

EAGLE PEAK MONTESSORI SCHOOL
800 HUTCHINSON ROAD, WALNUT CREEK, CA 94598
P 925-946-0994 F 925-946-9409

FRIDAY FOLDER NOTES
(ALSO ON THE WEBSITE)
DECEMBER 4, 2009

“A teacher is a compass that activates the magnets of curiosity, knowledge, and wisdom in the pupils.”

~Ever Garrison

“Parents can only give good advice or put them on the right paths, but the final forming of a person's character lies in their own hands.”

~ Anne Frank



Notes from Michelle

I'm sure that many of you have heard my complaints in the past regarding tetherball. I “lovingly” refer to it as the “weapon on a stick”. However, a story was shared with me that forced me to take another look at how our students play the game. One of our teachers was observing a group of students playing the game on our playground the other day. She was quite surprised to find that the cut-throat game of her youth had become so calm and almost peaceful. In fact when one student got hurt, all the players stopped and made sure she was ok and then decided how that could be avoided. At the end of the game the student who had been injured was given the opportunity to have the first throw for the next game. The teacher commented on how concerned they were for each other as opposed to the actual result of the game. It wasn't so much about being the one who wrapped the ball, but simply taking turns actually playing together. Our students continue to teach me so much every day. Not only do they constantly impress me with their ability to express themselves through well thought out opinions, but they also help me remember that we cannot remove them from a society we want to improve, we must simply give them the tools to be a more productive part of that society.

Tuesday evening will be our second teacher led parent education night for the school year. We hope that you will be able to make it out for our teachers to share more of the Montessori curriculum with you. Lower EI teachers will be demonstrating the language lessons and Upper EI teachers will lead you through both math and language. In January, the Eagle Peak board will be providing a parent education night about the current budget and how the cuts affect Eagle Peak.



Notes from Michelle (con't)

Over the next couple of weeks you will be hearing about our newest event, our International Celebration. This event is for the students and will take place on the Friday before we dismiss for the Winter Break. Each classroom has been assigned a continent. Some parents will provide food samplings and others will help with games native to each continent.

Have a wonderful weekend!



International Celebration **A Fun Volunteer Opportunity!**



There will be a school-wide International Celebration to be held on Friday, 12/18. Students will work in small groups and will travel from classroom to classroom or "continent to continent", experiencing international food and activities. The celebration will facilitate teamwork and a community spirit by providing an opportunity for our upper el and lower el students to work together.

If you'd like to join in on the festivities and volunteer, here are the opportunities. We need:

- At least four volunteers from each classroom to help out on 12/18.
- Food prep volunteers need only drop off food on the 17th or 18th.
- Plan and run an activity - 2 volunteers from each classroom needed on 12/18 to plan and run activities - we have ideas!
- Prepare food ("samples" NOT lunch) - do not need to be present on 12/18
- Serve food - 2 volunteers from each classroom needed on 12/18 to serve food

Each classroom represents a continent, but you are welcome to help out anywhere:

Australia - RM 301
South America - RM 302
Africa - RM 401
Europe - RM 201
Asia - RM 202

Please contact Judy Baker at judyemc2@comcast.net or Wendy if you'd like to be part of this first-ever festive event!

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Holiday Adopt-a-Family DEADLINE

Please bring your Adopt-a-Family gifts, wrapped and marked with the family # by **Monday, December 7, 2009**. Please drop the packages off in the EPMS office in the morning after drop off. I will be having a packing party on both Monday and Tuesday, December 8. If anyone would like to volunteer to help or has any questions, please contact Victoria Manassero Maat at 925.933.4432 or juju-bee@pacbell.net.



Talent Show

EPMS Talent Show is February 26th this year! The show is always a big hit and a LOT of fun for everyone. Sign up sheets are due December 7th. Performers must attend BOTH rehearsals - January 27th and February 24th. See sign up sheets for details. Questions? Jenn Hartmann, 925-708-2128 or jenofun@hotmail.com.



Volunteer/Help Wanted

1. Talent Show

Talent Show volunteers needed now. Great way to get in hours outside of the workday! We need an emcee coordinator, refreshments coordinator, visual artist coordinator, professional videographer, help with set up and clean up, and 2-3 assistants to help out during the show. Jenn Hartmann, 925-708-2128 or jenofun@hotmail.com.

2. Afternoon Carhops - Volunteer Needed:

Volunteers are needed to assist in after school carpool on Mondays and Tuesdays (3:30-3:45 pm). Please note a one month commitment is requested. If you can assist, please contact Mayra Garcia at 639-6358 or email: mayrag79gmail.com



EPMS Read-a-thon DEADLINE

Thank you to everyone who participated in the EPMS Read-a-thon this year! Absolute last chance to turn in Read-a-thon pledge sheets is **Monday, December 7th**. Results will be posted next Friday.






Attachments this Week

- Lunch Order: 12/16/09 - 2/5/10
- Talent Show Sign up
- Parent Ed - Childcare Signup
- Save-the-Date: EPMS Wine & Cheese Auction



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DECEMBER SCHOOL CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		Parent Ed. Montessori Language 6:30 - 8:30	Lower EI - 301 MOCHA 		Lunch Order Due Friday Market	Prospective Parents Mtg. 9:30 -10:30 am
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	CFEP 7:00 pm	EPMS Board Mtg 7:00 pm	Lower EI - 401 MOCHA 		International  Celebration	 Garden Work Party 8 am - 12
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<i>Winter Break - No School</i>						Day
27	28	29	30	31		
<i>Winter Break - No School</i>						

JANUARY 2010 SCHOOL CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Classes Resume	PTLG 7:00 pm		Prospective Parents Mtg. 7 - 8 pm	Friday Market	