



MID-PENINSULA
HIGH
SCHOOL

Douglas C. Thompson, PhD
Head of School

1340 Willow Road • Menlo Park, CA 94025-1516 • (650) 321-1991 • Fax (650) 321-9921 • www.mid-pen.com

23 May 2008

Dear Parents,

And all of a sudden, when you least expect it, it's May. And late May to boot! Ready or not (mostly not, at this end), here we go on that wild slide into finals, Graduation, and ... Summer!

Much has happened since my last letter to you.

Our sports teams struggled with various challenges this season. While the baseball team veered from success to set-back, they improved greatly over the course of the season, providing some exciting games and three memorable victories. They finished the season at 3-13. Morgan Bixby, Alan Guillen, Daniel Sanchez, Nick Cohn & Nick Marshment all were nominated for All-League Honorable Mention. Morgan Bixby was voted team MVP by the coaches this year. In an exciting victory against Bridgmont, Morgan hit for the cycle which is a single, double, triple and a homerun! It was a season of highs and lows but the team stuck together and became a really fun and competitive team to watch.

Due to injuries and not enough players the girl's softball team only played 5 games this year. Led by Seniors Candice Briggs and Michaela Johnson, the girls remained committed and worked hard. They all seemed to enjoy being part of a team, and they had fun as a group. In one memorable game against Latino College Prep the girls scored 9 runs in one inning and went through the batting order a season-high 6 times. That was quite an achievement against one of the league's best pitchers, and showed what the girls were capable of.

I thank these athletes, and their coaches for their efforts. Dragons rule!

On the 7th of May, Jon and his Spanish students, under the guidance of Leticia organized and produced a wonderful "Cinco de siete de mayo" festival, complete with burritos, enchiladas from the Hildreths, two spectacular flan cakes from Rachel Foreman, and 3 pinatas. And on the 10th of this month, we journeyed to the Zeum in San Francisco for another animated and successful prom. Thanks to Anna and Julia's apparently boundless energy, "A Night in the City" was a fabulously elegant evening of dining and dancing. And speaking of Anna, she and her crew of artists put on another impressive Art Show last Friday; I hope you all were able to see it. It seems to me that this year's crew has produced an unusual number of high quality, inspirational works. Also on display were the vocal and instrumental talents of Ben's "Music Ensemble," who regaled us with a number of rocking tunes, including a particularly spirited "Twist and Shout," with Jacob Marker on lead vocals.

On Monday the 19th, Judy, Rachel, and I hosted a luncheon to thank the Parent Association volunteers for their efforts on the behalf of the school. We are truly blessed with a supportive and caring group of parents. Last week's Staff Appreciation was a movable and seemingly endless feast of goodies of all flavors!

As if all, this weren't enough, several events are looming the horizon. The always much-anticipated **Senior/Staff Dinner** will be at the Garden Court Hotel in Palo Alto on Tuesday 27 May, starting at 6:30 PM. Last day for seniors will be Wednesday 28 May, followed by Graduation rehearsal on Friday 30 May at 10:00 AM. Please remember that **timely attendance at graduation rehearsal is mandatory**; students who fail to attend the rehearsal will not be able to walk in graduation. And then, at 4:30pm on Saturday 31 May, we will gather for Graduation itself.

I remind all of you who are not graduating that the deadline for returning contracts for the 2008-09 year was Friday 18 April. As of today we still have not heard from about 18 families. If you have not already done so, please return your contract with your check as soon as possible. If you have any questions about this process, or if you are concerned about financial aid issues, please call Richard or me right away. Also, enclosed is the calendar for the 2008-09 year.

And finally, we have been busy getting ready for Summer School. Summer School will run from 23 June through 25 July this year. As always, any missing credit at the end of the year will need to be made in Summer School or next year. Brochures are available at the front desk, and we are offering a variety of courses, including courses in Art, Drama, and Music as well as the usual academic fare. Once again we will run summer school over 5 4-day weeks, and we plan to continue the "traditional" Thursday barbecues! If you think you might want to take advantage of this, please contact Nicola as soon as possible.

I conclude, as always, by thanking you again for the opportunity to work with your remarkable, challenging, stimulating, and utterly delightful children.

Sincerely,

Douglas C. Thompson, PhD
Head of School