

**WALT DISNEY MAGNET SCHOOL**  
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Gisela Velez – Assistant Principal  
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Thomas Montoye – Chief Engineer

To: Disney Parents

December 7, 2011

From: Kathleen Hagstrom, Principal

**Winter Break** – Begins Saturday, December 24 (*Full day of school December 23*)

Re: Assorted Matters

Students Return Monday, January 9, 2012

- **Walt Disney School Handbook** – We are pleased to announce that the new School Handbook, printed November 2011, has been posted to the Disney website: [www.Disney.cps.k12.il.us](http://www.Disney.cps.k12.il.us). Please take time to review the Handbook and discuss with your child.

- **Pod 210 CAC Unit** – The culminating performance for pod 210 CAC-unit, *Natural Disasters*, is **Friday, December 16**, at 9:30 a.m. All parents are welcome to attend. Please be reminded that no children under 5 years old are permitted. We hope all third grade parents can attend. The children have worked very hard and are eager to share their new knowledge.

- **Picture Retake Day** – Retakes for school pictures has been scheduled for **Wednesday, December 14**. If you want pictures retaken you need to return the original individual pictures in the envelope; you may keep the class photo.

- **Parent Guilds** – We thank the many family members who have volunteered to be part of the Parent Guilds. Staff is currently working to identify liaisons and leaders for each Guild; everyone who signed up will be contacted to discuss roles and responsibilities.

- **PAC** - See the back of the newsletter for information on upcoming PAC Workshops – Study Island: **Friday December 9**, at 2 pm and Holiday Crafts: **Friday, December 16**, at 5 pm. Calendar correction – there is no PAC meeting Friday, December 16.

- **PTA** - “Movie Night” is **Friday, December 16**; the movie will be *Kung Fu Panda II*. All Disney families are welcome; all students must be supervised by their parent. The next regular PTA meeting is **Tuesday, January 10**.

- **Next Year Admission and Open House** – The final Open House for prospective parents is **Thursday, December 8**, at 9:00 a.m.; Applications for admission to grades kindergarten and up, are being accepted at the CPS Office of Academic Enhancement. To learn more and to download the application, visit the website: [www.apply.cps.edu](http://www.apply.cps.edu). The Standard Magnet Elementary Application is required; you will need to use the Disney school code which is 8000DH. Applications are mailed to: Attn: Standard Elementary Application, CPS, 125 S Clark Street, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, Chicago IL 60603; applications must be postmarked by December 16, 2011.

- **LSC** - the next Local School Council meeting is **Monday, December 12**, at 5:30 p.m.

- **School Spelling Bees** – Homeroom and Reading teachers will be conducting grade level spelling bees between now and January 13. Each teacher will identify two students to participate in the school-wide Spelling Bee, tentatively scheduled for **January 23**. A list of words will be provided to each student who is selected to participate in the school-wide Bee.

- **Morning Drop Off** – Please note, the CAC entrance door will close at 8:00 in the morning; after 8:00 students enter Door 6. For parents dropping off in the South Fire Lane, please do not have your children exit the car except in the designated drop off area. Parents who allow their children to exit the car on the left side of the parking lot and cross in front of traffic are putting their children’s safety at risk! We need every family’s cooperation in this area to make for orderly, efficient and safe passage for our children! Please do not park in the front of the building unless you are dropping off a preschool child or have business in the main office. All other students are to be dropped off in the back on the south fire lane. If the police see illegal or double parking, they will start to ticket.

- **Park District School Bus Transportation** – We have been notified by the Chicago Park District that park district facilities will have a “shut down day” on Friday, December 23. There will be no Park Kids programs on this day; school buses will not drop off at the park districts on Friday, December 23. Regular bus service to school sites will be running per the regular schedule. Families who have approved drop-off at Chicago Park District programs must submit a registration receipt for winter session to the main office.

- **CPS Communication Survey/Modes** – We have been asked to gather parent emails in an effort for CPS to enhance their outreach. A letter was sent home today to inform you of new on-line avenues for parent access. Please complete the contact information form on the back of this letter and return it to your child’s teacher.

**(Over for December PAC Workshop Information)**