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German American Society
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November 2009 Newsletter

Learning styles: Some students need to talk things through to really understand them. Some like pictures, diagrams and models. Some need to "just do it." Different learning styles (here: auditory, visual, logical, kinesthetic) are the reason all students, not just young ones, benefit from a holistic approach to language. To find out more or to pinpoint your best learning styles, search "multiple intelligences" or a similar German approach, "HALB." –Frau Ries

Our first double school day for school-aged students was October 17. "*Was macht dir Spaß?*" took German out of the classroom and into the kitchen, pretend city streets, and much more. Thanks to everyone who helped make this day happen. Students and teachers all learned a lot, and we'll apply more of this type of learning in the future.

Children's choir / Gesang: Leaders have stepped forward to sing every Saturday from 9:30-10:00. (Exceptions are November 7, when school starts for everyone at 3:00, and if we have a school breakfast or other early activity.) Singing together builds our community and reinforces the classroom lessons. Come join us!

Library Families can borrow materials for use at home each week from 10:00-10:20 and 12:05-12:25. Come check it out—it may be small, but there are some real treasures. (One floor up, across from stairs.)

Laternenfest, November 7: Class starts late, from 3:00-5:30, followed by our family event in honor of St. Martin: a lantern parade & simple meal. Don't forget your lantern-making supplies!

Puppet Theater Wilde Hummel at GSSOP November 14. FREE. Sponsored by the German American Society in honor of the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, this troupe will present several of Rudyard Kipling's Just So Stories for our students at 11:30. There will be an additional public performance at 3:30 at the Haus as well (tickets \$5).

Interested in carpooling? Place a notice on the information board in the parent volunteer room, just past where you turn left to go to class. List your first name, number of riders, where you're from, and contact information.

Outside opportunity: Host a German-speaking high school foreign exchange student through EF Foundation for Foreign Study, a non-profit dedicated to cultural and educational exchange in America. Students arrive January 2010. Families can pick a student based on gender, hobbies, and interests. Students come with their own monthly allowance and health insurance. For information, visit <http://effoundation.org> and call Kim at 503-518-2225 by November 20th.

Volunteer Corner: Denise Crabb (denise_crabb@yahoo.com)

Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped so far! Denise can hook you up with one of our programs if you haven't yet had a chance. Here are a couple ideas to get you thinking:

Run the laminating machine: Saturday mornings throughout the year. Volunteer any time.

Musical volunteer: Help coordinate the music we sing in choir and as a school. Volunteer by November 21.

Create the *Sprachmeister* awards for students who consistently use German in the classroom. Volunteer by December 5.

Fundraising geniuses needed for a Christmas tree sale and pancake breakfast, possibly other ideas. Volunteer asap.

Your Saturday School Staff