



From the Principal

John Stanford International School

April 8, 2009

Dear JSIS Families,

Welcome back from spring break! I hope you all had a wonderful week off from school. As for me . . . (from Seoul or Seattle...)

- We got the call over spring break that my adopted daughter is ready to be picked up and brought home! At this very moment, We're in Seoul, Korea meeting my daughter! I look forward to coming back and introducing you to my beautiful baby girl!
- I got the call over spring break that my adopted daughter is ready to be picked up and brought home! At this very moment, I'm already back at home recovering from the long, emotional (and absolutely wonderful) trip. I can't believe we finally have her home with us. (And, I can't believe how much sleep I'm *not* getting anymore now that I'm a dad!)
- I am still (some days – patiently; some days – not so patiently) waiting to get the call from the adoption agency and had a great time over break rearranging the baby room 2 times and attempting to remodel my bathroom using Home Depot's "retiling-your-bathroom-yourself-in-20-easy-steps kit"

We have a lot of exciting things going on at school this month from WASL to our 2009 Growing Compassionate Global Citizens Campaign! Here's what we have in store for your kids!

Here's the WASL schedule for this year. (Note that all testing happens in the morning.)

	3 rd Grade	4 th Grade	5 th Grade
Week 1			
Tuesday, April 14	Reading Session 1	Reading Session 1	Reading Session 1
Wednesday, April 15		Math Session 1	Math Session 1
Thursday, April 16	Reading Session 2	Writing Session 1	Science Session 1
Week 2			
Tuesday, April 21	Math Session 1	Reading Session 2	Reading Session 2
Wednesday, April 22		Math Session 2	Math Session 2
Thursday, April 23	Math Session 2	Writing Session 2	Science Session 2

Please make sure your child get's plenty of sleep, a healthy breakfast, and a strong dose of positive encouragement during this time. We hope that all kids will give their very best effort. Thanks to families for supporting your kids as they conquer the WASL this year!

2009 Growing Compassionate Global Citizens Campaign!

Welcome to the 2nd Annual Compassion Campaign at JSIS! Last year's focus on compassion was such a great success that we decided to bring it back again this year. As all JSIS staff and families know, success in the global community requires excellence in academic achievement, facility in more than one language, and an understanding of global perspective. What we also know, especially from watching our world leaders, is that we also want our budding global citizens to be

equipped with hearts of respect, empathy, cultural competence, and compassion. Thus, we are spending the next month or so focusing on compassion in each of our classrooms and as a school as a whole. Take a look at the compassion events happening at JSIS this year:

Compassion Event #1: UNICEF Day for Change 2009
Supporting Children in Papua New Guinea
April 6 – 10, 2009

This past Monday, global citizens at John Stanford Int'l School learned about UNICEF's Day for Change 2009 to support children in Papua New Guinea. Mariner High School student, Laura Barrera, spent fifteen minutes in each class talking about how we can provide fresh drinking water, school books and health care supplies just by collecting change throughout the week. By the end of this week, the change brought in by students, staff and families will be collected, counted and then donated to UNICEF.

Compassion Event #2
Read-a-Thon Book Drive
March 23 – April 10, 2009

In honor of Read-a-thon month, JSIS is sponsoring a used book drive for English and Spanish books. The English will be donated to the non-profit group **Reading Tree** for low-income families. The Spanish books will be sent to a school library in Montevideo, Uruguay which our own **Senora Ana** helped to start two years ago. To learn more, please visit our website at www.jsisweb.com or e-mail Ms. Kathleen at kmgillespie@seattleschools.org.

English books:

- children's books only
- fiction & non-fiction (no magazines)
- all personal identification crossed off

Spanish books:

- paper back only
- Shipping cost donations welcome - Please drop donations in Uruguay
Donation jar located on library circulation desk.

Compassion Event #3
Compassion Sightings!
April – May, 2009

- **When have you witnessed someone showing compassion to *someone else*?**
- **When have you witnessed someone showing compassion to *you*?**

Compassion happens all around us! Everyday! Sometimes we notice it, but oftentimes we miss it. In order to help our community collectively notice compassionate acts around them, we would like our kids, parents and staff to share their "**Compassion Sightings**". We invite you to talk with your child each night about the two questions above. If you and your child can answer one of the questions above, share your story! Write your compassion sighting down (without specific names), then submit it to your child's classroom teacher or to the office. Every week, I will select a "compassion sighting" to share in my principal letter, at Monday Morning Assemblies, and during our Friday Poetry Aloud at 9:15 AM over the intercom. Compassion is contagious. Let's share our stories with each other.

Announcements & Reminders:

- **All-School Spring Music Concert Date Change – April 16 at 6:30!** Due to a scheduling conflict with the Passover holiday, we are rescheduling the All-School Spring Music Concert for **Thursday, April 16th at 6:30**. The theme is Take Me Out to the Ballgame, and **all students are to wear baseball, softball, or other athletic clothing**. No bats, balls, or catcher’s masks, please. The all-school dress rehearsal will be at 1:30 pm on the same day. The classes will be performing songs and dances about baseball. Please join us for this fun music concert as your kids help us usher in the new baseball season in song and dance!
- **JSIS Start and End Times for 2009 – 2010** – As you may have heard, the Seattle School Board approved the proposal for all elementary schools to start a bit later this coming school year. Currently, JSIS starts at 9:10 am and goes to 3:20. Next year, although the specific time is not definite, we will probably start closer to 9:30 am and go to 3:40. More information on specific start and end times will come out in the near future.
- **Annual Fund Deadline Extended** – Donations are continuing to come in for the Annual Fund Drive! We’ll keep the fund drive going the next couple of weeks with the hope of reaching our \$115,000 goal. Thank you all for your generosity. Don’t forget about company matching funds. Matching funds have really boosted our donations to date!

Calendar of Events:	
April 13 – May 1	WASL Testing Window (See detailed schedule above)
April 16	Rescheduled All-School Music Concert - (6:30 pm)
April 22	LSA Spring Fashion Show (7:00 – 9:00 pm)
April 30	Language Selection meeting CANCELLED. We will reschedule for late May or early June.
May 6	4/5 Instrumental Music Concert at West Seattle High (7:15 pm)
May 7	International Arts Culminating Celebration – Performances by students in grades K, 2, 4 and Ribbon Dancers
May 8	Group Photo Day La Fiesta Latina (formerly Latino Night) 6:30pm – 8:30pm in the Cafeteria/Gym
May 9 (Saturday)	Plant Sale to support our sister school in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico
May 20	2-Hour Early Dismissal 1:20
May 27	Young Author’s Day