University School

at The University of Tulsa

February 2013

Funding the Future

Many thanks to those who have donated to Funding the Future for the 2013-2014 school year. Your support of this annual fund is essential to our ongoing success.

This year, the goal for the Funding the Future campaign has been set at $35,000. We have currently raised approximately $5,200, putting us at approximately 15% of our goal. Funds raised this year will be used for:

- Purchase and installation of a rock climbing wall in the school gym
- Professional training opportunities for teachers to keep them up-to-date in the ever-changing field of education
- Support of our scholarship program, which provides partial merit and needs-based scholarships to qualified students

If you have not yet made a gift to the 2013-2014 fund, we ask you to make a pledge of support by donating. University School is uniquely designed to serve the needs of your children, and your investment in their future begins today.

Thank you for your support!

Director's Message

The University School Winter Drama Festival is an exciting annual event. All students from Primary 1 through 8th grade participate. This year's Drama Festival will take place on March 14 in the Great Hall of Allen Chapman Activity Center (ACAC) at 9:00 a.m. and again at 6:00 p.m.

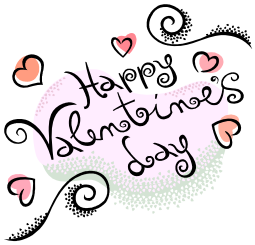
Each class will present a 10-minute original play once at the daytime performances and again in the evening. Older students are involved not only in performing, but also in writing and developing the action for their class plays. For the younger students, who are just beginning to learn about drama and performing on stage, the plays are written by the teachers. Plays increase in complexity as the students move up through higher grades.

The Drama Festival benefits students in a variety of ways. Students learn:

- To feel comfortable in front of an audience from an early age.
- To work together with the understanding that every person in the play is important.
- To project their voices so that they will be heard by the audience.
- To move comfortably on stage to keep the attention of the audience.
- The lifelong skill of being able to talk in front of a group of people.

The Winter Drama Festival is an additional way that USchool prepares students to excel in the wide world. We want our students to be exposed to and become proficient in as many areas as possible. At the same time, the plays are fun for everyone. See you at the festival on March 14!

***- Pat Hollingsworth*, Ed.D.**



Valentine Parties

Thursday, February 14

Valentine parties, planned and overseen by class representatives, will be held in classrooms on Thursday, February 14. Parents are welcome to attend. Times for the parties are as follows:

Lower School (EC - P3): 1:40 p.m.

Upper School (INT-1 - OI-8): 2:30 p.m.

Spring Cleaning for "New-to-You" Book Sale

Our Spring Book Fair always includes the popular "New-to-You" book sale. We welcome any donations of used books. Some of these books become part of the library or classroom collections, and others are sold at the fair for bargain basement prices. It's a great way to get new books for summer reading and support the school at the same time. Book donations may be dropped off at the front desk. Books for both children and adults are welcome.

Don't Forget!

There is NO SCHOOL on:

Friday, February 15
Monday, February 18

Spring Book Fair
Feb. 25-Mar. 1

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIRS
STORY LABORATORY
READING GIVES YOU SUPER POWER!

The Spring Book Fair will be held in the library the week of February 25 - March 1. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to get new reading material. Every book fair purchase benefits the University School library.

Watch for a flyer with more details about special hours and events!

Picture Books
Easy Readers
Chapter Books
Non-Fiction
Award Winners
Popular Series
Books for Parents

and

New-to-You Books
Gently used books at bargain basement prices!

READIOACTIVE!

Volunteers are needed to help at the fair!
Contact Rajeana Gibson
rajeanawardgibson@yahoo.com

USchool Happenings

Winter Concert

All University School students participated in our annual Winter Concert, which was held for the first time at TU's beautiful new Lorton Performance Center.

Science Saturday - More than 40 USchool families enjoyed a day of science fun and exploration on January 5 at USchool's Science Saturday event. Students and parents learned about sound, fibers, soil, looked at micro-organisms using microscopes, and competed in a paper airplane contest. Many thanks to the teachers who volunteered their time and special thanks to **Melissa Hamby** for organizing Science Saturday.

Paper Airplane Contest - Congratulations to the winners!

1st Place - Kendall Phillips and family

2nd Place - Matthew Reynolds and family

3rd Place - Tie - Fournet family, Patel family, Vanderyt family

Henry Watt and his father.

Jack and Elizabeth Mundell with their dad.

Bear Hugs Thanks

Thank you to all of the University School families who donated gifts for the Bear Hugs for Kendall-Whittier community service project! We are always amazed at the generosity and level of community involvement displayed by our USchool family!

We received the following letter of thanks from Kendall-Whittier:

Dear University School staff and families,

On behalf of Kendall-Whittier, we would like to say a BIG Thank you for your contributions to our families this Christmas! As you know, many of the Kendall Whittier neighborhood families struggle throughout the year to make ends meet and to provide for their children in ways that so many of us take for granted. Thanks to your hard work and generosity, several families were able to receive gifts for their children and families.

This is my first year at Kendall-Whittier and I was truly amazed by your giving hearts! I know that you made this Christmas a very special holiday for the families you donated to. Watching the parents pick up the gifts for their families, I saw joy and relief on their faces. For that, we could not be more grateful!

Thank you so much for all that you do! Hope you all had a wonderful Holiday season!

Sincerely,

Courtney Koehn
Kendall-Whittier Social Worker

Student Achievements

University School Geography Bee

The final round of the USchool Geography Bee was held on January 8, 2013. The top finishers were:

- **Emerson Turner** (7th grade) - Winner
- **Kyler Smith** (7th grade) - Runner-Up
- **Caroline Henson** (7th grade) - 3rd Place

Other students who made it to the final round were **Halle Poleman, Saagar Basavaraju, Minna Apostolova, Gabriel Prado, Yash Kumar, Cybil Seneker, and Knox Blakely.**

School Spelling Bee

The University School Spelling Bee was held on Friday, January 25, in the gym. Each year, the top two spellers from each grade (Primary 2 and up) compete in the school wide bee. This year's stellar spellers are:

Primary 2 - **Jack Denney, Nathan Willcox**
Primary 3 - **Alec Chamberlin, Jenna Sims**
Intermediate 1 - **Olivia Vanderyt, Maya Sous**
Intermediate 2 - **Owen Oertel, Ashna Pasricha**
5th Grade - **Bryce Lawson, Ryan Thomason**
6th Grade - **Nikith Kurella, Andres Galiasso**
7th Grade - **Will Gibson, April Gore**
8th Grade - **Josephine Woytas, Lexey Trepp**

Spelling Bee Winner**: Nikith Kurella** Runner-Up: **April Gore** 3rd Place: **Will Gibson**

MATHCOUNTS

University School hosted a Mock MATHCOUNTS Competition at TU's Allen Chapman Activity Center on January 18. USchool's **Blue Team** came in **2nd Place**. Members of the Blue Team were **Yash Kumar**, **Thomas Palmer**, **Omar Aly**, and **Saagar Basavaraju**. Additionally, **Yash Kumar** came in 2nd Place in the Countdown Round.

Congratulations to all of these students for their achievements!

Let the Good Times Bowl!

Saturday, April 20, 2012 6:30 p.m.

Andy B's Entertainment Center

Be sure this date is on your calendar! You won't want to miss out on all the FUN!

Our annual auction fundraiser will be a fabulously fun night to benefit University School's scholarship fund.

Silent and Live Auctions!

Bowling!

Food!

Prizes!

Drinks!

Games!

Fun!

Plus some surprises . . .

Some of the auction items include:

- class art projects
- themed class baskets
- gift certificates to local restaurants
- BOK Center suite tickets
- Tulsa Drillers suite tickets
- Week at Eagle Vail Vacation Lodge
- Hawaii Trip including airfare

February 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 Valentine Parties	15 - OAGCT Conference No School	16
17	18 Presidents' Day - No School	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Spring Book Fair	26 Spring Book Fair	27 Spring Book Fair	28 Spring Book Fair	Mar. 1 - Book Fair & Family Game Night - 5:30 - 7:30	

Family Game Night

Friday, March 1 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

On Friday, March 1, we'll have a Family Game Night at school from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the commons areas. We'll play everything from *Candyland* and chess to strategy board games like *Ticket to Ride* and party games such as *Pictionary*. This will be a fun time for you and your child, plus the book fair will be open during the evening. Plan now to attend!

Looking Ahead

- **March 14 - Drama Festival**
  9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
  All students in Primary 1 and up will participate in our annual Drama Festival, which will be held in the Great Hall of Allen Chapman Activity Center (ACAC). Performances will take place at 9:00 a.m. and again at 6:00 p.m.
- **March 15 - No School (Staff Development)**
- **March 18-22 - Spring Break - No School**
- **April 1-5 - Stanford Achievement Testing**
- **April 11-12 - No School - Parent-Teacher Conferences**
  Classroom teachers will contact you about how to schedule your conference.