



EAGLE PEAK MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Serving children through Montessori Education since 2001

FRIDAY FOLDER NOTES

(ALSO ON THE WEBSITE)

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

NOVEMBER 9, 2017

EAGLE PEAK MONTESSORI SCHOOL

800 HUTCHINSON ROAD,

WALNUT CREEK, CA 94598

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

"He who sows courtesy reaps friendship, and he who plants kindness gathers love." ~ St. Basil

"Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world." ~ Desmond Tutu



Notes from Michelle

Every once in a while I will hear one of the students say to another student "that isn't very Montessori". This comment which I can only assume is meant to imply that the student on the receiving end of the message is not behaving in a way the first student feels is appropriate. However, hearing students say this phrase begs a larger question- what does it mean to either "be very Montessori" or "not very Montessori". I mean, Montessori was a person, she created a method of educating children but I doubt that the students are saying that the other child is not educating children correctly. My hope is that we have not somehow confused behavior with who Dr. Montessori was and the contributions she made. Yes, Montessori education includes conflict resolution. Yes, Dr. Montessori believed that each person has a cosmic task which is to take care of others and the earth. Yes, Dr. Montessori was a proponent of social justice. However, I don't think that any individual can be held accountable to "being Montessori". Montessori classrooms can be judged by how lessons are presented, or if there is a policy of freedom within limits in the classroom. The teachers in a Montessori classroom should adhere to these tenets, but when we interact with each other, there is no "Montessori Way" of doing that. There is respect, there is empathy, there is choosing to do the right thing. When we choose these, we are trying to honor what we believe correspond with the tenets of the methodology. Eagle Peak classrooms created a list of virtues which we talk to the children about- but even those were not written by Dr. Montessori. My hope is that in honoring the contributions Dr. Montessori has made, we do not assign behaviors to this methodology, but rather honor what she has done



Notes from Michelle con't

simply by trying to make positive contributions to society ourselves.

In a similar vein, we have noticed an increase of exclusionary behaviors with students. We are hearing more of "you can't play" or "you aren't our friend", in the classrooms and at recess. While we definitely work on empathy and respect with the students, we need you to be partners with us in this. I know that right now it seems like our society as a whole is stressed out. There are things that we as adults see in the news or media on almost a weekly basis that are stressful and sometimes that stress filters down to our children without us even being conscious of this. Perhaps the most important thing we can do is to be aware and to be mindful of what our children are exposed to whether on the radio, television or simply just overhearing our conversations. The only hope society ever has is through its children. Let's all work together to help them practice more kindness.

Next Wednesday, the 15th is our annual Thanksgiving Feast. Our students will meet in the Eagle Peak Family Groups. These are groups made up of a teacher and students from each grade level. We appreciate the effort that so many parents led by Brandan Ricks have put forth for this event. We also thank the parents for understanding that this is a student and teacher event, and even parents who are on campus serving, will not be able to sit with their children during this time.



Notes from the Office

We now accept Amex (American Express).



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Notes from the CFEP

If you shop Amazon, you can help raise \$\$\$ for EPMS! Simply log on to smile.amazon.com and enter Eagle Peak Montessori as your charity of choice. It takes seconds! Anytime you use smiles.amazon.com to make purchases, the school gets a % of what you spend.

Amazon had donated almost \$1,000 to the school in the past year effort!!

With holiday shopping approaching, please take a moment to take advantage of Amazon's generous program to enrich our school!



PTLG Quick Notes

Next Wednesday November 15th, is our school wide Thanksgiving Feast. Check your classroom's signup genius again for empty spots. **We need a few more brave turkey roasters!** Remember, you get volunteer hours for cooking! There are also quite a few slots in the school wide signup genius. Take a look, see what you can provide. Every little bit helps. Link below.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094daeaf28a3f85-volunteers>

A few reminders:

- provide your dishes in disposable trays
- label all your serving utensils
- **include the ingredient form provided in this week's Friday Folder. Remember, we are a peanut free campus!**
- record your volunteer hours for cooking

Thank you for your generosity



Notes from the Garden

We are ready for rain in the garden - fall crops are planted and sheet mulch is laid.

Please remind your children to dress warmly and ready for mud on garden days. We WILL be holding a Garden Work Day on the 17th of November if the weather allows, I look forward to seeing you in the garden!



Office Notes

Calendared Events

- Nov 10 Veteran's Day-NO SCHOOL
- Nov 13 CFEP Meeting 7p
- Nov 14 EPMS Board Meeting 6:30p
- Nov 15 Campus Thanksgiving Celebration
- Nov 16 Community Connection Committee 6p
- Nov 20-24 Thanksgiving Break
- Nov 28 Prospective Parent Meeting 6:30p
- Dec 5 Prospective Parent Meeting 6:30p
- Dec 11 CFEP 7p
- Dec 14 Lower El-Dean Leshar
- Dec 14 Community Connection Committee 6p
- Dec 16 Prospective Parent Meeting 9:30p
- Dec 19 EPMS Board of Directors 6:30p
- Dec 22 International Day
- Dec 25 - Jan 5 Winter Break



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NOVEMBER/DEC 2017 School Calendar

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--|--|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|--|
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| Daylight Savings (Fall Back) Sun at 2 am |  Fall Picture Re-Takes |  Parent Ed AP info night 6:30p | | | Veteran's Day  No School | Veteran's Day  |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| | CFEP 7PM |  EPMS Board of Director's Mtg 6:30p | Campus Thanksgiving Celebration | Community Connection Committee 6PM |  Friday Market | |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
|  THANKSGIVING BREAK  | | | | | | |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 |
| | |  Prospective Parent Mtg 6:30p | | |  Friday Market | |

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DECEMBER/JAN 2017 School Calendar

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|----------------|--|---|-----|--|---|------------------------------------|
| 3 | 4 | 5  Prospective Parent Mtg 6:30p | 6 | 7 | 8  Friday Market | 9 |
| 10 | 11 CFEP 7PM | 12  | 13 | 14 Lower EL @ Dean Lesher Community Connection Committee 6PM | 15  Friday Market | 16 Prospective Parent Mtg 9:30a |
| 17 | 18 | 19  EPMS Board of Director's Mtg 6:30p | 20 | 21 | 22  Friday Market International Day | 23 |
| 24 | 25 Christmas Day | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| Christmas Eve |  WINTER BREAK | | | | | |
| 31 | 1 New Year's Day | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| New Year's Eve |  WINTER BREAK | | | | | |