



BUZZ SHEET

from the
Matoska International Parent Teacher Organization (MIPTO)
Today's Edition: April 18, 2012

Skate Night Fun

It has been a tradition that several times a year, Matoska International students join their friends for a couple hours of fun skating, playing laser tag and video games, and hoola-hoopin'. March 30 was the last skating event of the year and Matoska students (and their parents) took over the rink!

With some trepidation, our children test their skates on the carpet as they make their way to the rink, but once on the rink, there is no stopping our speedsters. Regardless of the age or type of skates, children and adults alike go 'round the rink with a look of pure joy.

What I appreciate most about the caliber of our students, is that they are respectful and kind. When a child falls, regardless of school affiliation, they lend a helping hand, whether it is to pick up a child and get them back on their skates or wait until a parent comes to kiss their bruised knees. The Saints North Skate night is one way we show how our students fill Matoska 'bucket'!

Although the Matoska fundraisers at Saints North is over for *this* school year, you can visit the skating rink throughout the summer too.



IMPORTANT DATES

NO School Dates - May 28

MIPTO Meeting Dates - May 8, June 12. 6:30pm in Media Center

April 13, 5:30pm - 8:30pm - **Art Show and Silent Auction**

April 19, 6pm - **1st Grade Music Program**

May 4, 5:30pm-8:30pm - **Carnival Night** - Volunteers Needed

May 7, 11am - 3pm - **Sorting Plants** - Volunteers Needed

May 31 - **Portfolio Night**

June 1 - **All-School Fun Day** - Volunteers Needed

Art Show and Silent Auction

This past Friday, our students displayed their classroom art projects and sold many items. Look for the next Buzz Sheet for highlights of an amazing night of art appreciation and talent.

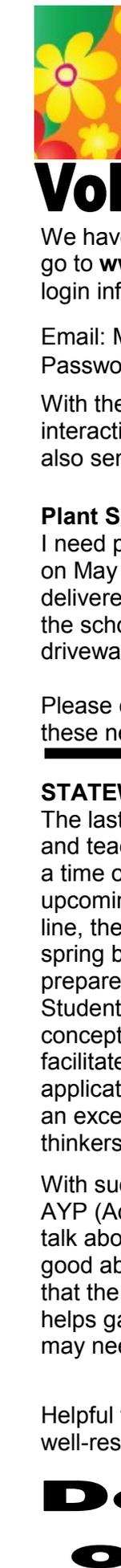
Huge "Thank You" to the amazing students, volunteers and art leaders!

MIPTO Board News

Members of the school community are more than welcome to attend any of the Matoska International Parent/Teacher Organization Meetings. All agendas, meetings, Buzz Sheets, financial and member information can be found on

<http://matoskaparents.weebly.com/index.html>.

We invite you to visit our site and attend any of our meetings and events.



Volunteer Opportunities

We have a new volunteer system. Parent volunteers can now go to www.google.com and login to email using the following login information:

Email: MatoskaParentVolunteers@isd624.org

Password: mpvol2012

With the new email you can view volunteer requests and an interactive sign-up sheets for various opportunities. Users can also send email to the same address for all volunteers to view.

Plant Sorting and Delivery

I need people that would be willing to help with sorting the plants on May 7th. Also, I am looking for a location to have the plants delivered to that would be closer than my house. If you live near the school let me know if I can have the plants delivered to your driveway.

Please contact Gayle Chapman if you can help with either of these needs.

STATEWIDE TESTING

The last quarter/semester of the school year is one that families and teachers look forward to. The end of the school year marks a time of growth, accomplishments, year-end festivities, and the upcoming summer break. However, before we cross the finish line, there are state-mandated tests that linger right around spring break. Students, teachers and staff, and families, prepare for the MCAs and for our older students, the GRADs. Students have been engaged in learning and mastering concepts that will be on the tests and family members help facilitate what happens in the school with the learning and application that happens at home. I believe that Matoska does an excellent job of preparing our children not only to be great thinkers, but extraordinary achievers.

With such high stakes tests, all schools are concerned about AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress), etc. Encourage your child to talk about how the test was for them and celebrate what they felt good about. When you do get your child's scores, remind them that the score does not determine who they are as a person, but helps gauge where their academic strengths are and where they may need to focus academically in the upcoming year.

Helpful tips: Make sure your child has adequate sleep and is well-rested; eats a healthy breakfast; and is on-time for school.

Do your best on the test!

INFORMATION AT A GLANCE

Important Numbers:

Attendance Line: **651-653-2848.**

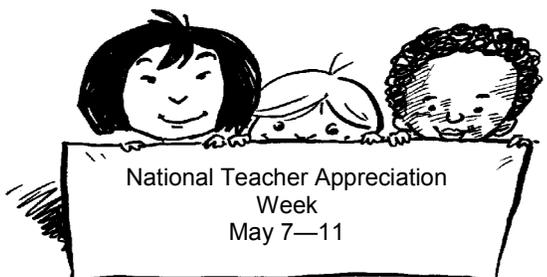
Transportation Changes? Contact Carolyn Kay in the main office at **651-653-2847.**

We've experienced a very unusual winter in Minnesota. We are steadily making our way to spring time weather, but we still need to be prepared for any weather by making sure you have appropriate outerwear. Make sure your child's name is on their outerwear. The lost and found by the cafeteria is filling up, so check there for any unclaimed items. When the snow does fall, you will probably need indoor sneakers too.

If you get chapped lips, make sure to bring some chapstick.

Should a school closing be necessary, families are notified in the following four ways:

- An instant alert phone message and e-mail will be sent to all parents
- There will be a message on the WBL school closing hotline- **651-407-7540**
- A message will be posted on www.whitebear.k12.mn.us
- Closings will be posted on local news channels





March 15, 2012

Dear Matoska Families,

Happy Spring! We on the Matoska Spring Carnival Planning Committee hope that you are as excited about the warmer weather as we are. In only seven weeks, we will be hosting the annual Spring Carnival, and with all the events in the works it is sure to be a great time—we hope you can make it!

The two goals of the Carnival are to help build a sense of community and provide financing for the many fantastic programs that MIPTO organizes for us here at Matoska. The raffle and silent auction play a major role in supplying that financing, and they each depend upon the generous donations we receive from local businesses and members of the Matoska school community.

We have mailed out letters to area businesses and have again started receiving some wonderful gifts. As in the past, we would also like to ask that if you have an item or service that might make a great prize to consider donating it to this year's Carnival. Examples are tickets to an event (if you are a season ticket holder), use of a cabin or time share, a boat ride, a service, etc.

The Carnival will be held on May 4th, from 5:30 – 8:30pm, and winners will be announced then.

We have been so fortunate in past years with the donations we have received, and we thank you for considering a donation this year. If you have anything you can donate please contact Gayle Chapman in the Matoska Volunteer Office to help facilitate that donation. Or, if you prefer, feel free to write it in the space provided below and send the slip in to school with your child, to Gayle's attention.

Thank you so much for your continued support of the school!

Sincerely,

Roger Donoghue, parent volunteer

Matoska Spring Carnival Planning Committee

Tear/cut here and return to Gayle Chapman

2012 Matoska International Spring Carnival Donation

Yes, I would like to donate the following item to this year's Spring Carnival:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Signature: _____