



5001 NE 50th Street Seattle Washington 98105
T 206.524.8885 F 206.523.7131

MONDAY MEMO

October 5, 2009

EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday, Oct. 5

CTP4 Testing this week

Advanced Band, Music Annex, 7:30am
Science Adventures, Rm. 234, 3:15 - 4:15pm
Middle School Math Club, Rm. 532, 3:15-4:30pm
Grade 6 Laptop Night, 7:00pm

Tuesday, Oct. 6

CTP4 Testing this week

Volunteer Training, Theater, 7:00am
Beginning Band, Music Annex, 7:30am
Chess Club, 3:15 - 4:15pm
Writing Club, Library, 3:15-4:15pm

Wednesday, Oct. 7

CTP4 Testing this week

Registration Due for Oct. 9 EDP
SERT Applications Due
Advanced Band, Music Annex, 7:30am
P4 & P5 Field Trips
Early Dismissal, 2:15pm
Webkinz, Rm. 234, 2:30 - 3:30pm
Volunteer Training, Theater, 6:30pm

Thursday, Oct. 8

CTP4 Testing this week

Beginning Band, Music Annex, 7:30am
Advanced Sewing, Rm. 234, 3:15-4:15pm
Catholic High Schools Info Night at Villa, 7:00pm

Friday, Oct. 9

Professional Development

No Classes

EDP Open for Pre-Registered Students

Monday, Oct. 12

Advanced Band, Music Annex, 7:30am
Volunteer Training, Theater, 2:00pm
Science Adventures, Rm. 234, 3:15 - 4:15pm
Middle School Math Club, Rm. 532, 3:15-4:30pm

Dear Villa Academy Families,

Assessment of Student Learning at Villa

Academy: "How do we know and ensure that all students are learning?" This is a critical and ongoing question for the teachers as they make choices and use different instructional approaches in a highly intentional manner to meet different learning styles and student needs. Equally critical is the design and use of effective instruments to measure student learning. Our teachers devote significant time to effective instruction and assessment to monitor each child's learning, and are highly skilled in making use of assessment information.

Data informs decisions about our programs and instruction. We seek multiple and varied sources of information to thoroughly measure student growth and improvement in all content areas. The children are at the center of all we do. Professional planning is focused on student learning as measured by existing skills, personal understanding, and attitudes of growth and effort.

One of the many data sources we use to assess student progress, strong programs, and effective teaching, is the Comprehensive Testing Program 4 (CTP 4) published by Educational Records Bureau. This is a norm-based, standardized test that is administered in early October. As you know from the school calendar, students in Grades 2 & 3 and 5-8 will be taking the tests today through Thursday, October 5-8.

Please make certain your children have had adequate sleep and a good breakfast each day. We ask that the students arrive on time and that appointments during testing times be rescheduled. Please encourage your child to put forth his or her best effort. Help your child understand that it is likely there will be questions that he or she may not know the answers to, and that will be true for everyone.

Did you know? Over the summer Villa Academy employees read a “common” book entitled, **Mindset: The New Psychology of Success – How We Can Learn to Fulfill Our Potential**, by Stanford University psychologist and researcher, Carol S. Dweck, Ph.D.

It’s a “must read” for parenting, learning, relating, succeeding, and growing to fullness of person. I have “talked it up” everywhere I go because I am convinced that it will help all of us in reframing our attitudes and approaches to self-improvement. And, of course, we all want to teach our children that life long learning is the key to personal worth and fulfillment, and it will require work and an open mind. Before school dismissed for summer vacation, I encouraged parents to pick up the book and read it. Many of you have already read Mindset and agree that it has changed the way you encourage and praise your children.

There is still time to get a copy of Mindset and join an upcoming book group discussion that a few of the teachers and I would like to lead you through in November, if there is adequate interest. This gives you time to do some reading and join forces with other interested parents before the end of the first trimester. I think that it will be worthwhile for all of us and hope that you will participate.

God Bless,

Polly Skinner
Head of School

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pet Food Drive Now through October 16

Lower School students: Deliver your donations to your classroom.

Middle School students: Deliver donations to Mrs. Sprute’s classroom, Rm. 408.

On Sunday, October 4th we celebrated the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. St. Francis is the Patron Saint of Animals, and reminds us to care and provide for them. The 7th Grade class is sponsoring a Pet Food drive during the first part of October. We are excited to be in charge of this necessary service to the wonderful animals God has given us. Pet Food donations can be brought in anytime up until October 16. At our prayer service on October 21, we will bring forward our offerings for a blessing before they are distributed. The 7th Grade class has lots of enthusiasm and energy and I know will make this an exciting project. They will speak to each class at some point during our drive. Thank you for all that you do to bring God’s caretaking to our wider community.

Questions: Call Pam Sprute 206-729-0219 ext. 251.

King County Health has an informative web page with a 4-minute video link and information about the new vaccine, its availability and its safety. This would be a good web site to bookmark.

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/preparedness/pandemicflu/swineflu.aspx>

FROM THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

The Annual Fund is off to a Spectacular Start!

Thank you very much to all who have made their Annual Fund gift. The Annual Fund provides essential dollars for our programs and operations, allowing us to continue providing the highest quality educational experience for our students. Please join fellow parents, grandparents, trustees, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends by making your gift today. You may use the envelope enclosed in the letter you received from current parents Bill and Nikki W., or you can [give online](https://thevilla.ejoinme.org/MyPages/DonationPage/tabid/97244/Default.aspx) <https://thevilla.ejoinme.org/MyPages/DonationPage/tabid/97244/Default.aspx>. Any questions about the Annual Fund may be directed to Development Director Brigette Quichocho at bquichocho@thevilla.org or 206-729-0219 x 268.

Thank you for your participation!

PARENT - TEACHER - STUDENT CONFERENCES

Conference sign-up sheets for Grades PS - 8 will be available in the Parlor **Thursday, October 8 through Wednesday, October 21.**

For details please click here:

Lower School Conference Details:

<http://www.thevilla.org/community/documents/LowerSchool2009Conferences.pdf>

Middle School Conference Details:

<http://www.thevilla.org/community/documents/MiddleSchoolConferences2009.pdf>

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

CTP 4 tests are scheduled this week, Monday through Thursday.

If your student is absent one of the testing days, we will offer time after school each day to administer missed tests. Please contact Ms. Preib to arrange time after school to complete your child's battery of CTP 4 tests.

Confused about how Middle School is organized? Click here.

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

Middle School Ski & Snowboard Bus!

Join the Ski Bus for six Friday evenings, January 8 - February 12.

Interested? Come to the Ski & Snowboard Bus Information Night for families on Thursday, October 15 at 6:30pm in the Parlor. Click here for details.

<http://thevilla.org/community/skibus.html>

Join the Student Emergency Response Team! 7th and 8th Grade students:

To apply download an application and essay directions at

<http://www.thevilla.org/community/formslists.html> and return your completed form and essay to the Main Office ATTN: Ms. Jenner, by Wednesday, October 7.

FROM THE PARENT ASSOCIATION

Villa Sweatshirt Sales: We are now carrying Gray Hoodies in Youth sizes. **Click here for Hoodie or Crewneck order forms:**

http://thevilla.org/community/documents/hoodie_sweatshirts_order_form.pdf

http://thevilla.org/community/documents/crewneck_sweatshirts_order_form.pdf

School photo packages will be delivered in approximately four weeks. **Picture Retake Day will be on Monday, November 9** for those students who were absent or those who were not satisfied with their original photographs. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

A big "Thank you" to Holly Parker (Villa mom), Dorian Studio, and all the staff and volunteers.

Wendy G & Kim P.

School Photo Co-Chairs

CYO CORNER

Soccer Scores reported from September 26:

7th grade girls beat Our Lady of Fatima

5th grade girls beat St. Matthew

6th grade boys beat St. Luke

Keep up the great work Villa teams!

Cross Country: Registration forms are due by the end of TODAY, October 5th! Registration forms will not be accepted after today.

Congratulations to our team for completing their 2nd meet of the season this past Sunday!

Basketball: Registration forms are due October 25; please turn these in early so that we can figure out teams as soon as possible. Coaches – don't be shy, please let me know if you would like to help out this season by volunteering to be an assistant or head coach for basketball!

<http://thevilla.org/community/documents/2009BasketballRegistration.pdf>

Sincerely,

Shirley Bocian

CYO Athletic Director

sbocian@thevilla.org

EDP NEWS

Friday, October 9, EDP will be open 8:00am-5:00pm. This is a Professional Development Day for our teachers. Forms are due back by Wednesday, October 7. Reminder: you must pre-register for Oct. 9 care. No late registrations will be accepted.

<http://thevilla.org/community/documents/Oct9FullDayEDP.pdf>

Wednesday-Friday, October 28, 29 and 30, EDP Open 8:00am – 5:00pm

Due to Parent/Teacher Conferences on October 28, 29, and 30, there will be no classes. EDP will be open from 8:00am-5:00pm. In order to staff accordingly, you must pre-register your child for the full day or the hours you need care. Due to licensing restrictions there will be no EDP care for Preschool age children.

<http://thevilla.org/community/documents/EDPforParentConferences09.pdf>

Sincerely,

Shea Salyer & Tom Doggett

EDP Program

edp@thevilla.org