

June 12, 2008

Dear Franklin Families,

The artwork is coming down from the walls, the lost and found is in the breezeway, and depending on who you ask, the fifth graders tied the teachers in our annual kickball game. These are all signs that the school year is coming to an end, that summer is a welcome treat at the end of the week and that it's time for my annual reflection.

As always, the students brought the energy to our days and it is for them that we are most thankful. I wish you could see them on TRIBES family days. Fifth graders leading kindergartners by the hand, groups of all ages working and playing together, it's incredible. The fifth graders set a positive tone for the school and as they did their final lap at the kickball game, with the rest of the school cheering them on, I couldn't help but think how much they will be missed.

This year the Franklin staff showed us that they're not just great teachers, but great parents too. Joining the rest of our kids were Maisen, Hannah, Collin, Mischa, Jason, Cole and baby Maduck will be here soon! Together we have celebrated, laughed, learned and looked forward to coming to work each day.

All of you put on the most successful Carnival to date with an overwhelming feeling of community spirit. At one point I forced myself to stop making cotton candy long enough to take it all in. Your commitment and dedication to the school makes Franklin successful. Thank-you for all that you've done this year and a special hug to all who will graduate on Friday with your fifth grader, we will miss you!

Next year will bring a few changes with our enrollment reaching 500 as we welcome several new families and re-organize to open a new classroom (Room 21). The City of Burlingame will build a new pump station on the northwest hill near the parking lot to pump additional water into our Franklin neighborhood. The students and teachers will embark on a new math adoption called Everyday Math and all of the third graders will be on a full day schedule (8:30 - 3:00).

Our custodian and good friend, Mr. Vinny, will retire this summer after years of hard work and lots of fun. As one of the students said in a farewell note, "Without you Mr. Vinny, our school would be a complete mess!" Kids always say it best! We also say good-bye to our superintendent Dr. Sonny Da Marto and wish him all of the best in his new district.

Next year Franklin School turns **50** and we will celebrate the many traditions and people who set the foundation for this amazing place. The fun begins on the first day of school, Tuesday, August 26, 2008. Until then, enjoy every minute of summer!

Sincerely,

*important 08-09 dates are listed on the back