



EAGLE PEAK MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Serving children through Montessori Education since 2001

FRIDAY FOLDER NOTES

(ALSO ON THE WEBSITE)

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

OCTOBER 2, 2015

EAGLE PEAK MONTESSORI SCHOOL

800 HUTCHINSON ROAD,

WALNUT CREEK, CA 94598

PHONE: 925-946-0994 / FAX: 925-946-9409

“High expectations are the key to everything.”

~Sam Walton



Notes from Michelle

As you know, the teachers in the Adolescent Program have been working so hard over the past three years to create this new addition to Eagle Peak. Unlike Montessori Early Childhood or Elementary classrooms, they were not given a manual or a set of lessons to give students in each subject. They have been creating those from working with the Common Core standards, training they received in Cincinnati, Montessori philosophy and their own talents and gifts. This can be both challenging and rewarding. Tuesday, they had their first site visit from their training program instructor. The instructor was so impressed with what these incredible teachers have created; she said she wished our school was closer so they could use us for a demonstration/observation site. That is huge considering we have only had this part of the program for one year and one month. (I know I said that the teachers have been working on it for three years, because they have ☺.)

One of the things that the training instructor asked me was what I felt it was that contributed to the way the students interact with each other. She said that while they are definitely still normal kids, there is an underlying difference between them at some other schools. I told her I believe it comes from all of the teachers and staff holding our students to high expectations for behaviors. We know they won't always meet them but that doesn't change our expectation for them. When the little things matter, the bigger things, for the most part, take care of



Notes from Michelle

themselves. We simply have a campus-wide agreed regarding standards. This is not always the case elsewhere and I believe that it definitely shows in our students. This is also why we have often heard from principals and teachers at the middle schools our former students attend, as to how they always know which students come from Eagle Peak!

The end of October is parent observation week. Please make time to come and observe your child in his/her classroom. This is a crucial part of the parent/teacher partnership. While those of you who have been here for several years, several children or both, may feel this process is the same year after year, it really isn't as there are changes every day in your child. Again, please make time to come to the school. PLEASE NOTE ADOLESCENT PROGRAM OBSERVATION IS THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 19th.

Independent Study Contracts are a great tool that the students, parents, and school have to help with absences during the school experiences each year. However, we need your help as parents to make sure a few of the following expectations are held to: a) The independent study pack must come back by the due date, **completed**. Students are expected to do this work outside of school. b) As the parent, please notify the school (Ms.Amy) as soon as you know your child will be missing more than two days of school, so that work can be prepared for your child. If the Independent Study packet is not completed by the due date, your child will not receive credit for attendance. It is critical that these forms are processed correctly, and in a timely manner. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation with this matter.



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Monday Gathering

6th Grade Gathering Leaders: Henry Sanchez & Taleeb Weaver

5th Grade Quote Readers:

Christian Vlavianos:

“Gratitude turns what we have into enough.”
~Anonymous

Emma Neidlinger

“As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.”
~John F. Kennedy

Adrian Mendoza

“The real gift of gratitude is that the more grateful you are, the more present you become.”
~Robert Holden



Notes from CFEP

The first dine and donate fundraiser was a huge success. One night out generated over \$800 which will benefit the students at EPMS. I hope those families that attended enjoyed the chance to connect with other Eagle Peak families. The strong participation and assistance to help promote this event is very much appreciated.



PTLG Quick Notes

Hello EPMS community,

Thank you to all who attended the Lower EI play date and Tahoe Joes event. While we really needed the rain, it presented challenges. Way to go EPMS community! You made the best of it! Another play date will be scheduled in the coming months.

Oct 18: Fall Fest/Chili Cook-off. Event details are in the Friday Folder packet. Contact Erica Chinchilla (mamabruno78@live.com) with questions about Fall Fest. Contact Akiko Noguchi (glasguchi@gmail.com) with questions about the Chili Cook-off and to sign-up as a chili competitor!

Oct. 30: Historical Halloween. The historical timeline (all children in the school line-up based on the birthdate of the person they are dressed as) is TBA.

Thanksgiving Feast. Details forthcoming

Did you know? You can get volunteer hours by assisting with the supervision of the children during lunch (11:30 - 1:00 pm). This is great opportunity to get involved during school hours. Additional volunteers are needed on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Please contact Beth Hunter for additional information (bethual@gmail.com)

If have questions about volunteer opportunities and/or events... we are here to help!

Cheers, the *PTLG Team*

Rachel Beeler	Leah Karson	Jennifer Torres
Eme Tatsumi	Zulay Loftin	Akiko Noguchi



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It's now October and **EPMS FALL FEST** is just around the corner. All are invited to join the festivities on **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18th** from 1 - 4 pm.

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 14th and will be available for pick up at Will Call on day of event.



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

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.



Play **CARNIVAL GAMES** like Bean Bag Tic Tac Toe, Duck For Duckies, Bottle Knock Out, Go Fishing, Boat Races, Scarecrow Lollipop Tree, our famous Cake Walk and other activities.

Please visit our volunteer site at <http://vols.pt/qXQ34J> Or contact Fall Fest Coordinators Erica Chinchilla via email mamabruno78@live.com Or Leah Larsen Auld via email moopod1@yahoo.com



Get creative at our **ARTS & CRAFTS** booths making Turkey Wreaths, Crow Door Knob Hanger, Sand Art fun plus more. Also make sure to visit Face Painting and Hair Coloring booths.



Notes from the Office



Visit **EPMS MERCHANDISE** booth to stock up on new school shirts, hoodies and reusable shopping bags (great for prize winnings).

Calendared Events



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

- Oct 6 Field Trip Training - 5:15 pm
- Oct 7 LE Rm 301: John Muir House
- Oct 8 UE: Lindsey Museum
- Oct 10 Garden Work Day 9-12
- Oct 12 CFEP – 7:00 pm
- Oct 18 Fall Festival & Chili Cook-off
- Oct 19-23 A/P Parent Observations
- Oct 20 Field Trip Training 6 pm
- Oct 20 Board Mtg – 6:30 pm
- Oct 26-30 Parent Observations 1st – 6th
- Oct 30 Early Dismiss 1 pm



Let's not forget the new addition of **CHILI COOK-OFF**. Please contact Akiko Noguchi via email glasguchi@gmail.com to submit your chili and/or corn bread for voting.



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Notes from Childcare

Registration for October Childcare is closed. If you have not already submitted payment, any hours incurred will be charged at the drop-in rate and **will be billed at the end of the month.**

Invoices for Drop-in and/or Overtime charges (along with any past-due fees) for the month of September will be available within the next 2 weeks or sooner. Please pay upon receipt.

NOTE: For those of you who use the same hours every month and use a credit card as payment you can ask that any re-occurring credit card charges be made each month without having to fill the registration form every month. This can also apply to automatically charging any Drop-in charges. It will remain in effective until you say stop.

Please contact Sondra Mahraj in the office or indicate it on your next Registration Form. Thank you.



Music Notes from Ms. Allison

All Classes: This week and next Monday for Group A Lower EI (First years and some 2nd years), we learned an three-part form circle dance that challenged the students to step in time to the music, change directions on beat 8, repeat a body percussion rhythm for section B, and then take 4 steps in and back out of the circle. All the while...singing a sequencing melody, keeping track of the order of the months, their birth month, and noticing who else was born in their birth month. This is a full body - full brain activity!!! Furthermore,



Music Notes (con't)

there was an extra component of skipping (step-hopping) in the middle of our circle. in time to the music, with lots of spatial awareness required when we were singing about their birth month.

Next, we did roll call with matching an assigned body percussion or series of pitches that matched the syllables in their name. Some students needed some group siren sounds to help them find their singing voices.

Finally, we learned a complicated body percussion (you might call it Patty-cake - but this one was very challenging) that accompanied a traditional song, "Hey Lolly." The students worked with partners to master the assigned body percussion sequence and then were encouraged to create their own. Lower EI students explored playing along with the recording with shakers. Several students were able to play the Bass and Contrabass Xylophone bars on the "Boom-boom" on A & D to introduce each phrase of music. Upper EI received a lesson on the Major Scale and how sharps had to be added to F and C to make a D Major scale. They all also spent time with their partners creating new rhyming lyrics based on their own names to fit the phrase, "My partner's name is _Lilly_ ", "She has fun and acts real __silly__!"

Upper EI: We are getting very good at our "Rhythm of Math - 4-Down" exercise! We can now do it in under a minute and it is almost in sync (pretty amazing feat for 20 of us at a time!) Ask your student what this is and I know they will show you! Last year's recorders are making their way back into the classroom. Thank you. Still a few more to go.



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Environmental Ed



Community Service Day @ EPMS

Eagle Peak Families and Friends: please join us October 10th 9-12 for our usual school garden workday in conjunction with Walnut Creek Community Service Day. We will be completing a variety of garden projects including an Eagle Scout project to install beautiful new signage in our garden!, mulching, planting, organizing and cleaning. Free pancake breakfast and t-shirts provided for all volunteers at Heather Farms Park. All volunteers must sign up at www.walnut-creek.org/service. For more information, see flyer attached. If you have questions, feel free to contact me at EaglePeakEE@gmail.com. Sheila



Attachments this Week

- Chili Cook-Off Sign-Up
- Fall Fest Pre-sale Tickets Order Form





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OCTOBER 2015 School Calendar

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
				Auction Kick-Off Mtg 6:30	FRIDAY MARKET	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		 Field Trip Training 5:15 ----- PPM 6:30 – 7:30 pm	<u>LE: Rm 301</u> John Muir House 8:20-11:30	<u>Upper EI</u> Lindsey Wildlife Museum 9:15 – 1:30	FRIDAY MARKET	 Garden Work Day 9 am – 12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	CFEP 7 pm				FRIDAY MARKET	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<i>1st Annual Chili Cook-Off</i>  1 – 4 pm	Parent Observation Adolescent Program: October 19-23rd					
		Field Trip Training 6 pm Board Mtg 6:30			FRIDAY MARKET	PPM 9:30 – 10:30
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	Parent Observation 1st thru 6th Years: October 26-30th					
		PPM 6:30 – 7:30 pm			Historical Halloween 11 am Dismiss - 1 pm	

November 2015 School Calendar

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>Daylight Savings (Fall Back)</i> Sun at 2 am	CFEP 7 pm	PPM 6:30 – 7:30 pm	<u>LE: Rm 302</u> John Muir House 8:20-11:30			
			Parent / Teacher Conferences November 4, 5 & 6 Early Dismissal - 1 PM - All 3 Days			