request forms are available at <http://www.thevilla.org/community/documents/GifttoSchoolRequestSpring08.pdf>.

All ideas must be submitted by February 15, 2010.

**We will be voting on the gift to school at the April VPA Meeting on Friday, April 16.**

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**CYO CORNER**

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**VILLA VOLUNTEER TRAINING:** Your last chance! **January 26**, 2:00 pm and 6:30 pm.

**Basketball:** Scoreboard operators and referees are still needed! Please check the schedule and email me if your middle school student can help.

**Volleyball:** Registration is still open! The final **deadline is February 5, 2010**.

**Ultimate Frisbee:** Registration is still open! The final **deadline is February 5, 2010**.

**Baseball:** Registration is now open! The final **deadline is February 26, 2010**. Coaches wanted.

For the above information and more: <http://thevilla.org/community/SportsNews.html>

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**EDP NEWS**

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Enroll in the winter session of **Chess & Writing Club**.

There is still space in the new **Science Adventures** class, *Wildlife Safari* beginning February 1. Download these forms from the Villa website "FORMS" page.

**Announcing Villa Ventures 2010.** Read more:

<http://www.thevilla.org/community/NewsandEvents/index.html>

Sincerely,

*Shea Salyer & Tom Doggett*

EDP Program

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