



**From the Head of School  
Ms. Susan McGinty**



February in San Antonio is associated with everything Rodeo and Valentines! At CDMS, February is re-enrollment time. Look for an invitation to re-enroll your student for the 2012-2013 school year.

**Protected enrollment** is February 1 through February 20; afterwards, enrollment will open to the public. If you register before February 20, you will receive \$50 per child off your registration fee as a thank you for your continued confidence and loyalty to our school. If you have any concerns regarding your student's education, please stop by the office and talk with me.

A big thank you to all of the fathers and significant others who were able to take time from their busy day to attend **Donuts and Demos for Dads**. It is always a pleasure to see the children demonstrating their work and serving their loved ones. Mothers can look forward to their special time with the children at the Mother's Day Teas in May.

Prospective families are invited to an **Open House on Wednesday, February 8, 9:30 – noon**. This is also an opportunity for you to see the next class level for your child. If you have any friends or colleagues who are making decisions regarding their children's education please send them our way! The referring family will receive \$50 when the referral executes a contract.

Your first opportunity for the spring semester **Parent/Teacher conferences** is **Monday, February 20**. The next opportunity is **Friday, March 9**. Please reserve a time to discuss your child's progress with the teacher by signing up on the schedule posted outside the respective classroom.



The "**Montessori Journey**," hosted by the PTO, was an opportunity for parents to see the Science curriculum presented by the teachers. The Pre-Primary and Primary level materials provide a strong foundation for the students to build their classification skills while their vocabulary, organization and fine motor skills are enhanced. It was evident as the work becomes more complex in the Kindergarten, Lower Elementary and Upper Elementary classrooms, it challenges the students to utilize their skills and knowledge and grow academically. If you were unable to attend and have any questions, please stop by the office and talk with me.

#### **Leap Year Folklore:**

Persons born on leap day are called "leaplings" or "leapers." It was once thought that leaping babies would be sickly and "hard to raise," though no one remembers why.



Many, many years ago, it was thought that adjusting the calendar was tinkering with nature and would adversely affect crops and livestock. If beans or peas were planted during a leap year they would “grow the wrong way.” And the Scots thought, “leap year was never a good sheep year.”

A whimsical tradition dating back at least four centuries allowed women the “privilege” of proposing marriage to men during leap year. It was said if the man refused, he would have to pay her a fine, or suffer ill fortune.

As we know, leap year occurs because our actual year is  $365 \frac{1}{4}$  days in length. So every four years, and years that are evenly divisible by 4, is a leap year and has 366 days. (And there’s more ... every century has to be evenly divisible by 400 to be a leap year, so year 2100 will not be a leap year just as the year 1900 was not a leap year and 2000 was.)

We are just happy that we get to have your child at school an extra day in February!

Best regards,  
Ms. Susan