



SANTA CATALINA LOWER SCHOOL COUGAR CONNECTION

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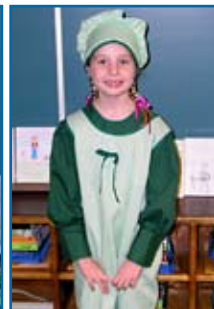
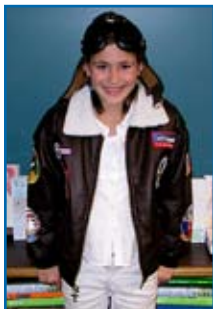
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GRADE 3 BIOGRAPHY NIGHT *HISTORY ON DISPLAY!*

On Tuesday, February 6, over one hundred parents, friends, and culture seekers gathered in the multi-purpose room to celebrate Grade 3's *International Biography Night*. Promptly at 6:30, twenty-three historical characters, including three leaders of State, Eleanor of Aquitaine, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Julius Caesar marched down the celebratory aisle accompanied by music and much applause. Only the twenty-fourth, Albert Einstein, suffered a bout of absent-mindedness as, immersed in a math book, he wandered through the hall and onto the stage.

Mrs. Pollacci, Division Head Grades Pre-K – Grade 4, handed out awards and inducted Mrs. Gerstl's sparkling performers into the Biography Hall of Fame, as each of them gave two minute speeches completely in character, and described their lives and times. When "Walt Disney" finished his talk, a hundred pairs of hands and feet clapped and stomped and a hundred voices sang out, "M-I-C-K-E-Y M-O-U-S-E" to the accompaniment of perennial third grader and pianist, Mr. Gerstl. The characters ranged from Martin Luther King to Laura Ingalls Wilder, and from Sacagawea to George Lucas.

This most worthwhile and successful performance was followed by refreshments in the "Social Rotunda" (the Grade 3 classroom), where the audience and the performers happily dined on snacks that the characters themselves would have enjoyed.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Grade 2 parents: Please note that the correct time for First Holy Communion is 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 19, in the Rosary Chapel. We look forward to seeing you at the parent meeting on Wednesday, February 21, 8:15 a.m. – 9:25 a.m., in Room 9. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Lower School office.

CHESS FOR FUN AND SUCCESS

It is not too late to sign up for the Chess Club. Forms are available in the Lower School office. The class meets on Mondays in Room 12 from 3:40-4:40 p.m.

BIG SUR MARATHON

from Linda Mutty

The 2007 Big Sur International Marathon Schools 5K, presented by the Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula, will be held on Sunday, April 29, 2007. This is the 16th annual run/walk event and many of our students, both current and former, have participated with their family and friends. Through this participation, they have not only had a wonderful early morning run or walk along the beautiful coastline but have also earned the Lower School extra funds based on the number of participants in relationship to the student population of the Lower School. Because of the good turnout last year, the Lower School was awarded \$500. More importantly, all proceeds from each of the events sponsored by the Big Sur International Marathon go back into our local community to assist nonprofit organizations in their good work.

In order for you and your family members to participate, please stop by the office or ask your child to pick up the necessary entry form/s. For each participant, an entry form must be completed and returned to the Lower School office with the entry fee/s attached by noon on Thursday, March 8. All checks are to be payable to "BSIM." As School Coordinator, I will be delivering these forms by hand after school on Thursday, and all papers and fees must be in order for the marathon personnel to confirm participation. As noted on the form, "Incomplete forms, or forms without signatures, or without the appropriate entry fee will be returned." In short, we will not receive credit, and you will not be able to participate. It is very important that you be sure to fill in the information at the top of the form that asks for "Name of School You Are Representing," "Coordinator's Name," and "Telephone." (Santa Catalina School, Linda Mutty, 655-9375.) Please do not separate the forms. If you register online, be sure to do the same as well as let me know that you are participating.

I will be distributing the t-shirts, bibs, and information in the goody bags on Friday, April 27 here at school. Please be sure to stop by and pick up your race day bags before 4:30 p.m. on Friday or have your child pick them up before the end of the day. Remind your child to bring the bag home to you.

Our numbers are up as of last year for participation. I look forward to watching our numbers grow this year. From observations of PE classes and recesses from my office window, I am amazed by our students who breeze around the track or down the playing field at such significant clips. Our students make it look as though no more energy is expended than a stroll

continued next column...

What's Ahead

- February Community Service: *Unite for Sight*.
- Chapel Sing, Tuesday, February 20, 9:40 a.m., Rosary Chapel, B Schedule.
- Mass, Wednesday, February 21, 10:30 a.m., Rosary Chapel, C Schedule, Chapel Dress.
- Middle School Spelling Bee, Thursday, February 15, 10:30 a.m., MPR, C Schedule.
- No Primary/Intermediate Assembly, Friday, February 16.
- Book Swap, Friday, February 16, at lunchtime.
- Grade 6 Girl Scouts, Monday, February 19, 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Service League Cottage.
- Grade 2 Brownies, Tuesday, February 20.
- Grade 3 Brownies, Tuesday, February 20, 3:15 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Grade 1 to Aquarium, Thursday, February 22, 9:15 a.m. to 12:20 p.m.
- Primary/Intermediate Assembly, Friday, February 23. Pre-K presents.
- Grandparents' Day, April 2: Forms need to be turned in by February 23. Forms are available in the Lower School office.
- Winter Break: February 26–March 2. Classes resume March 5.

Big Sur Marathon, continued.

in the park. They have been "in training" for quite some time, and now it is time to show what they can do. For those of us who stopped training some time ago, the marathon will be a lovely stroll in the park. Many thanks to all of you who will be participating in this worthwhile event.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SPELLING BEE

On Thursday, February 15, at 10:30 a.m. in the MPR, twelve of our top middle school spellers will compete in the annual Middle School Spelling Bee. The winner of this bee will represent Santa Catalina School in the countywide Spelling Bee, which offers the opportunity to compete in the nationwide bee in Washington, D.C. in March.

After a difficult written qualifying test given to all students, the top spellers are as follows: Grade 6 – Margaret Bozzo, Michelle Lee, Jessica Michalek, and Perry Sheldon; Grade 7 – Farah Abouzeid, Annika Fling, Natalie Kolber, and Esteban Sanchez; Grade 8 – Lauren Bishop, Kristina Flathers, Bridget Tengdin, and Sophia Yu. This will be an exciting contest, considering that last year's champion, Kristina Flathers, is competing again as a Grade 8 student!