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December 11, 2009

EARLY DISMISSAL: 12/17

Our last day of school this month is Thursday, December 17. Students will be dismissed early so that preparations can be made for the Holiday Program (see below). Please follow this pick-up schedule:

YK- 1/2: 11:45 a.m.
2/3- 5/6: 12:00 p.m.
7th - 8th: 12:10 p.m.
9th - 12th: 11:50 a.m.

WAVERLY HOLIDAY PROGRAM

The Waverly Holiday Program is just around the corner! The holiday show will be on Thursday, December 17 at 7:00 p.m. at Occidental College's Thorne Hall. Our halls here at Waverly resound with music as students and staff busily practice their songs and dances!

- The doors to Thorne will **open at 6:30 p.m.** on the night of the performance. Teachers will be waiting to meet their students in their assigned seating areas at that time. **All performing students need to arrive by 6:45 p.m. at the very latest!**
- **The show will start promptly at 7:00 p.m.** Please make sure you leave enough time to get to the theater (directions are below).
- We ask that you not leave the hall once you have entered. If you must leave the hall, you will need to have your hand stamped in order to reenter. As you know, this is only the second year we have ticketed the show. We greatly appreciate your patience and cooperation as we implement this change.
- Pre-ordered tickets will be sent home with the students on Tuesday, December 15. If you prefer to pick your tickets up from the front desk at the elementary school, please email Alison at receptionist@thewaverlyschool.org by noon on Tuesday, the 15th.

Rehearsal Schedule at Thorne Hall Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Carpool drivers will be contacted by the teachers with further information.

9:30 a.m. Marina
9:50 a.m. Liz & Richard
10:10 a.m. Susan
10:40 a.m. Melissa
11:00 a.m. Tina
11:25 a.m. Erin
11:50 a.m. Mike
12:15 p.m. Cheri
12:40 p.m. Middle School
1:15 p.m. Bollywood/HS Practice (Oxy Break)
1:45 p.m. Bollywood
2:30 p.m. High School Drama (HS drama students should be picked up at Thorne Hall at 3:30 p.m.)
3:45 p.m. Faculty/Staff Number (For those who can make it!)

Directions to Thorne Hall (1600 Campus Road, Los Angeles, 90041)

From Waverly:

Take Pasadena Avenue north to the 134 Fwy; take the 134 Fwy.

Exit on Colorado Blvd. (you will merge onto Colorado Blvd. going west)

Drive approximately one mile and then: Turn left on Eagle Rock Blvd.

Drive approximately one mile and then: Turn left on Westdale

Turn left on Campus Road (you are now alongside Occidental campus)

Thorne Hall is the first big building you see on your right when you first start up the hill (you are seeing the rear of the building).

Convenient Parking (3 suggestions)

1. Park anywhere on Campus Road below the first stop sign and walk over to Thorne Hall.

2. As you drive up the hill, you can turn right at Bird Road (first stop sign) onto the Occidental campus and park in the first lot on your right. Thorne Hall is down the hill to your right.

3. A multi-level parking garage is located on Gilman Road. From Campus Road, turn right on Bird Road and then left on Gilman Road. The parking garage will be on your left. Walk down Gilman Road and continue straight downhill about 100 yards. Thorne Hall will appear on your right.



GOING DOWNTOWN



Henry, Declan, Eve, Karla, and Weston answering questions about historic sites.

Waverly's eighth graders took a field trip to downtown's Olvera Street on Wednesday. They toured the oldest home in Los Angeles, the Avila Adobe, and browsed the market stalls. These students are answering questions about the historic sites.

HOLIDAY WISH LIST 2009

Waverly ninth grader, Kelsey, (and her family) is working with Bill Stadler at the AIDS Service Center in Pasadena to help bring some holiday cheer this year. AIDS Service Center's multi-disciplinary team develops and delivers services, advocacy, and education tailored to improve the quality of life of individuals, families, and communities impacted by and at risk for HIV/AIDS and related medical conditions.

Three areas in which we can partner are:

- Non-perishable food items for their weekly food pantry (Deadline is Tuesday, December 15.)
- Target gift cards, each with no more than \$25.00 (Deadline is Monday, December 14 by the end of the day.)
- Unwrapped new toys, any age (Deadline is Tuesday, December 14.)

All items can be dropped off at Waverly's high school campus. After December 15, donations can be dropped off at the AIDS Service Center at 909 South Fair Oaks Avenue, Pasadena. Tax deductible receipts are available upon request. AIDS Service Center/Pasadena is a 501C-3 non profit organization.

MUSIC TO OUR EARS

On Saturday, December 19, two Waverly high school students, Lily and Laird, will be performing in the Verdugo Youth Orchestra's Winter Concert. Please download the flyer attached to today's e-packet for more information and come and enjoy the show.

CHINATOWN DREAMS

On a very rainy Monday, the California Dreamers traveled by Metro to Chinatown. Most of the field trip was outdoors and under umbrellas. Getting wet, splashed on, and soaked was half the fun. Here are some impressions from the students:



Naman: *At the Chinese American Museum, I noticed a mural that looked like a bamboo forest. The bamboo had people's names on it. Those names represented the people who contributed to the building of Chinatown.*

Sophia: *The gateway to Chinatown had two dragons and a pearl on it. These represented love, prosperity, and peace. The guided tour was fun.*

Sophie: *I liked the museum because I learned about the "letter reader/writer." This person read letters that were sent from China and wrote letters from relatives to be sent to China. The people who used this service were illiterate.*

Bruce: *I enjoyed the architecture of Union Station.*

Porter: *The guided tour of Chinatown was full of interesting facts.*

Lindsey: *I enjoyed the Tao Temple. We burned incense and said a silent prayer.*

Shelby: *I learned how to tell the difference between a boy and girl Foo Dog. The boy has a ball under his paw and the girl has a cub under hers. These two carvings were at the entrance to the temple.*

Savannah: *I liked trying different foods to see what they taste like. Dim sum was my favorite.*

Kiki: *The Dragon Head was my favorite exhibit at the Chinese American Museum. It was designed and built in Hong Kong twenty years ago.*

Izzy: *There was a statue of a horse in front of the temple. If you crawled under it that would bring you good luck.*

Grace: *I enjoyed the bouncy ride on the Metro train. It was awesome.*

Adam: *Eating at the Empress Pavilion was great. I tasted new types of Chinese food. Yum, yum.*

Griffin: *I loved the green tea!*

Brendan: *At the museum I saw bowls of rice dated by year. Each grain of rice represented eight people who arrived from China in that year. One bowl only had two grains in it.*

WINTER READING RECOMMENDATIONS

Winter break is just around the corner and our faculty and staff have put together a list of recommended reading for you grown-ups and a few for children. These titles are books that we have enjoyed and can be read for pleasure, shared with others, purchased as gifts, or even used as impetus for conversations. The list is at the end of today's *Wave*, and is just a sampling of our current favorites!

Oh, books! May they circulate as ubiquitously as quarters

*or flu viruses, passed from hand to hand,
friend to friend,*

alluring, surprising, and occasionally dangerous.

-Jane Smiley

WORLD MARKET NEWS

The countdown is over. It's here!!! Come shop – for Christmas, for Hanukkah, for Kwanzaa, you pick the occasion; we'll provide the wonderful gifts. The Market will be open today from 2:00 until 8:00 p.m. and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We hope to see you there!

FUN WITH SCIENCE



Middle school students in Toby's science class have been discovering the digestive preferences of owls by dissecting owl pellets. Here, seventh grader Miles examines an owl pellet.

THE FUN DOESN'T HAVE TO END WHEN SCHOOL DOES!

The elementary school will be offering several afterschool class options for students beginning in January, 2009. Please mark your calendars now and continue to read *The Wave* for more information. Flyers for some classes are already available in the ES lobby. Others will soon be available.

Kid Shakespeare (Carlyle Williams and Sydney Walsh): Grades 3-6; Tuesdays (more details to follow)

Chess (San Diego Chess Academy): Grades K-6; Wednesdays, ongoing through February

Lego Robotics (Ken Riddle): Grades K-6; Thursdays, beginning January 14.

AND MORE...Stay tuned!

FARM REPORT



Billy and Eamonn warding off vampires

A project long on my mind was braiding garlic to sell at the World Market. Last year, the high school farming class grew garlic, and this summer, we harvested and dried it. The middle school farming class then braided it for this year's market. It's not really pretty, but definitely edible. The trick, I believe, is letting it dry for just the right amount of time. Since the braiding part of the project was a little tenuous, I'm guessing we dried it a little too long. Good old farm; it always has something to teach you! We also ate arugula this week and lettuces will soon be ready. Hope to see you out at the farm!

donnafurey@gmail.com

IT'S COMING!

Waverly's annual Silent Auction has had a date change. Please save Sunday, March 21, 2010 on your calendar for the WPO's biggest fundraiser! We need all families to donate to the Auction, so please start thinking about what you can give. Restaurant certificates, tickets to events, goods and services are all welcome. Some businesses like to give at the end of the year and others at the beginning. If you can think of some places to ask for donations, please help out your school by asking for their support.

Thanks and Happy Holidays from the WPO!

THINK PINK WHEN YOU EAT & DRINK

This is it! Thursday, December 17 is the last day to support the French Club's "Save Lids to Save Lives" campaign. **Lids** of Yoplait yogurt are helping to save lives; just pick up a spoon and you can help fight breast cancer. When you have finished your Yoplait yogurt with the **pink** lid, wash the lid, save it, and then drop it off in the collection box at high school. In the fight against breast cancer, every lid matters!

USE OTHER PEOPLE'S MONEY TO SUPPORT WAVERLY!

Let me be clear, what you are doing is shopping. What the eScrip Merchants are doing is giving Waverly some of their profits. That's right; they are giving up their money. So, you've got to ask: what do they get for it? These merchants get your business. They figure that you would like to shop at a place that supports your kid's school. That's it, that's the whole transaction. At this point, you may be asking: But what does it cost me? The answer is a few minutes of your time to sit down and register your cards. It's simple! It's safe. It's secure. It's confidential. Oh, and did I mention that it's incredibly easy? Just register your participating grocery club cards and credit/debit cards, and eScrip does the rest. Really, just follow these steps:

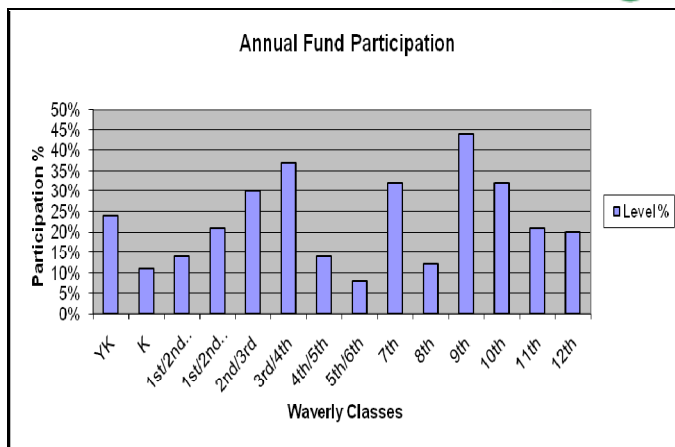
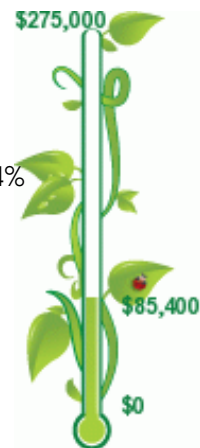
- 1) Log on to www.escrip.com to get started.
- 2) Click on "Sign Up, It's Free."
- 3) Enter either our Group ID: **141860275** or our Group Name: **The Waverly School**. Then click on "Search."
- 4) Two Waverly Schools come up. Make sure you select the Bellevue address or some school in New York will get our money.
- 5) Another page with The Waverly School comes up; just to make sure you really are supporting the right school. Click "Next."
- 6) Fill out the "Mandatory Information About Yourself" page. Click "Next."
- 7) Use the pull down menus to register your grocery club cards. (Need your Vons or Pavilions card number? Call 1-877-723-3929 for help.) Click "Next."
- 8) You are now on Step 4, only a few more things to do. Pull all your debit and credit cards out of your wallet and, again using the pull down menus, register each and every one of them. Click "Next."
- 9) This is the "Retail" page. You know the drill. Pull out your Macy's card, and use the pull down menu to register it. Click "Next."
- 10) YOU'VE DONE IT.
- 11) Go shopping at Vons, Pavilions, Bristol Farms, Howe's, and other participating eScrip merchants listed on the site. Fill your carts!
- 12) Eat at Baja Fresh, Celestino's, Holly Street Bar & Grill, and a slew of other eScrip restaurants. Fill your stomachs!
- 13) Use your eScrip registered cards for all your purchases. A percentage of purchases will be automatically contributed by the merchant.

That's it! You shop, you eat, you wear cool new clothes, and Waverly earns money. If you do need some assistance, e-mail Michelle, your friendly eScrip Chair, at mcreative@mac.com or call 626-791-2441.

ANNUAL FUND UPDATE

2009-2010 Annual Fund Goal: \$275,000

- Dollars raised as of 12/7/09: \$85,399.64 (includes pledges)
- Overall family participation to date: 24%



Class Participation Bar Graph

Save the Date

Thursday, December 17
Early Dismissal, YK-12

Thursday, December 17
Holiday Show, 7:00 p.m.
Thorne Hall (Occidental College)

December 18- January 3
Winter Break
(School resumes Monday, January 4)

**READ ON FOR SOME OF YOUR
FACULTY AND STAFF'S
RECOMMENDED
READING LIST!**

WHAT WE'RE READING

*What we have loved
Others will love
And we will teach them how*
-William Wordsworth

Amy (HS English teacher)

The Children's Book, A.S. Byatt - NOT a book for children, but a beautifully written novel about a group of free thinkers at the turn of the century - 1895 to 1918. Nearly 700 pages long, and I was sorry when it ended - could have kept reading about all these characters.

Bernie (HS History teacher)

Savages and Scoundrels, Paul VanDevelder - a beautifully-written, infuriating history of our treatment of Native Americans.

Young Men and Fire, Norman MacLean - the last book by one of my favorite authors. In his eighties, MacLean investigates the Mann Gulch fire in Montana, in which many smokejumpers died, and meditates on bravery, wilderness, and life's choices.

Spin, Robert Charles Wilson - a splendid science-fiction novel, about the fate of man and the fate of the earth.

Billy (MS Math teacher)

Life is So Good, George Dawson - the author learned to read at age 98, and wrote this book at age 103.

Cup of Comfort for Teachers, Colleen Sell - a compilation of short stories from various people (teachers, former students, parents, etc).

Brittany (1/2 assistant teacher)

Three Cups of Tea, Greg Mortenson

East of Eden, John Steinbeck

Cheri (5/6 teacher)

I just steamrolled through two books that I couldn't put down:

The Glass of Time, Michael Fox
Labyrinth, Kate Mosse

Both books are period mystery/adventure stories with plot twists, murders, scheming, and intricate relationships and have strong women as heroines. *The Glass of Time* has a prequel and *Labyrinth* is the first in a trilogy. I will buy all of them! They all have excellent reviews too.

Constance (MS/HS Art teacher)

Still Life With Oysters and Lemon: On Objects and Intimacy, Mark Doty

Dan (HS History teacher)

Cosmopolitanism: Ethics in a World of Strangers. Kwame Anthony Appiah - the Princeton philosopher of Ghanaian (Asante) and English descent and education writes about how to work at being reasonable and humane in a complex and frustrating world. A work of scholarship beautifully illustrated with biographical anecdotes.

The Decline and Fall of the British Empire, 1781-1997, Piers Brendon - nearly as good as his *The Dark Valley: A Panorama of the 1930's*. The best old-fashioned narrative historian writing in English. He mixes together clear critical analysis and brutally honest, and sometimes hilarious, characterizations of the powerful and infuriating descriptions of grotesque injustices.

Low Life: Lures and Snares of Old New York, Luc Sante - an amazing social history of the underside of New York City between 1840 and 1919.

Deborah (Registrar)

The Snow Leopard, Peter Matthiessen - true story of the author's physical and spiritual journey through the Himalaya.

The Time Traveler's Wife, Audrey Niffenegger - forget the movie, read the book.

Erin (3/4 teacher)

Outlander Series, Diana Gabaldon - her first book, *Outlander*, is the best.

Love in the Time of Cholera, Gabriel Garcia Marquez

Martin Eden, Jack London - atypical

The Baron in the Trees, Italo Calvino - Cuban author

Daughter of Fortune, Isabelle Allende

Outliers, Malcolm Gladwell

Grete (HS Administrative Assistant)

Animal, Vegetable, Miracle, Barbara Kingsolver - a beautifully written account of one family's dedication to a year of eating locally.

The River Why, David James Duncan - a fishing story, of sorts, from a great American novelist.

Heather (HS Dean of Students)

Straight Man, Richard Russo - a touching, funny, thoughtful campus satire.

The Gift of the Red Bird, Paula D'Arcy - a story of spiritual exhaustion, a journey alone into the wilderness, and a renewal of faith.

Listening Is an Act of Love: A Celebration of American Life from the StoryCorps Project, edited by David Isay - an oral history of America with the voices of everyday people.

Eat, Pray, Love, Elizabeth Gilbert

Heidi (Head of School)

Colter: The True Story of the Best Dog I Ever Had, Rick Bass - I loved this book in spite of my feelings about hunting. Bass writes beautifully.

Blueberry Girl, Neil Gaiman - a lovely picture book. Would make a wonderful gift for a girl (or woman) of any age.

Janice (Athletic Director)

Einstein's Dreams, Alan Lightman - a fictionalized account of Einstein's youth as he works through his theory of relativity. But don't let that stop you from reading one of the most delightful small reads. The book is a wonderful wandering through all the possibilities of our relationship with time.

A Sport of Nature, Nadine Gordimer - set in Africa, the book explores themes of black South Africa's confrontation with white apartheid through the life of one white woman.

Longitude, Dava Sobel - another small read, the book tells the story of one man's 40 year quest of the marine chronometer, a fascinating object that literally changed the course of exploration.

Katherine (HS Math teacher)

(I am really a bookworm in a math teacher suit!)

I Am Charlotte Simmons, Tom Wolfe

The Lords of Discipline, Pat Conroy

Geek Love: A Novel, Katherine Dunn

We Were the Mulvaneys, Joyce Carol Oates

The Blind Side: Evolution of a Game, Michael Lewis

The Help, Kathryn Stockett

Water for Elephants, Sara Gruen
Distant Land of my Father, Bo Caldwell

One Hundred Years of Solitude, Gabriel Garcia Marquez

Breakfast of Champions, Kurt Vonnegut

Catch-22, Joseph Heller

Kerry (YK/K assistant teacher)

Jane Eyre, Charlotte Bronte - I read this book over the summer while riding the trains in Paris and totally LOVED it! I thought it would be a drag, but it was so well written and romantic.

7 Habits of Highly Effective People, Steven Covey - I've probably read it three times over the years and reference it often to write my personal mission statement, and goals. I even had the high school cheerleaders write a short paper about their goals (always good for high school students I think). It's a great book for everyone!

Kristin (1/2 assistant teacher)

The Power of One. Bruce Courtenay

Fluke: or, I know Why The Winged Whale Sings, Christopher Moore

Stealing Buddha's Dinner: A Memoir, Bich Minh Nguyen

Jennifer (Admissions Director)

A Concise Chinese English Dictionary For Lovers, Xiaolu Guo - I love this book; a thoughtful, funny cultural exploration - clever and thoughtfully written!

City of Thieves, David Benioff - a great read for men, women and high school students. A story that has moments of horror, compassion, humor, and friendship

Lisa (MS Dean of Students)

Feed Me!: Writers Dish About Food, Eating, Weight, and Body Image, edited by Harriet Brown - there are some really great little essays in here.

The Worst Hard Time: The Untold Story of Those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl, Timothy Egan - I had no idea how fascinating this part of U.S. history is.

The Discomfort Zone: A Personal History, Jonathan Franzen - for me, it nails the experience of being a teenager in the '70s. I am loving it.

Liz (K teacher)

The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo, Stieg Larsson

Snow Flower and the Secret Fan, Lisa See

Maria B. (2/3 assistant teacher)

Picture books for parents and young children:

Oh My Baby, Little One, Kathi Appelt - I loved this book because it comforted and reassured me (us) dealing with separation anxiety as a working parent.

Kiss Good Night, Amy Hest

All the World, Liz Garton Scanlon

Maria R. (HS Spanish teacher)

Catherwood, Mary Youman's

Ficciones, a book in Spanish by Jorge Luis Borges

Three Cups of Tea, Greg Mortensen and David Oliver Relin

Marina (YK teacher)

To be enjoyed by young readers with adults:

Raven; A Trickster Tale From The Pacific Northwest, Gerald McDermott

Jabuti; A Trickster Tale From the Amazon, Gerald McDermott

Arrow to the Sun; A Pueblo Indian Tale, Gerald McDermott

Coyote; A Trickster Tale From the American Southwest, Gerald McDermott

If...., Sarah Perry - illustrations present imaginative possibilities, such as cats that fly, teeth that are toes, caterpillars that come out of toothpaste tubes, and a square moon.

Fortunately, Remy Charlip - a boy's luck turns from good to bad to good again and again.

To be enjoyed by adults:
The Beach, Alex Garland

Earth Abides, George R. Stewart

Melissa (1/2 teacher)

Traveling Mercies: Some Thoughts on Faith, Ann Lamott - her writing is humorously honest, thought provoking and incredibly real.

Mike (4/5 teacher)

The Great Railway Bazaar, Paul Theroux - Liz and I first got hooked on train travel because of this book. I just finished reading his most recent book *Ghost Train to the Eastern Star*.

Pol Pot: Anatomy of a Nightmare, Phillip Short - having been to the Killing Fields, the schools turned into prisons and interrogation centers, and hearing the horror stories from the locals, I had to learn more about Pol Pot and what made him tick.

Rebecca (MS English teacher)

Custom of the Country, Edith Wharton - brilliant social satire tempered by a tale of tragic, misguided love.

Of Human Bondage, W. Somerset Maugham - a wrenching tale of tragic, misguided love, sans the social satire.

Possession, A.S. Byatt - two intertwining love stories - one star-crossed, both tragedy-free! A good antidote to the previous two titles.

Nicholas Nickelby, Charles Dickens - a tale of all that is good in the world triumphing over all that is bad. As uplifting and restorative as a Pixar movie, but with Dickens' verbal wit and wizardry.

Sharon (HS English teacher)

The Known World, Edward P. Jones - explores how slavery affects the lives of a community in antebellum Virginia, with special focus on Henry Townsend, a black slave-owner.

White Teeth, Zadie Smith - set primarily in modern London; tells the story of intergenerational, interracial and intercultural relationships gone awry and gone aright.

Terri (Head of Lower School)

The Fourth Little Pig, Teresa Celsi - tells another version of The Three Little Pigs this time introducing us to the fourth pig, strong "sister pig." Look for used copies of this "Ready, Set, Read" book.

Hungry Planet: What the World Eat, photographed by Peter Menzel and written by Faith D'Aluisio- this book presents "a photographic study of families from around the world, revealing what people eat during the course of one week."

Tina (2/3 teacher)

Once a Dancer: Autobiography of Allegra Kent - former ballerina with NYC ballet.

Body for Life, Bill Phillips - healthy eating, nutrition and exercise program.

Toby (MS Science teacher)

Guns, Germs and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies, Jared Diamond - my favorite among all of his wonderful books. This book looks at the question of why Pizarro was able to march into the Inca capital with a few dozen soldiers and conquer their civilization rather than the other way around.

Three Junes, Julia Glass - beautifully written novel that delves into the characters lives during three separate Junes spanning ten years.

Traci (3/4 assistant teacher)

Wonder Boys, Michael Chabon

Adventures of Caviler and Clay, Michael Chabon

Bright and Shiny Morning, James Frey

What is the What, Dave Eggers

The Beach, Alex Garland

Valley of the Dolls, Jacqueline Susann

Wendy (ES/MS Librarian)

Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet, Jamie Ford - a love story between two unlikely people spans over 40 years from World War II to 1986. I highly recommend this book!

9 Dragons, Michael Connelly - the latest in his Harry Bosch detective series which are always excellent.

Living in a Foreign Language; a Memoir of Food, Wine and Love in Italy, Michael Tucker - the actor and his wife make the decision to purchase a 350 year old home in the Umbrian countryside. Something of a personal dream of mine.