



EAGLE PEAK MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Serving children through Montessori Education since 2001

FRIDAY FOLDER NOTES

(ALSO ON THE WEBSITE)

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

SEPTEMBER 16, 2016

EAGLE PEAK MONTESSORI SCHOOL

800 HUTCHINSON ROAD,

WALNUT CREEK, CA 94598

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

“No one has yet realized the wealth of sympathy, the kindness and generosity hidden in the soul of a child. The effort of every true education should be to unlock that treasure.”

~ Emma Goldman



Notes from Michelle

If you listened to the news this week, Eagle Peak seems to be part of a trend. Apparently, there is quite the controversy in San Francisco Unified School District where an elementary school has discontinued homework, and that is reportedly part of a new trend being seen across the country. Hmm....wonder if the increased number of public Montessori schools across the country might have any influence on that “new trend”.

We had such a great turnout for the Parent Education on Tuesday night, and a great discussion after. Thank you to all the parents who came out to learn more about the educational program you have chosen for your child. We plan to hold an extended Parent Education night in either late October or November, as a continuation of introduction to the curriculum.

Tuesday, at the Parent Ed night, Ellen spoke about three questions which the Montessori elementary and adolescent method are designed to help students answer beyond academics. Who am I? Where do I come from? What is my purpose? Those questions are really the essence of what makes the Montessori choice so different from traditional education. We are obviously concerned about making sure your child has access to and success with academics, because that will prepare them with a knowledge base for their future. However, we are much more concerned with whom the children work on becoming. A lot of people wonder about our Adolescent Program, and they are concerned about the size or what makes people chose to stay or leave. We are not as concerned, because we know that the



Notes from Michelle (con't)

students who stay in that program will come even closer to finding out who they are, where they are from, and what their purpose is, without the added pressures of hundreds of other students being present for that transformation. They will work with teachers and fellow students who know them and can support them in whatever paths they take. The experiences that this program provides to students through the non-academic areas are without comparison. We truly believe that. Our students will not have multiple clubs to join, but they will go out in big cities and find out how to navigate and be independent. They will be able to face their challenges, and feel the power of successfully overcoming them. One of my favorite quotes by Dr. Montessori expresses exactly what I feel is the number one argument for why we created the adolescent program, “If education is always to be conceived along the same antiquated lines of a mere transmission of knowledge, there is little to be hoped from it in the bettering of man's future.”

If you want to learn more about how our AP program provides opportunities and challenges to the students, please mark your calendar for October 20th! The AP teachers will introduce you to the subtle yet amazing things we have seen from the students in that program. I hope that you have all taken a couple of minutes to respond to the monthly survey question that went out this week. If you have not, please do. We are hoping to use this more immediate feedback to shape how we present some information.

Don't forget that next Friday I will be at Peet's on Oak Grove Road from 8:30 -9:30, if any parents would like to stop by and chat.



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Monday Gathering

6th Grade Gathering Leaders: Cal Albright & Issy Beeler

5th Grade Quote Readers:

Bret Futterman

"I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live by the light that I have. I must stand with anybody that stands right, and stand with him while he is right, and part with him when he goes wrong."

~ Abraham Lincoln

Harrison Linton

"Let us be like the lines that lead to the center of a circle, uniting there and not like parallel lines that never join."

~ Hasidic Proverb

Zev Deladingco

"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judge by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."

~ Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Abbey Elwood

"Respect yourself if you would have others respect you."

~ Baltazar Gracian



PTLG Quick Notes

Hello EPMS community,

Thank you Brandan Ricks and Heather Scattergood for planning the Lower EI Play Date and our first Dine and Donate of the year at Rocco's. Thank you to all who attended these great activities!

EVENTS

PTLG Community Meeting on September 27th at EPMS at 6:30 pm. This meeting will include your field trip training. The meeting will also include time to get to know your Room Parents as well as address any questions you have for PTLG, CFEP, the Board, teachers, and Ms. Hammons. You will receive volunteer hours for attending the meeting!!!! Childcare will be provided.

Fall Fest & Chili Cook-off on October 9. Event flyers are included in this Friday Folder. and Chili Cook-off contestant sign-up forms will be in next week's Friday Folder.

CURRENT VOLUNTEER POSITIONS:

Lunch Scheduling Coordinator: We are in need of a person who can maintain a schedule of volunteers to help with hot lunch days. The tasks for this volunteer position can be completed at home. It will require emailing volunteers and keeping an up-to-date volunteer schedule. Please email Rachel Beeler (rdwiggins@yahoo.com) if you are interested.

Donations Coordinator: Our annual auction is the largest fundraiser of the year. This event unites the whole community in an effort to celebrate all that EPMS provides for our children. This volunteer position requires coordinating the donations team, sending letters to potential donors, maintaining a database of incoming auction items, and ensuring thank you cards are sent to donors. Please contact Kristi Kojian (kkoljian@earthlink.net) for more information.



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It's now the middle of September and **EPMS FALL FEST** is just around the corner. All are invited to join the festivities on **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9th** from 1 - 4 pm.



Enjoy **GARDEN TOURS** lead by some of our E.E. Students.



Play **CARNIVAL GAMES** like Bottle Ring Toss, Chuck the Duck, Bottle Knockout, Plinko, Beanbag Toss, Speed Pitch, Bungee Run and our famous Cake Walk and other activities.



Get creative at our **ARTS & CRAFTS** booths making Smarty Fall Amino Magnets, Sandart Pictures and Pots, Fall Fest Necklaces. Also make sure to visit Face Painting and Hair Coloring booths.



Visit **EPMS MERCHANDISE** booth to stock up on new school shirts and hoodies.



Build up an appetite? Thirsty? Perfect!! Head over to our **FOOD & BEVERAGE** booths stocked with Fresh Fruit Kabobs, Frito Boats, Nachos, Hot Dogs, Popcorn, Water and Lemonade.



Let's not forget the 2nd Annual **CHILI COOK-OFF**. Please contact Akiko Noguchi via email glasguchi@gmail.com to submit your chili and/or cornbread for voting.

It is highly recommended that you purchase your "TICKETS" in advance for pre-sale savings. See attached form for more details. Pre-sale savings only good through Wednesday, October 5th and will be available for pick up at Will Call on day of event.

VOLUNTEERS are much needed to fulfill many roles. Thank you to everyone who has already signed up for positions. As a reminder, 6, 7 and 8 year students are more than welcome to man the games booths.

Please visit our volunteer site at <http://signup.com/go/yxxED1> or contact Fall Fest Coordinators Erica Chinchilla via email mamabruno78@live.com or Leah Larsen Auld via email moopod1@yahoo.com



Need Stress-free Volunteer Hours?

Then volunteering in the office for Friday Folders (FF) is perfect for you! Volunteer hours are available for approximately 1-2 hours both Friday and Monday mornings following drop-off to prepare or empty FF contents. If this sounds good to you, please email Kris Johnson - nachogeeek@gmail.com - for more details.



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School Roster

The draft of the school roster is ready in the front office. (There will also be a copy located in Childcare for your convenience.) PLEASE STOP BY AND VERIFY THAT THE INFORMATION WE HAVE FOR YOU IS CORRECT.

These draft rosters will only be available for correction **until September 30th**. At that time we will **email** the official roster to all **by Friday, October 7th**. A few copies will be made available in the office.

Thank you for your help with this.



You may have noticed our new Idle Free Zone signs in the EPMS parking lot, compliments of our Eagle Scout sign project and Bay Area Spare the Air. The signs remind us that young lungs are at work and to please turn off engine when sitting for more than 30 seconds. Young people have the greatest risk for health impacts due to air pollution because their lungs are still developing. Not idling protects both indoor and outdoor air quality, saves money in fuel costs, reduces engine wear, and creates a healthier environment for everyone.



Picture Day at Eagle Peak

September 20th will be our Fall Photo Day (make-up day Oct. 25th). All of the students will have their picture taken that day, regardless of whether or not you wish to purchase a package. The pictures are used in their cumulative folders as well.

Order form is included in this week's Friday Folder. Please have your child bring the form (with payment) with them on September 20th.

We need two parent volunteers to help out all day (or in am/pm shifts). **You must be fingerprinted**. Please contact Ms. Amy on a first come, first serve basis.



Office Notes

Calendared Events

- Sep 20 Picture Day
- Sep 20 Board Mtg – 6:30 pm
- Sep 27 PTLG – 6:30 pm
- Sep 27 Field Trip Training
- Oct 8 Garden Work Day 9 – 12 am
- Oct 9 Fall Festival
- Oct 18 Board Mtg – 6:30 pm
- Oct 20 UE AP Parent Info Night



Attachments this Week

- Spanish Class Registration Form
- Fall Fest Ticket Pre-Order Form
- Cake Walk Sign-up



After-School Activities Schedule

Yoga	Rm 201	Th	Sept 8 th LE	3:45-4:30
			UE & AP	3:45-4:45
Chess	Rm 302	Tu	Sept 27th	3:45-4:45

NEW

Spanish	Rm 301	Mo	Oct 3 rd	3:45-4:30
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SEPTEMBER, 2016 School Calendar

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		 Fall Pics Board Mtg 6:30pm				
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
		PTLG & Field Trip Training 6:30 pm			UE Only CA Academy Of Science 8:30 – 3:15	

OCTOBER 2016 School Calendar

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
				PPM 6:30-7:30 am		 Garden Work Day 9 am – 12
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
 Fall Festival & Chili Cook-off 1 - 4		<u>Vision Testing</u> 1, 2 & 5th PPM 6:30-7:30 am				
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		Board Mtg 6:30 pm		Upper EI AP Parent Info Night		PPM 9:30-10:30 am
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Erdkinder/Adolescent Program – Hidden Villa						