



EAGLE PEAK MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Serving children through Montessori Education since 2001

FRIDAY FOLDER NOTES

(ALSO ON THE WEBSITE)

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OCTOBER 12, 2018

EAGLE PEAK MONTESSORI SCHOOL

800 HUTCHINSON ROAD,

WALNUT CREEK, CA 94598

P 925-946-0994 / F 925-946-9409

"Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on Earth." — Muhammad Ali

"If compassion was the motivating factor behind all of our decisions, would our world not be a completely different place?" — Sheryl Crow



Notes from Michelle

Thank you to the parents who joined me last month at Starbucks for coffee. Friday, October 26, at 9:00am I will be at Whole Foods in the Encina Shopping Center (near Applebee's). I would love for you to join us and just chat or ask any questions you may have. I look forward to seeing you there.

Fall Fest is Sunday- we are very excited to have this event back after last year's cancellation. Thank you again to Leah Auld and Erica Chinchilla for their dedication to this family friendly event.

Yesterday morning a parent was sharing with me how special she knows Eagle Peak is and how much she appreciates that. I thanked her for sharing that. While I hope that everyone who chooses to be a part of Eagle Peak feels this way, as we grow in size and become a more established entity, it can start to feel by all of us that Eagle Peak's existence is a "given".

However, as a charter school, our existence is never a "given". The board works hard to make sure that we hold true to the vision of the founders but also that we, as a board, continue each year to train ourselves on every aspect of charter schools. We, the board and I, work diligently to maintain the excellent relationship we have with both the district personnel at MDUSD and their board of directors.

They know and love Eagle Peak because they know they can trust our dedication to the students and the school. This has been demonstrated consistently over the past 18 years. Dr. Laura Lisy-Wagner (our board president) and I were fortunate enough to meet with Dr. Nellie Meyer on Friday, and we were all reminded of the special relationship Eagle Peak and MDUSD have together. We, as a board, have also chosen to work closely with the Charter School Development Center, to



Notes from Michelle (con't)

make sure that we are informed about all charter school legislation and funding issues in the state of California. (If you are interested in watching this work, we have open meetings the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 in room 701). I have been fortunate enough to work with the CSDC in leading new charter school administrators to prepare for the unique challenges of charter school work.

It is this behind the scenes work and dedication of the entire board of directors that help to lay the foundation for the teachers to be able to create the amazing learning environments for your children each day. There is a beautiful balance between our autonomy in being a charter school and our fragility in being a charter school that allows those of us who have chosen to be here celebrate and honor how incredibly exceptional Eagle Peak is. I know that there are many weeks that I may gush over Eagle Peak, but it is because through my consulting with other schools, I can see that we are incredibly fortunate to have what was developed by the founders, and continues today through the volunteers who make up the board of directors to maintain everything that makes Eagle Peak- Eagle Peak.

On another note- some of you may have heard your child in Lower Elementary talking about having a lunch scheduled with Ms. Hammons. Please do not stress out- they are not in trouble. For the past two or three years, some of the Lower Elementary students started wanting to have lunch with me at the table in my office. Due to the number of requests, we started asking them to schedule ahead. I have asked Amy and Leslie not to let the activities of my day convince me to cancel these appointments because these lunches are the highlight of the day. It is really fun to just be part of the conversation with these students. The best part is they are all student generated. The students are not chosen by me or their teachers to schedule these lunches. They make the choice themselves. So, if your child says they had lunch with Ms. Hammons, please know it was not a "consequence", but a choice.

We hope to see you out at Fall Fest this Sunday!



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Notes from the Garden

Fall is stunning and prolific in our garden. We allow many plants to go to seed and carry seed heads throughout the winter to support wildlife and allow us to engage in seed saving. A fall garden is never a tidy one, if it's doing its ecological duty.

First years deepened their botany work and studied leaves and stems with art activities, sensorial leaf hunts, a story (Tops and Bottoms), a celery science investigation and a parts-of-the-plant snack platter. 6th year mentors are showing maturity and sensitivity in their partnerships with the 1st years. We have a delightful, caring group of 6th year students this year and we are lucky to have their service in the garden.

Second years studied adaptations that seeds have for propagation, playing games, classifying, and enjoying some independence in the garden as they conduct their botanical studies. Third years are focusing on the structure and function of flowers, and the coevolution of pollinator species with angiosperms.

We will continue this work throughout the fall, allowing for botany, zoology, and the timeline of life to unfold naturally by work done in the garden.

Fourth and fifth years started an ethnobotany study that aligns with the story of writing; we are collecting plant materials for creating botanical inks, dyes, and materials for paper-making. Several of us made paper and started cold-process ink vats this Wednesday.

Next week will be a special celebration of literacy in the garden - Reading Outside Week is an opportunity that our campus Reading Specialist and I have designed to allow students uninterrupted time to enjoy the practice of reading in a natural setting during their scheduled garden time. We will also provide read-alouds for children who prefer this way of engaging with books, and a few other activities that



Notes from the Garden (con't)

celebrate the goodness of reading. Please see the Sign Up Genius if you can help- we need some canopy pop-ups for the entire week (maybe leave us your after Fall Fest?), some picnic blankets, and read-aloud volunteers (cleared for on-campus volunteering through the office). Children are encouraged to bring a personal book in their backpack to enjoy on their garden day this coming week in the garden. Allison and I will have a selection of books they may borrow, as well.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084CAFA62FA31-reading>

We are still collecting newspaper and very small (spice size) and very large glass jars for many of our ethnobotany studies. You can leave these items on the picnic tables in the garden. I appreciate your support - see you in the garden!

Ms. Amy



Friday Market

Friday Market starts at 3:30 after school and will end at 3:45. If you would like to come enjoy Friday Market -- remember to bring some cash to purchase products (note that we only accept cash in small bills). Children may only attend Friday Market if accompanied by an adult or by a child care staff. Friday Market will not be open to people going through carpool.

The money that is raised through Friday Market and other AP led fundraisers will be used as a contribution to the AP's educational field trips, such as Montessori Model United Nations in New York, or the Hidden Villa Ranch.



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Friday Market (con't)

The Adolescent Program greatly appreciates any contributions to our market. We hope that you would help create this experience by donating prepackaged items such as arts, crafts, and or food. If you do choose to bring food please remember that we are a peanut free campus, and to have an allergen form with it (Available in the office). All items need to be dropped off by 11:00 on Friday if you would like it to be at Friday Market.

We hope to see you there soon!

Issy Beeler (This week's Friday Market Manager)



Fall Fest

Special Announcement: Aztec Dance Performance at Fall Fest!

The Community Connection Committee is excited to bring an extraordinary performance to this year's Fall Fest. Aztec dancing group Teokalli (meaning "House of Creation" in the Nahuatl language) will be showcasing ancient dances and music of Mexican origin. At 2:00 they will be performing in their beautiful costumes and giving a short presentation to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month! We are really looking forward to sharing this special cultural experience with our EPMS community. Can't wait to see you there!!

FALL FEST & CHILI COOK OFF is finally HERE! Don't miss out on all of the fun! Join us Sunday, October 14th from 1-4pm. We will have games, treats, crafts, decorative pumpkins for sale, and our second-use market. ALL money raised goes to CFEP!!



Fall Fest (con't)

Please make sure you check in with Will Call to pick-up your pre-sale tickets. Full price tickets will also be available for sale on the day of the event for CASH OR CHECK ONLY. (We will not have the ability to process credit cards at the event). Don't forget that due to limited street parking we have use of Northgate High's (425 Castle Rock Road) parking lot. Just park and follow the footpath to EPMS!

***FALL FEST needs your help!! *** We need to borrow your Pop-Up Canopies. LOTS of them! The canopies not only give us the shade we need, but we also use them to define space for all of the Food & Beverage booths, Arts & Crafts booths, Face Painting and Hair Station booths, Games booths and so much more. In addition, you can easily earn 30 minutes of volunteer work if you can setup your canopy for us. Please visit the link to sign up: <https://tinyurl.com/ya4d466w>

While you there, please take a peek at all of the openings still available and sign up to help. Especially looking for Set-up and Cleaning Crew, Arts & Crafts, Face Painters, and Games. Please remember that 6, 7, 8 years are welcome to man Game Booths as well. Shifts are split into 1.5 hour slots.

Last, but not least, we invite all bakers (or shoppers) to bring in yummy goodies for our famous CAKE WALK. Cakes, pies, Loaves, Cookies, Brownies, Cake Pops, Rice Krispy Treats, anything your little whisk can handles.... as long as you leave the nuts at home! Please also consider bringing GLUTEN FREE items as well. Your donation will earn you more volunteer hours plus your name will be entered into a drawing to win Jamba Juice card good for 6 BOGO smoothies!

A huge THANK YOU to all the parent and student volunteers who have signed up to make this event a success! Looking forward to working with you all! If you have any questions or concerns please contact Fall Fest Coordinators: Erica Chinchilla at mamabruno78@live.com or Leah Auld at moopod1@yahoo.com or Megan Daoudi at megan.daoudi@gmail.com



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Teachers Trips

Your chance to sign up for teacher trips is coming.....

This has historically been a wonderful fundraiser for Eagle Peak, enjoyed by staff and students alike. Students have the opportunity to spend time with Eagle Peak teachers and/or staff members. The teachers organize a fun event to spend time with students. Trips may be on or off campus. Each trip will offer a certain number of spots with a fixed price. This year, the Teacher Trips will begin earlier and sales will begin at Fall Fest on Sunday, October 14th.

Please email Kennisha Johnson at kennisha727@sbcglobal.net if you have any questions.



Notes from the Office

****FIELD TRIP TRAINING****

We ask that all parents who anticipate wanting to be a field trip chaperone take Field Trip Training. This is a simple, 15 minutes training that allows all chaperones to have received the same information and guidelines. We only have a limited number of these meetings each year. You only need to do this training once. If you have not already taken this training please mark these dates on your calendar so that you can make one of these trainings.

Training Dates are Oct 11 @ 6p, Oct 23 @ 5:45p and Oct 24 @ 1:30p.

Picture Re-Takes on October 22

If you are having re-takes, please bring back your original picture packet. Thanks.



Second-Used Market

We are excited to open our Second-Used market this Sunday at the Fall Fest!

We have a lot new and lightly-used shoe! Here is our price list:

- ★ Shoes----- All for \$5/pair (except marked pairs)
- ★ Winter jackets-----Toddler size for \$5
- ★ Ski jacket & pants-----\$15
- ★ Bike helmets-----\$3
- ★ Bicycles-----starting at \$10
- ★ Summer sports items-----All for \$5 (except marked items)

We accept cash and checks only.

We will open 1:00pm-4:00pm at the Fall Fest.

See you at Second-Used market!!!

Naoko Warren: bytheseanao@gmail.com

Megan Daoudi: megan.daoudi@gmail.com



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Calendared Events

- Oct 11 Field Trip Training 6p
- Oct 14 Fall Fest 1-4
- Oct 16 EPMS Board Mtg 6:30p
- Oct 22 Make Up Picture Day
- Oct 23 Field Trip Training 5:45p
- Oct 22-26 Parent Observations
- Oct 24 Field Trip Training 1:30p
- Oct 26 Early Dismissal
- Oct 29-Nov 2 Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Oct 29-Nov 2 Early Dismissal
- Oct 30 Dine n Donate
- Nov 12 Veteran's Day
- Nov 19-23 Thanksgiving

Attachments

October Lunch Order

Friday Market

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OCTOBER 2018 School Calendar

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
			AUCTION Mtg 6:00p 		SPIRIT DAY  Friday Market	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	CFEP Mtg 7p			Field Trip Training 6p CCC Mtg 6:30p	SPIRIT DAY  Friday Market	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Fall Fest		 EPMS Board of Directors Mtg 6:30p			SPIRIT DAY  Friday Market	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Make-Up Picture Day Parent Observations Erdkinder – Hidden Villa AP	 Parent Observations Field Trip Training 5:45p Erdkinder – Hidden Villa AP	Parent Observations Field Trip Training 1:30p Erdkinder – Hidden Villa AP	Parent Observations Erdkinder – Hidden Villa AP	SPIRIT DAY  Parent Observations Erdkinder – Hidden Villa AP Early Dismissal	
28	29	30	31	1	2	
	Parent/Teacher Conferences Early Dismissal	 Parent/Teacher Conferences Early Dismissal Dine n Donate The Burger Lounge	Historical Halloween 11:00am Parent/Teacher Conferences Early Dismissal	Parent/Teacher Conferences Early Dismissal	SPIRIT DAY  Parent/Teacher Conferences Early Dismissal	










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NOVEMBER 2018 School Calendar

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
					SPIRIT DAY  Friday Market	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
					SPIRIT DAY  Friday Market	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Veteran's Day No School				SPIRIT DAY  Friday Market	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
 <h1>Thanksgiving Break</h1>						
25	26	27	28	29	30	
					SPIRIT DAY  Friday Market	