

The Buzz

Bush Site Monthly Newsletter

March 2017

Kids Focus

Curriculum: This month, we are continuing to study various themes. Please check out the bulletin boards and talk to your child's group teacher for more information or if you have resources you would like to share.

On **Friday, May 10th**, the children will go on a special field trip to Hamilton Park (weather permitting) to have an **Undou-kai (Exercise Sports Day)** with the Sutter Site preschoolers. It will be a day of fun, excitement and cooperation. The children will participate in various races and fun activities such as the *tamaire*, a traditional Japanese *undou-kai* ball game.

MARCH Birthday is
on Wednesday, March 8th

Willis Camila
My Tra "Mimi"
Gabriella "Gabby"



**NLF'S tax identification
number is: 94-2325686**

Coming Events

Reminders: Please take your child's blankets home to be washed on **Friday, March 24th**.

"Alphabet Book": Thank you to all the families who pre-ordered their copy of the "Alphabet Photo Book" for \$50.00. It is not too late to put your order in-- last day for orders is **Friday, March 10th** so your child's photo will be on the collage page. We hope to have the books in by mid April or earlier.

Coming Events (continue)

"A Day at NLF": The slide show CD "A Day at NLF" which goes through an entire day of a preschooler at NLF, is still on sale for \$15.00. Please sign your name on the sign up sheet and PRE-PAY for your order, if you would like to purchase a copy.

Class Photo Day: NLF's annual class picture day will be on **Tuesday, March 14th**. Both individual photos as well as a group class photo will be taken that day. Please have your child in school by 10:00am.

DVD of Dowa no Omatsuri 2017 Show: An order form for the DVD, which contains all the performances from our recent theater show, will be put in mailboxes at a later date. Please submit your order form with payment if you would like to purchase a copy.

Respite Night: The next respite night is on **Friday, March 17th** from 5:30pm to 10:30pm at the Bush Site preschool. The cost is \$6.00 per child with dinner provided. Priority will be given to those on the waiting list from the last respite. Please sign up on the sign up sheet which will be posted on the parents' table Monday, if you're interested in having your child participate.

Parent Education Workshop: The next parent educational workshop on "Dual Language Learning/Talk, Read, Sing" presented by First 5 California will be on **Thursday, March 23rd from 5:30pm-7:00pm** at the Sutter preschool. Please sign your name on the sign up sheet which will be posted later on the parents' table if you are interested in attending. Childcare and light refreshments will be provided.

Sakura Matsuri: Just a reminder that Sakura Matsuri (Cherry Blossom Festival) will be on the weekends of **April 8th-9th and April 15th-16th** BUT we will be participating only for **ONE weekend- April 15th - 16th** with a worknight on **Friday, April 14th**. The parade will be on **Sunday, April 16th**. More information about this event will be distributed later, and a sign up sheet for the work shifts will be posted at the parents' table later on this month. Please save these dates as this is the last mandatory fundraiser of the school year and we need your physical help.

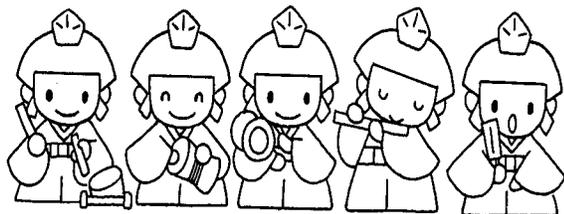
Thank You

Dowa No Omatsuri: We would like to say a HUGE THANK YOU to all the parents who helped make costumes, donated or solicited items for our silent auction and/or raffle, sold raffle tickets, contributed refreshment items, volunteered to help, and otherwise helped make this important fundraising event such a tremendous success. Special acknowledgment go to: **Battumur (Erdem's dad), Greg (Dashiell's dad), Newlyn (Amelie's dad), Eric (Renji's dad), Masahiro (Sora's dad), Kiyoko (Shinju's mom), Maria & Ashley (Gabriella's parents), Blue (Holland's mom), Alex & Carman (Rosie's parents), Joelle (Owen's mom), Doug (Natalie & Michael's dad), Rachel (Kai G.'s mom), Dan (Erika's dad), Hiroko (Leah's mom), Nuai (Willis' mom), Alice (Kohta's mom), Tiemi (Axyl & Kyran's mom), Jerrica (Cameron's mom), and Aaron (Quinlan's dad)** for volunteering during the day of the program; and all the wonderful **teachers** for putting in a lot of extra time!! We would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Irene & James (Ohio's parents) for assisting with the creation of the wonderful Alphabet photobook available for purchase. We estimate our profit to be over \$35,000! **We hope to generate more income through the silent arm chair auction which will be ready next week with some new items that came in late.** We know you join us in congratulating all of the children for the great job they did with their performances.

Staff Update

We are sad to announce that Kai sensei will be leaving us on Friday, March 3rd. He will be relocating to Southern California to go back to school and pursue a career as an occupational therapist. We wish him luck and will miss him.

Asuka sensei who has been working in the afternoon will be taking the Twig group. Maiko sensei will be substituting from 12:30-4:00 daily and Nick sensei will continue substituting from 12:30-5:30. Holly sensei is now working from 10-5:30.



Acknowledgments

We would like to say thank you to all the children and families that distributed Valentine's day cards in the mailboxes: Maya & family for the Yoku Moku cookies for Valentine's day for the staff; Owen & family for the chocolates for Valentine's day for the staff; Tomohiro & family for the chocolates for Valentine's day for the staff; Ohio & family for the chocolates for Valentine's day for the staff; Kai B. & family for the Hinamatsuri stationary and paper hand towels; Kai G. & family for the apples for the group time project and cookies for the staff; Kristine & family for the pastries for the staff; Ayumi & family for the tape; Renji & family for the roll of paper for drawing, goldfish crackers for snack and rolls of paper towels; Erika & family for the chocolates for the staff; Yaichiro & family for the Chinese pastries; Shinju & family for the goldfish crackers and socks; Dashiell & family for the oranges; Sasuke & family for the white table; Ayumi & family for the kiwi; and Amelie & family for the arts and crafts paper and supplies, beads, and index cards.

We always appreciate your continued thoughtfulness and support!

WISH LIST: Our school wish list includes: scotch tape, crackers for snack, 5 oz drinking cups, paper towels, and glue sticks. Thank you for your continued generosity.



Japanese Lesson: Hina Matsuri

March 3rd is Hina Matsuri (Doll Festival; or Girls' Festival), when people pray for the happiness and healthy growth of girls. Families with young daughters mark this day by setting up a display of dolls inside the house. The dolls wear costumes of the imperial court during the Heian period (794-1192) and are placed on a tiered platform covered with red felt. The size of the dolls and numbers of steps vary, but usually the displays are of five or seven layers; single-tiered decorations with one male and one female are also common.

The practice of displaying these dolls on the third day of the third month on the traditional Japanese calendar began during the Edo period (1603-1868). It started as a way of warding off evil spirits, with the dolls acting as a charm. Even today, people in some part of the country release paper dolls into rivers after the festival, praying that the dolls take people's place in carrying away sickness and bad fortune.