

The Buzz

Bush Site Monthly Newsletter

November 2016

Kids Focus

Curriculum: During the month various themes such as leaves/fall, families and sharing will be studied along with what we are thankful for. The children will help prepare a special Thanksgiving lunch on Wednesday, November 23rd as part of the theme. If you have any resources you would like to share or have questions regarding the topic being studied, please let your child's group teacher know.

Parent teacher conferences have begun. A conference schedule is on the parents' table. Please write your child's name under the group name and talk to your child's group teacher if you are unable to make the scheduled time.



The school will be **CLOSED** on
Thursday, 11/24 and Friday, 11/25
in observance of Thanksgiving Day.

Have a safe and happy turkey day!



Blanket cleaning: Please take your child's blankets and cot sheet home to be washed on Wednesday, November 23rd and remember to bring them back on Monday, Nov. 28th. If your child will not be in school that day, please let one of the teachers know so that his/her blankets can be sent home beforehand.

Coming Events

Sushi Social Fundraiser: An invitation was placed in your mailbox to our "Sushi Social", a celebration of NLF's 41st Anniversary and fundraiser at the 1830 Sutter building on the evening of Friday, November 18th. This year we are once again privileged to have the talents of master sushi chef, Masanobu "Massy" Sato, who will be preparing some of his delicious sushi, and there will also be a selection of other delectable treats. We will also be honoring Ms. June-ko Nakagawa and Mr. Benh Nakajo, long time supporters of NLF, as well as updating you on our Plant A Seed capital campaign. Please complete the RSVP form (the envelope that was enclosed) as soon as possible along with your payment if you are interested in attending.

Plant A Seed Capital Campaign: Many thanks to those parents who have generously responded to our appeal for donations to our Capital Campaign. As explained in the appeal letter, we would like to have 100% participation from families, so please contribute or pledge any amount you feel comfortable donating or consider making another contribution before the end of the year.

Dance Performance Planning Meeting: We will be having a general planning meeting for our February 26th Theater Performance and Auction on Tuesday, November 29th at 5:30 pm at the Sutter Site Preschool. We will be discussing the general plans and various committees that will be involved with the planning for the big event. Please join us for the meeting. Childcare will be available. A sign up sheet with more information will be posted on the parents' table soon.

Raffle Prize Sponsor Needed: We are still in need of a sponsor to pay for the printing of the raffle tickets. If you know of someone who may be able to help, please let Naomi sensei know. The cost is approximately \$160. Special thank you to Maya and her parents for the iPad for our grand raffle prize. We are still in need of more raffle prizes. A sign up will be out soon on items we need.

Parent Education Workshop: We will be having our first parent education workshop on the topic of "Child Development and Age Appropriate Behaviors" with our mental health consultant, Namie Ideura from Fu Yau Project on Thursday, November 10th at the Sutter Site preschool from 5:30pm to 7:00pm with childcare available at the Sutter site. Please see the sign up sheet located on the parent's table for more information.

Coming Events (cont.)

Public School Enrollment: Application forms for enrollment to Public Schools are available at the Educational Placement Center (EPC) or any elementary school office. Applications along with proper documents need to be returned to the Educational Placement Center located on 555 Franklin Street no later than **January 13, 2017**. Until Dec. 16th, the temporary location for EPC is 655 De Haro Street.

Mochitsuki Winter Family Social: NLF will be having its annual Mochitsuki (sweet rice pounding) Winter Family Social Potluck lunch on **Sunday, Dec. 11th from 11:00 to 2:00pm at the Sutter Site Preschool**. The program will open with the children singing some holiday songs in English and Japanese followed by a rice pounding performance by Kagami Kai (comprised of many former NLF families) followed by the potluck lunch. A sign up with more information will be posted at a later date. It may be a bit crowded this year as we will be indoors only due to the construction on the playground lot. Come and enjoy the fun.

Parent Advisory Committee Meeting: We will be having our Parent Advisory Committee meeting on **Thursday, Dec. 8th from 5:30 - 6:30pm** at the Sutter preschool. A sign up sheet with more information will be on the parents' table next month.

Thank You

Halloween Party: Thank you to all the parents and staff for helping with our annual Halloween party. Special thanks to those who came to the workday, and generously did a shift and/or contributed "treats" and other items for the Halloween party. We hope everyone who attended had a great time!

"Big Step for Little Friends": Thank you to all the families for participating in our annual 5K run/walk in October. Special thanks to Fen sensei and Ryoko sensei for helping with the event and to Joelle (Owen's mom) for co-chairing the event. We raised over \$20,000 which will go towards our Plant a Seed capital campaign and our programs.

Acknowledgements

Special thanks go to Nolan & family for the loaves of banana bread for the staff and stickers for Halloween; Axyl and Kyran & family for the popcorn, cat cookies and crackers for snack; Sabrina & family for the drinking cups and apples for the staff; Nomuun & family for the goodie bags and birthday cake; Dashiell & family for the scratch paper and Halloween decorations; Yaichiro & family for the Halloween and birthday stickers; Kristine & family for the dry eraser markers; Eden & family for the goldfish crackers, case of paper towels and chocolates for the staff; Leina & family for the envelopes; and Kai B. & family for the case of paper towels, roll cakes for the teachers and goodie bags for Halloween.

A very special thank you to Ohio, Amelie, Kai B., Kauan, Emily, Sasuke, Isabella, and Camila and their families for donating the pumpkins needed to carve the jack-o-lanterns.

As always, your thoughtfulness is truly appreciated!

Japanese Lesson: Shichi-Go-San 七五三

Shichi-Go-San means 7-5-3 in Japanese, and stands for Shichi-Go-San Day, November 15th, a children's celebration in Japan. Parents take their children, ages 7, 5, and 3 to the shrines to pray that they will grow healthy and to wish them well for their future. After going to the shrine, the children take home a large envelope, which hold treats for them. Traditionally Shichi-Go-San was Children's Day, before the government declared May 5th as a national holiday for children, called Kodomo No Hi (Children's Day). Shichi-Go-San is still widely celebrated by many families, a day set aside for the hopes and well-being of the children.

