



# EAGLE PEAK MONTESSORI SCHOOL

*Serving children through Montessori Education since 2001*

## FRIDAY FOLDER NOTES

(ALSO ON THE WEBSITE)

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OCTOBER 30, 2015

## EAGLE PEAK MONTESSORI SCHOOL

800 HUTCHINSON ROAD,

WALNUT CREEK, CA 94598

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

## Early Dismissal for Conferences

Nov 4, 5 & 6 - 1 pm

“Education cannot be effective unless it helps a child open himself to life.”

“Montessori is an education for independence, preparing not just for school, but for life.”

~ *Dr. Maria Montessori*



### Notes from Michelle

This week I had the privilege of meeting the Adolescent Students after their first day on their Pedagogy of Place in San Francisco. They were tired but excited and we all had dinner at the San Francisco tradition - Alioto's. They were well mannered and thoughtful as they figured out how far \$30 would go for a dinner, and would that cover steak and lobster? If you are wondering, the answer was no. But they really tried to figure out how to get the most for their money. One table even decided that if they shared the larger things they could get more items with their money. It was really nice to be able to sit at a table with a group of 31 students and enjoy the evening because they were wonderful. Then yesterday, I met them when they had completed the first part of their hike from the Ft. Mason hostel to the Marin Headlands hostel. I met them on the Marin side of the Golden Gate Bridge. It was raining and foggy, but they were hanging in there. A little more tired than Monday and a bit disappointed I had not met them with a bus, they were ready to complete their journey. They will return Friday afternoon, and I am sure, will sleep for the entire weekend. I am hoping to have some sharing-out from them and their teachers for the upcoming Friday Folders. This is a trip of a life time in many ways. How many of us adults take for granted the amazing city and surroundings we have in the Bay Area without getting to know it? Not to mention the experience of doing all of it by public transit or walking. They are having experiences which will help lead them to greater independence and leadership. Our Adolescent Program teachers have done a wonderful job of preparing the students for this excursion with planning behind the scenes, yet letting them make it their trip.



### Notes from Michelle

As you know, next week is Parent Conference Week. Please make note that school is out at 1 pm on Wednesday as usual, but also Thursday and Friday. Childcare is available at no cost DURING your conference for your children who attend Eagle Peak. We cannot have siblings in childcare who do not attend Eagle Peak. Also, please note that childcare closes at 6 pm. If your conference is scheduled for 6 pm or later, childcare will not be available.

Also remember to respect your scheduled Conference time and those who are waiting. If you need additional time with your teacher please schedule for a later date. If you have questions, please contact your child's teacher. Thank you.



### Monday Gathering

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Gathering Leaders: Ian Birmingham & Samantha Veis

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Quotes:

**Anthony Baer:** “When you are kind to others, it not only changes you, it changes the world.”

~ Harold Kushner

**Francesca Cardenas:** “A little thought and a little kindness are often worth more than a great deal of money.”

~John Ruskin

**Madison Preciado:** “No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.”

~Aesop

**Alma Snortum-Phelps:** “Wherever there is a human being, there is an opportunity for kindness.”

~Lucius Annaeus Seneca

**Jake Solis:** “Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.”

~Mark Twain



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## PTLG Quick Notes

While the rain was dismal this week, our need for volunteers isn't. We have several volunteer opportunities that need to be filled. These volunteer jobs are large and small so send an email with your availability ([rdwiggins@yahoo.com](mailto:rdwiggins@yahoo.com)).

- Nov. 12: **PTLG Meeting**. Room parents, CFEP, board members, Ms. Hammons, and upcoming event coordinators will be in attendance. Please email Rachel Beeler ([rdwiggins@yahoo.com](mailto:rdwiggins@yahoo.com)) with any questions.
- Nov. 20: **Thanksgiving Feast**. Lena Takahashi will lead this event. All families will be asked to bring a dish or supplies to this school-wide feast. Parents are asked not to attend the event unless they are volunteering. Contact Lena Takahashi with questions but details regarding the schedule, volunteer opportunities, and dish/supplies will be in the Friday Folder on Nov. 6.
- Dec. 18: **International Day**. Laura Lisey-Wagner and Upper EI teachers, Preeti and Ellen, will coordinate this event. Contact these folks if you are interested in cooking, crafts, and/or assisting with this event. Details forthcoming.

**Did you know?** Your teachers have office hours every week. You can email your teachers and schedule a time that you can meet with them and discuss your child's academic progress. This is a great opportunity. Contact your teachers for their scheduled office hours and to set an appointment.

One parent helper is needed. Please contact Ms. Amy if you can help out.

Cheers, the *PTLG Team*

Rachel Beeler

Leah Karson

Eme Tatsumi

Zulay Loftin

Jennifer Torres

Akiko Glasguchi



## Attendance

We're making some headway but it's a work in progress. **Do not send information to Amy's personal phone or any other email. If Amy is out of the office no one else has access to that information.**

Please contact the office as soon as possible when you know your child will be out for the day or arriving late for **any reason** by either:

Phone: 925-946-0994

Email: [epmsattendance@gmail.com](mailto:epmsattendance@gmail.com)

[eaglepeakmontessori@gmail.com](mailto:eaglepeakmontessori@gmail.com)

Thank you to all the parents who do ☺



## Merchandise: Order Yours Today!!

Didn't get a chance to visit the T-Shirt table at Fall Fest? Here's an opportunity to order the new EMPS T-shirts/Hoodies for your child. Just fill out the size/color/quantity on the attached Order Form and return by Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. Delivery will be in approximately 2-3 weeks. Only T-shirts come in blue or black. All polo and hoodies are in black only.

If you are still interested in purchasing merchandise with the old logo on it (**very limited sizes and types**) they will continue to be sold at the Friday Market while supplies last. Thank you.



## Make-up Picture Day.....

.....is this **Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**. If you would like a re-shoot, please make sure you have **your child bring the old package along with the new order form** (in this weeks FF) and hand it directly to the teacher; do not put in Friday Folder or it may be missed



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**UPDATE:** Volunteers Needed!

**"A Night to Remember"**

The auction team is currently looking for parents that can take on one of the lead roles. If you have any questions, please contact Auction Chair Gundi Younger at [gundi.younger@gmail.com](mailto:gundi.younger@gmail.com) or call 925-451-9286

### Volunteer Coordinator:

- Create & maintain volunteer database.
- Solicit volunteers as requested by auction committee members (use FF, FB, mass email, create good job descriptions so volunteers know exactly what is expected).
- Works with PTLG to procure volunteers.

### Donations Coordinator

- Determine procurement goal.
- Maintains master donor database.
- Reviews donor list and identifies potential new donors:
- Designates committee members to various solicitation areas:
  - Establish demographic area (travel, restaurant, art, wine, jewelry)
  - Procurement methods: Online data entry, verbal requests: calls/in person
- Tracks progress.
- Logs all items.
- Collects (from school) & stores donations until packaging party.

### Classroom Project Coordinator

- Coordinates class projects with teachers, starting in January.
- Provides suggestions and oversee class project.
- Communicate with families in your class to collect donations for project.
- Keeps projects moving on schedule to finish no later than 2 weeks prior to event.



## Notes from Childcare

Childcare payments for the month of November are due no later than November 9<sup>th</sup> and registration form is in this week's FF.

**Parent Conferences** are next week and all days (Wed, Thu & Fri.) are half days. Please make adjustments to reflect any additional hours when you fill out November's Registration Form or you will be charged Drop-in rates.

Drop-in charges for October will be sent out within the next 2 weeks.

November and December are short months. If you are on a Special Plan remember that the hours have been calculated and averaged throughout the year so while it may seem like you're paying more but you're not. **If you change your plan you will not be able to sign back up to the Special Plan** for the rest of the year.

If you have any questions about hours or payments please contact Mrs. Mahraj or Jason.



## Notes from the Office

### Calendared Events

- Nov 3 Make-up Pictures
- Nov 4-6 Parent Conferences  
Early Dismiss – 1 pm All 3 Days
- Nov 4 LE Room 302: John Muir House
- Nov 7 Garden Workday 9 -12
- Nov 8 UE: Lindsey Wildlife Museum
- Nov 9 CFEP – 7 pm
- Nov 11 Veteran's Day – Off (Wednesday)
- Nov 12 PTLG – 6:30 pm
- Nov 17 Board Mtg – 6:30 pm
- Nov 18 LE Room 401: John Muir House
- Nov 19 UE: Railroad Museum, Sacto
- Nov 20 Thanksgiving Feast
- Nov 23-27 Thanksgiving Break



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### Music Notes from Ms. Allison

**Lower EI:** I will meet with Group A on Mon Nov 2nd to make up for being absent on Nov 15th. As we did with Group B this week, we will be working with a Fall-themed chant:

Pumpkin patch. Pumpkin patch.  
Looking all around in my pumpkin patch.  
Here is a pumpkin, round and fat.  
Turn into a Jack-o-Lantern just like that.

We improvised body percussion rhythmic accompaniment as we chanted, discussed the different types of emotions we could carve on our "pumpkin faces" and tried them out, enacted the story of a pumpkin seed growing into a pumpkin and moving our bodies to reflect the sound effects I provided with my recorder. The challenge activity was to learn to clap 4 different 4-beat patterns written in basic rhythmic notation (made up quarter notes, eighth notes and a quarter rest) on a pumpkin cut-out. Each student picked one from my Trick-or-Treat pumpkin, memorized the pattern and then had to find the other students who had the same pattern just by clapping and listening. Next, the groups went to the Orff barred instruments and improvised accompaniment using their rhythmic pattern and chanted while playing.

**Upper EI:** 4th Years got to pass the 5 sizes of hand drums around the circle playing with their left hand and chanting: "left hand on the top"....because it was a fun way to remember to use your left hand on the top while playing recorder (in fact this trains them for all woodwinds and saxophones). They are working on melody and harmony parts for "Hot Cross Buns." Next class, we will see who can create a convincing street cry with their group using singing, movement and the recorder.

**5th years** have been working on naming notes on the staff by doing "Mad Minute" exercises. We measured their times and all of them were faster this week than last week. Yay! One class started a new percussion piece for



### Music Notes from Ms. Allison (con't)

which I imagine we will compose a melody for alto recorder and xylophones. Both classes enjoyed the pumpkin patch rhythms challenge. And this week, we recited the Musician's Pledge one word at a time going around the circle. (The goal was to not sound like a robot, an extremely challenging activity requiring focus from each student.)

**6th years** reviewed C, G7 and F chords on the ukulele, including frets, fingering and strumming patterns. We listened to the quality of the felt picks and experimented with the different quality of sounds between bare fingers, finger nails, thumb strumming, and pointy end vs round vs side pick strumming. We learned the C7 chord and played a one-finger, one-chord song using a mash-up of "Put the Lime in the Coconut" and "Shortenin' Bread." Finally, we learned another one-finger, one-chord song using A minor for a Hungarian canon: "If I sing ahead of you, you will be behind me."

Happy Halloween!

## Barnes & Noble Bookfair

Save-the-Date

Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> &  
Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup>

See attached flyer for details.



### Attachments this Week

- Childcare Registration – November 2015
- LifeTouch Makeup Picture Form
- T-Shirt Order Form
- Barnes & Noble Bookfare: Save-the-Date






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## NOVEMBER 2015 School Calendar

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3  Make-up Pictures PPM 6:30 – 7:30 pm	4 <u>LE: Rm 302</u> John Muir House 8:20 -11:30 <b>Parent / Teacher Conferences</b> November 4, 5 & 6 Early Dismissal - 1 PM - All 3 Days	5	6	7  Garden Work Day 9 am – 12
8	9 CFEP 7 pm	10	11 VETERAN'S DAY  No SCHOOL	12 PTLG 6:30 pm	13 FRIDAY MARKET	14 PPM 9:30–10:30 am
15	16	17 Board Mtg 6:30 pm	18 <u>LE: Rm 401</u> John Muir House 8:20 -11:30	19 <u>UE: All</u> Railroad Museum Sacramento 8:30 – 3:30 pm	20  Thanksgiving Feast	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
<i>Thanksgiving Holiday - No School</i>						
				25  8 am Civic Park		

## DECEMBER 2015 School Calendar

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
					FRIDAY MARKET	