

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)
JANUARY 15, 2010

Martin Luther King Day
No School
Monday, January 18th, 2010

“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.”
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

“I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality.”
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Notes from Michelle

We have a large concern about parking lot safety, and unfortunately it isn't from outside of our school but from our own families. The drop off line and the pick up line are provided for our families' convenience. These services are provided from both parent and student volunteers. Please make sure that when you drop off your student in the morning, that you are following some simple rules of "drop off".

Please be aware of the other adults and children who are:

- Using the crosswalk
- Helping out with the drop off process

Please DO NOT pull around other cars in the drop off lane:

- If you are not going to use drop off, please do not pull into the lane closest to the school.
- Park in the street side of the parking lot.

Please make sure that you never go above 10 mph while you are in the parking lot. This is a very busy area and accidents can happen at any time.

I hope you all remembered to update your volunteer hours by today. I will be working to tally those over the weekend.



Notes from Michelle (con't)

As I'm sure you are all aware, the governor has presented a new budget proposal. Although there was talk of not cutting education, we are still affected. Please plan to come to the Parent Education meeting either on Thursday, January 21st or Saturday, January 30th to learn more about the Eagle Peak budget and how cuts have affected or may affect Eagle Peak. There will be childcare available on the 21st, but there will not be childcare available on the 30th.

I really feel I need to end this section with something positive so I would like to share about our students. I have had several students come and talk to me independently about how we can organize to help the victims of the earthquake in Haiti. We will be working through our Student Government to put together something for the whole school. When these requests come organically from the children, it makes me smile and realize that our students really do "get it".

Have a great Holiday weekend.



Student Government - 2nd Term

A new term for Student Government will be beginning soon!! Next week we will be holding a student government preparatory meeting to discuss the timeline of events including speech writing, presentations, campaigning, etc. All upper elementary students are invited to sign up and participate in the EPMS student government!

Cabinet Offices: President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer

Speeches will be given on February 11th with elections following on February 12.

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Notes from the Office

1. **Doctor/Dental Appointments - Late Arrivals:**
Please remember to bring a note from your doctor's office to excuse the Tardy after arriving late from a doctor's/dentist appointment. Thank you.
2. **Lunch Essentials:** Make sure you pack forks and spoons in your child's lunch box if needed. We are getting way to many visits to the office to during lunch hour to request missing utensils.



Notes from PTLG

Thank you attendees, for helping make the PTLG meetings interesting and informative. Meeting Minutes are displayed on the office bulletin board and distributed via email. The next meeting will be **Tuesday, February 2nd** at 7:00pm in the Multi-Use Room.

Parents, please make sure your email address is up-to-date not only with the office, but also the PTLG Co-Chair and your classroom's PTLG Liaison. **Time-sensitive class and school information** is often delivered via email from one of these sources; so if we don't have your address, you may miss out.

To update your address, email your classroom's Liaison and Annie Rodriguez at epmsptlg@sbcglobal.net. PTLG Liaisons and contact info are posted on the bulletin board in the office.

We'd like to spotlight a few individuals who were instrumental in the success of recent events and who continue to lead essential functions of PTLG:

- ~ **Wendy Citron** and **Judy Baker**, who with the help of our wonderful EPMS Student Government, brought volunteers and classrooms together for the highly acclaimed International Celebration.



Notes from PTLG (con't)

- ~ **Victoria Manassero-Maat** pulled off her usual magic during December's Adopt-a-Family. Together, EPMS staff and families fulfilled wish lists for 10 families in need.
- ~ **Fiona Hughes**, when she wasn't busy managing Friday Market, or coordinating lunch/recess volunteers, or painting murals, created a delicious holiday lunch for the staff.
- ~ **Amy Nelson**. We all know she goes above and beyond her job as EPMS Receptionist and Attendance Clerk. Not only does she check vehicles for field trip safety and brighten the day of everyone who passes her desk; she also loads trucks and covers afternoon pick-up during torrential rainstorms.
- ~ **Mona Logasa**. In addition to being a devoted Upper El parent and PTLG Liaison, Mona has been coordinating Staff Appreciation Wednesdays and is working on plans for something special during March and May. The staff is very appreciative. Thank you Mona, and all parents who have contributed!

Finally, as we continue to enjoy the convenience of morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up, a big THANK YOU to all of our **Car Hops**. Thanks especially to **Betsy Orme** and **Mayra Garcia** for coordinating and filling the ever-present gaps.

Kris Harwood & Annie Rodriguez
PTLG Co-Chair



Notes from Childcare

Childcare payments for the month of **January** are now past due. If you have not already submitted payment for any prepaid package any hours incurred will be charged at the drop-in rate. **You will be billed at the end of the month** with any over-time accrued. Take advantage of a price break by signing up for prepaid hourly packages.

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Quilts and Quills for the Auction

As many of you know, the children's projects are the highlight of the EPMS auction. The quilts and other art projects are regarded with pride by the students and are cherished by the lucky bidders.

We're very fortunate this year to have enthusiastic volunteers in almost every classroom! But there are a few projects in need of parent volunteers.

Room 301 is in need of someone to assemble a quilt. Talk to Sibyl, Heidi or Lisa Songster (lisasongster@gmail.com) if you, or someone you know (grandma?) can help.

Room 201 will be creating a quilling map of the Bay Area. Ket and Emily are looking for a parent or two to help with the project. Cutting strips, working with the students, framing the art - lots of opportunities to help. See Ket, Emily or Lisa Songster (lisasongster@gmail.com) if you'd like to contribute to the effort.

Room 202 (Denise's cohort) will be learning basic embroidery stitches and creating fabric blocks. We have someone to assemble the blocks into a quilt, but could use a classroom helper or two. Threading needles, helping students with the simple stitches, etc. Please see Denise or Lisa Songster (lisasongster@gmail.com) if you are available to help. Thank you!



Garden Work Party

Come join us for the first Garden Work Party on **Saturday, January 16th** from 8 am -12. Please bring your own garden tools, gloves and water. If you have any questions please contact Jessica Bates at eaglepeakgarden@gmail.com or Raul Ruiz.



Lost and Found

Lost: Boy's blue and gray hoodie with FOOTBALL across the front. If found please bring to the office or return to Logan Cardoso.



Music Notes

We are so fortunate to have received a loan of nine Orff xylophones from a retired teacher. Thank you, Starla Warburton! We nearly have one xylophone per student in classes now!

In Lower EI classes, we are transferring our knowledge of the solfege system to the barred instruments, improvising a melody using a known text ("Apple Tree" - Group A last week and Group B this week), exploring the quality of sounds with different types of mallets on different sizes of instruments (soprano, alto, & bass) and metal vs wood bars. The students are working on perfecting mallet technique by using alternating hands and bouncing the mallets to allow the bars to ring or vibrate ... with a physics lesson thrown in on sound waves. Of course, we always have a large movement piece or dance to get the beat in the body in every class. The students proved their readiness for the instrument ensemble by making up new rhythms over a 4-beat phrase using the phrase "Happy New Year" and reordering and/or repeating the words in different combinations.

Upper EI students are concentrating on preparing ensemble pieces to perform at the EPMS Talent Show and for a visit to a retirement community in February. Some students are missing folders and recorders which affects the progress of the whole class. I will be sending letters home for students who are missing these items next week in order to determine if I need to replace them.

A posted list of how many songs EPMS students have learned this year is on my to-do list. There are no music classes next week, due to the holiday schedule.

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EPMS Yellow Pages

Have you ever had to find a plumber? Want to buy a bike for your child? Or get your dishwasher repaired? How would you like to find someone good and support Eagle Peak at the same time? It's the EPMS Yellow Pages.

If you own a business and would like to be listed as a resource for our EPMS Community, we'd like to ask you to complete a short on-line interest survey (2-3 minutes) to have your business listed in the EPMS Yellow Pages. On Monday, 1/18/10, you'll receive an email from Annie Rodriguez with a link to the EPMS Yellow Pages Survey. Please complete the survey by Friday 1/22/10 to have your business listed.

It's our way of supporting family businesses at EPMS and becoming more aware of the wonderful resources available in our community. For questions please contact Arda and Berna Aksu at ardaksu@comcast.net.



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 video-grapher, 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.







Attachments this Week

- Parent Ed Night - Childcare Sign-up






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JANUARY 2010 SCHOOL CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
					Early Dismissal 1:00 pm	 Garden Work Party 8 am - 12
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	 MLK Day OFF	EPMS Board Mtg 7 pm		Parent Educ. EPMS Budget Workshop 7:00 pm	Friday Market	Prospective Parents Mtg. 9:30 am
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
			 Talent Show 1st Rehearsal 1:15 pm		Friday Market Report Cards Out	Parent Educ. EPMS Budget Workshop 9:00 am

FEBRUARY 2010 SCHOOL CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	CFEP 7:00 pm	PTLG 7:00 pm			Friday Market	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	 Lincoln's BD OFF		 Save-the-Date Parent Ed. TBA	Prospective Parents Mtg. 7 - 8 pm	Friday Market	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	 President's Day OFF	EPMS Board Mtg 7 pm			Friday Market	Garden Work Party 8 am - 12 ----- Prospective Parents Mtg. 9:30 am